



**FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL
GENERAL REGULATORY CHAMBER
(INFORMATION RIGHTS)**

DIRECTIONS FOR A GENERAL STAY

Having received an application from the Information Commissioner dated 31 March 2020

And pursuant to rule 5(1) (j) of The Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal) (General Regulatory Chamber) Rules 2009, as amended¹

I consider it appropriate to make the following Directions in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and the Information Commissioner's Office being temporarily closed as a result and the effect which those matters have on the conduct of proceedings in this Chamber.

It is directed that:

1. With immediate effect, ALL PROCEEDINGS under section 48 of the Data Protection Act 1998, section 162 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and section 57 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (including proceedings under that section as modified under regulation 18 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004) shall be STAYED for a period of 28 days from the date of these Directions and ALL TIME LIMITS in any new and current proceedings are EXTENDED by the same period.

For the avoidance of doubt, this direction is subject to and does not affect any Directions in relation to specified proceedings made by the Tribunal on or after 1 April 2020.

1

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/846373/Consolidated_FtT_GRC_Rules_20191113_002_final.pdf

2. Any party to proceedings may apply to the Tribunal, with reasons and on notice to the Information Commissioner, for these Directions to be amended, suspended or set aside or for further Directions in relation to those proceedings.

3. This Direction will be reviewed after 28 days.

Signed: Judge Alison McKenna, Chamber President

Dated: 1 April 2020

Crown Copyright © 2020