

DIRECTION

TO: THE REGISTRAR
FROM: CHIEF COMMISSIONER A.R. BEECH
DATE: 5 JULY 2005
RE: RESERVED DECISIONS PRACTICE NOTE

Would you please publish the enclosed document in the next issue of the Industrial Gazette. Thank you.



A.R. Beech
Chief Commissioner

**DELIVERY OF RESERVED DECISIONS
OTHER THAN FULL BENCH OR PRESIDENT**

21 June 2005

The general policy of Commissioners is that reserved decisions should be delivered as soon as practicable after the completion of the hearing. Commissioners may give parties an approximate time frame for this to occur taking into account the Commissioner's other commitments. In some cases it is necessary to deliver a decision as a matter of urgency. In others, where the issues are more complex or where there have been lengthy hearings or hearings involving considerable reference material a longer period may be required for writing reasons for decision.

It is difficult to lay down hard and fast time limits. There are times when the pressure of hearings or urgent conferences on Commissioners is very great and the time available to them for writing decisions is insufficient. That has been the case from time to time in the last few years. Parties or their solicitors or agents should not feel inhibited from making enquiries regarding the progress of a decision which has not been delivered within any time frame given to them at the conclusion of the hearing.

Where a party to proceedings wishes to enquire about the time being taken for the delivery of a reserved decision they, through their solicitor or agent or in person if unrepresented, should contact the Associate to the Commissioner, or to the Associate to the Senior Commissioner of a Commission in Court Session, concerned and request to be advised of the progress of the decision.

If after having taken the step above the party wishes to pursue the enquiry further, through their solicitor or agent or in person if unrepresented, they may raise the matter by letter addressed to the Chief Commissioner who will raise the matter with the Commissioner concerned.



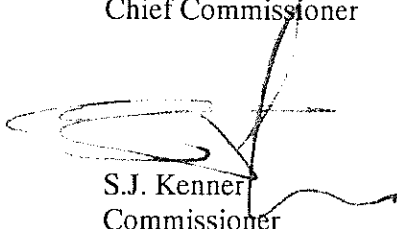
A.R. Beech
Chief Commissioner



J.F. Gregor
Senior Commissioner



P.E. Scott
Commissioner



S.J. Kenner
Commissioner



J.H. Smith
Commissioner



S. Wood
Commissioner



J.L. Harrison
Commissioner



S.M. Mayman
Commissioner
