



**INFORMATION PACK - VACANCY FOR APPOINTMENT AS**  
**DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT**

**Introduction**

Following the appointment of the current Deputy President, Lord Reed, as President of the Court, applications are sought for the appointment of a new Deputy President of the UK Supreme Court (UKSC), to take up office in January 2020.

This will be an internal competition since, with the appointment of three new Justices to replace those retiring, there are no vacancies for a position as Justice in addition to that of Deputy President. So, the appointment will need to be made from those Justices currently in post.

**Statutory selection process**

The Deputy President is selected under the provisions set out in the Constitutional Reform Act 2005, as amended. This requires the Lord Chancellor to convene a commission, the membership of which is prescribed in the statute and in the Supreme Court (Judicial Appointments) Regulations 2013. There is a full description of the process on the Supreme Court's website.

The panel comprises

<b>Lady Hale (Chair)</b>	<b>President of the UK Supreme Court</b>
<b>Lord Burnett of Maldon</b>	<b>Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales</b>
<b>Mrs Nicola Gordon</b>	<b>Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland</b>
<b>Lord Kakkar</b>	<b>Judicial Appointments Commission for England and Wales</b>
<b>Mr Lindsay Todd</b>	<b>Judicial Appointments Commission for Northern Ireland</b>

## **The role**

The Deputy President of the Supreme Court supports the President across the whole range of his/her duties. Under the Constitutional Reform Act, the Deputy President assumes the duties of the President if that office holder is absent. As such he/she is part of the judicial leadership team and:

- Works closely with the President on a range of policy and case-related issues; and is involved in many meetings, including with Ministers, Parliament, foreign judges and the UKSC Strategic Advisory Board.
- Presides over UKSC Panels/JCPC Boards unless sitting with the President.
- Works with the President to settle constitutions for Permission to Appeal (PTA) Panels and appeal panels in the UKSC and JCPC
- Supports the President in considering amendments to Rules and Practice Directions.
- Gives directions or guidance to staff in the Registry when requested to do so, in particular on case-related issues. (This can be urgent and needs to be prioritised against other activities.)
- Has a representational and outward facing role.

## **Criteria for appointment**

### Legal ability

- An outstanding lawyer

### Leadership

- Ability and determination to play an active leadership role in a collegiate court made up of 12 independent and strong-minded individuals, and to perform the public facing leadership role of the Deputy President
- Accessibility and willingness to provide prompt support and advice to the President, the Chief Executive, Registrar and other members of staff when required

### Personal qualities

- Approachability, insight and sensitivity to the concerns of fellow Justices

- The ability to command the respect of colleagues
- Excellent people management and communication skills
- Resilience
- Strength and firmness of purpose

#### Wider contribution

- Understanding of and interest in the operation of the jurisdictions in each part of the UK and their relationship with the UKSC
- A willingness to respond to future challenges that may arise from EU withdrawal, and to represent the Court with authority and discretion in different fora
- Awareness and understanding of political and media pressures

#### Efficiency

- Ability to support the President in ensuring that the Court's business is dealt with efficiently
- Ability to contribute towards and support the efficient use of resources

#### Salary

Salary levels are set by the Senior Salaries Review Body. The current annual salary for the Deputy President of the UKSC is £226,193 pa.

#### Pension

The pension arrangements applying to a Justice appointed to the post will continue to apply on appointment as Deputy President.

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