

Deb Williams  
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26 July 2019

Dear Ms Williams

**Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 190724015**

Thank you for your clarification request, received on 24 July 2019 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

**The County Court jurisdiction to hear insolvency proceedings under the Insolvency (Commencement of Proceedings) and Insolvency Rules 1986 (Amendment) Rules (S.I. 2017, No 817) is repealed.**

**The disclosure team at the Ministry of Justice have previously stated incorrectly (21.11.2017) that all (county court circuit judges, district judges, deputy district judges that only have the jurisdiction to hearing general insolvency (local business) who are not ticketed to hear specialist ticketed insolvency work such as opposed bankruptcy petitions and connected cases in the County Court Hearing Centres in the South-Eastern Circuit/ South East Region, can hear this work.**

- 1. Please confirm if this has been revoked under The Insolvency (England and Wales) Rules 2016 Schedule 1. that came into force on 6 April 2017.**
- 2. Also provide all recorded information held that confirms that The County Court hearing centres with bankruptcy jurisdiction can only hear general insolvency work.**
- 3. Please provide which courts that hear specialist ticketed insolvency work (opposed bankruptcy petitions and annulments) in the South-Eastern Circuit/ South East Region and if any County Court hearing Centres have the jurisdiction to hear this work, and if theses specialist work proceedings must be marked as Business and Property Courts Work by The County Court staff and allocated to a judge who is specially ticketed.**
- 4. Please provide the names of the specialist judges who would hear this work. And if all bankruptcy work within county court hearing Centre venues with bankruptcy jurisdiction must have 'the name of the county court hearing Centre' in its title on a County Court order, please provide the information that confirms this is correct.**
- 5. Also provide the information that confirms that all county court orders made in these hearing. Centres must state on their face if a hearing has been heard in private.**
- 6. What penalties have been imposed on petitioners and court staff who are or have been ignoring the correct rules and procedures.**

7. **State if a bankruptcy order annulment is heard by a specialist ticketed judge and in what court the hearing must take place (bankruptcy order that should never have been made because the original bankruptcy petition was opposed but heard in a county court hearing centre without jurisdiction to hear an opposed bankruptcy petition and not before a specialist ticketed judge)**

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 21 August 2019.

Yours sincerely

Knowledge Information Liaison Officer  
**London & South East Regional Support Unit**