

PRACTICE DIRECTION NUMBER 2: **PROCEDURAL APPLICATIONS**

1. Rule 22 of the Solicitors (Disciplinary Proceedings) Rules 2019 (“SDPR 2019”) makes provision in respect of procedural applications.
2. The following Practice Direction is intended to permit a minor change to the operation of Rule 22 SDPR 2019 to enable greater flexibility when considering a procedural application to vary the standard directions limited to circumstances where the following three conditions are present (“the conditions precedent”):
 - i. Each party agrees the terms of the variation sought.
 - ii. The variation will not cause the date of the CMH (if one is listed) nor the date of the substantive hearing to be altered, amended or vacated.
 - iii. The parties have submitted their request on the prescribed form with a draft of the directions as amended.
3. If all three conditions precedent are present then the granting of the application will be treated as purely an administrative one and approved, subject to a liberty to apply provision.
4. If there is any doubt as to whether all three conditions precedent are present then the application will be referred to a clerk or solicitor member for a decision in the way set out in Rule 22 SDPR 2019.
5. This limited amendment to the Tribunal’s procedure is made in furtherance of the “overriding objective” and pursuant to the Tribunal’s ability to regulate its own procedure as set out in Rule 4 and Rule 6 SDPR 2019 respectively.
6. This Practice Direction will have effect from the date it is signed by the President to the Tribunal.

Signed on behalf of the Tribunal
Alison Kellett
President of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal
15 January 2025