

The United Kingdom Council on Tribunals' Report 'Model Rules of Procedure for Tribunals' was published in March 1991. The Council is concerned with Tribunal performance, among other matters, and has produced this report as part of its continuing attempt to standardise just and fair rules of procedures for the large number and diversity of administrative tribunals operating in the United Kingdom. The report is designed to provide a comprehensive collection of model procedural rules for use by government departments and by tribunals engaged in drafting or amending tribunal rules. The report considers

- rules aimed primarily at applicants or appellants
- rules to ensure that tribunals provide guidance
- rules which provide tribunals with all necessary powers, and

- general considerations.

The report annexes a set of model tribunal rules assuming the following elements to be essential:

Tribunals should

- have sufficient power to establish the facts
- be able to adapt their procedure to each case
- be able to decide each case expeditiously and efficiently, and
- be able to correct mistakes.

Applicants who come to tribunals should

- be aware of their rights and how the proceedings will develop
- have a simple means of invoking the tribunal
- have a full opportunity to put their own cases and know their opponent's case
- have fears and ignorance concerning the procedures of the tribunal dispelled, and
- have a right to receive reasons for decisions.

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