



Administrative Appeals Tribunal

11 November 2022

Via email

Dear Colleagues,

Revised Migration & Refugee Division Practice Direction

I am writing to seek your feedback on the revised [Migration and Refugee Division Practice Direction](#). The Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) has revised this Practice Direction to reflect the current operating environment and has taken the opportunity to incorporate aspects of both the [COVID-19 Special Measures Practice Direction – Migration and Refugee Division](#) and the existing [Migration and Refugee Matters Practice Direction](#).

Among the proposed revisions, the new draft Practice Direction includes new requirements and directions that we welcome your feedback on:

- In lieu of the existing requirement to provide all relevant evidence and claims within 14 days of lodgement, applicants and representatives will be required to submit a 'Statement of facts, issues, and contentions' within 14 days of lodging a review application.
- Representatives will now be required to give the AAT contact details for the applicant in addition to their own, and these contact details must not be the same.
- The Practice Direction introduces the case management hearing. This was referred to as a case conference or directions hearing in the COVID-19 Special Measures Practice Direction.
- The draft Practice Direction sets out high level considerations the Tribunal will take into account when determining which hearing method to use.
- The draft practice direction also sets out which directions and procedures the Tribunal considers must be complied with, which directions and procedures the Tribunal considers good practice, and which directions and procedures applicants and representatives can comply with if they wish.

We welcome your feedback on the revised Practice Direction. Please provide any feedback or comments to externalconsultation@aat.gov.au by 2 December 2022. We hope to settle and publish the document early next year, with the Direction likely coming into effect from February 2023.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jan Redfern', with a small flourish at the end.

Jan Redfern
Deputy President
Migration & Refugee Division