



MASTER OF  
THE ROLLS

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## **Immigration Appeals**

### **Response to Consultation**

I have seen the response from the President of the Queen's Bench Division (PQBD) to the Consultation Paper dated 21 August concerning Immigration Appeals. I fully support the views set out in that paper, and would like to draw particular attention to the points highlighted in paragraph 8.

Since 2005 the Court of Appeal (CoA) has seen a 77% increase in applications for permission to appeal from AIT cases. As highlighted in the PQBD's response, the majority of these applications and appeals are from reconsiderations by ordinary Immigration Judges that raise no point of general importance. The influx of these cases has put significant pressure on the resources of the CoA both in terms of the numbers office staff and lawyers who must prepare the cases for the Court and perhaps more importantly, in terms of judicial time; it is wholly disproportionate for these cases to be considered by the most senior judges who sit in the Court of Appeal.

The proposal set out at paragraph 31 of the consultation paper which states that most appeals would be a substantive appeal from the Upper Tribunal is to be welcomed. This would undoubtedly reduce the volume of low level applications currently occupying the Court of Appeal's time. I very much hope that these changes will be brought about as swiftly as possible.

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