



# Government Legal Department

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Your ref: CO/569/2018

Our ref: Z1710890/AHN/B4

21<sup>st</sup> February 2018

Dear Sirs

## ***R (oao Robert Manson ) v the Attorney General CO/569/2018***

We write further to the order by Yvonne Jacobs-Jones, Administrative Court Office Senior Legal Manager, dated 9 February 2018 ("the Order"). The Order indicated that, pursuant to CPR PD 54D5.2, the Court was "*minded to transfer this case to the Administrative Court in Cardiff for administration and hearing in Cardiff*".

Paragraph 2 of the Order directed that the parties have liberty to indicate opposition to the transfer by way of written submissions. On 16 February 2018 we wrote to the Court, confirming that the Government Legal Department is acting for the Defendant (the Attorney General) and indicating that it would be lodging submissions opposing the transfer.

With reference to the considerations set out in 54DPD.5.2, the Defendant opposes the transfer of this case to the Administrative Court in Cardiff for the following reasons:

1. The claim concerns central government policy and decisions made in London. It has no particular connection to Wales.
2. Both the Defendant and the Interested Party are based in London.
3. The Attorney General is represented by solicitors and counsel (including First Treasury Counsel James Eadie QC) who are based in London.
4. It would be more proportionate (both in terms of time and costs) for the Claimant as an individual to travel to London than for a relatively large team of civil servants and lawyers to travel to Cardiff for any hearings.

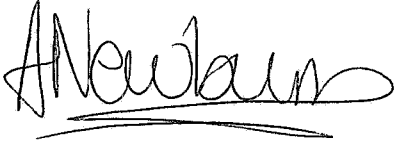
Sarah Goom - Head of Division

Elizabeth Mackie / Lorna Robertson - Deputy Directors, Team Leaders Litigation B4



5. Insofar as this case attracts any media interest, this is likely to be primarily national media and London is a more appropriate location.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Newburn', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Ashley Newburn  
For the Treasury Solicitor**

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