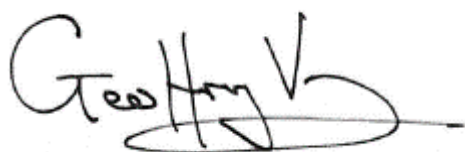


183RD UPDATE – PRACTICE DIRECTION AMENDMENTS

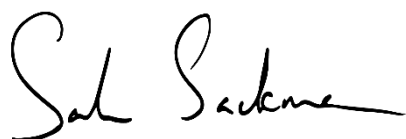
The amendments to the Practice Directions, which supplement the Civil Procedure Rules 1998, and to the 179th Update – Practice Direction Amendments are made by the Master of the Rolls under the powers delegated to him by the Lord Chief Justice under Schedule 2, Part 1, paragraph 2(2) of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005, and are approved by Sarah Sackman KC, Minister of State, by the authority of the Lord Chancellor.

The amendments to the existing Practice Directions come into force as follows—	
Practice Direction 51ZG3 – Pilot Scheme for Certain High Court Qualified One-Way Costs Shifting (QOCS) Cases	6 April 2025
Amendments to the 179 th Update – Practice Direction Amendments, approved on 30 January 2025	6 April 2025 and immediately before the 179 th Update comes into force
Schedule: Practice Direction 51ZG3 – Pilot Scheme for Certain High Court Qualified One-Way Costs Shifting (QOCS) Cases	6 April 2025



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

Signed by authority of the Lord Chancellor:



Sarah Sackman KC

Minster of State

Ministry of Justice

Date: 03/04/2025

PRACTICE DIRECTION 51ZG3 – PILOT SCHEME FOR CERTAIN HIGH COURT QUALIFIED ONE-WAY COSTS SHIFTING (QOCS) CASES

- 1) After Practice Direction 51ZG2 (Pilot Scheme for Costs Budgeting in Certain Claims With a Value of Less Than £1 Million), insert new Practice Direction 51ZG3 – Pilot Scheme for Certain High Court Qualified One-Way Costs Shifting (QOCS) Cases, as set out in the Schedule to this instrument.

AMENDMENTS TO THE 179TH UPDATE – PRACTICE DIRECTION AMENDMENTS, APPROVED ON 30 JANUARY 2025

- 1) In the amendments to Practice Direction 27B (Claims under the Pre-Action Protocol for Personal Injury Claims Below the Small Claims Limit in Road Traffic Accidents – Court Procedure), in paragraph 3), omit the words “for the entry for “The Compensator’s Response” substitute” and substitute “after the entry for “The **Small Claim Notification Form**” insert”.
- 2) In Schedule 2 to the Update (Practice Direction 51ZG1 – Pilot Scheme for cost budgeting in certain Business and Property Courts and Certain Business and Property Work in the County Court), in paragraph 1, for “after 1 April 2025 and before 1 April 2028” substitute “after 6 April 2025 and before 6 April 2028”.
- 3) In Schedule 3 to the Update (Practice Direction 51ZG2 – Pilot Scheme for Costs Budgeting in Certain Claims With a Value of Less Than £1 Million), in paragraph 1, for “after 1 April 2025 and before 1 April 2028” substitute “after 6 April 2025 and before 6 April 2028”.

SCHEDULE

“PRACTICE DIRECTION 51ZG3 – PILOT SCHEME FOR CERTAIN HIGH COURT QUALIFIED ONE-WAY COSTS SHIFTING (QOCS) CASES

1. This Practice Direction establishes a pilot schemes to test a new approach to cost budgeting in relevant claims issued on or after 6 April 2025 and before 6 April 2028.
2. The provisions of Section II of Part 3 (costs management) and Practice Direction 3D shall apply, save as modified by this Practice Direction. Rules 3.13 and 3.14 shall not apply.
3. In this Practice Direction—
 - (a) “relevant claim” means a Part 7 multi track claim proceeding in the District Registry at Manchester or Birmingham to which rule 44.13 (qualified one-way costs shifting: scope and interpretation) applies;
 - (b) “simplified costs budget” means Precedent Z annexed to this Practice Direction;
 - (c) “simplified budget discussion report” means Precedent RZ annexed to this Practice Direction;
 - (d) “the form for variation of a simplified costs budget” means Precedent TZ annexed to this Practice Direction.
4. Unless the court orders otherwise, all parties except litigants in person shall file and serve a simplified costs budget by no later than 21 days before the first case management conference.

5. Unless the court orders otherwise paragraph 6 will not apply if any party gives notice to the court and any other party by no later than 21 days before the first case management conference that they intend to seek a direction for either—
 - (a) a split trial or a preliminary issue trial; or
 - (b) that the litigation can only be conducted justly and at proportionate cost if the court manages costs using Precedent H.
6. The defendant shall by no later than 14 days before the first case management conference file and serve a simplified budget discussion report.
7. The Court will not make a costs management order in respect of the Defendant's costs unless satisfied that the litigation can only be conducted justly and at proportionate cost if such an order is made.
8. At the first case management conference the court may give case management directions, and may give costs management directions including—
 - (a) making no costs management order;
 - (b) managing the claimant's costs using the claimant's simplified costs budget; or
 - (c) giving costs management directions in respect of either or both the claimant and the defendant which may include a requirement to file and serve Precedent H or an updated simplified costs budget and the listing of a costs management conference before the same or another Judge.
9. Where the court makes a costs management order using a simplified costs budget the provisions of rules 3.15 (costs management orders), 3.15A (revision and variation of budgets), 3.16 (costs management conferences), 3.17 (having regard to budgets) and 3.18 (assessing costs on the standard basis), shall apply with necessary modification such that references to a "budget" in those provisions shall include a simplified costs budget and references to Precedent T shall include Precedent TZ.
10. Where the court does not make a costs management order—
 - (a) the provisions of Part 44 and paragraphs 3.2 to 3.7 of Practice Direction 44 shall apply as if reference in those paragraphs to a budget is reference to the

simplified costs budget filed in accordance with paragraph 4 and any updated simplified costs budget; and

(b) unless the court orders otherwise, each party shall file and serve an updated simplified costs budget no later than 28 days before—

(i) the start of the trial

(ii) the start of any trial window; or

(iii) 7 days before any pre-trial review,

whichever is the earlier; and

(c) the court may order a party to file an updated simplified costs budget at any stage of the proceedings.

11. If a party has failed to comply with its obligations under this Practice Direction, including the failure to file a simplified costs budget or Precedent H, the court may impose sanctions which may include limiting the recovery of the costs to be incurred to the applicable court fees.

Annex A – Precedent Z

Annex B – Precedent RZ

Annex C – Precedent TZ