

Supreme Court

Guidance issued in respect of Statutory Practice Direction SC 19

Revised Acts and Electronic filing

1. The detailed requirements for the format and contents of books of authorities are set out in paragraph 23 of Statutory Practice Direction SC 19 (“SC 19”). Where statutory provisions are required to be included in the books of authorities for a particular appeal the attention of parties is drawn to the availability of Revised Acts on the Law Reform Commission’s website at <https://revisedacts.lawreform.ie/revacts/intro>. The Revised Acts are useful and should be used where available. In any case in which the nature of the change or the development in the law is in controversy it may be appropriate to include the original act or provision but where there is no dispute it is appropriate and preferable to include the revised act.
2. Parties are reminded of their obligation to constructively engage with each other to agree only materials which genuinely require to be included in the books of appeal including in the books of authorities. Parties are also reminded generally that it is only necessary to include materials in the booklets of authorities which are relied on in the substance of the written submissions and/or which may be referred to in oral argument. It is not necessary that all authorities which are merely referred to in written submissions should be included. Parties are further reminded that where a case has been reported in the official reports only the reported version (photocopy or pdf) should be included in the books (per paragraph 23(a)(iii) of SC 19).
3. In the compilation of electronic copies of booklets of appeal and application for leave booklets to be filed in compliance with the provisions of SC 19 parties should utilise hypertext links and/or bookmarks in the indices of such booklets.
4. In respect of the electronic filing and issuing of documents provided for in paragraph 32 of SC 19 and where the Supreme Court e-filing system is not used, any document which is sent electronically to the Office should comply with the provisions of SC 19 and may be filed by email attachment once an original copy of the document is also filed in the Office with the appropriate stamp fee, where one is payable. Where time is limited for the filing of any document sent electronically the date and time of filing will be deemed to be the date and time of the confirmation of filing sent by the Office by email assuming that the original copy of the document is subsequently filed in the Office with any stamp fee payable.

July, 2024