



Case studies of Bliney-Knight and Peers

R v Bliney-Knight – Battery

The victim was accosted in the street, punched and knocked to the ground sustaining injuries consistent with common assault. The victim was specifically targeted and homophobic abuse was shouted as a precursor to the assault.

The Defendant was convicted after trial at Guildford Magistrates Court. The Prosecution and the court were robust in recognising that the incident had been motivated by homophobia.

The Defendant was sentenced to a fine of £200, costs of £790, a surcharge of £15 and ordered to pay £125 compensation to the victim.

R v Peers – Section 4A public order

The victim and the Defendant were neighbours. The Defendant returned home late one night and verbally abused the victim through his front door calling him a “cock sucking cunt” and shouting “you take it up the arse”. The Defendant had a recent conviction for similar offences on the same victim.

The Defendant pleaded guilty at Redhill Magistrates Court to a section 4A public order offence which is using threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour with intent to cause a person harassment, alarm or distress.

The court, in sentencing him, had particular regard to the previous incident and recognised the fact that the victim had previously been subject to abuse by the same Defendant. He was sentenced to 3 months imprisonment due it being a homophobic attack on a repeat victim and his bad record for violence.