

# Judicial Review: Procedure Guide

## / About this guide

Complaints about public authorities (e.g. a local council or government department) acting unfairly or unreasonably can be dealt with in a number of ways, including complaints procedures and through ombudsmen schemes. However one of the most effective ways is to use a court procedure called 'judicial review'.

This guide explains more about the seven stages in a judicial review court case; from when you initially instruct us through to the final hearing and any appeal. However, it is important to remember that the vast majority of judicial review cases are resolved at stages one or two.

1. Before the court case begins
2. The initial 'permission' application
3. Urgent cases
4. What happens next if 'permission' is refused?
5. What happens next if 'permission' is granted?
6. The final hearing
7. What happens after the final hearing?

If you are considering judicial review proceedings the solicitors in our Public Law and Human Rights Team are always happy to discuss potential cases and explain more about what is involved and can be contacted at [publiclawteam@pierceglynnc.co.uk](mailto:publiclawteam@pierceglynnc.co.uk) or on 020 7407 0007.

## / 1. Before the court case begins

We begin by speaking to you about the background to the case, either face to face or, where appropriate, by telephone or email. It will help us if you can collect together any background documents and email or post them to us before this initial meeting. Or, if that is not possible, please bring them to the initial meeting and we will make copies.

If you are entitled to legal aid we will help you complete a legal aid application form and submit this for you.

If the case is urgent and strong enough, we can immediately grant emergency legal aid. If legal aid is not available we will discuss with you other ways of funding the case. If you are not entitled to legal aid we agree to provide a free initial consultation to provide advice about whether judicial review may be appropriate and alternative ways of funding a case.

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