



THE ADMINISTRATIVE COURT NORTH

Combined User Group Meeting
Administrative Court (North East) Leeds ('ACL') and Administrative Court (North)
Manchester ('ACM') 07/05/2025 at 4:30 pm by MS Teams

Minutes

In attendance

Mrs Justice Hill (Liaison Judge) ["HH"]
Lucy Howard-Garland (Clerk to Mrs Justice Hill)

Julie Bagnall (Delivery Manager, ACM)
Laura McMullan (Lawyer, ACM)
Elena Dudley (Apprentice Lawyer, ACM)
Shava Gibbs (ACM)
Celestino Dos-Santos (ACM)

Martin Lee (Lawyer, ACL) ["ML"]

Douglas Tomlinson (CPS)
Jasvinder Young (GLD)
David Pountney (GMIAU)
Mathieu Culverhouse (Irwin Mitchell) ["MC"]

Apologies:

Gemma Downing (ACL)
Dominique Cole (ACL)
Darren Lightfoot (GMC)
Sabina Kuraishie (ACM)

(1): Introduction by Mrs Justice Hill

1. HH welcomed all present, including some who had not been at the January meeting. She recapped her introduction from the last UGM, reminding all present that she is now the Administrative Court Liaison Judge for the North and North Eastern Circuits.

(2): Matters arising from Minutes of meeting 22 January 2025 found [here](#)

2. The minutes were approved: there were no matters arising.

(3): Discussion

Recent cases of note on procedure

3. HH highlighted two recent cases on procedure for users: (i) *R (Jasseh) v Secretary of State for The Home Department* [2025] EWHC 47 (Admin) on one-sided communications with the court and the requirements of CPR 39.8; and (ii) *R (Al-Haq) v Secretary of State for Business and Trade* [2025] EWHC 173 (Admin) on rolled up hearings.

Pressure on resources at ACL

4. HH and ML confirmed that there are limited resources at the moment within the ACL office due to the backlog and limited staff. The Leeds team generally runs with only one administrative member of staff usually, but she has been absent from court and it has only been possible to arrange limited cover for her.
5. ACM staff and users have been following Fordham J's 'BEST' protocol for emails: see [here](#). This is an attempt to ensure email correspondence with the court is as limited and focused as possible. HH is thinking about adopting this in Leeds as well as Manchester, but at present she asks that users be patient with the difficulties the court is facing.

Input from users

6. No topics for discussion were raised by users in advance of or at the meeting. However, MC asked that it be noted that despite this the meetings are valuable, helpful and definitely something to continue.

(5): Date and format of next meeting

7. This will be arranged in the same format for October. Users should nevertheless feel free to contact the court managers or HH via her clerk if any issues arise in the meantime.