



COMPETITION APPEAL TRIBUNAL

PRACTICE DIRECTION 2/2025

Skeleton arguments and other documents – formatting and page lengths

1. This Practice Direction sets out mandatory requirements regarding skeleton arguments and other documents filed in the Competition Appeal Tribunal. It supersedes and replaces paragraphs 1–4 of Practice Direction 1/2021. (Paragraphs 5–7 of Practice Direction 1/2021 are superseded by Practice Direction 1/2025.)¹ This Practice Direction also supersedes the guidance on page limits in paragraph 7.89 of the Guide to Proceedings 2015.

General formatting requirements

2. All skeleton arguments, closing submissions, counsel notes, statements of case, witness statements and expert reports provided for proceedings in the Tribunal should be supplied electronically and should comply with the following formatting requirements:
 - a. Neutral form heading to include the Tribunal case reference, the party names, and clear identification of the document being submitted (including the party on whose behalf the document is provided). If multiple witness statements or expert reports have been submitted by the same person, the second and subsequent document submitted by that person should be numbered appropriately in the document heading. Cover sheets with corporate branding are not permitted.
 - b. Minimum margins of 2.5cm top, bottom and sides.
 - c. Pages numbered throughout at the bottom of the page.
 - d. Numbered paragraphs throughout, with hanging indents (set to at least 1 cm) for each paragraph or subparagraph.
 - e. Main text in minimum of Times 12-point or Arial 11-point or equivalent size font, with 1.5 line spacing.
 - f. Citations and footnotes in minimum of Times 11-point or Arial 10-point or equivalent size font, with minimum of single line spacing.
 - g. Minimum of 12-point space between paragraphs.
 - h. Bundle references (including transcript references) to be inserted in the main text, not in footnotes, and in bold rather than underlined.
 - i. Definitions to be provided in bold.

¹ As all of its provisions have now been superseded, Practice Direction 1/2021 is no longer operative.

- j. Any highlighting (e.g. to indicate confidentiality designations) to be in a pale colour, enabling clear readability of the highlighted text, with a colour key at the start of the document.
 - k. Any document of 50 pages or longer should contain a table of contents at the start, cross-referenced to paragraphs or page numbers. The table of contents and cover sheet (if any) will not count towards the page limit for the document.
3. Skeleton arguments, closing submissions and other submissions or notes from counsel should be provided in Word format. Statements of case, witness statements and expert reports should be provided in either Word or .pdf format. Any attached spreadsheets should be provided in native format.

Length of skeleton arguments and other documents

4. Skeleton arguments should not exceed the following page lengths, unless varied by the Tribunal:
- a. Any application other than an application for the making of a collective proceedings order: 20 pages.
 - b. Application for the making of a collective proceedings order: 25 pages.
 - c. Trial skeleton argument: 50 pages.
5. Expert reports submitted for the purpose of an application for a collective proceedings order should not exceed the following page lengths (for all expert reports in total), unless varied by the Tribunal. Any technical annexes count towards the page limit, with the exception of underlying calculations provided in spreadsheets, which should be attached where relevant but will not form part of the page count.
- a. Expert report(s) submitted by the proposed class representative, accompanying the collective proceedings claim form: 50 pages.
 - b. Expert report(s) submitted by the proposed defendant, in opposing the making of a collective proceedings order: 40 pages.
 - c. Expert report(s) submitted by the proposed class representative, in reply to the defendant expert report(s): 20 pages.
6. The Tribunal will set maximum page lengths or maximum word counts for other documents as appropriate during the proceedings.
7. The Tribunal may, on its own motion or on the application of a party, vary the page limits in paragraphs 4 and 5 above. Any application by a party to vary those page limits, or any other page or word limits set by the Tribunal, must be made in writing to the Tribunal and (where applicable) must be submitted at least 3 working days before the relevant document is due to be submitted.

Non-compliance with this Practice Direction

8. If a document does not comply with the requirements set out above, it may be rejected by the Tribunal with a requirement to resubmit it in compliant form, and/or the Tribunal may disallow all or part of the costs of preparing the document. In the alternative, in relation to skeleton arguments and written closing submissions, the Tribunal may, either preceding or at the hearing, reduce the permitted length of the relevant party's oral submissions.

The Hon. Mrs Justice Bacon

President

26 November 2025