



**In the High Court of Justice
King's Bench Division
Administrative Court**

AC-2026-LON-002778



In the matter of an application for judicial review

AC-2026-LON-002778

THE KING

on the application of

(1) PW3

(2) PW4

(3) PW5

Claimants

-and-

Secretary of State for Justice

Defendant

-and-

The Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

Interested Party

Notification of Judge's Decision (CPR 54.11, 54.12)

Following consideration of the documents filed by the claimant, the defendant's and interested party's Acknowledgements of Service and Summary Grounds of Defence and the claimant's Reply

And upon the court being satisfied that non-disclosure of the identity of the claimants and the witnesses (as referenced below) is necessary in order to protect their interests

ORDER BY Mr Justice Johnson

Anonymity

1. The claimants shall be referred to in these proceedings as PW3, PW4 and PW5 ("the claimant ciphers"). The individuals described by the claimants as the first second and third witnesses ("the witnesses") shall be referred to in these proceedings as PW1, PW2 and PW7 ("the witness ciphers").
2. The claimants' and the witness' names are to be withheld from the public and must not to be disclosed in any proceedings in open court.
3. There is to be substituted for all purposes in these proceedings in place of references to the claimants and witnesses by name, and whether orally or in

writing, references to the claimant ciphers or, as appropriate, the witness ciphers.

4. Pursuant to s.11 Contempt of Court Act 1981, there must be no publication of the identities of the claimants or witnesses or of any matter likely to lead to the identification of the claimants or witnesses in any report of, or otherwise in connection with, these proceedings.
5. Pursuant to CPR 5.4C(4):
 - (a) The parties must, when filing any statement of case, also file a redacted copy of that statement of case omitting the name, address and any other information which could lead to the identification of the claimants and the witnesses.
 - (b) The claimants' solicitor must, by 4pm on 22 October 2026, file redacted copies of those statements of case that have already been filed.
 - (c) Unless the Court grants permission under CPR 5.4(C)(6), no non-party may obtain an unredacted copy of any statement of case.
6. Any person affected by this order may apply to the court to vary or set aside paragraphs 1-5 of this order. Any such application must be made on 7 days notice to the parties.

Permission to claim judicial review

7. Permission to claim judicial review is granted on all three grounds.

Listing of substantive hearing

8. The substantive hearing shall, if practicable, be listed during the Hilary Term, with a time estimate of 1 day. If any party considers that this time estimate should be varied, they should inform the court as soon as possible.

Case management directions

9. The defendant and interested party must, within 35 days of the date of service of this Order, file and serve (i) Detailed Grounds for contesting the claim or supporting it on additional grounds and (ii) any written evidence to be relied on.
10. The defendant and interested party may comply with sub-paragraph 9(i) above by filing and serving a document which states that its Summary Grounds are to stand as the Detailed Grounds required by CPR 54.14.

11. Any application by the claimants to serve evidence in reply must be filed and served, together with a copy of that evidence, within 21 days of the date on which the defendant and interested party serve evidence pursuant to 9 above.
12. The parties must agree the contents of the hearing bundle. An electronic version of the bundle must be prepared and lodged, in accordance with the Administrative Court Judicial Review Guide Chapter 21 and the Guidance on the Administrative Court website, not less than 28 days before the date of the substantive hearing. The parties must, if requested by the Court, lodge 2 hard-copy versions of the hearing bundle.
13. The claimants must file and serve a Skeleton Argument (maximum 25 pages), complying with CPR 54 PD para. 15 and the Administrative Court Judicial Review Guide paras 20.1 to 20.3, not less than 21 days before the date of the substantive hearing.
14. The defendant and interested person must each file and serve a Skeleton Argument (maximum 25 pages), complying with CPR 54 PD para. 15 and the Administrative Court Judicial Review Guide paras 20.1 to 20.3, not less than 14 days before the date of the substantive hearing.
15. The parties must agree the contents of a bundle containing the authorities to be referred to at the hearing. An electronic version of the bundle must be prepared in accordance with the Guidance on the Administrative Court website. The parties must, if requested by the Court, prepare a hard-copy version of the authorities bundle. The electronic version of the bundle and if requested, the hard copy version of the bundle, must be lodged with the Court not less than 7 days before the date of the substantive hearing.

Signed Mr Justice Johnson

Date 30 September 2026

The date of service of this order is calculated from the date in the section below

For completion by the Administrative Court Office

Sent to:

The Claimant / The Claimant's solicitors []

The Defendant / The Defendant's solicitors []

The Interested party / The Interested Party's solicitors []

Date: 01/10/2026

Ref No.

Notes for the Claimant

To continue the proceedings, a fee is payable.

For details of the current fee please refer to the Administrative Court fees table at <https://www.gov.uk/court-fees-what-they-are>.

Failure to pay the fee or submit a certified application for fee remission may result in the claim being struck out.

The form to make an application for remission of a court fee can be obtained at <https://www.gov.uk/get-help-with-court-fees>

You are reminded of your obligation to reconsider the merits of your claim on receipt of the Defendant's evidence.