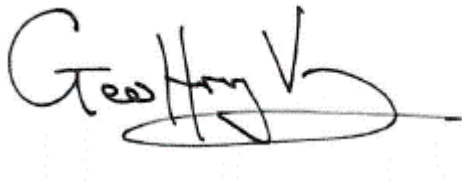


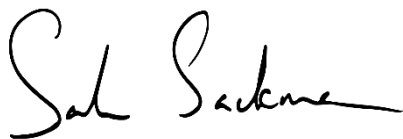
187th UPDATE – PRACTICE DIRECTION AMENDMENTS

The amendments to PD 51R – Online Civil Money Claims Pilot, which supplement the Civil Procedure Rules 1998, are made by the Master of the Rolls under the powers delegated to him by the Lady Chief Justice under Schedule 2, Part 1, paragraph 2(2) of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005, and are approved by Sarah Sackman KC, Minister of State (Ministry of Justice), by the authority of the Lord Chancellor.

The amendments to the Practice Directions come into force on 28th July 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Geoffrey Vos', with a stylized flourish at the end.

The Right Honourable Sir Geoffrey Vos
Master of the Rolls and Head of Civil Justice

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Sarah Sackman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Signed by authority of the Lord Chancellor:

Sarah Sackman KC

Minister of State

Ministry of Justice

Date: 22/07/2025

PRACTICE DIRECTION 51R – ONLINE CIVIL MONEY CLAIMS PILOT

- 1) For paragraph 2.1(1), substitute—

“The purpose of this practice direction is to establish a pilot to test an online claims process, called “Online Civil Money Claims”. Sub-paragraph (3) sets out the conditions that need to be met for a claim to be within the scope of the pilot. Where a claim is within the scope of the pilot—

(a) Claimants who are not represented by a legal representative may use the pilot to make their claim; and

(b) If the claimant is legally represented, the pilot must be used to make the claim if sub-paragraph 2.1(5A) applies.

The pilot is to run from 7th August 2017 to 1st October 2025. The pilot applies in the County Court.”.

- 2) At the beginning of paragraph 2.1(5), substitute “Where the claimant uses Online Civil Money Claims, this practice direction applies”, for “If the claimant decides to use Online Civil Money Claims, this practice direction applies”.

- 3) After paragraph 2.1(5), insert—

“(5A) If all of the conditions in sub-paragraph (3) are met (or if all those conditions in sub-paragraph (3) would be met if the claimant’s and defendant’s representatives were registered with MyHMCTS), and the claim is not started using the procedure set out in either Practice Direction 7B or 7C or 51ZB—

(a) if the claimant's legal representative is not registered with MyHMCTS they must register with MyHMCTS before the claim is started;

(b) the claimant must give the defendant the notice referred to in sub-paragraph (5C) unless it is impractical to do so; and

(c) the claim must be started using the procedure set out in this Practice Direction.

(5B) If all of the conditions in sub-paragraph (5C) are met—

(a) if the defendant's legal representative is not registered with MyHMCTS they must register with MyHMCTS before the claim is started;

(b) the defendant's legal representative must—

(i) notify the claimant that they are instructed; and

(ii) provide the claimant with their email address for claim notifications;

(c) the claimant must provide the defendant's legal representative's email address when completing the online claim form.

(5C) The conditions referred to in sub-paragraph (5B) are—

(a) the claimant gives the defendant at least 14 days' notice of their intention to bring a claim under this Practice Direction; and

(b) the defendant has instructed a legal representative before the claim is started.”.

4) For paragraph (7), substitute—

“Subject to sub-paragraphs (5A) to (5C), if both the claimant and the defendant are represented, but the defendant's legal representative is not registered with MyHMCTS when the claim is issued, Sections 2A to 4 of this practice direction apply except, the claim will be sent out of Online Civil Money Claims as soon as it has been issued.”.

- 5) In paragraph 6.1—
 - (a) in sub-paragraph (2)—
 - (i) at the end of paragraph (a), for “; and” substitute a full stop; and
 - (ii) omit paragraph (b);
 - (b) in sub-paragraph (3)—
 - (i) at the end of paragraph (a), for “; or” substitute a full stop; and
 - (ii) omit paragraph (b).
- 6) In the heading above paragraph 6.2, omit “and not a road traffic accident claim”.
- 7) In the heading above paragraph 6.3, omit “or is a road traffic accident claim”.
- 8) In paragraph 6A.5—
 - (a) in the heading, omit “and claim is not a road traffic accident claim;”
 - (b) in sub-paragraph (1)—
 - (i) at the end of paragraph (b) insert “and”; and
 - (ii) omit paragraph (c).
- 9) In paragraph 6A.6—
 - (a) in the heading, omit “or is a road traffic accident claim”;
 - (b) in sub-paragraph (1)—
 - (i) at the end of paragraph (b)(i), for “or” substitute “and”; and
 - (ii) omit paragraph (b)(ii).