

Non-Medical - Transport Expert Information

Niki Sinclair



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About Me

I have worked in the automotive industry for over 20 years during which time I piloted a litigation department for a leading car hire company. I have worked in the care sector assisting individuals with both mental and physical needs under the Mental Health Act and Mental Capacity Act.

My experience working with Personal Mobility Solutions since 2018 includes providing personal transport assessments for clients with a variety of disabilities and requirements on a treating and consulting basis, including Expert Witness transport reports and Part 35 instructions. Client referrals are via their legal representative, case manager or occupational therapist. My reports are both detailed and in depth, ensuring they are unbiased, evidence based and can be relied upon in court. I have provided transport reports for a number of high-cost cases of which one resulted in a 7 figure settlement for the client.

On average, I assess between 70-90 clients a year, averaging 2-3 a week, covering the whole of the UK for both passenger and driver needs. This includes wheelchair accessible vehicle requirements and complex driving needs. My transport assessments are comprehensive for both claimant and defendant covering a wide range of disabilities including amputees, paraplegia, tetraplegia and neurological, detailing previous, current and future transport needs.

I provide consultation and advise on transportation needs when requested, including overseeing vehicle purchases and investigating rental vehicles, personally liaising with solicitors, case managers and OT's and vehicle adaption companies to ensure a vehicle is fit for purpose to meet their needs.

I fully understand the importance of independence and seek to find mobility solutions for those with disabilities.

I am conversant with a full range of vehicles and conversions that are recognised to government standards and requirements. All reports include a full analysis for individual vehicles and adaptations with lifetime costs and replacement cycle. I continue to meet with all major vehicle manufacturers and UK adaption companies to guarantee that my understanding of driving controls and vehicle conversions are always up to date, and I regularly attend seminars, training days and refresher courses to ensure that my knowledge of an ever-changing industry is always current.

I have delivered training sessions to solicitors and companies, including Fletchers and Premex, on the importance of personal accessible transport and have been a guest speaker at conferences for Medico Legal, Cloisters and Jane James & Associates.

Training & Experience

- September 2024 – QEF Approved Driving Instructor course for the disabled (CPD)
- April 2024 – QEF Aviation Course – Flying with a disability (CPD)
- March 2023 – Guest speaker Jane James & Associates Conference
- September 2020 – Guest speaker Cloisters Technical Conference (CPD)
- April 2020 – Bond Solon Expert Witness certificate
- September 2019 – Headfirst Conference (CPD)
- October 2019 – Bond Solon Expert in report writing (CPD)
- Bond Solon Annual Expert Witness Conference (CPD)
- June 2017 – Level 3 Listening & Counselling Skills, NVQ Advanced Business & Management Course

Areas of Expertise

- Driver and passenger, including drive from wheelchair
- Transport requirements for children
- Primary or secondary driving controls
- Complex driving controls
- Vehicle adaptations & conversion
- Motorhomes & campervans
- Horseboxes & Agricultural

Average delivery time for report 3 weeks from assessment date

Costs

Expert "Desktop" Report only (fixed fee) (Inc report compilation, reading documentation & research)	£2,500 plus VAT
Client Assessment	£450 per hour (Avg. 60-120 mins)
Report compilation, case conference, JS etc	£250 per hour
Journey time/Travel costs including overnight stays	£85 per hour + £1.10 per mile
% Work for the claimant	70%
% Work for the defendant	10%
% Joint instructions	20%
Court Appearance	£1500 per day plus expenses
Cancellation: less than 24 hrs	Full rate
24 hrs to 6 days	Half rate
7 days or over	No charge

Terms & Conditions

I am committed to regulatory compliance with all professional bodies in relation to instructions received on behalf of clients and the provision of reports.

I am compliant with the legislative and regulatory requirements governing our practice including data protection and storage.

Adequate professional indemnity and liability insurance is in place and reviewed annually.

All the above fees and expenses will be charged from the date that official written instructions are agreed and received from instructing solicitors, representatives, authorised persons or organisations. All fees will be charged to the instructing party under their direction, who will be responsible for payment. Accounts will be submitted at regular periods as each reporting phase is completed, and upon release of the transport report. Account payments to be remitted within 30 days, with terms agreed subject to individual requests and circumstances as per their letter of instruction.