

NOTES FOR APPLICANTS FOR COMMERCIAL COURT

JUDICIAL ASSISTANT PILOT SCHEME PHASE 2

1. This is a pilot scheme launched by the Commercial Court with the assistance and support of the Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR). The Commercial Court invites applications for:
 - Three Judicial Assistant placements to start on 1 October 2018 for a fixed five-month period until 28 February 2019 (with Christmas vacation off)
 - Three further Judicial Assistant placements to start on 1 March 2018 for a fixed five month period until 31 July 2019 (with Easter and Whitsun vacations off).
2. This is the second phase of the pilot for what it is hoped will become an ongoing scheme by which outstanding junior barristers in commercial practice will gain an in-depth understanding of the work of the Commercial Court and an exposure to different styles of advocacy.
3. The positions are open to tenants in commercial practice (not limited to COMBAR sets) in their first five years of practice following the successful completion of pupillage.
4. Each Judicial Assistant will assist the Judge to whom they are allocated, for example by carrying out research, summarising submissions and discussing cases and hearings with the Judge. This is a full-time position, so successful applicants will be expected not to take on any outside work during the Judicial Assistant placement.
5. Each Judicial Assistant will receive an award for the six-month placement of £18,000. This award will be funded by COMBAR.
6. Applications must be made on the Commercial Court Judicial Assistant Pilot Scheme application form which is available on the same site as these notes. Completed applications must be submitted via email to ann.harries@justice.gov.uk by 5pm on 17 July 2018. A letter of reference from a referee will be required by the same date (either sent separately or together with the application).
7. **The default position is that applicants will be considered for both phases.** It is open to applicants only to make themselves available for the earlier or the later phase; but that may obviously diminish their chances of being successful in obtaining a placement.
8. Applications will be reviewed and shortlisted for interview on an anonymised and “Chambers-blind” basis. Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed by a panel of Commercial Court Judges in the week of 23 July 2018. Successful applicants will be notified by email on or before 31 July 2018.