

THE INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNALS AND THE FAIR EMPLOYMENT TRIBUNAL

PRESIDENTIAL GUIDANCE ISSUED UNDER RULE 8 OF SCHEDULE 1 OF THE INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNALS AND FAIR EMPLOYMENT TRIBUNAL (CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2020

Further to my Presidential Guidance issued on 20 March 2020, and having regard to the restrictions announced by the Prime Minister on 23 March 2020 in respect of the Covid-19 pandemic, **all** proceedings before the Tribunals i.e. preliminary hearings and final hearings, have been postponed and will not be heard before the 1st of July 2020, except where an Employment Judge deems the matter urgent.

Rescheduling of hearings will take place as soon as is reasonably practicable and parties will be advised accordingly.

The Office of the Tribunals is now closed. All correspondence addressed to Killymeal House will be redirected to Netherleigh, Massey Avenue Belfast BT4 2JP.

Where possible, claim forms, response forms and all other correspondence should be sent electronically to the Tribunal office inbox at mail@employmenttribunalsni.org. This inbox will be monitored by the administration team. Where electronic means of communication has been used, a duplicate hard copy **should not be sent**.

Employment Judges and tribunal staff will be working remotely but please note that service capacity of the tribunals is reduced at this time.

All of the above guidance is subject to a continuing review in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

President: Eileen McBride CBE

27 March 2020