

# HIGH COURT OF JUSTICIARY

## PRACTICE NOTE

No. 1 of 2022

### **Availability of virtual hybrid appeal hearings for the High Court**

1. This Practice Note governs applications by counsel/solicitor advocates to be permitted to present a criminal appeal by live video link (WebEx). It comes into effect on 1 April 2022.
2. In terms of the Guidance for Supreme Court Users, the current practice of the court is for appeals to be conducted in person; that is by counsel or the solicitor advocate being present in the court room.
3. It is desirable that, wherever possible, the counsel or solicitor who conducted the case at first instance should present any appeal. This may be made easier if the counsel or solicitor advocate is given the opportunity to appear at the hearing remotely. It may be possible for any first instance work to accommodate such an appearance.
4. Applications to appear by video link will be granted where the court is satisfied that there is a cogent reason for this and that the interests of justice would not be prejudiced by granting the application. Applications should be made no later than 7 days before the hearing.

CJM Sutherland  
Lord Justice General

Edinburgh  
1 April 2022