

# Woodfines' 16th Transport Conference: Keeping the show on the road!



## Today's Speakers



**Mike Hayward**  
Partner  
Woodfines Solicitors

Mike is Head of Woodfines' Crime and Transport team. He is renowned for his expertise in advising businesses and individuals facing personal and commercial prosecution brought by the Crown Prosecution Service, Health and Safety Executive, Trading Standards and other enforcement agencies.

He specialises in

- Criminal Defence (including large scale fraud)
- Licensing (alcohol/SEV/taxi)
- Proceeds of Crime
- Motoring Defence.

Mike has a sensitive approach when dealing with individuals facing accusations of grave crimes such as homicide and sexual offences. He is able to hone his years of experience in providing support to individuals from advising at interview under caution to representing them in Court.

Mike has acted for a wide range of clients from industries including the farming community, waste operators, builders (including asbestos matters), education, hospitality and medical professionals.

Mike also acts for those in the transport, haulage and distribution industry advising on all aspects of Operator Licensing. He is a member of the regional Freight Transport Council. He also advises businesses and individuals facing Public Law challenges with Local Authorities (Licensing and Planning). He has experience in assisting clients at application stage, at Committee, and in Appeals before all Courts, including the High Court. Under his lead, the team were successful in the first ever case of its type concerning taxi licensing, with national implications. Mike is regularly called upon to advise government agencies on aspects of regulatory enforcement and compliance matters.



**Nathan Taylor-Allkins**  
Senior Associate  
Woodfines Solicitors

Nathan specialises in the representation of individuals and businesses against prosecutions brought by the Crown Prosecution Service, Trading Standards, the Health and Safety Executive, and other enforcement agencies.

He has vast experience in advising at all stages of proceedings for a wide range of cases, including grave crimes, such as grievous bodily harm, robbery, multi-million pound frauds and insider trading.

Nathan provides defence in all aspects of road traffic matters, including special reasons and exceptional hardship hearings. He is also involved in a variety of cases concerning taxi licensing and alcohol/premises licensing.

Nathan is experienced in advising and providing representation in a variety of regulatory issues, including abatement notices; appeals to the Planning Inspectorate; Environment Agency matters (waste permits etc.); fire authority prosecutions under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005; abandoned vehicles under the Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978.

Nathan also advises on all areas of the regulatory regimes involving heavy goods vehicles, public service vehicle, professional drivers, and fleets, including on compliance, prosecution and defence.



**Jane Anderson**  
Solicitor  
Woodfines Solicitors

Jane graduated from Durham University before qualifying as a solicitor in 1996 with Batcheldors, which later merged with Woodfines. Jane left Woodfines to join the First Law Partnership in 2005 to develop her criminal legal aid practice, during which time she established a strong reputation and client base in the local criminal courts; appearing regularly in the Magistrates and Crown Courts as a higher court advocate having attained her higher rights of audience.

The FLP merged with Cartwright King and Jane used her time there to expand her practice to include regulatory law, whilst remaining a committed court advocate.

Jane re-joined the team here at Woodfines in 2017, adding a wealth of experience and further improving our specialist Transport team. She has a particular interest in POCA proceedings, advising on the rights of third parties and representing individuals and businesses subject to applications for cash seizures, restraint and confiscation.

Having spent over 20 years defending those involved within the Criminal Justice System, Jane continues to skilfully and robustly represent the interests of individuals and businesses investigated and prosecuted by the Police, CPS, Local Authorities, the Health and Safety Executive and other Crown Agencies.

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**Maria Gallucci**  
Partner  
Woodfines Solicitors

Maria heads up the firm's Commercial department which comprises our Employment and Company/Corporate teams.

Maria has been a qualified employment solicitor since 2001, predominantly advising and acting on behalf of employers, but also employees. During this time, she has developed a wealth of expertise in all areas of employment law.

Maria supports clients across a wide range of employment issues including:

- Strategic advice around re-organisations;
- Employment law advice on business sales, transfers and mergers;
- Advocacy at various hearings, including case management discussions and final hearings, in Employment Tribunal cases;
- High Court employment matters, including those involving breach of post termination of employment restrictions and/or confidentiality;
- Advice on exit processes and terms for senior executives.

In addition, Maria leads the firm's specialist advice services for GDPR and is a member of the firm's business protection team providing advice to businesses on data theft, unlawful competition, and misuse and infringement of IP. She is also a member of the CIPD Beds Group Committee and a voluntary member of the Badminton England Disciplinary Committee.

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**James Wilkinson**  
Senior Associate  
Woodfines Solicitors

James is an experienced corporate and commercial solicitor who joined Woodfines in 2021 after spending time in private practice in the City and in a multi-national tech-focussed role in industry.

He specialises in mergers and acquisitions, fundraising, shareholders' arrangements (for new and established businesses) and preparing businesses for major capital events.

James' commercial and legal experience enable him to communicate well with all stakeholders and to apply a robust but pragmatic approach to his advice.



**Justyna & Damian Sodel**  
NN1 Personnel

NN1 Personnel is a Northampton-based family-run business that supplies temporary drivers to a wide range of logistics clients across the county. NN1 Personnel is run by us, husband and wife team Damian and Justyna Sodel. We work in the business as Damian is also a HGV driver and Driving CPC trainer too.

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**Ruth Edwards**  
Operations Director  
RTITB

Ruth has been working within the logistics sector for just shy of 12 years, starting her career in marketing before moving over to operations. In her most recent role she heads up the operations at RTITB, the leading standards setting body for workplace transport training. Ruth spends a lot of her time promoting the opportunities available within the logistics sector, showcasing the amazing people who work within it and helping companies with their talent attraction, workforce development and employee engagement.

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**Mark Cartwright**  
Head of Commercial  
Vehicle Incident Prevention  
National Highways

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**Kim Preson**  
Barrister  
4 Kings Bench Walk

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**Phil Breen**  
Earned Recognition  
National Account  
Manager  
DVSA

Phil Breen has worked for the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) for over sixteen years, working in both Testing and Enforcement departments. Having been a Traffic Examiner for several years, he brought this knowledge forward into heading up bus compliance for DVSA and now looking after the Earned Recognition scheme. The DVSA Earned Recognition is the flagship Enforcement scheme for DVSA, which enables the agency to free up resource so they can target the serial and serious non-compliant. This helps us all stay safe on our roads, as well as offering both costs savings to members & giving commercial advantages. DVSA's Earned Recognition scheme is part of DVSA's Enforcement strategy of 'Enable', 'Prevent' and 'Respond', which is key in making every journey safer; given Operators the chance to play their part in road safety while also receiving numerous growing benefits.

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