



TRIBUNALS  
JUDICIARY

**FIRST TIER TRIBUNAL  
IMMIGRATION AND ASYLUM CHAMBER  
MR MICHAEL CLEMENTS, PRESIDENT**

**PRESIDENTIAL PRACTICE STATEMENT NOTE No 1 2020:  
ARRANGEMENTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

In accordance with the Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal) (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) Rules 2014

And the PILOT PRACTICE DIRECTION: CONTINGENCY ARRANGEMENTS IN THE FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL AND UPPER TRIBUNAL issued by the Senior President of Tribunals on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

The following Practice Statement is made today by the President of the First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) with the consent of the Senior President of Tribunals. It shall take effect immediately and continue in force for so long as the Practice Direction referred to above is still in force unless it is revoked or amended on an earlier date.

- (1) With the exception of HR/EEA appeals, all appeals to the First-tier Tribunal must be commenced using the online procedure unless it is not possible to do so.
- (2) If an appellant contends that it is not possible to commence an appeal by using the online procedure, the appellant may commence an appeal without using the online procedure but must at the same time state why it is not possible to do so.
- (3) The Tribunal shall consider any reasons provided in support of appeals commenced in accordance with paragraph [2] above and may give such directions as it thinks fit, having regard to the overriding objective, including directing that the appeal must continue using the online procedure, be stayed, be determined by a means to be directed having regard to those reasons or be determined without a hearing.

Michael Clements  
President  
Date 23 March 2020