

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CRIMINAL PRACTICE DIRECTIONS JANUARY 2017
SUMMARY OF KEY CHANGES**

This is the third amendment to the Criminal Practice Directions 2015 [2016] EWCA Crim 1714¹. It is handed down by the Lord Chief Justice on 31st January 2017 and comes into force with immediate effect.

This update provides amendments to existing Criminal Practice Directions and supplements the Criminal Procedure (Amendment No. 2) Rules 2016, S.I. 2016/705 that came into force on 3rd October 2016.

1. CPD I General matters 3N USE OF LIVE LINK AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES

This new section gives guidance to the courts and users about how to effectively and appropriately make use of live link and telephone facilities. It provides assistance to the courts in helping them to actively manage cases by making full use of technology that is available to them, in line with recommendations made in Sir Brian Leveson's *Review of Efficiency in Criminal Proceedings*.

Annex 1 to this part deals with practical, operational considerations that arise in connection with setting up and using live link and telephone facilities.

**Lord Chief Justice
31 January 2017**

¹ [2015] EWCA 1567. Amendment Number 1 [2016] EWCA 97 was handed down by the Lord Chief Justice on 23rd March, 2016 and came into force on the 4th April, 2016. Amendment Number 2 [2016] EWCA 1714 was handed down by the Lord Chief on 16th November, 2016 and came into force on 16th November, 2016.