

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE IN NORTHERN IRELAND  
CHANCERY DIVISION

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PRACTICE DIRECTION No 5 of 1997  
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DELIVERY OF JUDGMENTS BY THE CHANCERY JUDGE

1. Where judgment is reserved in any cause or matter, the Court will endeavour to deliver judgment not more than four weeks after the conclusion of the proceedings unless the Court at the conclusion of the proceedings specifies a different timescale.
2. In the event of the judgment not being ready within four weeks or the specified timescale (as the case may be) the proceedings will be re-listed and the parties will be informed of the proposed date for the delivery of the judgment.
3. On the day on which it is proposed to deliver judgment (which may be earlier than four weeks after the conclusion of the proceedings) copies of the judgment will be available for collection at the Chancery Office from 9.30 am on the day on which it is proposed to give judgment. The judgment will not normally be read in open court but at 10.00 am the Judge will give a brief synopsis of the judgment and will hear Counsel as to consequential matters such as costs.
4. When judgment is given in any case the Court will give directions as to the drafting of the order to give effect to the judgment. The Court may require the order to be drafted by Counsel and in that event the draft would be submitted to the Chancery Office no later than four days after the delivery of judgment. Counsel should endeavour to agree the draft order but in the event of disagreement or a failure to agree within the specified period the matter will be re-listed as directed by the Court.

Where the draft is prepared by the Office it will be circulated to Counsel for the parties who shall return the draft with their comments no later than three days after receipt thereof. In the event of a failure to return the draft with or without proposed amendments within that timescale the matter will be re-listed before the Judge.

**COMMENCEMENT**

This Practice Direction will come into effect on 16 June 1997.

BY DIRECTION OF THE CHANCERY JUDGE

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'R. J. H.', is written over the printed name of the Master of the Chancery.

MASTER (CHANCERY)

JUNE 1997