



06/09

1 June 2009

## **Lands Tribunal replaced by specialist chamber within two-tier tribunal structure**

The Lands Tribunal was officially abolished today (1 June) and its appeal jurisdictions transferred into a new specialist chamber in the Upper Tribunal, which sits within the two-tier structure formed as part of the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act (2007).

Chief Executive of the Tribunals Service Kevin Sadler said: "The Chamber President is George Bartlett QC, head of the former Lands Tribunal. His appointment, together with the transfer of existing Lands Tribunal staff and judiciary into the new dedicated chamber, will ensure that we retain their expertise and have a smooth transition across into the two-tier structure.

"This also means that the simpler, more streamlined and unified tribunal system outlined in the 2001 Leggatt report is now one step closer to realisation. We're already well underway with the second phase of transferring tribunals across into the new two-tier structure and more tribunals - notably Charity, Information, and Asylum and Immigration - will also be moving across."

For the time being all appeals to the new Lands Chamber will be dealt with under the same rules as the former Lands Tribunal, with onward appeals from the chamber to the Court of Appeal. The Tribunals Procedure Committee, which sets the procedural rules for all tribunal jurisdictions within the unified structure, will launch a consultation on the draft rules for the Lands Chamber later this year.

For further information on the new Lands Chamber see [www.tribunals.gov.uk](http://www.tribunals.gov.uk)

**Ends**

**For further information on the Tribunals Service or to arrange an interview with a spokesperson, please contact:**

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**Notes to editors**

- The Tribunals Service provides administration and support to various tribunals throughout the UK. An executive agency of the Ministry of Justice, it was formed in 2006 to:
  1. Provide responsive, efficient administration of the tribunals;
  2. Promote and protect the independent of the judiciary;
  3. Contribute to the improvement of the quality of decision-making across government; and
  4. Reform the tribunals justice system for the benefit of its customers and the wider public.
- For further information and the latest news on the Tribunals Service, see [www.tribunals.gov.uk](http://www.tribunals.gov.uk).