



UKSC AND JCPC USER GROUP MEETING

At: 16:30pm on Wednesday 11 February 2026
Held remotely via Teams ONLY

Chaired by Lord Sales and Lord Briggs

Also in attendance from the Court:

Laura Angus, Registrar
Celia Cave, Registrar
Sam Clarke, Director of Corporate Services
Vicky Fox, CEO
Daniel Waller, Digital Service Owner

MINUTES

1. Welcome to the UKSC and JCPC user group and introductions (Lord Briggs):

Lord Briggs introduced himself. He introduced Lord Sales, as the Court's new Deputy President. Lord Sales introduced himself and was delighted to join the user group.

Laura announced that the user group was being held remotely as a way of being more inclusive to those who were outside of London and not able to attend in person. Feedback was encouraged as to how attendees found the online-only user group.

2. Court updates (Registrars):

Laura gave a summary of UKSC Court updates including:

1. The UKSC will be sitting in Glasgow in May and there will also be a local user group meeting in Glasgow.

2. There will be a 5.9% increase in UKSC fees from 1 April 2026, reflecting the increase in CPI from March 2023 to March 2025.

Celia gave a summary of JCPC Court updates including:

1. Sir Anthony Smellie sitting in London on JCPC appeals for a week in January 2026 and engaging in outreach events at the Court. He will continue to sit remotely.
2. Dame Janice Pereria has continued sitting with the JCPC remotely.
3. A reminder that the Court can offer Hybrid hearings and adjusted sitting times for sitting in different time zones.
4. A reminder that the Court is also happy to assist with visas and advised that counsel attending in-person should apply for the visa as early as they can.

3. Artificial Intelligence (Lord Sales):

Lord Sales emphasised that it is the professional obligation for parties to check the accuracy of their materials they are presenting to the Judges. Lord Sales reminded users that if AI is detected, and if work is not being checked, there will be consequences. Lord Briggs agreed and added that this is to preserve the integrity of the process for all our users and the Court.

4. JCPC Fee increase (Lord Briggs):

Lord Briggs mentioned that the JCPC's fees have not changed since 2013, but there has been 40% inflation in the UK since then. Lord Briggs stated that the Court is likely to consult on a potential increase to JCPC fees later this year.

5. Registry items (Registrars):

1. Celia noted that the case management portal was designed to cut down on delays and make sure we can progress and decide cases efficiently as possible. In some JCPC cases, Respondents have been unresponsive and have not logged in to the portal, leading to delays. Celia emphasised that Appellants have the right for their appeal to be progressed in a timely manner. Respondents should ensure they have the relevant representatives added to the portal to receive notifications and actively manage the case. The Court is aware that some Respondents will always instruct a London agent, which the Court can action once written confirmation of such instruction is given. The Registry is always happy to assist with further training or help if parties need assistance using the portal. Parties should be aware that going forward cases will be progressed without the Respondent's submissions unless there is a good reason as to why it should not proceed.

2. Celia noted that the Court now routinely publish SFIs and Written Cases for portal appeals (i.e. those issued after 4 December 2024) to the website prior to the appeal hearing. Parties must be sure that the documents do not contain any sensitive information, including non-anonymised names, personal addresses of parties or signatures of counsel. The Court relies on the parties to file documents they are happy to have published online.
 3. Celia clarified that there is a PD (UKKSC PD 4.42 and 4.43, JCPC PD 4.46 and 4.47) which directs that parties may liaise to agree how to file written cases for appeals and cross appeals. If parties want to exceed the page limit, an application must be made. If there are two separate written cases, then it is two separate fees. Parties should discuss earlier so there is a joint approach on the written cases, unless there have been specific directions given by the Court.
 4. a reminded parties that they should inform the judgments clerk if they are planning to attend a judgment hand down by responding to her correspondence and confirm the numbers attending. Parties should also let the Court know if any victims or parties who require particular sensitivity will be attending the court for a hearing or a judgment hand down.
 5. Laura reminded parties that all correspondence regarding portal cases should be sent through the portal.
 6. Laura reminder UKSC parties that requesting 'Legal Aid extensions of time' (UKSC Rule 6(3), PD 3.14 and PD 4.23) is an ongoing process where parties should ask for an extension via the correspondence feature on the portal.
 7. Laura reminded parties that it is professional obligation to provide draft orders when judgment is handed down, within the Court's set deadline.
 8. Laura reminded parties that if they have requested a hybrid hearing, they must attend the Webex test and log in to the hearing early.
6. AOB

There was an opportunity for attendees to field questions to the Court representatives.

There was a question about hand down or promulgation of judgments on bank holidays in local jurisdictions. Lord Sales asked that parties alert the Court if a JCPC hand down or promulgation is planned on a local bank holiday in the relevant jurisdiction.

There was a question about filing a notice of appeal beyond the 56 day time limit in the JCPC. Lord Sales and Lord Briggs confirmed that it is possible under the JCPC rules for an appellant to file a notice of appeal out of time, with an extension of time. The Respondent will have an opportunity to object. The extension of time

application will be referred to a single Justice who may refuse to grant the extension of time. In that situation the appeal would fall away.

There was a question about the UKSC being part of the HMCTS PBA payment by account system. The Registrars reiterated that this is not possible since the UKSC is an entirely separate organisation from HMCTS.

Lord Sales confirmed that Courts will begin publishing list of PTA decisions on the website again. He emphasised that there is necessarily a time lag for some JCPC decisions as they need approval from HM the King before being published.

CLOSE