

PRACTICE DIRECTION

CROWN PROCEEDINGS

This Practice Direction supplements CPR Part 66

TRANSFER

- 1.1** Rule 30.3(2) sets out the circumstances to which the court must have regard when considering whether to make an order under section 40(2), 41(1) or 42(2) of the County Courts Act 1984 (transfer between the High Court and County Court), rule 30.2(1) (transfer between county courts) or rule 30.2(4) (transfer between the Royal Courts of Justice and the district registries).
- 1.2** From time to time the Attorney General will publish a note concerning the organisation of the Government Legal Service and matters relevant to the venue of Crown proceedings, for the assistance of practitioners and judges. When considering questions of venue under rule 30.3(2), the court should have regard to the Attorney General's note in addition to all the other circumstances of the case.

SERVICE OF DOCUMENTS

- 2.1** In civil proceedings by or against the Crown, documents required to be served on the Crown must be served in accordance with rule 6.5(8).

(The list published under section 17 of the Crown Proceedings Act 1947 of the solicitors acting for the different government departments on whom service is to be effected, and of their addresses is annexed to this Practice Direction).

CABINET OFFICE

CROWN PROCEEDINGS ACT 1947

List of Authorised Government Departments and the names and addresses for service of the person who is, or is acting for the purposes of the Act as, Solicitor for such Departments, published by the Minister for the Civil Service in pursuance of Section 17 of the Crown Proceedings Act 1947.

This list supersedes the list published on 5 April 2003

**AUTHORISED GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENTS**

**SOLICITOR AND
ADDRESSES FOR SERVICE**

Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service)	
Assets Recovery Agency)	
Board of Trade)	
Cabinet Office)	
Central Office of Information)	
Crown Prosecution Service)	
Department for Constitutional Affairs)	
Department for Culture, Media and Sport)	
Department for Education and Skills)	
Department for International Development)	
Department for Transport)	
Department of Trade and Industry)	
Director General of Telecommunications)	
Export Credits Guarantee Department)	
Foreign and Commonwealth Office)	
Government Actuary's Department)	The Treasury Solicitor
Health and Safety Executive)	Queen Anne's Chambers
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of)	28 Broadway
Schools in England)	Westminster
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of)	London SW1H 9JS
Schools in Wales)	
Her Majesty's Treasury)	
Home Office)	(see Notes (1) and (2))
The International Rail Regulator)	
Lord Chancellor's Department)	
Ministry of Defence)	
National Savings and Investments)	
Northern Ireland Office)	
Office for National Statistics)	
Office of Fair Trading)	
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister)	
Ordnance Survey)	
Privy Council Office)	
Public Record Office)	
Public Works Loan Board)	
The Rail Regulator)	
Royal Mint)	
Serious Fraud Office)	
Wales Office (Office of the Secretary of)	
State for Wales) (see Note (3)))	

Commissioners of Customs and Excise	The Solicitor for the Customs and Excise New King's Beam House 22 Upper Ground London SE1 9PJ
Commissioners of Inland Revenue	The Solicitor of Inland Revenue Somerset House The Strand London WC2R 1LB
Crown Estate Commissioners	The Solicitor to the Crown Estate Commissioners Crown Estate Office 16 Carlton House Terrace London SW1Y 5AH
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (see Note (3)) Forestry Commissioners	The Solicitor to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Nobel House 17 Smith Square London SW1P 3JR
Department of Health Department for Work and Pensions Food Standards Agency	The Solicitor to the Department for Work and Pensions and the Department of Health New Court 48 Carey Street London WC2A 2LS
Director General of Water Services	Head of Legal Services The Office of Water Services Centre City Tower 7 Hill Street Birmingham B5 4UA
Gas and Electricity Markets Authority	General Counsel Office of Gas and Electricity Markets 9 Millbank London SW1P 3GE
National Assembly for Wales	The Counsel General to the National Assembly for Wales Cathays Park Cardiff CF10 3NQ

Postal Services Commission	The Chief Legal Adviser Postal Services Commission Hercules House 6 Hercules Road London SE1 7DB
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NOTES

- (1) Section 17(3) and section 18 of the Crown Proceedings Act 1947 provide as follows:

17(3) Civil proceedings against the Crown shall be instituted against the appropriate authorised Government department, or, if none of the authorised Government departments is appropriate or the person instituting the proceedings has any reasonable doubt whether any and if so which of those departments is appropriate, against the Attorney General.

18 All documents required to be served on the Crown for the purpose of or in connection with any civil proceedings by or against the Crown shall, if those proceedings are by or against an authorised Government department, be served on the solicitor, if any, for that department, or the person, if any, acting for the purposes of this Act as solicitor for that department, or if there is no such solicitor and no person so acting, or if the proceedings are brought by or against the Attorney General, on the Solicitor for the affairs of His Majesty's Treasury.

- (2) The above-mentioned provisions do not apply to Scotland, where in accordance with the Crown Suits (Scotland) Act 1857, as amended by the Scotland Act 1998, civil proceedings against the Crown (other than the Scottish Administration) or any Government Department (other than the Scottish Executive) may be directed against the Advocate General for Scotland. The Advocate General's address for service is the Office of the Solicitor to the Advocate General for Scotland, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ. Civil proceedings against the Scottish Administration may be directed against the Scottish Ministers at St. Andrew's House, Edinburgh EH1 3DG, or against the Lord Advocate for and on behalf of the Scottish Executive. The Lord Advocate's address for service is 25 Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1LA.
- (3) The Solicitor and address for service for the purposes of or in connection with civil proceedings brought by or against the Crown which relate to those matters for which the Secretary of State is responsible in Wales and for which the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is responsible is the Solicitor to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR. The Treasury Solicitor is the Solicitor acting for the Wales Office (Office of the Secretary of State for Wales) in all other civil proceedings affecting that Office.

**CABINET OFFICE
WHITEHALL
LONDON SW1**

(Signed) SIR ANDREW TURNBULL

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