

Chief Executive's Office Parliament House Parliament Square Edinburgh EH1 1RQ

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Dear Stakeholder/Partner

Creating a centrally located Tribunal Centre in Glasgow

You may have seen in the media an announcement of plans to create a centrally located tribunal centre in <u>Glasgow</u>, and I am writing to you today to update you personally on this.

HM Courts & Tribunals Service (HMCTS) and the Scottish Courts & Tribunals Service (SCTS) have been working together for some time to explore opportunities to rationalise the tribunal estate in Glasgow, pending the close proximity of lease breaks for both organisations. It makes sense that we seek to share premises in Glasgow now, ahead of the proposed transfer of responsibility for tribunals administered by HMCTS in Scotland to the SCTS under the terms of the Scotland Act 2016.

One of the key benefits of this move is that, from 2018, a wider range of tribunal services will be available from a single central location with improved facilities for tribunal users. The new modern centre at Atlantic Quay will include 34 hearing rooms and nine waiting rooms, together with consultation rooms and office space and facilities to accommodate members of the judiciary and HMCTS and SCTS staff.

Work has already begun to transform the building, and our intention is for tribunals to start operating from 3 Atlantic Quay in spring 2018.when HMCTS move from Wellington House and SCTS from 1 Atlantic Quay into the new premises.

Tribunal users remain the central focus of our organisations, and we are working hard to ensure that there will be no adverse impact on service levels during the transition period. Users will be advised of our new contact details prior to the move and will receive notification of their hearing date and location as they always have done.

There remains a lot of work to do and we hope to be able to share further information by early February.

A dedicated email address has been set-up to deal with queries specifically about this move. If you have any questions or concerns relating to this matter, please send them to moveto3aq@scotcourtstribunals.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Eric McQueen Chief Executive