

Orla Sower, BSc(Hons), MSc, MCSFS
Personal Qualifications and Experience

Miss Sower has been employed as a forensic biologist since 2003. She is instructed in a large number of cases each year most of which involve offences against people or property. These cases cover a range of forensic biology issues including the interpretation of DNA profiles, blood patterns and body fluid stains. In most cases these reports require consideration of the significance of the scientific findings in terms of disputed accounts of events. She is also responsible for the quality review of reports prepared by other experts at Keith Borer Consultants.

As part of her role at Keith Borer Consultants, Miss Sower set up, validated and ran the in-house DNA profiling unit for 10 years being responsible for the analysis of a range of sample types including reference DNA samples, blood, saliva, semen stains and samples for trace quantities of DNA. She is currently manager of KBC's laboratory facilities.

Miss Sower has given expert testimony in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and the Republic of Ireland and has prepared reports for Courts in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, the Republic of Ireland, Bermuda and Gibraltar.

Miss Sower has been involved in numerous cases including carrying out forensic examinations which led to the successful appeal in the case against Victor Nealon in 2013.

Miss Sower has the following qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science in Industrial Microbiology, 2000
- Master of Science in Forensic Science, 2002
- Member of the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences, 2006

Miss Sower has completed training in crime scene examination, the interpretation of DNA evidence and blood pattern analysis, and has completed the Bond Solon Courtroom Skills Course.

Keith Borer Consultants operates a Continuous Professional Development Scheme for all staff. Within this scheme Miss Sower undertakes regular training and development in the field of forensic biology, including attending conferences and relevant training courses. Miss Sower and her colleagues maintain an updated library on forensic biology methods and scientific advances, and on current case law relating to expert evidence. They are also involved in continual in-house research into body fluid transfer, persistence and pattern analysis.

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Further details on Keith Borer Consultants can be found at www.keithborer.co.uk.