

## **The UK Supreme Court (UKSC) and Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (JCPC)**

**Transparency agenda:            Organogram and datasets as at 30 June 2010**

**Attached:                            Organogram (pdf)  
Senior staff posts dataset (csv file)  
Senior salaries dataset (csv file)  
Junior staff posts dataset (csv file)**

The UK Supreme Court legally replaced the House of Lords on 1 October 2009 as the UK's final court of appeal, when the relevant provisions of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005 (CRA) were brought into force.

During the passage of the Bill for that Act, the Government gave repeated assurances to Parliament that the UKSC would be independent of Government and that its Chief Executive (and thus its administration as a whole) would be 'principally answerable to, and operate under, the day to day guidance of the President of the Supreme Court'; and that the Chief Executive 'will be accountable directly as accounting officer for the court rather than under the DCA [now Ministry of Justice] Permanent Secretary'. The Supreme Court as an administration does not form part of Her Majesty's Court Service, or of the Northern Ireland Court Service, or of the Scottish Court Service. It is not part of the Ministry of Justice and does not report to the Lord Chancellor. In essence the UKSC is a small court service in its own right; and in formal terms the administration of the institution is as a non-Ministerial Department.

Staff of the Supreme Court are civil servants who report to the Chief Executive.

To ensure that terms and conditions for staff were in place by 1 October 2009, the Chief Executive decided that Supreme Court staff would adopt the pay, grading and other conditions of service of the Ministry of Justice.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (JCPC) is the final court of appeal for the UK overseas territories and Crown dependencies, and for those Commonwealth countries that have retained the appeal to Her Majesty in Council or, in the case of Republics, to the Judicial Committee. The JCPC relocated from 9 Downing Street to the Supreme Court building in August 2009. Staff of the JCPC and UKSC provide the same administrative support to the one body of Justices in one location, using the same services and systems. However, JCPC staff are employees of the Ministry of Justice but are managed by UKSC. Consequently, it has been agreed by officials, the President of the Supreme Court and at Ministerial level that the administration and staff of the JCPC be transferred to the UKSC - a move that would allow for a much more efficient and effective use of resources. Officials are currently working towards the formal transfer taking place in January 2011. For the purposes of the transparency agenda organogram and datasets, JCPC staff have been included alongside UKSC and this has been agreed with the Ministry of Justice.

Further details about the Supreme Court and its staffing structure can be found at [www.supremecourt.gov.uk](http://www.supremecourt.gov.uk).

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