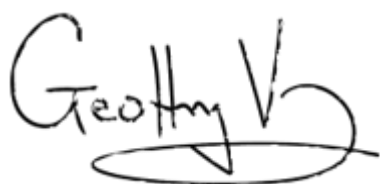


197th UPDATE – PRACTICE DIRECTION AMENDMENTS

The amendments to Practice Direction 51ZB – the Damages Claims Pilot, which supplements the Civil Procedure Rules 1998, and to the 196th Update 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 Practice Direction 51ZB and the 196 th Update come into force as follows—	
Practice Direction 51ZB – the Damages Claims Pilot	1 October 2026
Amendments to the 196 th Update – Practice Direction Amendments, approved on 9 July 2026	The day after the date on which this (the 197 th) Update is approved by the Minister of State



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

Signed by the authority of the Lord Chancellor:



Sarah Sackman KC MP
Minister of State
Date: 15/09/26

PRACTICE DIRECTION 51ZB – THE DAMAGES CLAIMS PILOT

- 1) In paragraph 1.1, in the definition of “Other Remedy”—
 - a) after “means a claim for” insert “one or more of the following:”; and
 - b) for “or rescission” substitute “, rescission or specific performance”.

AMENDMENTS TO THE 196TH UPDATE – PRACTICE DIRECTION AMENDMENTS, APPROVED ON 9 JULY 2026

- 1) In the amendments to Practice Direction 5C – CE-File Electronic Filing and Case Management System – in paragraph 1), in sub-paragraph b), for “BDP” substitute “BPD”.
- 2) In the amendments to Practice Direction 52A – Appeals: General Provisions – in paragraph 1), after “In paragraph 4.A1” insert “, in the definition of ‘The Appropriate Presiding or Supervising Judge’”.
- 3) In the amendments to Practice Direction 52D – Statutory Appeals and Appeals Subject to Special Provision – in paragraph 2), in sub-paragraph b) for “and appeals” substitute “an appeals”.
- 4) In the amendments to Practice Direction 57AA – Business and Property Courts—
 - a) in paragraph 2), in sub-paragraph c), for “BDP” substitute “BPD”;
 - b) in paragraph 9), for sub-paragraph c) substitute—

“c) in sub-paragraph (2), for “BPCs District Registry” substitute “BPD DR”; and”;
 - c) in paragraph 10), for sub-paragraph b) substitute—

“b) in sub-paragraph (2), for “Business and Property Court”, in each place it appears, substitute “court”; and”;
 - d) in paragraph 11), in sub-paragraph a)—
 - i) omit “Division”; and
 - ii) immediately before “substitute” insert “, where it first appears, ”.

- 5) In the amendments to Practice Direction 57AC – Trial Witness Statements in the Business and Property Courts—
 - a) in paragraph 2), in sub-paragraph b) for ““courts and”” substitute ““Courts””;
 - b) in paragraph 3), for “1.3” substitute “1.2”; and
 - c) in paragraph 4), after “In” insert “the Appendix to the Practice Direction, in”.
 - 6) In the amendments to Practice Direction – Competition Law – Claims Relating to the Application of Chapters I and II of Part I of the Competition Act 1998 and Claims Made Under Section 101 of the Digital Markets, Competition and Consumers Act 2024—
 - a) in paragraph 1), in sub-paragraph b), in paragraph ii), for “King’s” substitute “Queen’s”; and
 - b) for paragraph 5) substitute—
- “5) In paragraph 4.3, after “made by letter to” insert “the court office in which the claim is proceeding”.”.