

Petition Advertisement

Advertisement of the Trustee's Petition was published in the Times newspaper on 23 March 2020. In terms of the current court order the 21 day period for lodging Answers commenced on that date.

In light of current circumstances and in recognition of the difficulties being faced by everyone, including the industry, an application has been made to the court to extend the period for lodging Answers from 21 days to 35 days but as the courts are only dealing with essential business we do not know if or when this will be dealt with. In order to deal with this uncertainty we commit to the following:-

1. We will proceed on the assumption that in due course the court will grant the application to extend the period for answers to 35 days (i.e. to 27 APRIL 2020).
2. We will not take any substantive steps to progress the Petition until expiry of the 35 day period at the earliest
3. Anyone wishing to lodge Answers should, in addition to sending these to the court, email a copy to our solicitors (e.litigation@pinsentmasons.com)
4. At the point of progressing the Petition our solicitors will draw to the attention of the court any Answers which have been submitted to them (sent to the email address above) within the 35 day period and, should the court have not already granted an extension of the period for Answers, we will ask that any such Answers be treated by the court as though received within the original 21 day period, whether or not anyone lodging any such Answers has also asked the court for permission for them to be received late.

We hope that this will be of assistance to anyone considering their position in relation to the Petition. We will continue to monitor the position, including in relation to the availability for the court to deal with the Petition and will post any further updates in due course.

26 March 2020