



SIOBHAN MCGRATH  
CHAMBER PRESIDENT

**To: National User Group Members**

19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Colleagues

### **Corvid-19**

I am writing to let you know the steps that are being taken in the Property Chamber to deal with cases during the Coronavirus pandemic.

#### **Postponement of current cases**

Over the last few days we have been undertaking a review all of the cases listed for hearing or mediation for the period of at least four weeks from 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 and possibly to the end of May 2020. The purpose of the review was to establish whether cases should proceed or be postponed for a paper determination or re-listing. We will undertake a similar process on a four-week rolling cycle. Postponements have been given in the vast majority of cases.

#### **New applications and appeals**

New applications and appeals can be lodged with the Tribunal in the usual way, however there may well be delays in dealing with new cases and directions.

#### **Urgent applications**

For new applications that are urgent (for example an application by a local authority for a special interim management order under the Housing Act 2004, an urgent application for the appointment of a manager under section 24 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1987 or an urgent application under section 20ZA of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985), we are putting in place processes to deal with these promptly even in the event that a regional office is shut down.

Urgent Applications may be made by email. The appropriate email addresses for each of the Tribunal's offices are:

AL &D

[aldgeneralenquiries@justice.gov.uk](mailto:aldgeneralenquiries@justice.gov.uk)

Land Registration

[landregistration@justice.gov.uk](mailto:landregistration@justice.gov.uk)

Eastern Region

[rpeastern@justice.gov.uk](mailto:rpeastern@justice.gov.uk)

London Region

[London.Rap@justice.gov.uk](mailto:London.Rap@justice.gov.uk)

Midland Region

[rpmidland@justice.gov.uk](mailto:rpmidland@justice.gov.uk)

Northern Region

[rpnorthern@justice.gov.uk](mailto:rpnorthern@justice.gov.uk)

Southern Region

[rpsouthern@justice.gov.uk](mailto:rpsouthern@justice.gov.uk)

## **General**

It would be very helpful if you could inform your members about the arrangements for urgent applications but please emphasise that it is important that it is understood that **the only applications which should be made in this way are urgent and really do require immediate attention.**

## **Practice Directions**

The Senior President of Tribunals has issued the following Practice Directions which have been

published on line:

1. <https://www.judiciary.uk/publications/pilot-practice-direction-health-education-and-social-care-chamber-of-the-first-tier-tribunal-mental-health/>
2. <https://www.judiciary.uk/publications/pilot-practice-direction-contingency-arrangements-in-the-first-tier-tribunal-and-the-upper-tribunal/>
3. <https://www.judiciary.uk/publications/pilot-practice-direction-panel-composition-in-the-first-tier-tribunal-and-the-upper-tribunal/>

I will keep you informed of any further developments

Yours sincerely

Siobhan McGrath