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25 October 2019

Dear Emmy Butlin

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 191022010

Thank you for your request received on 22 October 2019 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

“I would be very grateful if you provided me with the following information regarding arrangements and procedures for members of the press and members of the public attending proceedings at Belmarsh Magistrates Court:

- 1. How many Court Rooms exist**
- 2. What are specific arrangements for the Press attending a court hearing**

How many members of the press can be accommodated inside the court rooms , per court room.

What is the process they have to follow to attend the court hearing.

Can the Press live tweet during the court hearing.

Is there a ticketing system to regulate how many members of the press can attend the court hearing.

- 3. What are the specific arrangements for members of the Public attending a court hearing. Members of the public include: family members, current and former politicians, members of the press who cannot get into the area for the press due to space limitations, general public.**

How many members of the public can be accommodated inside court rooms, per court room What is the process the public has to follow to attend the court hearing. Is there a ticketing process to regulate the members of public entering the public gallery.

Can the public take notes during the court hearing.

Can the public live tweet during the court hearing.

- 4. Are there rooms at Belmarsh Magistrates Court with live feed broadcast linking up to the Court rooms where the press and or members of the public can follow court proceedings without being physically inside the court room. If yes what is their capacity.**

5. What is the area outside the court where the press and camera crews can set up and do their filming?

6. What is the area outside the court where the press and public can hear and film the Defence Lawyers making statements at the end of each day of a court hearing.

7. What are the exact arrangements the court is putting in place to accommodate the high interest among press and public in the Julian Assange US Extradition Case scheduled to be heard in February 2020.

8. There will be a high number of people who wish to await outside the court during proceedings.

Please specify the exact location where these members of the public can congregate safely.”

Your request is being handled under the FOIA.

The MoJ is required to provide you with a response within 20 working days. I will send you a response to your request by 19 November 2019.

Yours sincerely

Knowledge and Information Liaison Officer
London and South East Regional Support Unit | HM Courts & Tribunals Service