

# View from the 'Beak' – the role of Magistrates

Mon 5 October 2020

## Dr Bernadette Butler

Bernadette Butler, ('Dr B') graduated from St Thomas' Hospital Medical School, sometime in the last century. Her post graduate career began in Obstetrics & Gynaecology, but family commitments led to working part-time.

She began her career in forensic medicine, 20 years ago, at the first Haven, in Camberwell, now one of 3 Havens: the SARCs for London. She is the Havens' Clinical Education and Training Lead (CETL).

Her FFLM roles include:

- Academic Dean, 2016-2019
- Examiner for LFFLM (SOM) and MFFLM (SOM)
- Member of the Forensic Science Sub-committee, (FSSC)

She has also held roles as the Clinical Director of Hope House, the Gloucestershire SARC and as an Assistant deputy Coroner for Surrey.

Away from her clinical roles, she sits as a Lay Magistrate (Justice of the Peace, JP) in Surrey, hence she hopes she has the capability to give tonight's webinar

## Learning Objectives

- Understand the history, recruitment, training and role of a Lay Magistrate (Justice of the Peace, JP)
- Be able to describe the types of cases with which a Magistrate may deal and sentencing options
- Hear a few personal observations of a Lay Magistrate sitting for 22 years

