President of the Family Division

SIR ANDREW MCFARLANE
PRESIDENT OF THE FAMILY DIVISION, HEAD OF FAMILY JUSTICE
AND CHAIR OF THE FAMILY JUSTICE COUNCIL

15 September 2025

By email to:

All London Financial Remedies Court Judges
London Financial Remedies Court User Group
Family Law Bar Association
Resolution
Law Society

Dear All,

Financial Remedies Court London – Siting Day Allocation

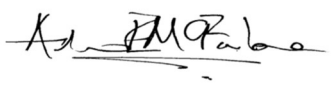
The Family Court sitting day allocation for 2025/26 includes an expectation from the Lord Chancellor that 45% of the allocation should be devoted to public law cases. The split set out in the Concordat letter is: 45% public law, 37% private law, 9% divorce and 9% for other work. However, to reflect the vital work undertaken by the London Financial Remedies Court, an allocation of 13% (instead of 9%) was negotiated for London.

It has become clear that the forecast of Financial Remedies sitting days for London, which was based on the model for the previous year, is likely to exceed 13% this year. It is therefore necessary to ensure that for October 2025 to March 2026 Financial Remedies listing in London is brought into line with the proportions agreed by the Lord Chancellor and Lady Chief Justice; this will mean that a number of the planned FR sitting days in that period will have to be cancelled.

I wish to offer my sincere thanks to the judges and staff who have worked over the summer to develop a plan of action to deliver on this important aspect of the Lord Chancellor's expectations for Family. I would also like to thank you all in advance, for your understanding and for your support in delivering this necessary recalibration of the list, which I accept will cause some unwelcome difficulties.

Information on the delivery plan to be led by HHJ Sapnara and HHJ Hess, and how it may affect you, is set out in Annex A to this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Andrew McFarlane

President of the Family Division

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