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www.justice.gov.uk Date: 19 February 2013

Property Chamber Users Group

Dear Member

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROPERTY CHAMBER

I wrote to you on 30 November last year about the establishment of the Property Chamber within the unified structure of HM Courts & Tribunals Service (HMCTS). The Chamber is to take over the functions of the Residential Property Tribunal Service, the Agricultural Land Tribunals and the Adjudicator to HM Land Registry.

At the time, it was envisaged that, subject to Parliamentary approval, the new Chamber would be established on 1 May 2013. However, the project board within HMCTS last week reviewed the timetable for the move and decided that it should now plan for the Chamber's establishment on 1 July 2013. The other main elements of the transfer will remain as set out in the letter of 30 November, except that the new set of tribunal procedure rules will, again subject to Parliamentary approval, come into force on 1 July rather than 1 May, in order to coincide with the establishment of the Chamber. Revisions to the scale of fees applicable to some RPT cases will also be made from 1 July for the same reason. Revised forms, letters and guidance for the new Chamber will now be made available on the Justice website on or shortly before 1 July.

If you have any comments or questions, they can be sent to me at the above address or to Tom Rouse at tom.rouse@hmcts.gsi.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

MICHAEL ROSS