



UPPER TRIBUNAL (ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS CHAMBER)

PRACTICE STATEMENT

With effect from 7 April 2025 all substantive final decisions of the Upper Tribunal (Administrative Appeals Chamber) (UTAAC) will be published online on The National Archives [Find Case Law](#) service. This change in UTAAC's practice is intended to promote transparency and the principle of open justice.

The change implements a decision taken at the UTAAC salaried judges' annual general meeting. The change is of particular significance in relation to social security cases, where the previous practice was only to publish final decisions considered by the judge to be of wider interest. It is likely to result in an approximately three-fold increase in the number of decisions of UTAAC that are published. Steps have been taken to ensure, so far as possible, that the necessary resources and working practices are in place to enable that increase to be managed successfully.

The Administrative Appeals Chamber has also decided to discontinue UTAAC's practice of reporting certain decisions in the Administrative Appeals Case Reports (AACR). The discontinuance of this practice means that the principle described in *R(I) 12/75* (that a reported decision should be given more weight than an unreported decision in the event of two decisions conflicting) will not apply to future substantive final decisions of the Chamber.

Recognising that these changes may make it harder for stakeholders to identify decisions of significance or wider interest, UTAAC's practice of publishing decisions of wider interest on its own gov.uk [website](#) will continue.

UTAAC decisions published on gov.uk will also be identifiable on The National Archives as decisions of wider interest as they will have a Neutral Citation Number (NCN) and will include a Case Summary. Other UTAAC decisions published on The National Archives will not have a NCN or a case summary.

The Honourable Mrs Justice Heather Williams, DBE, KC
Chamber President
Upper Tribunal (Administrative Appeals Chamber)

2 April 2025