



glasgow bar association
established 1959

Room 1.29
Glasgow Sheriff Court
1 Carlton Place,
Glasgow
G5 9DA

25th June 2020

Dear Member,

Child Welfare Hearings Update for Glasgow Sheriff Court

Arising from the reintroduction of family business at Glasgow Sheriff Court, we have received confirmation that until further notice, Child Welfare Hearings will be conducted by telephone conference between the Agents for the parties and the Sheriff. The parties will not be conferenced into these calls. However, we are advised that Sheriff Mackie has no objection to parties participating in these Hearings remotely, in a way which is agreed between them and their Agent.

This can be done either with your client being personally present with you when the telephone conference is being undertaken, if for instance you are in your office, (subject to Government Guidance being followed re social distancing), or by other remote means such as video/telephone between solicitor and client with the telephone conference on loudspeaker. As these remain private hearings, the conference should not be recorded or the contents divulged without the prior written permission of the Court. We anticipate that Contempt proceedings are likely to be brought for those breaching the privacy of same.

The following will be within interlocutors assigning child welfare hearings, with some now having been issued :-

“Dispenses with the attendance of the parties (although each may be in attendance with their respective agents, unless such attendance would be in contravention of any public health restrictions which may be in operation on the date of said hearing).”

We trust that this information will be of assistance to you in preparing for and conducting these hearings.

Kind regards,

The Office Bearers of the Executive Committee of the Glasgow Bar Association