

## UKSC MANCHESTER USER GROUP MEETING

# NOTE OF THE UKSC USER GROUP MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH 2023 AT 6PM IN THE EVENT SUITE AT THE MANCHESTER CIVIL JUSTICE CENTRE

#### **PRESENT**

Lord Hodge UK Supreme Court
Vicky Fox UK Supreme Court
Laura Angus UK Supreme Court

David Allan KC
Oliver Caplan

Byrom Street Chambers
18 St John Street Chambers

Glynis Craig Independent Office for Police Conduct

Charles Feeny
Winston Hunter KC
Christopher McNall
Christopher Melton KC
James Parks

Complete Counsel Chambers
Byrom Street Chambers
Byrom Street Chambers
18 St John Street Chambers
18 St John Street Chambers

HHJ Richard Pearce Judge, Manchester District Registry
Cloe Pugh Equality and Human Rights Commission

Victoria Roberts 18 St John Street Chambers Lauren Sutherland KC Byrom Street Chambers

#### AGENDA ITEM 1 – WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Lord Hodge welcomed attendees to the Manchester User Group meeting and explained the reasoning behind the sittings in Manchester. It was the first sitting of the UK Supreme Court outside of London that was not in a Capital City, and part of the Court's outreach to reflect that it is a UK-wide Court. The sittings had been very well attended and the Justices had educational and outreach events with students.

#### AGENDA ITEM 2 – CHANGE PROGRAMME AND REGISTRY

Laura Angus introduced the Court's Change Programme, which is a root and branch transformation to update processes and use technology to deliver the Court's vision for the future. The changes that users will see in the long term will be automated filing of applications, an online case management area for parties to use and an online 'case tracker' for everyone interested in

following a case's progression through the Court. Vicky Fox confirmed that court users will be kept informed of the changes throughout the programme, and invited to test new products as they are developed. Attendees gave their feedback on their experience of e-filing in other courts and what their current experiences with filing at the Registry are, and how this can be usefully built into the UKSC's Change Programme. Laura Angus confirmed that the Rules and Practice Directions will need be updated to reflect the changes to e-filing, and that there will be consultation with courts users as early as possible about this.

### AGENDA ITEM 3 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS/FEEDBACK

Several attendees expressed an interest in appellate advocacy training by Justices. Lord Hodge indicated that he would be willing to give a lecture on appellate advocacy. There was a question about how appeals are listed in the Supreme Court. Lord Hodge confirmed that parties may make a written case for expedition that will be considered by Justices and genuinely urgent appeals can always be accommodated in the list. Laura Angus confirmed that non-urgent appeals will usually be listed to counsels' availability (where possible) within the offered listing window.

#### **CLOSE**

Lord Hodge thanked attendees for joining the user group meeting, and for the very warm welcome the Court had received in Manchester.