



## NOTE OF THE UKSC/JCPC USER GROUP MEETING

**WEDNESDAY 13 JULY 2022 4:30PM  
(LAWYERS' SUITE, UKSC/VIA TEAMS)**

Lord Hodge	UKSC/JCPC
Lord Briggs	UKSC/JCPC
Vicky Fox	UKSC/JCPC
Ian Sewell	UKSC/JCPC
Kelly-Anne Johnson	UKSC/JCPC

1. Lord Hodge welcomed users to the meeting and introduced court staff who were attending.

### **JCPC update**

General: Lord Hodge said that there had been an increase in the JCPC workload and in light of this a review of the Rules and Practice Directions would be carried out. Lord Briggs would carry out the review.

2. **Agenda item 1: supervising Justice** Lord Briggs had been appointed supervising Justice for the JCPC. This would involve dealing with delayed or difficult cases and making case management decisions if necessary. He would work closely with the Registry on ensuring efficient progress of JCPC cases.
3. **Agenda item 2: deadlines** The Registry will be taking a firmer line with deadlines, and a request was made that parties keep the Registry - and each other - updated if there are difficulties with fulfilling filing requirements. It is helpful for Registry staff to be aware of imminent filings so they could plan accordingly. Consideration was being given to changing deadlines in a number of rules:

1. Rule 22: Notifying the Registrar that an Appeal is ready to list within 14 days after the filing of the SFI: deadline may be extended to 21 days.
2. Rule 11(2): Requiring a PTA to be filed within 56 days (eight weeks): Consideration is being given to extending this period to 63 days (nine weeks).
3. Rule 21(1): filing SFI within 42 days after filing of the Record: consideration is being given to extending this period to 49 days.
4. Electronic bundles should be filed four weeks before the hearing.
5. The Registry will be open to agreed extensions of time that are between 5 to 7 days.
6. The parties should seek to co-operate on short extensions but if a longer extension is needed then the parties should make formal application: the Registry will take a firmer line with matters where no action has been taken. Lord Hodge emphasised that in such cases the appellant needed to re-seal and serve the Notice of Appeal/ serve a Notice of Intention to Proceed.
7. **Agenda item 3: possibility of returning to three Judge panels:** for less complex appeals consideration was being given to three Judge panels. Lord Reed would consult with the heads of jurisdiction on this point.
8. **Authorities** There was a discussion about authorities. Lord Hodge emphasised that the main point was that JCPC had before it all appropriate case references. Where parties wished to rely on large number of authorities they should attempt to agree two bundles: a Primary authorities bundle for the main cases that would be cited and a Supplemental Bundle for less significant authorities.

#### **UKSC update**

9. **Agenda item 4: hybrid hearings.** The default position for the UKSC was that hearings should be in person subject to any request from parties; for the JCPC the situation was more nuanced and the Board had regard to cost and difficulty but overall the default position was the same.
10. **Agenda item 5: fees:** Kelly-Anne Johnson reminded users that the Registry could now take fees by credit or debit card as well as the usual BACS payment method. It was hoped that in the medium term online payments by card would be possible; discussions with the Finance Department were ongoing on this issue.
11. **Agenda item 6: cross-appeals.** There was a discussion about cross-appeals which covered some of the same areas as before about timing but the main point that concerned the Justices was that information about a cross-appeal must be included in the SFI.
12. **Agenda item 7: Change Programme.** Vicky Fox updated Users on the forthcoming Change Programme at the Court. This will be focussed on updating processes with all court users at the heart of our processes and with an emphasis on digital deliver of services.
13. **AOB.** Lord Hodge thanked all users for attending either in person or remotely.