



THE SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FOR
THE STUDY OF OFFENDING

Charity No: SC008124

Aberdeen Branch

Chair: Sheriff Morag McLaughlin

www.sastudyoffending.org.uk

Thursday 30 October 2025 @ 1745

**Aberdeen Sheriff Court, Castle Street, Aberdeen
(Please enter by the main entrance and you will be directed to the
appropriate courtroom)**

**Laura Buchan, Deputy Crown Agent, Crown Office and
Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS)**

**“Assistance by Offenders: the legislation, process and the role of the Specified
Prosecutor”**

CHAIR: SHERIFF IAN WALLACE

Laura Buchan is the Deputy Crown Agent for Specialist Casework in COPFS. As a senior prosecutor who has spent more than a decade working on serious and organised crime operations Laura provides a practical insight into the application of the assistance by offenders legislation, which set up a structure within which offenders can provide assistance to investigations and prosecutions with a view to seeking a reduction in sentence.

Laura has been a prosecutor for over 20 years joining Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service as a trainee in 2002. Laura grew up in New Pitsligo and began her prosecutorial career in the Aberdeen, Peterhead and Stonehaven Sheriff Courts.

Laura has been involved in the oversight, preparation and prosecution of significant and high-profile cases, including large scale financial crime, serious organised crime and counter terrorism investigations.

Laura has undertaken a number of key national leadership roles including, Procurator Fiscal for Lothian and Borders, Deputy Head of Specialist Casework and Procurator Fiscal for Policy & Engagement. She moved to her current post as Deputy Crown Agent for Specialist Casework in June 2025.

Members and non-members welcome.

Solicitors & Advocates, Police and Social Workers and other professions may claim CPD time for attendance at SASO lectures - registration at the event will be available.

Please communicate any enquiries regarding the presentation or SASO in general to:
sasoaberdien@gmail.com

The aim of SASO is to bring together people with a wide range of experience in the criminal justice system so that by listening, talking and sharing experience, a better understanding of our common problems will develop.