

Annual Report 2013/14

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Foreword

It is my pleasure to introduce the Scottish Civil Justice Council's first Annual Report.

The creation of the Scottish Civil Justice Council in May 2013 heralded the first legislative step towards the most significant reform of the Scottish civil courts in over a century. Since then, the Courts



Reform (Scotland) Bill, implementing many of the recommendations of the Scottish Civil Courts Review, has been introduced to the Scottish Parliament and the Tribunals (Scotland) Bill has been enacted.

The proposals contained in each of these pieces of legislation have been developed under the auspices of the Scottish Government's *Making Justice Work* programme. *Making Justice Work* has proved extremely successful in bringing together the key justice agencies to deliver a co-ordinated and comprehensive programme of reform to the Scottish justice system.

The activity described in this Annual Report is impressive. Following a smooth and swift transition from the work in hand under the previous Rules Councils, much has been achieved.

The SCJC's formal launch in September 2013, was well attended by a broad range of individuals and organisations with an interest in the civil justice system.

All Council committees have now been established and have begun their work. The Family Law Committee is giving consideration to a number of proposals in relation to family actions. The Access to Justice Committee has begun its reviews of the arrangements for party litigants, lay support and advisers, and the role of alternative dispute resolution in the civil courts. The Personal Injury Committee has prepared several sets of rules and is considering the use of pre-action protocols. The Costs and Funding Committee has embarked on its consideration of Sheriff Principal Taylor's Review into the Expenses and Funding of Civil Litigation in Scotland. The ICT Committee is considering the place of technology within the civil justice system and how to ensure that the system can make the best use of developments in technology.

One of the most significant achievements of the year has been the publication of the Council's Rules Rewrite Working Group Interim Report, which sets out how we will approach the most comprehensive revision of the rules of the civil courts in Scotland in history. The Group's final report is due in summer 2014. That will set out in detail how

the new rules should be drafted, and will include provisions as to how the aims of simplicity, modernisation and harmonisation of the rules may best be achieved.

While the Council has concentrated in its first year of operation on preparing itself for implementation of civil courts reform, it has delivered a number of important pieces of work in other areas. Several sets of draft rules have been prepared and subsequently made into law by the Court of Session. One of the Council's first acts was to conduct a full public consultation on arrangements for reporting restrictions.

As part of its Annual Programme for 2014/15, the Council will soon begin drafting the priority rules for implementation of the Courts Reform (Scotland) Bill and the wider programme of civil courts reform. This will be a major undertaking, the like of which the Scottish civil justice system has not seen before. The foundations are firmly in place to ensure success.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to the public spirited members of the Council and its committees, who give their time freely and without whom none of this work would be possible.

Lord President, Chairman of the Scottish Civil Justice Council

Introduction

The Scottish Civil Justice Council

1. The Scottish Civil Justice Council (SCJC) was established on 28 May 2013 under the Scottish Civil Justice Council and Criminal Legal Assistance Act 2013, replacing the Court of Session Rules Council and the Sheriff Court Rules Council. It is responsible for preparing draft rules of procedure for the Court of Session and for civil proceedings in the sheriff court. It also has the function of providing advice and making recommendations to the Lord President on the development of the civil justice system in Scotland.

Functions and powers

- 2. The Council's functions include:
 - keeping the civil justice system under review;
 - reviewing the practice and procedure followed in the Court of Session and in civil cases in the sheriff court;
 - preparing draft rules of procedure for the civil courts; and
 - advising and making recommendations on the development of and changes to the civil justice system in Scotland.

Who we are

3. Our membership encompasses the range of interests and experiences across the civil justice system. As well as the judiciary and practitioners, it includes consumer representatives, an academic and an employment judge. In addition, the Chief Executives of the Scottish Court Service and the Scottish Legal Aid Board and a member of staff of the Scottish Government hold standing appointments.

The Right Hon. Lord Gill Lord President and Lord Justice

General, Chairman

Eric McQueen Chief Executive, Scottish Court Service Lindsay Montgomery CBE Chief Executive, Scottish Legal Aid

Board

Jan Marshall Scottish Ministers' appointee

The Hon. Lord Tyre Judicial member Sheriff Principal Mhairi M. Judicial member

Stephen

Sheriff Abercrombie QC
Andrew Stewart QC
Advocate member
Kenneth Forrest
Advocate member
Solicitor member
Solicitor member
Solicitor member

Ian MaxwellConsumer representative memberLauren WoodConsumer representative member

Employment Judge Joseph LP member

d'Inverno

Professor Frances Wasoff LP member

Key Achievements

Priorities for 2013/14

- 4. The SCJC has given particular focus to the following matters during 2013/14:
 - preparation for the implementation of major justice system reform projects;
 - consideration, and preparation for implementation, of new legislation;
 - ongoing preparation of rules revisions necessary to implement primary and subordinate legislation and developments in case law (this is the 'care and maintenance' aspect of the rules); and
 - consideration of potential improvements to procedures, particularly in respect of those aspects of civil courts reform which can be taken forward without primary legislation.

Committees and Working Groups

5. Over the course of the last year, the SCJC has set up the following committees and groups to assist it in carrying out its work.

Chair: The Hon. Lady Wise Access to Justice Committee

Chair: The Hon. Lord Burns Costs and Funding

Committee

Personal Injury Committee

Chair: The Hon. Lord Brailsford Family Law Committee

Chair: The Hon. Lord Tyre

Information and

Communications Technology

Committee Chair: The Hon. Lord Jones

Rules Rewrite Working Chair: The Rt. Hon. Lord Gill, Lord

Group President

Deputy Chair: The Right Hon. Lord

Menzies

6. Further details on the work of each can be found in our Annual Programme for 2014/15 and at www.scottishciviljusticecouncil.gov.uk.

Civil Courts Reform

- 7. In its first year of operation, the SCJC has focussed on preparing for implementation of civil courts reform, as proposed by the Report of the Scottish Civil Courts Review and the Courts Reform (Scotland) Bill 2014 (currently before the Scottish Parliament). Delivery of this major reform programme will require many new suites of court rules, which the SCJC will be responsible for drafting. As well as drafting the rules required to support implementation of the provisions of the Courts Reform (Scotland) Bill, the SCJC will be carrying out a multi-year Rules Rewrite Project to consolidate, harmonise and simplify rules of the civil courts in Scotland.
- 8. In addition to the subject committees set up in 2013/14, the SCJC established a Rules Rewrite Working Group tasked to consider the overall approach to the Rule Rewrite Project. Following research into the approaches other jurisdictions have taken in respect of similar exercises, the Group published its Interim Report in March 2014. The Interim Report, endorsed by the SCJC, sets out the Group's recommendations for the Rules Rewrite Project, addressing the vision and objective of the new rules, how the

- new rules should rules be drafted and the priority areas for implementation of civil courts reform. A summary of the Group's recommendations is provided at p. 10.
- 9. The SCJC has provided evidence to the Scottish Parliament on the Bill and the SCJC's role in delivery of civil courts reform. It will continue to monitor the Bill's progress through its parliamentary stages.

Sheriff Principal Taylor's Review

- 10. Under the lead of the Costs and Funding Committee, initial consideration has been given to the recommendations of the Report of Sheriff Principal Taylor's Review into the Expenses and Funding of Civil Litigation in Scotland (the Taylor Review), which was published on 11 September 2013.
- 11. The SCJC believes that the reform of legal expenses is a necessary complement to courts reform and as such that consideration should be given to Sheriff Principal Taylor's recommendations as a matter of priority, and as part of a consistent and coherent package of reform. Recommendation 14 of the Taylor Review is that the SCJC should form a sub-committee to deal with the level of fees for litigation which may be recovered as expenses. The SCJC has considered the issue of whether the SCJC's statutory functions include preparation of fees instruments (currently prepared by the Lord President's Advisory Committee) and whether primary legislation to amend the SCJC's functions so that preparation of fees instruments falls within the SCJC's remit would be desirable, if not necessary, to give full effect to Recommendation 14. The SCJC believes that it would be helpful if the question of the SCJC's functions in relation to the preparation of fees instruments were to be put beyond doubt in primary legislation and that the Courts Reform (Scotland) Bill provides an opportunity to do that. This would allow the SCJC to take forward this work in early course.

Tribunals Reform

12. The Tribunals (Scotland) Act 2014 provides for the creation of a new structure for tribunals dealing with devolved matters under the judicial leadership of the Lord President of the Court of Session as Head of the Scottish Tribunals. It will also extend the SCJC's functions to the preparation of rules for devolved tribunals. The SCJC gave consideration to the Tribunals (Scotland) Bill, and in particular its implications for the SCJC and its operations, during its parliamentary passage and submitted evidence to the Parliament during Stage 1 proceedings.

Research

13. In addition to commissioning desk based research into a range of issues, including the arrangements for party litigants, lay advisors and lay support, and the role of

- 14. alternative dispute resolution in the Scottish civil courts, members of the SCJC, committees and Secretariat staff have attended a series of meetings, conferences and events to learn at first hand from colleagues in other jurisdictions which have undertaken rules reform.
- 15. SCJC members have also undertaken a series of court visits to observe a range of civil courts in action and to discuss their observations with members of the judiciary and court staff. In November 2013, members visited the Court of Session and this was followed in December 2013 by a visit to Glasgow Sheriff Court.

Reporting Restrictions Consultation

16. A <u>consultation on draft rules for reporting restrictions</u> was carried out over summer 2013. Views were sought as to whether existing rules on reporting restrictions should be replaced with new rules applying to all orders that restrict the reporting of proceedings, and which would introduce the opportunity for the media to make representations to the court before such an order is made. Following an <u>analysis of the responses the SCIC</u> agreed to suspend its final decision until the UK Supreme Court's decision in *Application of BBC Scotland re A v. Secretary of State for the Home Department*, in which this area of law is at issue, was known.

Communications and Engagement

- 17. Promoting the SCJC activity to practitioners and users of the civil justice system and engaging with other justice organisations is a key part of our work.
- 18. Following a successful transition from the work in hand under the auspices of the previous Rules Councils, an official launch took place on 23 September 2013, at Parliament Hall, Edinburgh. The Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Mr Kenny MacAskill MSP, and the Lord President, The Right Honourable Lord Gill, addressed an audience of the judiciary, legal professionals, academics, policy officials and a range of individuals with an interest in the civil justice system.
- 19. The SCJC's website was launched with the creation of the SCJC in May 2013 and acts as the hub for communicating all SCJC activity. All official publications, details of SCJC and committee meetings, agendas and selected papers, and civil court rules prepared by the SCJC are available online.

Summary of Recommendations

Rules Rewrite Working Group

20. The following is a summary of the recommendations made by the Rules Rewrite Working Group and endorsed by the SCJC, in its Interim Report published in March 2014.

Uniformity v. specificity

Recommendation 1: We are of the view that separate rules for the sheriff court and the Court of Session should be retained. However, we consider that harmonisation of procedures should be pursued (and we note that this is one of the guiding principles to which the SCJC is required to have regard when carrying out its functions). With the exception of the simple procedure, which is to be designed with party litigants in mind and should retain a distinct and special nature, a consistent framework should be established, so that where appropriate, the rules of the sheriff court and Court of Session should be identical in procedure and wording.

Simplicity, modernisation and accessibility of the rules

Recommendation 2: We endorse the approach adopted in England and Wales in relation to clarifying ambiguous language. We do not, however, recommend carrying out a specific exercise to identify any such ambiguities, rather that these should be addressed as rules are rewritten. Where judicial authority has brought a benefit, although out of date language has been used, then it may be beneficial to retain that language. We think that the question of whether an individual rule should be replicated in the new rules will require to be considered on a case by case basis; and the approach should only be adopted where it is considered necessary. However, we consider that out of date or complex language should not be restated in the simple procedure rules on this basis as party litigants should not be expected to rely on case law.

Party litigants

Recommendation 3: As party litigants will be regular users of the simple procedure (which will replace small claims and summary cause procedure) proposed in the Courts Reform (Scotland) Bill 2014, we consider that it is vital that simple procedure is designed with party litigants in mind. As such, it ideally should not require complementary guidance (and indeed we suggest that the procedure itself could be drafted in such a way that it guides litigants step-by-step through the court process).

Accessing the rules

Recommendation 4: We consider that it would be beneficial to make the rules for Scotland accessible online in similar fashion to the way that they are made available in England and Wales, with clear links to relevant documents such as practice directions and guidance.

Drafting rules

The need for an overriding objective

Recommendation 5: We are of the view that there should be a statement of principle and purpose in both the sheriff court and Court of Session rules, to which the court should have due regard, but that it should not override the other rules of court. The statement should be founded on recommendation 112 of the Scottish Civil Courts Review, and should indicate that the purpose of the rules is to provide parties with a just resolution of their dispute in accordance with their substantive rights, within a reasonable time, in a fair manner with due regard to economy, proportionality and the efficient use of the resources of the parties and of the court, and that parties are expected to comply with the rules.

Implementation

Managing Litigation

Recommendation 6: We consider it essential that management of litigation transfers to the courts, and that judges and the judicial system take a proactive stance in managing the progression of cases through the courts.

Recommendation 7: We consider that costs reform is a necessary complement to ensure the success of procedural reform and recommend that rules for sanctions and enforcement should be taken forward as a priority.

Supporting Measures

Recommendation 8: We recommend that particular consideration should be given to the following: pilots; practice directions, guidance, and tables of 'concordance'. We recognise that there may be some value in running pilot schemes in certain circumstances but we recommend against piloting changes as part of any general approach.

Consulting on draft rules

Recommendation 9: We recommend that in light of the consultative nature of the SCJC, the implementation timescales and the fact that many rules changes are likely to be technical and consequential in nature, public consultation on draft rules should not be adopted as standard. It is considered that consultation with key organisations should be considered on a case by case basis.

Recommendation 10: We consider that as the rules are to be prepared in phases, draft rules should be placed on the SCJC website in their draft form. This would promote the awareness of forthcoming changes to rules and would allow for any significant matters arising to be dealt with before entry into force. Wherever possible there should be at least a 3 month laying period for rules.

Monitoring and evaluation

Recommendation 11: We note that one of the functions of the SCJC is to keep the civil justice system under review and we consider it essential that changes to the rules are subject to regular and comprehensive review. We therefore consider that a review of individual suites of new rules, to be carried out 18-24 months after their entry into force, should be built into the annual rules programme.

Priorities for reform

Recommendation 12: We consider that the following suites of rules changes should be taken forward as a priority and that drafting should begin on each of them during 2014.

- Increase to the Privative Limit
- Judicial Structures (introduction of the new judicial offices of summary sheriff and Appeal Sheriff)
- Creation of a Sheriff Appeal Court
- The creation of a specialist personal injury court, with civil jury trials
- Simple procedure
- Judicial case management
- Rules for enforcement / sanctions
- The creation of compulsory pre-action protocols
- Judicial review

Medium term priorities for reform

Recommendation 13: We consider that the following aspects of civil courts reform can be phased in once implementation of the early priorities identified above nears completion.

- Abolition of distinction between ordinary and petition procedure in the Court of Session
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Lay representation, party litigants and vexatious litigants
- Enhanced case management
- Facilitating settlement

Courts Reform (Scotland) Bill

21. In providing evidence to the Scottish Parliament on the Courts Reform (Scotland) Bill, the SCJC indicated its view that the opportunity should be taken during the Bill's parliamentary passage to clarify that the SCJC's statutory functions include the preparation of fees instruments (currently prepared by the Lord President's Advisory Committee). In due course this would allow full effect to be given to Recommendation 14 of the Taylor Review (that the SCJC should form a sub-committee to deal with the level of fees for litigation which may be recovered as expenses).

Summary of Rules Prepared

22. During 2013/14, the SCJC has submitted draft rules to the Court of Session, addressing the following matters.

Implementation of Policing and Crime Act 2009

23. The Act of Sederunt (Summary Applications, Statutory Applications and Appeals etc. Rules Amendment) (Policing and Crime Act 2009) 2013 (SSI 2013/241) was made on 12 August 2013 and came into force on 1 October 2013. It amended the Summary Application Rules in consequence of the amendments made to the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 by the Policing and Crime Act 2009: applications for discharge or variation of a detention order are to be made by minute in process, and the form for appeals to the Court of Session under sections 127O and 131C of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 is prescribed. The instrument was considered and approved by the Council at its meeting of 10 June 2013 and it was not subject to any amendment by the Court of Session before it was made.

Service of applications under the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 and the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (External Investigations) Order 2013

24. The Act of Sederunt (Summary Applications, Statutory Applications and Appeals etc. Rules Amendment) (Miscellaneous) 2013 (2013/293) was made on 17 October 2013 and came into force on 11 November 2013. It amended the Summary Application Rules in respect of proceedings under the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 and under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (External Investigations) Order 2013, principally to address concerns in relation to the service of certain applications. The instrument was considered and approved by the SCJC at its meeting of 23 September 2013 and was not subject to any amendment by the Court of Session before it was made.

Implementation of Part 2 of the Justice and Security Act 2012

25. The **Act of Sederunt (Rules of the Court of Session Amendment No. 5)**(**Miscellaneous) 2013 (SSI 2013/238)** was made on 30 July 2013 and came into force on 19 August 2013. It amended the Rules of the Court of Session in consequence of the coming into force of Part 2 of the Justice and Security Act 2012. The instrument was considered and approved by the Council at its meeting of 10 June 2013 and was subject to only minor amendments by the Court of Session before it was made.

Urgent disposal of reclaiming motions and appeals in respect of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995

26. The Act of Sederunt (Rules of the Court of Session Amendment No. 6)(Miscellaneous) 2013 (SSI 2013/294) was made on 17 October 2013 and came into force on 11 November 2013. Paragraph 2 amends the Rules of the Court of Session in respect of urgent disposal of reclaiming motions and appeals in respect of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995. Paragraph 4 amends the Rules of the Court of Session in consequence of the amendment of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (External Requests and Orders) Order 2005. Paragraph 3 amends the Rules of the Court of Session in respect of an error identified in the enabling legislation. Paragraph 5 amends the Rules of the Court of Session in consequence of the coming into force of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (External Investigations) Order 2013. Separate instruments relating to Paragraphs 2, 4 and 5 were considered and approved by the SCJC at its meeting of 23 September 2013 which were then consolidated in this instrument; these were not subject to any amendments by the Court of Session before it was made. Paragraph 3

was not considered by the Council as it related to an urgent matter.

Recovery of Documents

- 27. Following the Personal Injury Committee's consideration of proposed amendments to the procedure for cases where the optional procedure for commission and diligence is followed in the Sheriff Court, draft rules for the sheriff court and Court of Session were submitted to the Court of Session by the SCJC in March 2014.
- 28. The draft instruments addressed sheriff court procedure, related amendments to the Rules of the Court of Session and Summary Cause Rules. The rules also include changes to cover the removal from the personal injury rules of a superfluous discretionary power and changes to the test in personal injury cases (from "special cause" to "cause") for varying the timetable. The latter change to the rules was made in the light of the opinion of Lord Jones in the case Fiona Smith –v- Greater Glasgow & Clyde NHS Health Board [2013] CSOH 178 (http://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/opinions/2013CSOH178.html).

Guiding principles

- 29. Under section 2 of the Scottish Civil Justice Council and Criminal Legal Assistance Act 2013 the SCJC must have regard to the following principles when carrying out its functions:
 - (a) the civil justice system should be fair, accessible and efficient,
 - (b) rules relating to practice and procedure should be as clear and easy to understand as possible,
 - (c) practice and procedure should, where appropriate, be similar in all civil courts, and
 - (d) methods of resolving disputes which do not involve the courts should, where appropriate, be promoted.
- 30. Consideration of these principles is built into the SCJC's work in a number of ways.

The civil justice system should be fair, accessible and efficient

The remits of the Access to Justice and Family Law Committees include a requirement that the Committees will take due account of the need to ensure that actions proceed as expediently as possible through the courts.

The Access to Justice Committee's remit includes a requirement to consider the implications of proposals for legal reform which may affect the civil justice system upon litigants and potential litigants in the Scottish civil courts.

The ICT Committee's remit includes a requirement to consider how ICT can be used more effectively within the Scottish civil courts to ensure that business can be dealt with as expediently as possible.

The Rules Rewrite Working Group has recommended that rules, practice directions and associated documents should be easily accessible online.

Rules relating to practice and procedure should be as clear and easy to understand as possible

The Rules Rewrite Working Group has recommended that the opportunity should be taken to clarify ambiguous language in the rules and that the simple procedure should retain a distinct nature and be designed with party litigants in mind.

Practice and procedure in the civil courts should be as similar as possible, where appropriate

The Rules Rewrite Working Group has recommended that separate rules for the sheriff court and Court of Session should be adopted but the rules should be identical in procedure and wording, where appropriate.

Alternative methods of dispute resolution (ADR) should be promoted, where appropriate

The Access to Justice Committee is reviewing the arrangements for the use of ADR in the sheriff court and the Court of Session. In addition, its remit includes that it is to take account of ADR initiatives underway in the civil justice system, including outwith the Scottish civil courts. The introduction of pre-action protocols is being taken forward as a matter of priority by the Personal Injury Committee.

All principles

The Rules Rewrite Working Group has recommended that there should be a 'statement of principle and purpose' in the rules (this is expected to be in keeping with the guiding principles).

The Group also recommended that new rules should be subject to review 18-24 months after their entry into force and that the starting point for such a review should be the guiding principles.

31. In general terms, all SCJC Committees will require to have regard to the principles set out in the 2013 Act. However, certain committee remits have been drawn with particular principles in mind.

32. In order to ensure that regard to the SCJC's statutory guiding principles is fully built into its SCJC work, it has been agreed that when considering individual policy and rules proposals, an assessment of compatibility with each of the principles is to be carried out.

Freedom of Information

- 33. The SCJC operates in an open and transparent manner and is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).
- 34. The SCJC has adopted the Scottish Information Commissioner's Model Publication Scheme and issued its <u>Publication Scheme and Guide to Information</u> in June 2013. To support its members and committees with obligations under FOISA for the storing of records, the SCJC agreed and published a <u>Records Management Plan</u> in February 2014.
- 35. The SCJC has received 7 requests for information under the Act to date, on various topics. All requests have been dealt with within the statutory timescales.

Number of requests received under FOISA 2013/14		
Legal Profession	0	
Members of the public	5	
MSPs/MPs	1	
Press/media	0	
Other	1	
TOTAL	7	

Outcome of requests received under FOISA 2013/14		
Information supplied	3	
Information partially supplied	0	
Information withheld	0	
Insufficient information provided by the requester to respond	1	
Information not held	3	
Request withdrawn	0	
TOTAL	7	

SCJC Expenditure 2013/14

- 36. Property, services and staff (including the SCJC Secretariat and legal support from the Lord President's Private Office) are provided to the SCJC by the Judicial Office for Scotland (a distinct arm of the SCS, which provides support to the judiciary).
- 37. The resources available to the SCJC during 2013/14 were approximately £416,000, made up of £332,000 for staffing costs and £84,000 for set up and running costs, as detailed in the Annual Programme for 2013/14. As the SCJC increased its operations gradually over the course of the year, through the establishment of committees and recruitment of staff, the SCJC's expenditure for 2013/14 was lower than the total resources that were made available to it. As the SCJC's workload is expected to peak during 2014/15 and 2015/16, expenditure is expected to increase significantly.

SCJC Annual Expenditure 2013/14			
Category	Description	Expenditure*	
Staffing	Deputy Secretary		
(Secretariat)	2 Policy Officers	134,778	
	Administration		
Staffing**	2.2 (Full Time Equivalent) Solicitors	153,000	
(Drafting)			
Accommodation	Set up costs, e.g. furniture.	6,209	
IT	IT costs for on-going maintenance and	2,970	
	support of the SCJC website.		
Expenses	Reimbursement of SCJC and committee		
	members' Travel & Subsistence,	7,665	
	additional expenditure and financial loss.		
Recruitment	Ongoing recruitment of and training for	1,678	
and Training	new members and/or Secretariat staff.		
General	General operating costs, e.g. hospitality,	4,192	
Expenses	catering, minor purchases.		
Total staffing		287,778	
Total other		22,714	
TOTAL		310492	

^{*}Note: all figures are rounded up to the nearest \pounds **As legal services to the SCJC are provided by lawyers of the Lord President's Private Office on a part-time basis, this figure is approximate.

Further information and contacts

- 38. Full information about the SCJC and its activities are available at www.scottishciviljusticecouncil.gov.uk. The website is updated regularly with news about the SCJC and provides full details of Council and committee meetings, SCJC publications, draft rules under consideration and rules which have been recently made.
- 39. Contact details for the SCJC are as follows:

Email <u>scjc@scotcourts.gov.uk</u>

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