

# Ella Cornforth

## CV

### PRINCIPAL PROFESSIONAL SPECIALISMS

#### Brain Injury Case Manager

Care & OT Expert Witness

### QUALIFICATIONS & ACCREDITATION

Dip COT

HCPC Registered Occupational Therapist

BABICM Council Member 2015 – 2021

### EXPERT WITNESS EXPERIENCE & TRAINING

Care & Occupational Therapy Expert  
(equipment and adaptations)

- Experience of giving evidence in Civil Court, Criminal Injuries and Employment Tribunals
- Bond Solon Trained

Expert since 2002 with responsibility for referral management, an expert witness training and development programme, and quality assurance.

### PAST & PRESENT POSITIONS

2011 – to date

#### Director Northern Lifetime

2014 – 2019

#### Regional Manager - Scotland / Expert Witness Service Lead, JS Parker Ltd

2006 - 2014

#### Regional Manager - North East and Scotland, JS Parker Ltd

2004 - 2006

#### Lead Case Manager, JS Parker & Associates, Newcastle

2002 - 2004

#### Senior Case Manager, JS Parker & Associates, Newcastle

2001 - 2002

#### Case Manager, JS Parker & Associates, Newcastle

1997 - 2001

#### Senior Community Occupational Therapist, Gateshead Community Based Services

### EXPERIENCE

Ella is a versatile and experienced case manager with 30 years experience of working with people with disabilities, and 20 years experience as a practicing case manager. She is skilled at working with clients and their families and has a proven track record of expertise in working with people who have an acquired brain injury or complex condition.

#### Key practitioner skills & experience

- Assessment of needs, and provision of bespoke case management reports, including Code of Rehabilitation reports.
- Working within a complex and challenging environment
- Interdisciplinary rehabilitation
- Support team recruitment and management
- Working within the medico legal framework
- Working within the public law framework
- Care & OT Expert witness services

#### Specialist areas

- brain or spinal injury;
- cerebral palsy;
- paediatric non-accidental injuries;
- trauma or serious injury subsequent to existing disability or condition;
- individuals with post-traumatic or psychological issues in addition to physical issues.

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## RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

### Chapters in Books

Good Practice in Brain Injury Case Management (2006).

### Publications

In collaboration with a colleague Ella produced 'Acting as an Expert Witness' Second Edition for the Royal College of Occupational Therapy. This guidance has been produced for occupational therapists working as expert witnesses and for occupational therapists who are considering undertaking this work. It provides a succinct overview of the UK legal system and gives detailed advice covering formal instruction, giving evidence in court and all aspects of the expert witness role.

In 2018 Ella wrote an article for Neuro Rehab Times entitled 'The Art of Staying Client Centred'. The piece examined the potential conflicts faced by case managers in medico legal settings when striving to remain client centred and explained how to navigate beyond them to keep the clients at the heart of everything we do.