

## HIGH COURT GUIDANCE

### REMOTE ATTENDANCE IN CHILDRENS AND DECLARATORY RELIEF REVIEW HEARINGS

To avoid unnecessary applications by legal representatives, parties and social workers the following (informal) guidance for remote attendance in relation to the above matters is provided.

1. This guidance only relates to the High Court.
2. This guidance only relates to matters designated on the court list as a review and does not apply to any matter designated as a hearing.
3. Legal representatives are not required to attend physically in court provided that at least one representative for each party is in physical attendance and that representative is both adequately briefed or capable of receiving at short notice adequate instructions.
4. Whether a client or social worker is required to attend physically is a matter for the legal representatives advising them and such advice should be on the basis of the nature of the application and the anticipated content of the review.
5. Non-professional remote attendees should attend from their solicitor's offices.
6. Any requests for remote attendance not falling into any of the above categories should continue to be made.

The Honourable Mr Justice McFarland

July 2023