

# Important

## notes for respondents

You have been served with a copy of an appellant's notice (an appeal).

If the notice includes an application for permission to appeal, you need do nothing unless and until you receive notice from the court that permission has been given.

If permission is given, you will only have a limited time in which to reply to the appeal. You must decide what to do quickly.

You can:

- ◆ also appeal against the same order; or
- ◆ ask for the order to be varied; or
- ◆ ask that the order be upheld by the appeal court for different or additional reasons than those given by the lower court (the court who made the order being appealed); or
- ◆ ask that the order be upheld for the same reasons relied on by the lower court; or
- ◆ do nothing

If you wish to appeal, vary or uphold the order being appealed for different or additional reasons, **you will need to complete a Respondent's Notice** (Form N162) and send it to the court. **You have a very limited time to do this.** This form, the notes for guidance for completing it and a leaflet *I want to appeal* can be obtained free from any court office or Judges' Interim Applications Office at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL. They will explain about time limits and tell you the documents you will need to support your appeal.

You may also complete a respondent's notice if you simply wish to ask the appeal court to uphold the order for the reasons given in the lower court but have additional arguments to make to the appeal court. Alternatively you may set these additional arguments out in a 'skeleton argument', i.e. a document which just sets out the points you wish to make to the appeal court. Form N163 can be used to set out your skeleton argument. This form can also be obtained from any court office or the Royal Courts of Justice at the above address.

Information about making an appeal to the Court of Appeal can be obtained from the Civil Appeals Office Registry, Room E307, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, WC2A 2LL.

**If you do not complete a respondent's notice or file a skeleton argument,** you will not be able to rely on any additional arguments at the hearing of the appeal which were not raised in the lower court unless the court gives you permission.