



Scottish  
Civil Justice  
Council

## RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

For the Call for Evidence on Modes of Attendance Rules.

Please note **this form must be completed** and returned with your response.

### Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

☐ INDIVIDUAL

☐ ORGANISATION

### Your details:

Your full name or your organisation's name:

Phone number:

Address:

Postcode:

Email Address:

### Your views on the publication of your response

Please indicate your preferences with regard to the publication of your response:

☐ Publish response with name

☐ Publish response only (without name)

☐ Do not publish response

## *Respondent Information Form*

### **Providing your response**

If you have chosen to provide a separate written response, then please complete the first page of this Respondent Information Form and attach it to your response.

If you wish to include your responses within this Respondent Information Form, please insert your responses to each consultation question in the (expandable) boxes below:

**Question 1 – Is there sufficient guidance and clarity in the rules about holding a court hearing either in-person, virtually or by hybrid means? If not, what would be helpful?**

**Question 2 - Is the process for requesting a change to the mode of attendance straight forward or too complicated? If so, what would be helpful?**

**Question 3 – With procedural business defaulting to being virtual, has this approach worked or has it been problematic or caused confusion?**

**Question 4 – Has there been or is there confusion about what a procedural hearing is and what is not?**

**Question 5 – Have virtual hearings had a positive or negative impact on access to justice?**

*Respondent Information Form*

**Question 6 – Have virtual hearings had a positive or negative impact on open justice?**

**Question 7 - Have you attended a court hearing by telephone? If so, can you provide feedback on your experience of attending a court in this way?**

**Question 8 - How do you find the WebEx platform for conducting virtual hearings and are there any improvements you would like to see?**

**Question 9 – Should more use be made of hybrid hearings and if so, how do you envisage these working? By hybrid hearings we mean a hearing where the judge or sheriff is sitting in court, with the potential for everyone to attend in person, and one or more other participants attend remotely. Does it matter who is attending remotely (eg lawyer, witness, party)?**

**Question 10 - Did you encounter any technical difficulties during a virtual hearing or a hybrid hearing? If so, can you provide details on how the issue was resolved and if you were able to meaningfully participate?**

*Respondent Information Form*

**Question 11 - Overall do you support virtual attendance at court or do you feel that more civil business should return to being held in person? Please give reasons for your answer.**