

SUPREME COURT OF TASMANIA

CIRCULAR TO PRACTITIONERS

No 13 of 2017

27 October 2017

CRIMINAL LIST CALLOVER - NOVEMBER 2017

1. During November 2017 a call-over of the pending criminal list will be conducted by Acting Justice Martin in relation to matters in which the committal order is more than 12 months' old.
2. The intention of the callover is to assist in addressing the backlog currently experienced in the criminal list, and improve the efficient management of matters in the future.
3. Distinct days will be set aside for comprehensive directions hearings. It will not be necessary for accused persons to attend, although arrangements can be made for them to be present if they wish. Accused persons in custody will be able to attend by videolink.
4. At those directions hearings all counsel will be expected to be sufficiently informed to advise the Court when their matters will be ready to proceed. Amongst other things, counsel should be in a position to address the court in relation to:
 - a. the status of each matter,
 - b. whether preliminary proceedings applications will be filed,
 - c. whether reports or expert evidence are required,
 - d. whether there is a realistic chance the matter will resolve,
 - e. any foreseeable issues which will potentially cause delay;
 - f. the availability of counsel and witnesses in the first 6 months of 2018.

5. The dates on which these directions hearings will occur are:
 - Monday 13 November 2017 : Burnie cases (by videolink from Hobart)
 - Tuesday 14 November 2017 : Hobart cases
 - Wednesday 15 November 2017: Hobart cases
 - Thursday 16 November 2017 : Launceston cases
 - Friday 17 November 2017 : sittings in Launceston and Hobart, Martin AJ will be available for any matters adjourned from the callover earlier that week.
6. Counsel will be notified in advance of the specific matters listed for directions hearings, and are requested to advise the Acting Judge's Associate immediately on ChambersActingJudges@supremecourt.tas.gov.au if they are unavailable on any of those dates. Any counsel who wish to attend the Ceremonial Sitting of the Court on 16 November 2017 should advise the Judge's Associate to enable listings to be arranged accordingly.
7. When counsel have matters pending in more than one registry location, arrangements will be made for all Directions Hearings involving that counsel to be listed in a single registry location on a single date.
8. Further Directions Hearings on subsequent dates may be listed in individual matters as considered appropriate for the case management of the matter.
9. It is likely that dates for pleas and trials will be allocated at the callovers. All counsel should be fully instructed as to the matters relevant to the fixing of such dates.

J A Connolly
REGISTRAR