



CONSULTATION BY THE CIVIL PROCEDURE RULE COMMITTEE (CPRC)

ACCESS TO COURT DOCUMENTS BY NON-PARTIES: PROPOSED NEW CPR 5.4C

Overview & Background

This consultation was commissioned at the CPRC meeting on 1st December 2023 (the [minutes](#) of which can be read online following careful consideration by a multi-jurisdictional working group, chaired by a Lord Justice of Appeal. The origins of the work flow from the UK Supreme Court judgment in [Cape Intermediate Holdings Ltd -v- Dring \[2019\] UKSC 38](#) (see specifically, paragraphs 41-51 inclusive) and the consultation is also set in the context of the Lady Chief Justice's broader agenda of looking at transparency issues. The 1st December 2023 CPRC meeting also noted the possibility of an amendment, in due course, to CPR 32.13 (availability of witness statements for inspection) to provide express provision in relation to the inspection of expert reports.

This Consultation

We now invite views and comments on the proposed new version of CPR 5.4C Supply of documents to a non-party from court records (attached).

How to Respond

Please send your responses to CPRCconsultation@justice.gov.uk (in word or PDF format) with the subject heading "Court Documents Consultation"

Deadline for Responses

This consultation will close on 8th April 2024

Questions

If you have any questions regarding this consultation, please use the email address above or email the general enquiries inbox at CPRC@justice.gov.uk

Next Steps

The matter will be programmed in for CPRC consideration following the conclusion of this consultation. You can follow progress by reading the [minutes](#) of CPRC meetings on GOV.UK.

Data

Data will be handled in line with the [CPRC Personal Data Privacy Notice](#).

Civil Procedure Rule Committee

February 2024