



SHERIFF COURT RULES COUNCIL

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19 July 2006

Dear Consultee

Proposals for Procedural Rules for Personal Injury Actions in the Sheriff Court.

The Ordinary Cause Committee of the Sheriff Court Rules Council ("the Council") has recommended to the Council that it may be appropriate to introduce rules, providing for specific procedures for personal injury actions raised in the sheriff court, based on those which were introduced into the Court of Session in April 2003. The enclosed consultation paper sets out draft new rules for incorporation into the existing Ordinary Cause Sheriff Court Rules and the Council would welcome your views on the draft rules, and in particular your response to the specific questions set out in the questionnaire.

In issuing this consultation paper the Council is aware that a report on the evaluation of the personal injury rules in the Court of Session will shortly be published and understands that the report will be favourable in the main. The findings from this report will be taken into account by the Council in reaching its conclusions.

The Council is also aware that a personal injury pilot court is currently operating in Glasgow Sheriff Court and understands that the procedures being followed there are somewhat different from those in the Court of Session. In responding to this consultation, those with experience of either the Court of Session procedure or the Glasgow pilot court should include in their responses any comments in relation to the operation of these which they think would be of assistance to the Council.

The arrangements for the consultation process are set out on page 1. From this you will see that any views and comments should be submitted by 18 October 2006. The enclosed Respondent Information Form should be completed and returned with your response to ensure that we deal with your response appropriately. All responses will be made available to the public on the Scottish Court Service website in due course unless confidentiality is requested. All responses not marked confidential will be checked for any potentially defamatory material before being placed on the website. An electronic version of the form and further copies of the consultation paper can be downloaded from:

http://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/sheriff/rules_council/consultation/index.asp.

If you have any queries about the consultation please contact Alistair Hackett on 0131 244 4844

We look forward to receiving your views.

Yours sincerely

ANN OXLEY

Assistant Secretary to the Sheriff Court Rules Council