

Notice of Allocation to the Fast Track

In the County Court at
Southampton

Claim Number 659MC050

Date 12 March 2026



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|--------------------------|--|
| LRC | 1st Claimant Ref |
| RJC | 2nd Claimant Ref |
| HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL | 1st Defendant Ref LAH.149785 |

Before Deputy District Judge Selby-Lowndes, sitting at County Court in Southampton on 12 February 2026

UPON the Defendant's oral Application for the proceedings to be consolidated;

AND UPON the Claimants' Applications to amend their Particulars of Claim and to increase the value of their Claims;

AND UPON the Claimants' Applications to be anonymised;

AND UPON the Claimants raising the issue of whether the Defendant had complied with the Unless Order dated 20 August 2025, and the Court confirming that the Defendant had complied, and that in any event, relief from sanctions would have been granted;

AND UPON hearing from the Claimants in person and from Counsel for the Defendant

AND PURSUANT to section 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998, section 11 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981; and CPR rules 5.4C, 5.4D, and 39.2(4):

WHEREAS for the purposes of this Order:

Notes:

- You and the other party, or parties, may agree to extend the time periods given in the directions **except**
 - where a rule, practice direction or court order requires a party to comply with a direction within a specified time **and** specifies the consequences of failing to comply;
 - where an extension of time will affect the date given for returning the pre-trial checklist or the date of the trial or trial period
- If you do not comply with these directions, any other party to the claim will be entitled to apply to the court for an order that your statement of case (claim or defence) be struck out.
- Leaflets explaining more about what happens when your case is allocated to the fast track are available from the court office or online at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/small-claims-track-fast-track-and-multi-track-ex305-and-ex306> and search for leaflet EX305.

The court office at the County Court at Southampton, Southampton Combined Court, The Courts Of Justice, London Road, Southampton, Hampshire, SO15 2XQ. When corresponding with the court, please address forms or letters to the Court Manager and quote the claim number. Tel: 0300 123 55 77 Fax: 0870 7617750. **Check if you can issue your claim online. It will save you time and money. Go to www.moneyclaim.gov.uk to find out more.**

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CJR020

(1) 'Publication' includes any speech, writing, broadcast, or other communication in whatever form (including internet and social media), which is addressed to the public at large or any section of the public.

(2) Publication for the purpose of this Order includes any further publication (as defined in subparagraph (i) above) from the date of this Order, even if such information has derived from a previous stage or stages of these proceedings.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

Consolidation

1. Claims 659MC050 and M07ZA142 are consolidated pursuant to CPR 3.1(2)(h), and shall proceed under Claim Number **659MC050**.

Amendment

2. The Claimants have permission to:

- a. Increase the value of each of their claims to £15,000, making the total value of the Claim £30,000; and
- b. Amend the Particulars of Claim to include additional remedies as per the tracked change version provided to the court, and to the extent required to reflect the consolidation of proceedings.

3. The Claimants are to pay the increased court fee relating to the increased value of the Claim.

Anonymity

4. The identity of the Claimants as party to these proceedings is confidential and shall not be published.

5. Pursuant to CPR Rule 39.2(4), there shall not be disclosed in any report of these proceedings or other publication the name or address of the Claimants, or any details (including other names, addresses, or specific combination of facts) that could lead to the identification of the Claimants in these proceedings. The Defendant shall be referred to as set out at paragraph 4 of this Order.

6. In any judgment or report of these proceedings, or other publication (by whatever medium) in relation thereto:

- a. The First Claimant shall be referred to as LRC and the Second Claimant shall be referred to as RJC.
- b. Any other details which, on their own or together or other information publicly available, may lead to the identification of the Claimants shall be redacted before publication.

7. Pursuant to CPR Rules 5.4C and 5.4D:

- a. Any person who is not a party to the proceedings may not obtain a copy of the statement of case, judgment or order from the Court records unless the statement of case, judgment or order has been anonymised in accordance with paragraphs 6(a) and (b) above.

b. If a person who is not a party to the proceedings applies (pursuant to CPR r 5.4C(1B) or (2)) for permission to inspect or obtain a copy of any other document or communication, such application shall be on at least 7 days' notice to the Claimants.

8. Pursuant to the Practice Guidance: Publication on Privacy and Anonymity Orders issued by the Master of the Rolls dated 16 April 2019 a copy of this Order shall be published on the Judicial Website of the High Court of Justice (www.judiciary.uk). For that purpose, a court officer will send a copy of the Order by email to the Judicial Office at judicialwebupdates@judiciary.uk.

Allocation and Case Management

9. The Claim is allocated to the **Fast Track**, complexity band 2.

10. The Claimants are to file and serve an Amended Particulars of Claim by 4pm on 26 February 2026, anonymising their identities and making any of the amendments for which they have permission that they wish to pursue.

11. The Defendant is to file and serve an Amended Defence by 4pm on 12 March 2026, anonymising the Claimants' identities and responding to any amendments that the Claimants have chosen to pursue.

Warning: you must comply with the terms imposed upon you by this order: otherwise your case is liable to be struck out or some other sanction imposed. If you cannot comply and, where permitted, an extension cannot be agreed you are expected to make formal application to the court before any deadline imposed upon you expires. In addition, the Court will not consider any document that has not been sent in accordance with this order or any previous order.

12) At all stages the parties must consider settling this litigation by any means of Alternative Dispute Resolution (including Mediation); any party not engaging in any such means proposed by another is to serve a witness statement giving reasons within 21 days of receipt of that proposal. That witness statement must not be shown to the trial judge until questions of costs arise.

Disclosure

13) Disclosure of documents will be dealt with as follows:

- a) By 4pm on 26 March 2026 all parties must give to each other standard disclosure of documents by list.
- b) By 4pm on 02 April 2026 any request must be made to inspect the original of, or to provide a copy of, a disclosable document.
- c) Any such request unless objected to must be complied with within seven days of the request.

Evidence

14) Evidence of fact will be dealt with as follows:

a) By 4pm on 23 April 2026 both parties must serve on each other copies of the signed statements of themselves and of all witnesses on whom they intend to rely and all notices relating to evidence, including Civil Evidence Act notices.

b) If a witness is unable to read the statement in the form produced to the court, the statement must include a certificate that it has been read or interpreted to the witness by a suitably qualified person.

c) If a witness is only able to make a statement in a language other than English;

(i) the statement must be made in that language;

(ii) it must be accompanied by a translation;

(iii) the translator must sign the original statement and must certify that the translation is accurate

(iv) the party relying on that witness must ensure that a suitable independent interpreter is available for any hearing at which the witness will give evidence.

Pre-trial checklists

15) Pre-trial checklists are dispensed with.

Trial

16) The trial will be listed as follows:

a) The trial date is shown on the notice attached to this order.

b) The estimated length of trial is 1 day.

17) The Claimant must prepare a bundle containing all relevant documents and must by no later than 48 hours before the hearing file at Court two copies bound in ring binders for use by the Judge and witnesses and provide copies to all other parties.

18) The parties must also include with the bundle an agreed trial timetable which will enable the matter to be disposed of within the time allowed for the trial, including time for consideration and giving judgment.

Fee

19) Unless the Claimant does by **2pm on the 17 April 2026 pay to the court the Trial fee of £619** or file a properly completed application (i.e one which provides all the required information in the manner requested) for help with fees, **then the claim will be struck out with effect from 17 April 2026 without further order and, unless the Court orders otherwise, you will also be liable for the costs which the Defendant has incurred.**

The trial fee is fee 2.1 in the current Civil Fees Order.

If your claim has been struck out, it will no longer exist. The hearing will be vacated, unless a counterclaim survives the claim being struck out.

If, following strike out of the claim the claimant or defendant wishes to start fresh proceedings a new claim must be filed together with the appropriate fee or application for help with fees. An application to reinstate the claim can also be made together with the appropriate fee or application for help with fees.

Information and leaflets explaining more about how to pay a court fee or how to apply for a help with fees are available from the court office or online at: <https://www.gov.uk/court-fees-what-they-are>.

The trial fee is non refundable. If parties settle before the trial fee is due, the trial fee will not be payable. If a consent order settling the matter is requested after the trial fee has been paid, the consent order fee will still be payable.

Please note, unless you apply for help with fees, there will be no further correspondence from the court office regarding payment of the fee or warnings as to the consequences of non payment.

Right to apply

20) Because this Order has been made without a hearing, the parties have the right to apply to have the order set aside, varied or stayed. A party making such an application must send or deliver the application to the court (together with any appropriate fee or application for help with fees) to arrive within seven days of service of this Order.

21. Costs in the case.

Dated 12 February 2026