



Reference number: 06/2011

Date: 16 May 2011

Press Notice

“Justice being seen to be done” with launch of “Supreme Court TV”

Proceedings of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom can now be watched live over the internet, in a significant development for the transparency and accessibility of the highest court in the land.

Sky News has today launched a live stream of the court’s hearings and judgments, as they happen, via their website at www.skynews.com/supremecourt.

The Supreme Court is exempt from the prohibition on filming court proceedings in England, Wales and Northern Ireland*, and has four cameras installed in each of its three court rooms, but until now use of footage has generally been limited to news coverage and occasional documentaries.

The move means that legal professionals, students and members of the public interested in the work of the Supreme Court do not have to travel to London to see proceedings. The website contains direct links to the Supreme Court’s own summaries of each case, to enable viewers to read some background material.

Viewers can plan their Supreme Court viewing by visiting the Court’s ‘future sittings’ page at <http://www.supremecourt.gov.uk/visiting/sittings.html>.

The live streaming begins today (16 May) with a ‘soft launch’ to enable final testing to take place. There will be rare occasions where, owing to the nature of the case, live streaming is suspended.

Jenny Rowe, Chief Executive of the Supreme Court, says: “We hope that making available live video of the court’s hearings and judgments will help the legal profession and inspire and educate the next generation. We are grateful to Sky News for taking the initiative in developing this service, which will be welcomed by all those who are concerned for improving access to seeing justice being done.”

Ends

The Supreme Court of the United Kingdom

Parliament Square London SW1P 3BD T: 020 7960 1886/1887 F: 020 7960 1901 www.supremecourt.gov.uk

* There is no similar prohibition on filming in Scottish courts.

UKSC contacts:

Sian Lewis
Tel: 020 7960 1886
sian.lewis@supremecourt.gsi.gov.uk

Ben Wilson
Tel: 020 7960 1887
ben.wilson@supremecourt.gsi.gov.uk