

**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE RULE COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING ON FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2024 at 1.30 p.m.**  
**MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**  
**CONFERENCE ROOMS 1A & B, LOWER GROUND FLOOR**  
**102 PETTY FRANCE, LONDON SW1**  
**and by video conference**

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome, apologies for absence and announcements
2. Draft minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2024
3. Case management group report
4. Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Rules 2025: signature of the statutory instrument  
CrimPRC(24)66  
CrimPRC(24)77
5. Criminal Procedure (Amendment No. 2) Rules 2024: criticism by the Parliamentary  
Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments  
CrimPRC(24)67
6. Part 1 (The overriding objective), Part 5 (Forms and court records), Part 6 (Reporting,  
etc. restrictions): open justice and the overriding objective  
CrimPRC(24)68
7. Part 3 (Case management): the Criminal Courts Improvement Group  
CrimPRC(24)69
8. Part 3 (Case management), Part 18 (Measures to help a witness or defendant to give  
evidence or otherwise participate): animal companions for vulnerable witnesses  
CrimPRC(24)70
9. Part 4 (Service of documents): time of service by electronic means  
CrimPRC(24)71
10. Part 19 (Expert evidence): discussion of enforcement powers with the Forensic Science  
Regulator  
CrimPRC(24)72  
CrimPRC(24)73
11. Part 25 (Trial and sentence in the Crown Court): advocate's waiver at trial of  
defendant's right to attend  
CrimPRC(24)74
12. Index to the Criminal Procedure Rules 2025: further progress report  
CrimPRC(24)75
13. Guidance for unrepresented defendants  
CrimPRC(24)76
14. Any other business
15. Dates of next meetings: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2025  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2025