



VTE/PS/C3: 31 January 2011
[Effective from 01.02.11]

PRACTICE STATEMENT: PUBLICATION OF DECISIONS

1. The Tribunal's decisions are public documents and (in addition to being sent to the parties) are placed on the website, except that, in the case of council tax liability decisions, appellants' names and other identifying information will be removed from the version placed on the website in the interests of privacy and family life.*
2. A party may apply to the Tribunal for a decision to be redacted or anonymised, i.e. for material to be omitted from the published decision or names and other identifying information to be omitted.
3. The Tribunal will grant an application only where the arguments and evidence advanced by the applicant are such that they are assessed as displacing the fundamental principle that decisions are normally published in full.
4. It is for the applicant to satisfy the Tribunal that the application should be granted.
5. An application may be granted on the grounds that it is in the interests of one or more of the following:
 - national security
 - public safety or public order
 - personal safety
 - privacy and family life
 - protection of children
 - protection of commercially sensitive information.
6. The above grounds are not exhaustive, and an application may be made and granted on other grounds.
7. An application under paragraph 2 may be made in writing before the hearing or orally at the hearing or exceptionally in writing after the hearing, in all cases supported by full reasons.
8. The panel or senior member may examine the material in question and will do so privately.
9. An application made at a hearing will be determined by the panel; an application made at any other time will be referred to a senior member, usually the senior member who will be or has been dealing with the appeal.

* CT liability decisions are expected to be placed on the website from June 2011.

10. An application under paragraph 2 above may be made at the same time as an application for the hearing or part of the hearing to be held in private (see Practice Statement B4), in which case both applications will be considered together and a decision to grant an application under paragraph 2 above shall not be revised or reconsidered by the panel or senior member once the party who made the application has introduced the material in question.
11. An application made after the decision has been issued will be considered, although the decision may in the meantime have already been placed on the website.
12. An application may be referred for comment to other parties to the appeal at the discretion of the panel or senior member.
13. The Tribunal's reasons for granting or refusing an application will be issued in writing to the parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "P. J. 7".

President

31 January 2011