



JUDICIARY OF
ENGLAND AND WALES

**THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD JUSTICE FULFORD
VICE-PRESIDENT COURT OF APPEAL (CRIMINAL DIVISION)**

18 March 2020

Dear Amanda,

You will have seen the recent message from the Lord Chief Justice about jury trials. I am writing to address the position of the Court of Appeal Criminal Division (CACD).

During the period whilst there are health concerns over the virus, we are hoping to provide as much assistance as possible to the Bar and Solicitor Advocates by utilising video and telephone links in all of the CACD courtrooms, via the existing equipment and additional “spider telephones” when representatives (on behalf of appellants and respondents) would prefer not to attend in person for health-related reasons. The government’s emergency legislation is likely to expand the opportunities for taking steps of this kind. We will, therefore, do all we can to accommodate requests to participate “remotely”. It is critical that a representative who is unable to attend in person contacts the list office as early as possible to make the request for a video or telephone link. Given the nature of the virus, however, we understand this will sometimes inevitably happen at the last moment. I cannot promise that alternative arrangements of this type will always be possible, and it may be necessary to take other steps when we are unable meet a request to appear by video link or telephone.

I am sure that everyone will understand that given the liberty of the subject is nearly always involved in cases before the CACD, it is critical that we do all we can to continue functioning, whilst minimising the risks to the health of those involved.

Finally, I am hoping to speed up the process of making the papers in the CACD available electronically via DCS. This should ease remote participation. I cannot, however, give a definite date by when the papers will be available in this way.

Can I, therefore, ask you to publicise this letter, or the relevant parts of it, to all members of the bar who may be affected?

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries, comments or concerns.

Otherwise, I send best wishes in these unusual times.

Adrian Fuffard