

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION: COMMERCIAL LIST

Masters' Practice Note No.3 of 2013

Summons Court Commercial List

[1] This Practice Note should be read alongside Practice Note 1/2011, Queen's Bench Summons Court: Consolidated Practice Notes and Commercial Practice Note 01/13.

[2] From 4 October 2013 until further notice all summonses in commercial actions before the masters shall be listed in a designated Commercial List Summons Court which shall sit each Friday commencing 10.30am.

[3] Where an action has not yet been entered in the Commercial List in accordance with Commercial Practice Note PN 01.13 at the time the summons papers are filed the moving party should notify the court office that the summons relates to a commercial action and is to be listed in the Summons Court Commercial List. Any summons which relates to a commercial action which appears in the main Summons Court list shall be transferred by the master to the Summons Court Commercial List.

[4] The listing of commercial action summonses shall be treated expeditiously so that any summons received in the court office by 1.00pm on a Tuesday will be listed in the Summons Court Commercial list for the Friday of the same week, with any summons received later than 1.00pm on Tuesday listed the following Friday.

[5] The procedures set out in PN 01/2011, Queen's Bench Summons Court: Consolidated Practice Notes with respect to the conduct of business before the court generally, including adjournment, the fixing of special appointment hearings and lists of Authorities and Skeleton Arguments, shall apply to summonses in the Summons Court Commercial List, with the following amendments:

- (a) The standard period of adjournment shall be 2 weeks;
- (b) The callover shall run from 10.30am until 11.30am after which the master shall hear short contested summonses of less than 30 minutes duration. All other contested summonses shall be fixed for special appointment hearing, and
- (c) A summons which has not been attended to during the callover will automatically be re-listed on one occasion only, in the Summons Court Commercial List for the following Friday. If it is not attended to at that time the summons will be automatically struck out and no application for reinstatement will be entertained save in the most exceptional circumstances,

where the reason for the failure to attend to the summons was outside the control of the parties.

CJ McCorry

Master (Queen's Bench and Appeals)

RE Bell

Master (Queen's Bench and Matrimonial)

Dated 28 day of August 2013