

CONSOLIDATED GUIDANCE NOTE

Liverpool Crown Court

2025

This document brings together the current guidance in force at Liverpool Crown Court as of 1 October 2025. It is issued for the assistance of practitioners and court users. Any suggestions for amendment, correction or addition should be directed to The Resident Judge at Liverpool Crown Court.		
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Liverpool Crown Court



Consolidated Guidance Note 2025

Introduction

This document brings together the various guidance notes issued by the Liverpool Crown Court over recent years. These notes were intended to explain how the Court operates, what is expected of court users, and when and how to make particular applications – among other practical matters. Many of the notes have since been amended, superseded, or withdrawn; others remain current.

To create a clear, single point of reference, each note has been reviewed, outdated material removed, and the provisions still operative and relevant to current procedures and ways of working at the QEII Law Courts collated here. The result is intended to serve as a practical, up-to-date guide for practitioners and all other court users.

Of course, this guidance is always subordinate to, and must not be regarded as a substitute for, the Criminal Procedure Rules, Practice Directions, or judicial directions and orders in individual cases.

This edition reflects the guidance in effect as of 1 October 2025 and will be updated as further changes arise.

HHJ Andrew Menary KC DL

Resident Judge and Honorary Recorder of Liverpool

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regarding applications to extend time

Purpose

The aim of this note is to give guidance to court users on the arrangements in place to deal with applications to extend time and other similar applications that are normally dealt with administratively and without a hearing. These applications may be necessary because a party has failed to comply with a case management direction or there has been some other significant failure to take a procedural step.

General matters

We remind practitioners of the terms of The Criminal Procedure Rules and in particular CrimPR Part 3 – Case Management:

- ❖ Each party must assist the court in fulfilling its duty under rule 3.2, to further the overriding objective by actively managing the case. [Part 3.3 (1)]
- ❖ Active case management includes monitoring the progress of the case and compliance with directions. [Part 3.2 (2)(d)]
- ❖ In certain circumstances the parties may agree to vary a time limit fixed by a direction, but only if the court has not prohibited variation by agreement. [3.7 (1)]

Guidance

- Until further notice, parties may agree to vary time limits fixed by directions without the need for involvement by the court.
 Application to the court for a further direction will only be necessary if no agreement can be reached.
- 2. However, in seeking and/or agreeing a variation, the parties must do the following:
 - The party seeking the variation must put a widely shared comment to this effect on DCS, setting out in brief the reasons for the proposed variation (e.g. difficulty in arranging a legal visit with a Defendant in custody) and notify the other party of the request. Separate notification to the court of the application is not required.
 - If there is agreement to a variation, the terms of the
 agreement must be set out in a further widely shared
 comment on DCS. (NB: If, for example, a stage date is
 altered, the parties <u>must</u> give consideration to re-setting any
 other stage dates.) Separate notification to the court of
 any agreement is not required.
- 3. The parties may <u>not</u> agree to vary a time limit fixed by a direction if the variation will:
 - Affect the date of any hearing that has been fixed (especially and in particular any trial that has been fixed), or;
 - Significantly affect the progress of the case in any other way;
- 4. If there is any doubt about the matters in paragraph 3, and the potential effect of any proposed variation, then an application should be made to the court for a further direction.

- 5. For the avoidance of doubt, the types of situation in which the parties may agree a variation to a time limit previously set by the court include the following:
 - Alteration of BCM Stage dates, including resetting of all future Stage dates. [NB: Where the variation is to Stage 2 and relates to non-service of a Defence Statement, the reasons for any delay in service are likely to be relevant (if at all) to the question of adverse inference at trial. Further, it is not necessary for the Prosecution to seek a direction disapplying Stage 3 where the Defendant has not complied with the requirements of Stage 2.]
 - Alteration to dates for service of statements in connection with POCA applications, including resetting the timetable (but not the date fixed for any hearing). [NB: The parties cannot agree to vary the time for payment of any confiscation order, or a redetermination of the available amount.]
 - Alteration of any other date fixed for the service of a document or the completion of a procedural step prior to a hearing. [NB: The parties cannot agree to vary the date for service of a Certificate of Readiness for Trial]
- 6. If the parties cannot agree a variation of a time limit fixed by a direction, an application must be made to the court for the case to be listed to mention, when further directions will be given. It is principally the responsibility of the party seeking the variation to make the application, though if necessary, any party should do so in order to assist the court actively to manage the case. It is not necessary for the Defendant to attend such a mention hearing and the parties may attend remotely by video link.

regarding remote attendance at court

Purpose

This note provides guidance to court users about remote attendance at hearings at Liverpool Crown Court through a live video link – typically by way of CVP (PVL).

A directory of CVP links for each courtroom at the QEII is annexed to this guidance note. The directory will also be added to Section A on the DCS for every case. This directory should be used by practitioners to identify the correct CVP link, in conjunction with the court daily lists.

General matters

- ❖ Section 51 Criminal Justice Act 2003¹ enables courts to require or permit a person to take part in eligible criminal proceedings through a live video link ('a live link direction').
- ❖ The Lord Chief Justice has given guidance which the Crown Court must consider when deciding whether to give such a direction.²
- ❖ The following local guidance seeks to recognise the benefits that can be achieved – both by the court and practitioners – through the use of IT to allow remote attendance at some hearings. Specifically, it sets out those hearing types where it is no longer necessary for advocates to apply in advance for a live link direction.

¹ https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2022/32/section/200/enacted

² https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Live-links-Guidance-for-criminal-courts-July-2022.pdf

Guidance

A Remote attendance of advocates

- 1. For the following hearing types, advocates can choose whether to attend in person or remotely. A prior application for permission to attend remotely is **not** required and should not be made.
 - a) Bail application
 - b) Mention where the attendance of the Defendant is not required, or the Defendant is appearing from custody by CVP
 - c) Agreed POCA
 - d) Ground Rules Hearing
 - e) CTL extension
 - f) Compliance review
 - g) Application to break fixture
 - h) Pre-trial hearing involving legal argument only (eg S8 disclosure, s41 sexual history, hearsay, bad character, dismissal, abuse of process or any other application to exclude evidence) where the attendance of the Defendant is not required, or the Defendant is appearing from custody by CVP
- 2. This general permission is, of course, subject to a direction made by the court in a particular case requiring the advocates to attend the hearing in person.
- 3. It is important to note that these hearings will not necessarily be given a time marking and if the advocate chooses to attend remotely the advocate must be available at all times. Advocates

- cannot expect that the clerk of the court will make contact in advance to alert them that a case is about to be called on.
- 4. If an advocate chooses to attend remotely by CVP, a widely shared comment stating that fact and giving the advocate's contact details must be added to DCS <u>before 8:00am</u> on the day of the hearing. Also, when connecting to CVP, the advocate must indicate in addition to the advocate's name, the party being represented and the name of the case.
- 5. If any instructions are likely to be required (e.g. when resetting dates) then advocates must obtain such instructions and communicate with all other parties prior to the hearing.
- 6. All those appearing remotely should be appropriately dressed for attendance at court (ie wearing wigs and/or bands and gowns if an advocate).
- 7. Apart from the hearing types listed above, all advocates Prosecution and Defence are normally required to attend in person all other hearings. This requirement to attend in person applies whether a Defendant in custody is attending the hearing by CVP, or is produced from custody. Only in an exceptional case and with the permission of the court may an advocate attend other hearings remotely.
- 8. Any application for remote attendance at other hearings must be made in accordance with the requirements set out below and must provide sufficient information to enable the court to consider the 'interests of justice' test. Purely speculative requests will not be considered. Advocates must not presume that a request will be granted, and the parties must prepare for the hearing on the basis that attendance by the advocate in person is required unless and until permission to attend by CVP is given.

B Remote attendance of Defendants

- 9. A Defendant in custody will attend a hearing by CVP (PVL) or will be produced from custody.
- 10. A Defendant on bail must attend all hearings in person unless their attendance is specifically not required.
- 11. Any application for the remote attendance of a Defendant on bail must be made using the appropriate form³ (in accordance with CrimPR 3.36) and in accordance with the requirements set out below. The application must provide sufficient information (including an explanation of how the Defendant would access CVP) to enable the court to consider the 'interests of justice' test. If permission is given, the defence solicitor will have the responsibility of arranging for the CVP link to be supplied to the Defendant.

C Procedure for applying for permission to attend by CVP

- 12. An application for permission to attend remotely must be made no later than 12 noon on the working day before the date of the hearing. This is a strict time limit.
- 13. Applications must be sent by email only to: <u>CVP.LiverpoolCC@justice.gov.uk</u>.
- 14. If the applicant knows that the case is reserved to or listed before a particular judge, the name of that judge must be stated in the email request.

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³ https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/application-for-a-live-link-direction

regarding Section 28 of the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999

Purpose

This note sets out the approach to be followed in all cases involving the recording of evidence and the cross-examination, prior to trial, of vulnerable and intimidated witnesses. It replaces previous informal practices and incorporates the technology now in use at Liverpool Crown Court.

General matters

- ❖ Pre-recorded cross-examination for all vulnerable witnesses (section 16 YJCEA) and intimidated witness (limited to section 17(4) YJCEA) is available in all Crown Courts throughout England and Wales.
- Crim PD 6.3 sets out the procedure to be adopted when applying for this special measure. In particular, when considering such an application the judge will determine which, if any, of the measures, or combination of them, would be likely to improve so far as practicable the quality of the witness's evidence.
- ❖ It should also be noted that judges will pay careful regard to whether a s.28 special measures direction will in fact materially advance the date for the cross-examination and re-examination, so as to maximise, along with any other measures, the quality of the witness's evidence.

HMCTS Pre-Recorded Evidence Service (PRE)

PRE is a purpose-built system developed to replace the current method of recording evidence under Section 28. It provides a more flexible and responsive service by allowing:

- Same-day booking of recordings;
- Recording at alternative locations, including prisons and remote link sites;
- Immediate sharing of recorded evidence with advocates once completed;

It is expected that these enhanced features will support faster case progression and improve accessibility for all parties involved.

How to get a PRE Portal account

- Contact CTSC Phone: 0300 323 0194 or email <u>contactcrime@justice.gov.uk</u>
- 2. **Provide required details** in your call or email:
 - First and last name
 - Individual **professional** email address
 - Phone number (for two-factor authentication)
 - Organisation name
 - Role
- 3. **Wait for the registration email.** Within a few days you will receive an email (check Junk/Spam) containing a secure link.

- 4. **Open the registration email** and click the embedded link. Verify the sender is **contactcrime@justice.gov.uk** before clicking.
- 5. **Follow the on-screen instructions** to complete registration set your password and complete two-factor authentication using your phone.
- 6. **Confirm access** by signing into the PRE Portal and checking that you can view your account details.
- 7. **If you don't receive the email or encounter problems,** contact CTSC again (phone or email) and include the details you originally provided so they can follow up.

Guidance

A Plea and Trial Preparation Hearing

- 1. At the PTPH, Prosecuting Counsel must specify whether the case involves a vulnerable witness (section 16(2)) or an intimidated witness (section 17(4)) and whether the witness wishes to make use of Section 28 special measures. The court log will clearly record this.
- Applications for special measures must be made in writing, uploaded to DCS prior to the PTPH, and must set out the reasons why the measure is sought. Exceptionally, a judge may dispense with a written application in cases of vulnerability by reason of age alone.
- 3. Time estimates for both the Ground Rules Hearing (GRH) and the Section 28 cross-examination (XX) hearing must be provided and recorded for listing purposes.

- 4. Disclosure must be addressed fully at the PTPH. If disclosure issues remain at the time the Defence Statement is served, the Defence must inform the court immediately so that the case can be listed for mention. Such issues should not be raised for the first time at the GRH or at the Section 28 XX hearing.
- 5. The Judge at the PTPH will give directions regarding and set a timetable for:
 - a. the service of the GRH form⁴ (likely to be no less than 7 days before the GRH);
 - b. the provision either of full XX questions (if the witness is a child under 18 or has been identified with particular vulnerabilities) or a list of XX topics;
 - c. the submission of any applications (such as bad character or s41) which need to be made before the witness is cross-examined;
 - d. any responses to the above;
 - e. the editing of the ABE/s.
- 6. Where an intermediary is likely to be involved, the GRH form must be served at least 7 days before the GRH. The Prosecution must forward the proposed questions to the intermediary as soon as they are available.
- 7. Section 28 cross-examination hearings involving adult witnesses will normally be listed to commence at 10:00am. Where the witness is a child, the hearing will ordinarily be listed to commence

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⁴ https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/form-ground-rules-hearing-form-defence-ground-rules-hearing-form-section-28

- at 9:45am to allow the Judge and Counsel an opportunity to meet the witness before cross-examination begins at 10:00am.
- 8. Practitioners are reminded that The Advocate's Gateway toolkits provide guidance on good practice when preparing for trials involving witnesses with communication needs. These can be accessed at: www.theadvocatesgateway.org/toolkits

B Ground Rules Hearing

- 9. At the PTPH, the Judge will determine whether the Defendant is required to attend the Ground Rules Hearing (GRH).
- 10. At the GRH, confirmation must be given by the parties that all disclosure issues have been resolved.
- 11. The full questions or list of topics for XX should be finalised and agreed.
- 12. Where an intermediary has been appointed, they must attend the GRH to ensure that any issues can be identified and addressed.
- 13. Any further adjustments or measures required to facilitate the evidence of the witness should be finalised at the GRH.
- 14. Prosecuting Counsel must confirm the order of witnesses and, where applicable, the times of each cross-examination session.
- 15. Any legal applications that must be determined before the crossexamination hearing will be dealt with at the GRH

C Section 28 Cross-Examination (XX) Hearing

16. The Prosecution must ensure that the witness has viewed the ABE interview prior to the XX hearing, either in accordance with earlier directions or at least 24 hours before the hearing.

- 17. At the conclusion of the XX hearing, Counsel must confirm whether any editing of the recording is required. If none is needed, this must be recorded on DCS.
- 18. On or before a date to be directed by the judge at the XX hearing, counsel should add a widely shared comment on DCS confirming that the evidence of the witness has been recorded, that the quality of the recording is adequate, that no editing is required or that any required editing has been notified to the CPS/police. Where a ruling by the court is required in relation to disputed editing, the parties should ask the court to list the case for a hearing.

D Pre-Trial

- 19. The current Certificate of Trial Readiness does not include a dedicated section confirming whether the ABE interview and Section 28 recording have been edited and checked for quality. It is essential, therefore, that if editing has not been completed and agreed, this is expressly recorded on the Certificate. If the Certificate is silent, it will be presumed that both the ABE interview and Section 28 recording are ready and available to be played at trial.
- 20. Counsel for both parties must ensure that they have access to the relevant recordings in advance of the trial date. They may be required to play the material to the jury on the first day of trial.

E Trial

- 21. ABE interviews will normally be played by Prosecution Counsel (or CPS representative) onto the court screens.
- 22. Section 28 recordings will be played either by the Court Clerk (or potentially by Prosecution Counsel). The advantage of the new

PRE system is that a time slot for playback does not need to be booked and the recording can be paused if required.

F Useful contacts

Court Clerks email: <u>liverpoolcrowncourtclerks@justice.gov.uk</u>

Court Support email: <u>lcc-courtsupport@Justice.gov.uk</u>

regarding the Intensive Supervision Court Pilot

Purpose

The purpose of this note is to provide an overview for practitioners of the 'Intensive Supervision Court' pilot. It provides information about the particular type of Intensive Supervision Court that operates at the QEII, including a description of the approach being taken and the procedures we adopt.

General matters

- The scheme for intensive supervision court (ISC) pilots at certain selected court centres was introduced by The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. This Act contains provisions which give ISC courts additional powers in relation to community orders and suspended sentence orders.
- Liverpool Crown Court has been selected to pilot a <u>substance</u> misuse ISC. Other models of this type of approach are being piloted in other parts of the country such as the Women's ISC at Birmingham Magistrates' Court but at the QEII we are concerned with offenders whose repeated crimes are in some way linked to their addiction to alcohol or drugs.

- ❖ An ISC is a type of 'problem-solving court'⁵ A number of international jurisdictions have been successful in reducing reoffending and the use of custody by establishing problem-solving courts, particularly in relation to offenders with substance misuse issues, based on the US drug court model that has been in operation for over 30 years.
- The Substance Misuse ISC is intended to provide an intensive community order or suspended sentence order as a robust and rehabilitative alternative to short custodial sentences. It combines intensive supervision and interventions to address underlying issues linked to offending, delivered by a multi-agency team. The order is overseen by a designated ISC judge who holds regular court-based reviews of progress and who can use clear, consistent, and graduated privileges and sanctions in response to compliance and progress.
- What distinguishes this approach is how it brings together community treatment and services, with the court – and more specifically the judge – operating as a principal mechanism for encouraging a reduction in substance misuse and reoffending. Through regular judicial monitoring, the aim is to deliver specialised community sentences which are designed to change behaviour and hold offenders accountable.
- The Substance Misuse ISC has a broad range of aims covering justice, health and wellbeing, including:

⁵ https://justiceinnovation.org/sites/default/files/media/documents/2019-03/problem-solving-courts-an-evidence-review.pdf

https://justiceinnovation.org/publications/delivering-smarter-approach-piloting-problem-solving-courts https://justiceinnovation.org/publications/problem-solving-courts-guide-practice-united-kingdom

- to reduce the frequency and harm of re-offending
- to reduce drug and alcohol use which is linked to offending and facilitate an offender's recovery
- to increase offender engagement and compliance with their community sentence
- to reduce the use of short-term custody, and
- to increase confidence in more robust community options, compared to standard court processes and disposals, particularly (though not exclusively) for repeat and prolific offenders.
- It is hoped that these aims can be achieved by using the following measures that will be trialled during the pilot:
 - the ability to impose standalone drug testing requirements as part of a community order or suspended sentence order in instances where the individual does not meet the criteria for a Drug Rehabilitation Requirement (DRR) or where it is deemed suitable to have a combination of both the DRR and drug testing (i.e. for longer community orders)
 - the ability to attach reviews to all community orders and suspended sentence orders, which can be increased or decreased in frequency in response to the individual's compliance and progress
 - the ability for a judge to initiate breach hearings in a review hearing where the court deems that the individual has breached their order
 - the ability to impose a short custodial sanction for up to 28 days, a maximum of three times over the course of the order, for non-compliance
- These additional powers complement the existing framework for sentencing provided by the Sentencing Act 2020. The court, when

considering whether an ISC disposal is appropriate, will always have regard to the statutory purposes of sentencing and will continue to apply existing sentencing guidelines.

Guidance

A Eligibility

- 3. Broadly speaking, the Substance Misuse ISC is intended for Defendants with a substance misuse need which may form part of a broader set of complex needs who are at risk of up to 2 years' imprisonment. The ISC is primarily a diversion from custody, and Probation and other agencies must consider the Defendant to be suitable for supervision and effective management within the community.
- 4. To be eligible for an ISC disposal, a Defendant must:
 - a) Be 18 years of age or older on the day of conviction
 - b) Be convicted of an offence that is linked to their substance misuse - such as, but not limited to, acquisitive crime, drug possession and supply
 - c) Be assessed by Probation and the treatment provider as having drug and/or alcohol misuse problems which are linked to their offending behaviour
 - d) Be resident in the city of Liverpool (with some exceptions, living within the postcodes L1 L20, and L24 L27)
 - e) Consent to the sharing of personal information between participating agencies/bodies and consent to treatment and engagement with service providers

- f) Be motivated to address their problems and indicate a willingness to engage with the ISC programme
- g) Be willing to sign an ISC participation agreement during the PSR assessment stage.
- 5. A Defendant will <u>not</u> be eligible for an ISC disposal if they are suspected of being a member of or affiliated to an OCG; or the offence(s) involved is:
 - a) A second or subsequent offence of possession of an offensive weapon in a public place
 - b) A second or subsequent offence of possession of an article with a blade/point in a public place
 - c) Threatening with an article with a blade/point in a public place
 - d) Possession of a corrosive substance or acid in a public place
 - e) A firearms offence
 - f) A sexual offence listed in Schedule 3 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 and/or if the Defendant is already subject to the notification requirements of that Act for a previous offence.

B Assessment

6. A decision about whether a case should be committed from the Magistrates' Court to Liverpool Crown Court for sentence will continue to be made in accordance with the Sentencing Council 'Allocation' guideline. In making this decision, the Magistrates' Court can take account of a Defendant's potential eligibility for an ISC disposal.

- 7. A decision about whether the Magistrates' Court should request the preparation of a pre-sentence report will be taken in accordance with Section 30 of the Sentencing Code and paragraph 3 of the 'Imposition' guidelines.
- 8. When a court (whether the Magistrates' Court or the Crown Court) requests the preparation of a PSR for a Defendant who is to be sentenced at Liverpool Crown Court, a Senior Probation Officer (SPO) will identify whether the Defendant is potentially eligible for an ISC disposal. If the SPO identifies that the Defendant is potentially eligible for such a sentence, the PSR assessment will be allocated to a Probation Practitioner within the dedicated ISC team.
- 9. When a case is committed for sentence, or when a guilty plea is entered in the Crown Court, advocates, solicitors, and judges should consider at the earliest opportunity whether the case may be suitable for an ISC disposal. Where appropriate, the probation team must be informed without delay.
- 10. The assessment of suitability is robust, and as part of this process a Defendant will be expected to sign a Participation Agreement. This explains the nature of the pilot and the requirements of an ISC disposal, should they be given such a sentence. The Participation Agreement makes clear that:
 - a) the final decision about the type of sentence to be passed will be made only by the judge, in accordance with the statutory purposes of sentencing and applying any relevant sentencing guidelines; and
 - b) a Defendant is at risk of a custodial sentence for all their offending if the judge decides that the ISC disposal is not an appropriate sentence, or subsequently if a Defendant fails to comply fully with the requirements of the programme.

C The ISC sentence

- 11. During the period of the pilot, all judges at Liverpool Crown Court will have the power to impose an ISC sentence. However, only designated ISC judges will carry out the reviews that will be a requirement of every order. Ordinarily a Defendant will be reviewed by the same ISC judge throughout the course of the order, and the frequency of reviews will depend on a Defendant's level of compliance. It is likely that initial reviews will be held fortnightly, becoming monthly if sufficient progress is made.
- 12. A community order or suspended sentence order with an ISC 'package' will contain a combination of the usual community order requirements, with key additional ISC measures designed to provide intensive wraparound support to ensure that the factors which appear to drive a Defendant's offending can be addressed.
- 13. Because the fundamental purpose of the ISC pilot is to provide a rehabilitative, treatment-oriented, alternative to custody, a strong focus will be on requirements such as treatment requirements for drug and alcohol dependency and/or mental health needs. The public protection element of the order is also vital to ensure that the risk of serious harm and reoffending can be managed effectively in the community. This might be achieved through electronic monitoring or prohibited activity requirements.
- 14. All orders must contain at least one requirement imposed for the purpose of punishment unless the court also imposes a fine. In addition to requirements such as unpaid work or a curfew, the additional ISC measures of regular reviews and drug testing can also be regarded as punitive.

15. ISC orders will pay due regard to the particular needs of young offenders; female offenders; and offenders with mental disorders, developmental disorders, or neurological impairments.

D Reviews

- 16. Following sentence and during the review process, the ISC judge will use a variety of privileges and sanctions to encourage and motivate effective performance by a Defendant. These will be applied in a procedurally fair manner.
- 17. Sanctions include the power to commit a Defendant to custody for up to 28 days, a maximum of three times during the course of the order.
- 18. Review hearings will typically be held on a Friday, and the format of the hearing will be directed by the ISC judge conducting the review. A less-formal style of court appearance will be adopted to encourage active engagement by all involved.
- 19. A review report will be prepared for each review hearing.
- 20. Review hearings during the early stages of the order will <u>always</u> be in person at court. As the order continues and depending on the level of compliance and the personal circumstances of the Defendant (e.g. where there are employment or childcare commitments), the ISC judge may on occasions permit remote attendance.

E Breach

21. Probation Practitioners and the ISC judges will recognise that successful completion of an order will often be marked by intermittent lapses or setbacks. Not all of these will constitute a breach or result in breach proceedings. A key consideration in

assessing whether a failure to comply will be classified as a breach is whether it presents an increase in risk of causing serious harm or risk of reoffending.

22. During the pilot period at Liverpool Crown Court there will be two ways in which a breach can be initiated for non-compliance with an order:

a) Probation Service initiated

Where a suggested breach is initiated by Probation, the standard practice for breach proceedings in the Crown Court will be followed. A Defendant will be summoned to a breach hearing, or an application will be made for a warrant if, for example, contact has been lost.

b) Court initiated

New powers were added to the Sentencing Code by Schedule 14 to the Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 to allow a pilot court to hold breach proceedings in respect of a community order or suspended sentence order. Section 217B to the Sentencing Code provides: 'If the court is of the opinion that the offender has without reasonable excuse breached a community order requirement of the order, the court may adjourn the hearing so that the court can deal with the case forthwith under paragraph ... 11 of Schedule 10 (powers of court to deal with offender on breach of requirement).

23. Where custody is a possible breach outcome (through the new power of committal where there has been a wilful and persistent breach, or as a result of revocation and re-sentence of a community order, or activation of the suspended sentence order) and/or a Defendant should have legal representation, the breach

- proceedings will normally be adjourned to a later date. Any adjournment is likely only to be for a short period and an addendum breach report will be prepared by the Probation Practitioner.
- 24. If a Defendant fails to attend the resumed breach hearing the court has power under paragraph 9A(2)(b) of Schedule 10 of the Sentencing Code to issue a warrant for their arrest.
- 25. There is provision under the Criminal Legal Aid (Remuneration)
 Regulations 2013 for an advocate and litigator to be paid a fixed fee for representing a Defendant at a hearing in respect of a breach of a Crown Court order.

F Administrative support

26. Administrative support for the Substance Misuse ISC is provided at Liverpool Crown Court by a dedicated court coordinator. Enquiries to do with the ISC should be sent by email to:

<u>ISC-LiverpoolCC@Justice.gov.uk</u>

regarding the priority listing of domestic abuse and short drugs trials (Operation Expedite)

Purpose

Listing is always a judicial function exercised in the interests of justice. At Liverpool Crown Court we have, for some years, sought to prioritise domestic abuse trials – recognising the unique harms such offences cause and the risk of complainants disengaging – in order to protect victims, preserve evidence and maintain confidence in the process.

More recently, and for different reasons, we have adopted a similar approach for straightforward drugs trials. This reflects our aim to maximise efficiency and is informed by our experience of how these cases typically conclude.

This listing strategy will 'fast-track' these cases, ensuring that they are listed for trial relatively soon after the plea and trial preparation hearing (PTPH).

In relation to drugs cases, it is hoped that the availability of the Intensive Supervision Court will complement this approach.

Guidance

A Eligibility

Domestic abuse trials

- 27. The listing of trials involving allegations of domestic abuse will normally be expedited.
- 28. This applies to all criminal cases where domestic abuse is alleged, including conduct charged as criminal damage or a public order offence.
- 29. The working definition of 'domestic abuse' for the purposes of this scheme broadly follows the statutory definition contained in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. It can be paraphrased as follows:
 - 'Domestic abuse occurs when a person aged 16 or over engages in behaviour that is abusive towards another person with whom they are personally connected (such as a partner, ex-partner, relative, or co-parent) regardless of gender or sexuality. Abuse includes physical or sexual abuse, violent or threatening behaviour, controlling or coercive behaviour, economic abuse, and psychological, emotional or other abuse.'

Short Drugs Trials

- 30. Trials fitting the following criteria will normally be expedited.
- 31. Where:
 - a) The Defendant is on bail; and

- b) The Defendant is charged with one or more offence contrary to the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and/or the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016; and
- c) The realistic time estimate for the trial (including any legal argument) is not more than 3 days; and
- d) The Defendant is not raising a potential modern slavery defence (given the time required to complete the NRM process)

B Listing

- 32. In advance of the PTPH, the Prosecution will certify that a case meets the above criteria and that there is no other reason why any trial should not be expedited. The Prosecution's view that the case is "suitable for an expedited trial listing" will be communicated by a widely shared comment on the DCS.
- 33. In accordance with BCM principles it is expected that there will have been engagement between the parties, and that the Defendant has received informed legal advice on plea prior to the PTPH.
- 34. In the event of a 'not guilty' plea, the court at the PTPH will consider submissions from the parties about the suitability of the case for an expedited trial. Unless there is some good and sufficient reason, the case will ordinarily be given an early trial listing.
- 35. The judge at the PTPH will retain a discretion whether the trial should be expedited and it is expected that the parties will assist the court by highlighting any features of the case that might mean it is not straightforward, and so not suitable for early listing.

- 36. Where the criteria are met, **the case will be given a trial date within 20 weeks of the PTPH** and the stage dates will be adjusted to accommodate this shortened timetable. Stage 1 will ordinarily have been completed by the PTPH. The court will likely set the Stage 2 date four weeks after the PTPH and set dates for Stages 3 and 4 a short time after that.
- 37. As with any case, the parties should complete the relevant portions of the PTPH form before the day of the PTPH. Specifically, in relation to drugs cases, practitioners are reminded of their obligations under CrimPR 3 in relation to streamlined forensic reports (SFR1). The judge at the PTPH will want to know what the real issues are, and whether the defence are able to make an admission that the exhibit(s) listed in the SFR1 were forensically examined and the examination produced the result(s) described.

regarding committals for sentence and ordering of Pre-Sentence Reports

Purpose

This note sets out the joint approach to be adopted by the Merseyside Magistrates' Courts and Liverpool Crown Court when dealing with a case following a guilty plea or indicated guilty plea, and where consideration is being given to whether the case should be committed to the Crown Court for sentence and/or whether a pre-sentence report should be ordered. It is recognised that such decisions are frequently complex and require the exercise of careful judgment, given their implications both for the proper administration of justice and for the Defendant.

This guidance is not intended to alter or amend the general approach to case management set out in Section 10 of 'The Better Case Management Revival Handbook ⁶, reissued in January 2023. However, in recent years there has been a significant increase in the numbers of cases being committed for sentence and it is the experience of the Crown Court that too often cases require a PSR where one was not ordered in the magistrates' court.

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⁶ https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/BCM-Revival-Handbook.pdf

General matters

- Decisions about whether a case should be committed to the Crown Court will continue to be taken in accordance with the Sentencing Council 'Allocation and committal for sentence' guideline.⁷
- ❖ Decisions about whether to request the preparation of a pre-sentence report will be taken in accordance with the Sentencing Council guideline 'Imposition of community and custodial sentences' and in particular paragraph 3⁸.

Guidance

A Committals for sentence

- 1. Justices will be vigilant for opportunities to pass sentence in suitable cases rather than commit to the Crown Court, remembering of course that they have the power to impose up to 12 months' imprisonment or detention in a young offender institution in respect of triable either way offences⁹.
- 2. If there is a doubt as to whether a case could be sentenced in the magistrates' court, the Justices may request a PSR before making the final decision, recognising that sometimes the contents of a PSR will make it clear that a community order <u>might</u> be the appropriate disposal. For example, this is sometimes the case where Defendants are charged with possessing class B or C drugs

⁷ https://sentencingcouncil.org.uk/quidelines/allocation-and-committal-for-sentence/

⁸ https://sentencingcouncil.org.uk/guidelines/imposition-of-community-and-custodial-

sentences/?source=7511#header_4

⁹ Section 224(1A)(b) Sentencing Act 2020

- with intent to supply, or cases of possessing/making a limited number of indecent images of children.
- 3. When considering committing for sentence where an offence is committed during the operational period of a Crown Court suspended sentence order the Justices will have in mind the power to sentence for the new offence, whilst notifying the Crown Court.
- 4. That power is set out in paragraph 11 (2) of Schedule 16 to the Sentencing Act 2020
 - "(2) Where an offender is convicted by a magistrates' court of any offence ("the new offence") which the court is satisfied was committed during the operational period of a suspended sentence order made by the Crown Court, the court—
 - (a) may commit the offender in custody or on bail to the Crown Court, and
 - (b) if it does not, must give written notice of the conviction to the appropriate officer of the Crown Court."
- 5. As a general rule if a fine or discharge would be an appropriate sentence for the 'new' offence the Justices may decide to sentence for this offence and then give written notice to the Crown Court. This situation will often arise where, for example, a Defendant receives a suspended sentence order for possession with intent to supply or producing cannabis and then goes on to be in simple possession of cannabis.
- 6. The Justices will now consider dealing more often with such cases, where appropriate, and then notify the Crown Court. If there was a

previous 'policy' that all such cases should be sent to the Crown Court, this has now lapsed. Each case will be considered on its merits.

B Ordering PSRs

- 7. Previously, Justices have endeavoured to save time and expense by ordering pre-sentence reports only in obvious cases, in the knowledge that the Crown Court could order a 'stand-down' report. However, given the pressures on the Probation service at present, stand-down reports are rarely an option in the Crown Court, meaning that cases which need a report must be adjourned for a period of weeks.
- 8. Accordingly, in every case that is committed for sentence or sent to the Crown Court following a guilty indication, the Justices will specifically raise with the parties in the case the issue of whether a PSR should be ordered.
- 9. The Justices must consider paragraph 3 of the '**Imposition'** guideline, which states:
 - "A pre-sentence report can be pivotal in helping the court decide whether to impose a custodial or community order and, where relevant, what particular requirements or combination of requirements are most suitable for an individual offender on either a community order or a suspended custodial sentence.
 - PSRs are necessary in all cases that would benefit from an assessment of one or more of the following: the offender's dangerousness and risk of harm, the nature and causes of the offender's behaviour, the offender's personal circumstances and any factors that may be helpful to the

- court in considering the offender's suitability for different sentences or requirements.
- A pre-sentence report may be unnecessary if the court considers that it has enough information about the offence and the offender."
- 10. The Justices should also have regard to Section 10.2 of The Better Case Management Revival Handbook, specifically the following quidance:
 - 'Unless there is already in existence a recent PSR (not normally more than 6 months old) which is adequate to the new case, the Magistrates' Court will generally order a PSR when committing for sentence where:
 - The Defendant is of previous good character, or young (under 18, or under 21 and of previous good character or with no previous prison sentence), or otherwise vulnerable, or
 - The Defendant has caring responsibilities, or
 - The sentence that might be appropriate in the Crown Court, before credit for plea, is likely to be 3 years or less such that the Crown Court will need to consider a suspended or community sentence, or
 - The Defendant has committed a sexual offence (including indecent images) or domestic violence offence or
 - The sentencing court will have to consider whether there is a significant risk to members of the public of serious harm occasioned by the commission by the offender of further

specified offences (dangerousness).'

- 11. There is a place on the BCM form for the magistrates' court to record the decision whether a PSR was ordered or not, and to record reasons if a report was not ordered. This part of the form will be completed in full in every case where there is a guilty plea or indication.
- 12. The Justices will consider granting a request for a PSR in all cases where there is a realistic alternative to a custodial sentence and <u>it</u> may reasonably be argued that a suspended sentence or community order could be the correct sentence¹⁰. It may also be appropriate to order a report where a Defendant might reasonably argue that it would be unjust to activate a suspended sentence order, or to impose a mandatory minimum custodial sentence.
- 13. We remind defence representatives that they are under a duty proactively to raise the issue of a PSR at the magistrates' court in appropriate cases, and to assist the Justices with any argument, including the likely mitigation that will be advanced so as to enable an informed decision to be made.
- 14. If such a request is declined, and the defence representative believes that there should be a pre-sentence report, they should apply to the Crown Court (by email to:

 <u>listing.liverpool.crowncourt@justice.gov.uk</u>) not merely by uploading an application to DCS) within 7 days of the committal or sending. A judge of the Crown Court will then consider such a

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The Court of Appeal has stated that if a Defendant could receive a suspended sentence of imprisonment, they should have the opportunity of putting their case as well as possible by having a pre-sentence report.

request, applying Section 30 of the Sentencing Code and the 'Imposition' guideline, and give any necessary direction. This may include a direction that the sentence hearing will be adjourned to allow for the preparation of a report.

- 15. A PSR is not always required. The court must balance the need to avoid delay with the need to ensure reports are only ordered where they add value. A report will usually <u>not</u> be required where:
 - the only issue is the length of an inevitable custodial sentence;
 - the Defendant is in custody solely due to immigration matters;
 - the offence concerns false identity or passport documentation;
 - a prescribed or mandatory minimum sentence applies (unless the defence raise a realistic argument that such a sentence would be unjust);
 - the Defendant is already serving a sentence extending beyond the Crown Court hearing date, or has been recalled to prison;
 - the Defendant is in breach of a current suspended sentence order — in which case an offender manager's report should be obtained, and the latest PSR uploaded to DCS.

regarding the case resolution process

Purpose

This note sets out a process which operates at Liverpool Crown Court to facilitate the resolution of trials in appropriate cases. It has been developed in conjunction with the Crown Prosecution Service and requires the active engagement of all participants in cases dealt with at the QEII. It has three primary objectives:

- ❖ To encourage effective and purposeful engagement between the police, CPS, and defence representatives to manage cases justly, fairly, and expeditiously, as required by the Criminal Procedure Rules;
- To enable active judicial case management in those cases where a fair, just, and timely resolution is possible and appropriate, reducing wherever possible the number of cases that plead on the day of trial;
- ❖ To ensure that those cases requiring a trial are effective on 'day one'.

Guidance

The case resolution process

1. Cases listed for trial at Liverpool Crown Court (apart from rape and serious sexual offence cases and those involving a fatality) will be subject to a specific review by a nominated CPS lead prosecutor in accordance with the Code for Crown Prosecutors. This review will typically take place about two months before the case is listed for trial.

- 2. The purpose of this review is to identify, where possible, those cases that appear to have the potential to resolve without a trial.
- 3. Any case which the prosecutor considers no longer has a realistic prospect of conviction will be listed with a view to bringing proceedings to an end.
- 4. Where a case is identified as capable of resolution, the CPS will engage in discussions with Prosecution counsel, Defence representatives, complainants, and the officer in charge, informing them of any proposal for resolution and seeking representations. In this situation it is vitally important that all parties, particularly defence representatives, fully and actively participate in efforts to resolve the case. It will usually be to a Defendant's benefit in terms of credit if a case is resolved appropriately and in a timely manner.
- 5. Where it is thought by the parties that a case is or might be capable of resolution, the case will be listed to mention by the court with the Defendant required to attend the hearing. The parties should endeavour to agree a date for that mention hearing before asking the court to list the case. This will ensure that instructed advocates are able to attend. Where agreement is not possible, the court will list the case on the next suitable date.
- 6. The CPS may also request that a case is listed for mention, with the Defendant required to attend, where there has been no contact or engagement from defence representatives.
- 7. At the mention hearing, any proposed resolution agreed in advance will be put before the court or further discussion can take place between parties before the hearing. The judge will be available to assist where appropriate with issues that might arise. For example, it will be open to a Defendant to invite the court to give a 'Goodyear' indication, or to invite consideration of any basis

of plea: the objective being to achieve an outcome that is fair and just. Even if resolution of the case cannot be achieved at this hearing, it is hoped that any trial issues will be resolved or narrowed so that the case will be ready for trial on the day it is listed.

- 8. This initiative is not intended to replace the existing systems in place at the QEII for a case to be listed at the request of any party if it is felt that a hearing might facilitate earlier resolution, or where there is an issue that could and should be resolved before trial.
- 9. The effectiveness of this process will be kept under review.

regarding final review hearings

Purpose

This note sets out the **judicially** led review procedure in operation at Liverpool Crown Court, which may culminate in a Final Review Hearing (FRH).

This procedure forms an integral part of the Court's approach to case management and is designed both to encourage the appropriate resolution of cases before trial and, where a trial is required, to ensure that it is properly prepared and capable of proceeding on the date fixed. It operates alongside the case resolution framework set out in Chapter 7 and reflects the Court's commitment to the efficient, timely, and just disposal of criminal proceedings.

Parties are expected to engage fully with the process, to comply with their respective case management obligations, and to provide the court with accurate and up-to-date information so that the efficient and just disposal of cases may be secured.

A FRH listing does not diminish the importance of the Certificate of Trial readiness (COTR) to confirm whether the trial is ready or not.

Guidance

The Final Review Hearing process

- 1. Cases listed for trial at Liverpool Crown Court other than rape and serious sexual offence cases, complex fraud cases and those involving a fatality will be subject to a specific review by a judge following receipt of the COTR and before the case is allocated to the fixed list (which ordinarily occurs eight days before the week of trial).
- 2. The purposes of this review are, broadly, twofold: first, to identify cases that may be resolved without the need for a trial; and second, to ensure that any issues disclosed in the COTR, or otherwise evident from the case papers, are addressed so that, where a trial is required, the listing is effective.
- 3. Where the reviewing judge considers that a case falls within either of these categories, it will be listed for a Final Review Hearing (FRH). **Defendants are required to attend this hearing**.
- 4. It is essential that the instructed trial advocates attend the FRH to ensure its effectiveness. Listing officers will liaise with the CPS, defence representatives, and chambers to secure, so far as reasonably practicable, their attendance at the hearing.
- 5. At the FRH, a Defendant may invite the court to give a 'Goodyear' indication or to consider any proposed basis of plea, with the objective of securing an outcome that is fair and just. Where resolution cannot be achieved at this stage, it is expected that outstanding trial issues will be identified, narrowed, or resolved so as to ensure the case is ready to proceed on the listed trial date.
- 6. The effectiveness of this process will be kept under review.

regarding compliance review hearings

Purpose

This guidance sets out the arrangements for compliance review hearings at Liverpool Crown Court. Such hearings are normally ordered by a judge where a party has failed to comply with judicial directions.

Most often, though not exclusively, these failures occur:

- When the Defence fail to serve the necessary responses (including a Defence Statement) by the date required at Stage 2;
- When a party fails to serve a certificate of trial readiness (COTR).

Guidance

- 1. We remind the parties of the matters set out in Chapter 1 above and the facility to agree variations of time limits set by the court (though not the date for service of the COTR). There is a general obligation on the parties to assist the court in actively managing cases, including proactively monitoring the progress of the case and compliance with directions.
- 2. With this in mind, where a failure to comply with a direction is identified, a judge will typically order:
 - That the case is listed for a compliance review hearing.

- Where the non-compliance is at Stage 2 and involves a
 failure to serve a Defence Statement: that the Defendant
 must attend the hearing together with the Defence Case
 Progression Officer named on the BCM and/or PTPH forms. If
 that person is not available for good and sufficient reason,
 another person with equivalent responsibility for case
 progression must attend.
- For all other failures: that the party in default must attend the hearing. In practice, this will ordinarily be the Reviewing Lawyer (in the event of Prosecution default) and/or the Case Progression Officer (in the case of Defence default), as identified on the BCM and/or PTPH forms. If the identified person is unavailable for good and sufficient reason, another person with equivalent responsibility for case progression must attend.

regarding applications for investigation orders

Purpose

The purpose of this note is to remind financial investigators, and other authorities entitled to make applications under the relevant statutory provisions, of the requirements contained in Part 47 of the Criminal Procedure Rules and Paragraph 11 of the Criminal Practice Directions.

Those provisions govern the procedure for applications for the making, variation, or discharge of investigation orders. Such orders include, but are not limited to: orders for the production of, or access to, material; customer information orders; and account monitoring orders.

Applicants are expected to be familiar with, and to comply strictly with, the requirements set out in the Rules and Practice Directions. This includes ensuring that applications are made in proper form, supported by appropriate evidence, and served in accordance with the prescribed procedures. Failure to observe these requirements may result in delay, adjournment, or the refusal of the order sought.

Applicants must also ensure that any order sought is **proportionate**. This requires careful thought as to the extent of the material requested and the period covered, so that the intrusion into private or commercial affairs is no greater than necessary to achieve the legitimate aim of the investigation.

Guidance

A Form and Content of Applications

- 1. Applications must clearly identify the statutory basis of the order sought, the scope of the material or information required, and the specific purpose for which the order is necessary.
- 2. All supporting material must be complete, accurate, and properly referenced. Where reliance is placed on information obtained from third parties, the source and reliability of that information must be identified.
- 3. Draft orders presented to the court should be in a form consistent with the Rules, accurately reflecting the relief sought, and confined to what is strictly necessary.
- 4. Applicants must also ensure that the terms of any proposed order are proportionate. In particular, careful consideration must be given to the breadth of the material sought and the time period covered. Orders should not extend more widely than is justified by the investigative need.
- 5. Practical examples of how proportionality may be demonstrated are set out in Section D below.

B Duty of Candour

- 6. Applicants are under a duty of candour to the court. This includes the obligation to disclose not only material which supports the application but also material which may reasonably be considered to undermine it or which may assist the court in deciding whether to grant the order.
- 7. Any qualifications, limitations, or uncertainties in the evidence relied upon must be fairly drawn to the attention of the court.

C Choice of Court Centre

- 8. Paragraph 11 CPD requires that applications be made at a court centre appropriate to the nature and scale of the investigation. That requirement must not be treated as a mere formality; investigators must give careful thought to the selection of court centre and justify it to the court in the covering email.
- 9. In making that choice, and having full regard to the terms of the Practice Directions, the following practical considerations should ordinarily be taken into account:
 - (a) **Likely subsequent proceedings** the appropriate venue will ordinarily be the court centre where any prosecution is likely to be brought;
 - (b) Geographical connection of suspect(s) where the principal suspect or suspects have a strong connection, by residence, business, or base of operations, with a particular region or court area;
 - (c) **Location of offending or investigation** where the suspected offending occurred, or where the investigation is primarily centred;
 - (d) **Multiplicity and complexity** in cases involving multiple Defendants or complex issues, all connected applications should be made to the same court centre and, where practicable, listed before the same judge, so as to promote consistency and administrative efficiency.;
- 10. A court centre must not be selected solely on the grounds of convenience to, or proximity with, the investigator's location.

- 11. Judges may decline to determine an application, and direct that it be resubmitted (if necessary to a different court centre), where:
 - (a) the application has not been presented in the proper form;
 - (b) the time estimate for reading or hearing is inaccurate; and/or
 - (c) insufficient justification has been provided for making the application to Liverpool Crown Court.

D Proportionality in practice

Illustrative examples

12. When setting out the scope of the order, applicants should explain why the terms sought are proportionate to the investigative objective. For example:

Time Period

"The order is limited to account records between January and June 2025. Intelligence indicates that the suspected money laundering occurred during this period, linked to identified transfers. Extending the request beyond these dates would capture a large volume of irrelevant material and would be disproportionate to the issues under investigation."

Categories of Material

"The application seeks telephone call data (subscriber and call records) but does not include the content of communications. This limitation ensures that the material obtained is confined to what is strictly necessary for establishing contact patterns relevant to the conspiracy, without intruding further into private communications."

Multiple Suspects

"The order is directed at the accounts of Suspect A only.

Although Suspect B is also under investigation, there is
currently insufficient evidence to justify an equivalent order in
respect of them. By limiting the scope to Suspect A, the
application remains proportionate to the current evidential
position, while leaving open the possibility of further
applications should additional material emerge."

Proportionality Checklist for Applicants

- 13. Before submitting an application, ask yourself:
 - Scope of Material Have I clearly limited the request to only the material necessary for the investigation?
 - Time Period Is the period covered as short as reasonably possible to capture the relevant activity?
 - Relevance Can I explain how each category of material sought will directly assist the investigation?
 - Alternatives Have I considered narrower options (shorter periods, fewer categories, fewer suspects) and discounted them with reasons?
 - Intrusion Have I considered the potential intrusion into privacy or commercial affairs, and explained why the request remains justified?
 - Drafting Does the draft order reflect only what is strictly necessary, and avoid "catch-all" language?

Annex

Directory of CVP courtroom links

Courtroom 3.1

CVP address: <u>hmcts2267@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts2267@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts

Courtroom 3.2

CVP address: <u>hmcts2590@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts2590@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts

Courtroom 3.3

CVP address: <u>hmcts1281@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1281@meet.video.justice.gov.uk

Courtroom 4.1

CVP address: <u>hmcts2591@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Courtroom 4.2

CVP address: <u>hmcts2592@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts2592@meet.video.justice.gov.uk

Courtroom 4.3

CVP address: <u>hmcts1564@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1564@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts

Courtroom 4.4

CVP address: <u>hmcts2594@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts2594@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts

Courtroom 4.5

CVP address: <u>hmcts2593@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts2593@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts

Courtroom 4.6

CVP address: <u>hmcts2595@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts2595@meet.video.justice.gov.uk

Courtroom 5.1

CVP address: <u>hmcts2597@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts2597@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts

Courtroom 5.2

CVP address: <u>hmcts2596@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts2596@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts

Courtroom 5.3

CVP address: <u>hmcts1280@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1280@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts

Courtroom 5.4

CVP address: <u>hmcts2598@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts2598@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts

Courtroom 5.5

CVP address: <u>hmcts3111@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts3111@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts31110@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts31110@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmc

Courtroom 5.6

CVP address: <u>hmcts1963@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1963@meet.video.justice.gov.uk

Courtroom 6.1

CVP address: <u>hmcts1964@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1964@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts

Courtroom 6.2

CVP address: <u>hmcts1965@meet.video.justice.gov.uk</u>

Web browser: <a href="https://join.meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1965@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1966@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1966@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1966@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1966@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1966@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1966@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1966@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1966@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1966@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts1966@meet.video.justice.gov.uk/HMCTS/#/?conference=hmcts