

Finding Commissioners' decisions

What decisions are on the OSSCSC database?

The decisions database contains nearly 2000 Great Britain Commissioners' decisions on social security, housing benefit, council tax benefit, tax credits, child support, war pensions and armed forces compensation.

Most of them are decisions issued since 2001. They are only a small proportion of decisions issued on cases and are selected by individual Commissioners from among their own cases as being of general interest. An Editorial Board meets every three months to identify which of these cases are of particular interest or importance, and those are then flagged up on the site as [Highlighted Decisions](#).

The Northern Ireland Commissioners have their own [Decisions Database](#).

Reported decisions

Decisions selected by the Editorial Board as of more enduring importance are published in our reported series. These include many decisions of higher courts on appeal from Commissioners. All reported decisions from 1991 to date are on the database and the latest additions are flagged up on the site as [List of the latest reported decisions with keywords and links](#).

- [Criteria for reporting](#)
- [Subject index to Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported so far in 2006](#) (PDF 10KB)
- [Subject index to Great Britain and Northern Ireland decisions reported in 2001–2006](#) (PDF 154KB)
- [Subject index to Great Britain and Northern Ireland decisions reported so far in 2007](#)
- [List of cases reported 2001–2006](#) (PDF 23KB)
- [Guide to how decisions are numbered](#) (PDF 19KB).

Older decisions

The search engine includes all [reported](#) Commissioners' decisions from 1991 to date.

You can also browse scrollable pages setting out the '[starred](#)' decisions from 1990 to 1999. The practice of starring has now been discontinued. There are links to many of these decisions, but they are not on the search engine.

- [Subject list of all cases reported 1991 – 2000](#)
- [Simple list of all cases reported 1991 – 2000](#)

- [Starred decisions](#)

Earlier decisions (1948 to 1989) are mostly not available in electronic form.

Obtaining decisions not on the database

If the decision is available in electronic format, you can

- try the [database of decisions held on the rightsnet website](#)
- request it from our Office by email.

If you think it would be useful for the decision to be on the database [let us know](#).

If the decision is available only in paper format, you can request it from our Office by post

- [Obtaining decisions from the Commissioners' Office](#)

Reported decisions from 1948 to date are also published in book form and may be found in some large public reference libraries. They are currently published in an annual volume in June for the previous calendar year.