



JUDGE IN CHARGE: LORD JUSTICE BRIGGS
ASSISTANT JUDGE IN CHARGE: MR JUSTICE NEWEY

30th July 2013

Dear Colleague,

CMR: Provisional Report

You may recall that I wrote to you all earlier this year to inform you of this review of the practice and procedure of the Chancery Division, seeking your participation in the first in-depth exercise of this kind for thirty years. Many of you have responded with invaluable feedback and advice, both in writing and at meetings, for all of which I am very grateful.

I am today publishing my Provisional Report, and take this opportunity of sending you the attached copy of it. You will find that it is a rather long document, but no longer than I consider is necessary to do justice to the task which I have been set, and to the importance of the Chancery Division in the resolution of national and international business and property disputes, both in London and in our principal cities. I encourage you to read it all, or at least those parts of it which relate to the aspects of chancery work in which you participate. You will find an Executive Summary at chapter 16.

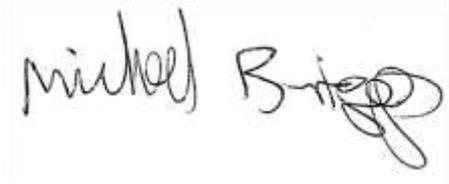
This report is provisional in every sense. Although it is the product of a very wide two-stage consultative process, and of the invaluable advice and assistance which I have received from Newey J and the experienced members of my advisory panel, nothing in its conclusions and recommendations is as yet set in stone. There is to be a three months' period of further consultation, during which I am by this letter seeking your views upon all its contents.

You will find specific requests for further feedback throughout the report. They are summarised in note form in Annex 5, with references to the paragraphs of the report in which they appear in their context. But please feel free to comment on any parts, whether or not requested specifically. Chatham House Rules continue to apply, to encourage frankness.

The onset of the long vacation, coupled with other pressures on the time of those involved in this process (including no doubt your own), mean that I must ask that this final stage of consultation be conducted in writing, sent either to me or to the chancerymr@judiciary.gsi.gov.uk email address as before, and that a deadline of the end of October be adhered to, time being of the essence, to enable me to prepare and publish my final report by Christmas.

I hope you find the contents of this report both interesting and encouraging. I look forward to receiving your further views.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael Briggs". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "B" and "G".

Lord Justice Briggs