

The Numbering of Commissioners' and Upper Tribunal Decisions

In Great Britain, all Commissioners' and Upper Tribunal decisions have file numbers beginning with "C" eg CDLA/3466/2000. Scottish cases are identified by an "S" after the "C": eg CSDLA/646/1999. When there was a separate Commissioners' office in Wales, Welsh cases were identified by a "W" after the "C". The other letters indicate the type of case, generally by reference to the benefit under consideration.

The first set of numbers represents the individual file number. There are separate series of numbers for each of the London and Edinburgh offices. Until 1994, there were also separate series for each type of case but now there is a single series for each year in each of the offices (although, in London, there was a single series for 1995 and 1996). The final digits identify the year in which the file was opened at the Commissioners' office.

Categorisation by benefit etc

The following letters are, or have been, allocated to indicate the type of case:

A	Attendance allowance
AF	War pensions and the armed and reserve forces compensation scheme
CR	Compensation recovery
CS	Child support
CTF	Child trust fund
DLA	Disability living allowance
DWA	Disability working allowance
F	Family allowance (now child benefit)
FC	Family credit
FG	Forfeiture – general (bereavement benefit and widow's benefit)
FP	Forfeiture – pension (retirement pension)
G	General (bereavement benefit, carer's allowance, child's special allowance, death grant, guardian's allowance, invalid care allowance, maternity benefit and widow's benefit, including forfeiture cases before 2003)
H	Housing benefit and council tax benefit
HR	Home responsibilities protection
I	Industrial accidents and diseases and industrial injuries benefits (injury benefit, disablement benefit, reduced earnings allowance and industrial death benefit)
IB	Incapacity benefit
IS	Income support and social fund payments
JSA	Jobseeker's allowance

M	Mobility allowance
P	Pension (retirement pension, including forfeiture cases before 2003)
PC	Pension credit
S	Sickness benefit, invalidity benefit, severe disablement allowance
SB	Supplementary benefit
SSP	Statutory sick pay
TC	Tax credits
U	Unemployment benefit

Neutral Citation Numbers

Note: any decision made on or after 3 November 2008 may be given an official neutral citation number as set out in the [Senior President's Practice Statement](#) dated 31 October 2008. In practice neutral citation numbers are given to all decisions of Upper Tribunal judges published on this website. It is likely that neutral citation numbers will replace 'R' numbers (see below) for decisions of the Upper Tribunal selected for reporting.

Reported Commissioners' decisions

When a Commissioner's decision is selected for reporting it is given a new number beginning with an "R": e.g., CDLA/3466/2000 is reported as R(DLA) 6/02. The letters in brackets again identify the type of case. Scottish decisions are not expressly identified as such. Until 1999, the final digits identified the year in which the decision was selected for reporting. They now identify the year in which the decision was first published as a reported decision.

In Northern Ireland, the letters identifying the type of case always appear in brackets after the numbers and, since 1999, the file number has been based on a financial year rather than a calendar year. Thus, C72/98(IB) was the number of the decision reported as R 2/00 (IB). C3/01-02(IS) was the number of the decision reported as R 1/02 (IS). The letters themselves are based on the official abbreviation used by the Department for Social Development and its predecessors for the relevant benefit and so they are not always the same as the ones used in Great Britain. A "T" in brackets after the file number or reported number indicates a decision of a Tribunal of Northern Ireland Commissioners.

Starred decisions

From 1987 (following the Practice Memorandum issued by the Chief Commissioner on 31.3.87) until 2001 certain decisions were selected each year and given a 'star' number: for example, CIS/1077/1999 had the further reference *3/01. The practice has now been discontinued, and starred numbers should not be used in citing decisions.