5 PAPER BUILDINGS

Josh Normanton successfully defends in complex rape case.

14 February 2025

Josh Normanton, instructed by James Winter-Whitaker of Fisher Solicitors, successfully represented a 28 year old man accused of multiple allegations of rape, as well as allegations of sexual assault and controlling and coercive behaviour.

The allegations were that the defendant had groomed and raped a young female complainant over a significant period of time, travelling across the country to do so. The defendant completely denied the allegations.

Josh succeeded in persuading the court to dismiss all of the rape counts on the basis of the sufficiency of evidence.

Then, at the outset of the trial of the remaining counts, Josh and James exposed a fundamental disclosure error which revealed that further information in support of the defendant's case had not been disclosed by police. After further defence written submissions on the adequacy of the disclosure process, the prosecution then offered no evidence in respect of the remaining counts. The defendant was therefore acquitted of all counts he faced.