

POLICY STATEMENT

CRITERIA FOR CLASSIFYING 25-40 DAY CASES AS VHCCs

The criteria to be used to identify potential VHCCs of cases with trial estimates of no fewer than 25 days and no more than 40 days will be:

- a) Terrorism cases
- b) SFO prosecutions
- c) Any two of:
 - At least 10,000 pages of prosecution evidence
 - At least 10,000 pages of unused or third party material
 - More than five defendants
 - Fraud or serious drugs cases where the value of the fraud or drugs exceeds £1m

In addition the LSC will have discretion, to be exercised in exceptional circumstances, not to contract a case meeting these criteria where the LSC believes that it would not be appropriate to do so.

These criteria will be included in the final panel members' and advocates' contracts and will be included in the General Criminal Contract at the earliest opportunity.