Proceedings in the Manchester Civil Justice Centre (County and Family Court jurisdiction)

Direction to be given by the Lord Chancellor under section 3 (2A) of the County Courts Act 1984 and section 31B(4) Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act 1984.

The Lord Chancellor, having consulted the Lord Chief Justice, directs that:

The County Court and Family Court at the Manchester Civil Justice Centre will, for the purposes of a six-month pilot into flexible court operating hours, sit extended hours as set out in this direction.

The extended hours are that two courts will sit an additional afternoon session from 16.30 to 19.00 every Monday and Wednesday (excluding those falling on Court recess and/or Bank Holidays). The pilot will commence on 2 September 2019 and run for six months from that date.

This direction is given pursuant to section 3(2A) County Court Act 1984 and section 31B(4) Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act 1984.

Signed by the Lord Chancellor

(**q** July 2019