

Coronavirus Pandemic

The Upper Tribunal (Administrative Appeals Chamber)

Guidance for Users in Scotland

- 1. This Guidance applies to the business of the Upper Tribunal (Administrative Appeals Chamber) ('UTAAC') in **Scotland** until further notice. It is made in consideration of the proper administration of justice.
- 2. As a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic, the UTAAC in Scotland has to limit its operations.
- 3. Save in cases of urgency (see below) no applications for permission to appeal will be determined and no new case management directions will be made or issued.
- 4. There will be considerable delays in deciding most appeals. As far as possible, appeals that are ready for decision will be placed before a judge in date order. Where a judge decides that a hearing is necessary and it is reasonably practicable for one to take place, the Statement from the President of the Upper Tribunal Administrative Appeals Chamber: "Contingency Arrangements" dated 20 March 2020 applies. The Statement can be found on https://www.judiciary.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-and-guidance/
- 5. There has been no change to the time limits for complying with directions or the rules, including for seeking permission to appeal or appealing.
- 6. The parties should seek to comply with any directions that have been made. Where the impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic leads to delay in complying with directions, a brief explanation should be provided.
- 7. Urgent applications must be made by email to <u>UTAACMailbox@justice.gov.uk</u> and marked "URGENT" in the subject line, with an explanation for the urgency. They will be dealt with as quickly as possible, but there is no guaranteed time scale.
- 8. If the Appellant is a person at increased risk of severe illness from the Covid-19 coronavirus under current government guidelines, this should be made clear in the subject line of the email by putting "Increased risk".

DAME JUDITH FARBEY

CHAMBER PRESIDENT

26 March 2020