

Dr Frank Beesley
Consultant Clinical Psychologist
BSc (Hons), DClin Psychol, CPsychol, AFBPsS, FEWI (Cert)

I have over 30 years experience of working with adult mental health problems, starting in the NHS in 1994. I have worked as a Consultant Clinical Psychologist since 2005. This involved leading teams of clinical psychologists and other mental health practitioners, such as cognitive-behavioural therapists.

EXPERT WITNESS & MEDICO-LEGAL WORK EXPERIENCE:

Since 2012 I have provided psychological assessment reports for the court, approximately 240 reports a year, completed numerous Joint Statements and have not been required to attend court to date.

I receive claimant, defendant and joint instructions (60:35:5 ratio) for medical / clinical negligence and personal injury cases (Civil Law cases).

Areas of expertise: The assessment of psychological difficulties (adults), at all levels of severity; following incidents such as medical negligence, road traffic collisions, injuries at work, falls and other traumatic experiences.

Extensive experience in assessing psychological difficulties, including:

Psychological problems such as those covered by the following diagnoses:

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).
- Adjustments Disorders (with anxiety and / or depression).
- Specific Phobias (e.g. car travel, fear of falling).
- Major Depressive Disorders.
- Generalised Anxiety Disorder.
- Panic Disorder.

I am also experienced in assessing difficulties such as:

- Psychological adjustment to life changing events (e.g. following medical negligence).
- Psychological adjustment to chronic pain.
- Psychological adjustment to physical scarring.

MEDICO-LEGAL QUALIFICATIONS:

- **Bond Solon Civil Procedure Rules for Expert Witnesses Certificate, Part 1, 2012**
- **Cardiff University Law School Bond Solon Civil Expert Certificate (CUBS), 2017:**
 - Bond Solon state: *“Introduced in 2002, this is the first university certificated expert witness programme in the UK and is seen as the gold standard. Experts who hold this certificate are able to demonstrate to both instructing solicitors and the courts that not only have they undertaken specific expert witness training, but that they have been assessed and hold the core and requisite competencies to act as an expert.”*

CUBS training incorporates the following modules:

- Excellence in Report Writing (1 Day)
- Courtroom Skills (1 Day)
- Cross Examination Skills (1 Day, Audio Visual based assessment of skills)
- Civil Law & Procedure (2 Days, includes a written examination on The Civil Procedure Rules, Practice Directions and Protocols.

Certified Fellow of the Expert Witness Institute, FEWI (Cert):

One of the original members to be certified in 2017, (valid until 31 July 2023), renewed certification in 2023, valid until 17 July 2028, having completed the relevant assessments such as:

- Examination on Civil Procedure Rules and Practice Directions.
- Submission of an anonymised report suitable for use in civil cases.
- Assessment of an experts meeting and production of a Joint Statement.
- Courtroom skills, including live cross-examination in a mock court.

CLINICS:

I currently see clients face-to-face in clinics across the North West of England in five different locations: **Burnley, Chester, Liverpool, Oldham and Preston.**

N.B. Following the Covid-19 pandemic appointments were completed via remote video assessment. For instructing parties or clients who continue to prefer remote appointments I can also offer these.

Home visits can also be provided where necessary and are considered on a case-by-case basis. Please contact me to discuss further.

Clients are seen usually within 4-6 weeks of instruction. Reports are provided within 10 working days of the assessment appointment.

Dr Beesley:
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Secretary:
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Both appointments and report turnaround times can often be expedited upon request, based upon need (e.g., for court deadlines).

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

- BSc (Hons) Applied Psychology, 1994
- Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, 2000
- Post-graduate diploma in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), 2002
- Practitioner Training in Cognitive Analytic Therapy (CAT), 2004 to 2006
- Part 1 & 2 Intensive Training in Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) 2008
- Mentalisation Based Therapy (MBT) Basic Training 2011

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

I attend relevant courses and conferences to maintain my Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements (e.g., Expert Witness Institute and Bond Solon Annual Conferences, plus other specific, relevant training events).

I am registered with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) Registration Number: ZA524916.

I have full professional civil liability insurance.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

- Chartered and Associate Fellow with the British Psychological Society (AFBPsS). Membership Number: 17253
- Registered Practitioner Psychologist with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Registration Number: PYL02459
- Member of the British Association for Behavioural & Cognitive Psychotherapies (BABCP)
- Certified Fellow of the Expert Witness Institute, FEWI (Cert).
- Associate Member of The Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL)

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PREVIOUS NHS EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

December 2021 to August 2022: Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Trust. Consultant Clinical Psychologist: Clinical Lead for Complex Needs Service. This is a service for clients with a complex trauma history and often they have a diagnosis of personality disorder. The service offers psychological assessments, individual and group therapy, consultation and training to other Teams Trust wide.

May 2021 to October 2021: Merseycare NHS Trust. Providing psychological assessments, psychological therapy, supervision of both clinical psychologists and other disciplines.

December 2012 to September 2016: 5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Warrington Recovery Team: Lead Consultant Clinical Psychologist (Warrington). I provided psychological assessments, individual and group therapy, supervision of both clinical psychologists and other disciplines and specialist training in several areas of mental health (e.g., personality disorder, dialectical behaviour therapy).

November 2009 to December 2012: 5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Personality Disorder Hub Service. Consultant Clinical Psychologist. Specialist personality disorder assessments, consultation for other staff and teams, Trustwide. Provided personality disorder training for all grades and disciplines of staff, Trustwide.

February 2002 to November 2009: Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, lead clinician for Step 5 Services (from 2005 Consultant Clinical Psychologist). Assessments, consultation, individual and group interventions, adult mental health, management of several staff and service development work. Clinical supervisor for several staff including clinical psychologists, CBT therapists, trainee clinical psychologists and IAPT Trainees.

December 2000 to February 2002: Merseycare NHS Trust, Ashworth Special Hospital: Psychological assessments and therapy with male clients on several wards, including admission wards, in a high security setting.

September 1997 to September 2000: Merseycare NHS Trust, Doctorate in Clinical Psychology Training

September 1995 to September 1997: Assistant Psychologist. Ashworth & Rampton Special Hospitals: Assisting qualified clinical psychologists with psychological assessments and therapy with clients in a high security setting.

December 1994 to September 1995: Nursing Assistant. Merseycare NHS Trust, Ashworth Special Hospital: Working with clients on a high dependency women's ward in a high security setting.

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