
ROLE DESCRIPTION

THE SCOTTISH TRIBUNALS: PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL REGULATORY CHAMBER OF THE FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL

The Chamber President is appointed under section 22(1) of the Tribunals (Scotland) Act 2014 and has the functions set out in that Act.

The Tribunals (Scotland) Act 2014 creates a new simplified statutory framework for tribunals in Scotland, bringing existing tribunal jurisdictions together and providing a structure for new jurisdictions. The 2014 Act creates two new tribunals, the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland and the Upper Tribunal for Scotland, known collectively as the Scottish Tribunals.

The General Regulatory Chamber was established in January 2018 when the Scottish Charity Appeals Tribunal transferred in to the Scottish Tribunals. The Chamber will be expanded when, subject to Parliamentary approval, the Parking and Bus Lane Adjudicators transfer in on 1 April 2019 and thereafter the Police Appeals Tribunal.

The Rules of Procedure for the First-tier Tribunal General Regulatory Chamber for Parking and Bus Lane Adjudicators and Police Appeals are currently being developed and the Parking and Bus Lane Adjudicator rules will be available to the Chamber President when taking up post on 1 April 2019.

Role of the Chamber President

1. The Chamber President will provide jurisdictional leadership and management of the tribunals within the Chamber. The Chamber President will maintain and develop the Chamber's reputation as independent and accessible, providing a professional and expert service.
2. The Chamber President will contribute to the strategic development of the Scottish Tribunals, supporting the Lord President and the President of the Scottish Tribunals in their statutory responsibilities.
3. The Chamber President will be responsible on a day to day basis for the judicial quality, efficiency and smooth running of the tribunals within the Chamber, reporting to the President of the Scottish Tribunals. The Chamber President will demonstrate effective oversight of operations of the tribunals and its members, liaising as appropriate with the President of the Scottish Tribunals to discuss and resolve matters of concern.

4. The Chamber President will be responsible on a day to day basis for adherence by the tribunals within the Chamber to the relevant rules of procedure.
5. The Chamber President will provide such guidance to members in relation to the discharge of duties of the tribunals as appears necessary or appropriate.
6. The Chamber President will have regard to the welfare of the members of the Chamber and ensure that any policies issued by the Judicial Office for Scotland on behalf of the Lord President in respect of welfare are adhered to.
7. The Chamber President will represent the Chamber at conferences, official functions and other meetings.
8. The Chamber President will manage and develop appropriate arrangements for the specialist training of members and adhere to any arrangements the Lord President has put in place for the training of members of the Scottish Tribunals.
9. The Chamber President is responsible for ensuring members' continuous professional development, the maintenance of judicial standards and the securing and maintenance of public confidence in its work.
10. The Chamber President will submit a report to the President of the Scottish Tribunals, in April or May each year, explaining how each tribunal has exercised its functions during the financial year. This will be for inclusion in the Scottish Tribunals Annual Report, which will be published by the President of the Scottish Tribunals in accordance with her statutory responsibility.

Time Commitment

The time commitment will vary depending on the work of the Chamber, but is expected to be around 30 - 40 days per year, which will be kept under review.

Fees and Expenses

The fee is £470 per day. Travel and subsistence expenses will also be met.

Period of appointment

The appointment is due to commence on 1 April 2019 and is for an initial period of 5 years. By virtue of paragraph 4 of schedule 7 of the 2014 Act the Chamber President will be automatically re-appointed on a 5-yearly basis, unless one of the conditions listed in paragraph 4(3) of schedule 7 applies. These conditions include:

- The Chamber President has declined to be reappointed; or
- The Chamber President is ineligible for reappointment; or

- The President of the Scottish Tribunals has recommended to the Scottish Ministers that the Chamber President should not be reappointed.

Schedule 7 paragraph 6 of the 2014 Act also applies where the President of the Scottish Tribunals may recommend that a member is not re-appointed if:

- The Chamber President has failed to comply with any of the relevant terms and conditions of membership or any other requirement imposed on members under the 2014 Act; or
- The Scottish Tribunals no longer require a member with the qualifications, experience and training of the Chamber President; or
- The Scottish Tribunals no longer requires the same number of members for the efficient disposal of its business.

Pursuant to section 26 of the Judicial Pensions and Retirement Act 1993, the appointment will end on the day on which the Chamber President attains the age of 70, except where the Scottish Ministers determine that it is desirable in the public interest to extend the period in office for a period not exceeding one year at a time and not extending beyond the date on which the Chamber President reaches the age of 75.

Relevant legislation

The Tribunals (Scotland) Act 2014 is available [here](#).