

Angie Potter

UK Liaison Magistrate at the French Ministry of Justice in Paris

Biography
9 February 2011

I am a prosecutor in the Crown Prosecution Service, and have recently taken up the post of UK Liaison Magistrate in Paris. I am based in the French Ministry of Justice in the Place Vendôme.

I have worked for approximately 20 years in various roles in the UK customs departments (HM Customs & Excise - HMCE; HM Revenue & Customs - HMRC; and the Revenue & Customs Prosecutions Office – RCPO, which recently merged with the Crown Prosecution Service). I started as a prosecution case worker. I then taught French and German to Customs employees in the HMCE London Language Training Unit for approximately 5 years.

I worked in international policy for approximately 3 years, advising officers on international co-operation in criminal matters (officer-to-officer co-operation/ mutual administrative assistance).

Since qualifying as a lawyer in 2003 I have spent four years advising UK officers on the execution of Letters of Request from foreign authorities (requesting evidence from the UK for their investigations and prosecutions). During that time I attended 12 meetings of the European Judicial Network (a network of prosecutors and judges from all the EUMS) and made valuable contacts with a large number of counterparts from all over the EU.

After that I worked for just over a year as a prosecutor in the Revenue & Customs Prosecutions Office (RCPO), prosecuting cases involving serious organized crime, drug smuggling, tax fraud etc. I then moved to the International Advisory Division of the RCPO, advising fellow-prosecutors on their outgoing letters of request for mutual legal assistance (in which they were requesting evidence from foreign authorities for their prosecutions). In that role I also held an extradition caseload, drafting European Arrest Warrants for my fellow-prosecutors in order to secure the surrender of fugitives to face prosecution in the UK.

In 2010 I worked (on a six-month secondment) at Eurojust in The Hague. Eurojust facilitates co-operation (especially judicial co-operation) in the fight against serious cross-border crime involving two or more EUMS. I chaired Eurojust coordination meetings (attended by judges, prosecutors and investigating officers from various EUMS, and also from non-EU countries including the US and Switzerland, in cases where the criminal offences had also taken place in those countries) and I drafted JIT Agreements (for the setting up of Joint Investigation Teams involving two or more EU Member States).

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