



VTE/PN/2017-1

## **PRACTICE NOTE**

# **Rating Lists before 2017 & Completion notice and council tax appeals**

## **Postponements & Adjournments**

A question has been raised in relation to adjourned or postponed proceedings and the effect of Standard Directions.

1. Parties are required to follow the Standard Directions unless varied.
2. The Tribunal will require parties to keep to the original timetable and will not issue new Directions (unless paragraph 3 applies or bespoke Directions are issued). This means that parties do not need to duplicate Directions already complied with but must continue to produce documentation in accordance with the timeline for the original hearing date.

3. Where an appeal is postponed prior to the first Direction date passing a new Standard Direction will be issued with a new notice of hearing (in other words the timetable will start afresh).
4. Where an appeal is postponed after the parties have complied with some or all of the Directions there is no need to replicate the requirements of a Direction unless the parties have further evidence or argument to add to proceedings. Where that occurs, application must be made to the Tribunal and copied to the other party upon receipt of the new hearing date (as no new Standard Direction will be issued). The application must set out details of the evidence or argument that they wish now to include and the reasons why it was not provided at the appropriate time. Where new evidence or argument is allowed by the Tribunal the other party will, by Direction, be given an opportunity to produce rebuttal evidence or argument.
5. Where an appeal is postponed and a party has failed to comply with the original timetable a new notice of hearing will be issued without a further Standard Direction. If a party wishes to remedy an earlier failing they must make application to the Tribunal which must be copied to the other party. Where the Tribunal allows a party to remedy a defect the other party will, if appropriate, be provided with an opportunity to address this amendment to the proceedings through a Direction.
6. Where an appeal is adjourned at a hearing the Tribunal may issue new bespoke Directions if further evidence or argument is required by either or both parties. Where no further evidence or argument is to be entertained by the Tribunal a new hearing notice without an amended Direction will be issued

and parties will not be able to alter the hearing bundle.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Suzanne", written over a horizontal line.

President

13 September 2017