

## ITEMS CONSIDERED BY CORRESPONDENCE

### Purpose

1. To provide members with a note of the outcomes of matters considered by correspondence since the last meeting on 19 July 2021.

### Discussion

2. In considering matters by correspondence, members are advised that a nil response will be treated as consent, unless noted otherwise.
3. Three matters have been considered by correspondence since the last meeting.

### A. Civil Online Rules Review

- **Paper 2021/16** invited members to consider and approve a draft rules instrument which amends the Act of Sederunt (Simple Procedure Amendment) (Civil Online) 2020.
- Feedback received included approval of the draft rules for submission to the Court of Session, subject to any typographical or stylistic amendments and agreement that a short policy note was to be submitted alongside the rules when laid in Parliament on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021.
- The rules extend the provisions of the temporary rules requiring the mandatory use of civil online for the lodging of simple procedure cases for a period of 6 months. The rules will now expire on 31st March 2022.

### B. Admin Matters

- **Paper 2021/17** invited members to approve draft minutes from 19 July meeting.
- The draft minutes were approved and published on the Council's website.

### C. Consultation on Mode of Attendance at Hearings

- **Paper 2021/19** invited members to approve a draft consultation document, supporting draft rules and an Equalities Impact Assessment.

- The feedback received gave approval for the consultation document and supporting papers to be issued for a 6 week consultation period.
- The Consultation was launched on 06 September with a closing date of 18 October 2021.

Note

4. On 6 October the consultation period was extended by 4 weeks following a number of requests for extensions to enable stakeholders to respond. It will now close on 15 November 2021. This information was published on the SCJC website.

**Recommendation**

5. **Members are invited to note this update and in particular**

**Scottish Civil Justice Council Secretariat  
October 2021**