



28 June 2012

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **Consultation on proposed new (First-tier Tribunal) (Property Chamber) Rules 2013**

The Tribunal Procedure Committee (TPC) is conducting a consultation to seek views on the proposed rules for a new Property Chamber in the First-tier Tribunal.

The Property Chamber is due to be introduced in 2013 when the following tribunals in England will transfer in to the new chamber: Rent Assessment Committees; Rent Tribunals; Residential Property Tribunals; Leasehold Valuation Tribunals; and Agricultural Land Tribunals. In both England and Wales the Adjudicator to Her Majesty's Land Registry will transfer into the Property Chamber.

The proposed draft Property Chamber Rules 2013 consolidate and reform the rules of procedure governing proceedings in the above tribunals, and they are accompanied by a consultation paper that gives further details of what the proposed changes are.

The consultation paper; draft rules; and a response questionnaire, should you wish to use it, can be found on the TPC website at:

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/about/moj/advisory-groups/tribunal-procedure-committee/ts-committee-open-consultations>

The purpose of the TPC is to make rules governing the practice and procedure in the First-tier Tribunal and Upper Tribunal created by the Tribunals Courts and Enforcement Act 2007. The Committee has been guided by the following principles:

- to make the rules as simple and streamlined as possible;
- to avoid unnecessarily technical language;
- to enable tribunals to continue to operate tried and tested procedures which have been shown to work well; and
- to adopt common rules across tribunals wherever possible, so that rules specific to a chamber or a tribunal are permitted only where there is a clear and demonstrated need for them.

With these principles in mind, we welcome written feedback on the proposed new rules. Please respond by email to [tpcsecretariat@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:tpcsecretariat@justice.gsi.gov.uk), by letter to the above address, or by completing the questionnaire on the website.

The consultation closes on **6 September 2012**. Whilst the TPC will consider all responses received by the closing date, it would greatly assist the Committee to have responses before then if possible.

We look forward to receiving your comments and hearing your views on the draft rules.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie McCallen', with a long, sweeping tail extending to the right.

**Julie McCallen**  
**Secretary, Tribunal Procedure Committee**