

Explanatory Note – Usual Directions in Classes 1, 2, 3 and 4 Proceedings

Each of the Court's Practice Notes contains usual directions in schedules at the end of the Practice Note.

It is expected that parties will review, adopt and adapt the usual directions appropriate to the particular circumstances of their case in the form of draft (agreed or competing) short minutes of order to be handed to the Court at any directions hearing.

The usual directions are available on the Court's website in a form able to be downloaded to facilitate this objective.

In adopting and adapting the appropriate usual directions, parties should have regard to the following:

- The usual directions contain a series of directions identified as “for all matters”. These directions relate to standard procedural requirements on the fixing of proceedings for hearing. These directions are likely to be suitable for the majority of matters and parties should generally include them in their draft short minutes. In particular, these directions address matters relating to expert obligations, which are appropriate for all cases involving expert evidence.
- Otherwise, parties have the capacity to modify the usual directions to suit the circumstances of their case. In particular, shorter time periods will be appropriate for smaller or less complex cases. Also, not all directions will be necessary for such cases.
- All draft short minute of order should bear the date of the directions hearing.