

Karen Smoult-Hawtree

Called to the BAR: 2000

LLB (Hons) (2.1)

**Professional Membership:**

Personal Injury Bar Association

**Areas of Practice**

Civil

**Specialist Areas:**

Personal Injury including:

Catastrophic Injuries

Industrial Accident

Industrial Disease

RTA Insurance

Highway Claims

Employer's Liability

Occupier's Liability

Product Liability

Clinical Negligence

Karen has a particular interest in calculating complex Special Damage Schedules/Counter Schedules

Prior to coming to the Bar, Karen worked at Board Level in the publishing Industry during the 1980's and 90's. From 1993 to 1999 she held the post of Chairman of a National Health Service Trust in East Yorkshire, delivering Sub-Acute, Mental Health and Community Services.

In 2001 Karen was appointed to Chair an Independent Statutory Inquiry and publish its findings, into the care and treatment given to Mrs Saheeda Kapde by both Mental Health Services and Social Services.

This inquiry followed Mrs Kapde's guilty plea, at Leeds Crown Court, to the manslaughter of her 6 year old son Nihaal on the grounds of diminished responsibility. She was ordered to be detained pursuant to section 37 of the Mental Health Act, with a restriction order without limit of time pursuant to section 41 of the same Act. The Inquiry's official report was published in 2002.