

The Numbering of Commissioners' and Upper Tribunal (AAC) Decisions

Commissioners' decisions

In Great Britain, all Commissioners' cases (1948 to 2008) have file numbers beginning with "C" eg CDLA/3466/2000. Scottish cases are identified by an "S" after the "C": eg CSDLA/646/1999. When there was a separate Commissioners' office in Wales, Welsh cases were identified by a "W" after the "C". The other letters indicate the type of case, generally by reference to the benefit under consideration.

The first set of numbers represents the individual file number. There are separate series of numbers for each of the London and Edinburgh offices. Until 1994, there were also separate series for each type of case but now there is a single series for each year in each of the offices (although, in London, there was a single series for 1995 and 1996). The final digits identify the year in which the file was opened at the Commissioners' office.

Commissioners' decisions should be cited by file number unless reported (see below).

Administrative Appeals Chamber decisions

Decisions of the AAC (from 3 November 2008) have file numbers in similar form to Commissioners' decisions. The "C" has been retained for appeals from the Social Entitlement Chamber and War Pensions and Armed Forces Compensation Chamber of the First-tier Tribunal. Different letters are used for other jurisdictions, eg "M" for mental health.

Neutral Citation Numbers

Note: any decision made on or after 3 November 2008 may be given an official neutral citation number (NCN) as set out in the [Senior President's Practice Statement](#) dated 31 October 2008.

eg [2009] UKUT 122 (AAC)

In practice neutral citation numbers are given to all decisions of Upper Tribunal judges published on the website.

From 1 January 2010, a flag is added to the name of published AAC social entitlement and SEN cases to indicate the subject matter. In benefit cases, this indicates the type of benefit in issue.

eg *London Borough of Bexley v LD (HB)* [2010] UKUT 79 (AAC)

AAC decisions should be cited by name (with flag) and NCN as in the example above.

Where a publisher or party to a case wishes to cite an unpublished case, we would strongly encourage them to [contact us](#) to request publication and the issue of an NCN.

Reported decisions

1948 to 2009

When a Commissioner's or AAC decision is selected for reporting it is given a new number. For Commissioners' decisions and for AAC decisions reported in 2009, that number began with an "R": e.g., CDLA/3466/2000 is reported as R(DLA) 6/02. The letters in brackets again identify the type of case. Scottish decisions are not expressly identified as such. Until 1999, the final digits identified the year in which the decision was selected for reporting. From 1999 they identified the year in which the decision was first published as a reported decision.

In Northern Ireland, the letters identifying the type of case always appear in brackets after the numbers and, since 1999, the file number has been based on a financial year rather than a calendar year. Thus, C72/98(IB) was the number of the decision reported as R 2/00 (IB). C3/01-02(IS) was the number of the decision reported as R 1/02 (IS). The letters themselves are based on the official abbreviation used by the Department for Social Development and its predecessors for the relevant benefit and so they are not always the same as the ones used in Great Britain. A "T" in brackets after the file number or reported number indicates a decision of a Tribunal of Northern Ireland Commissioners.

Once a Commissioner's or AAC decision has been reported in this series, it should be cited by its "R" number.

Administrative Appeals Chamber Reports from 2010

From January 2010 reported AAC decisions in both Great Britain and Northern Ireland are numbered consecutively in a single series: [2010] AACR 1 etc. Cases should be cited by name (with flag), NCN and AACR number

eg *KS v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions (JSA)* [2009] UKUT 122 (AAC); [2010] AACR 3.