

CIRCULAR TO ALL CHAMBERS

13 July 2021

Circ. 9 of 2021

USE OF FACEMASKS IN COURT

- Further to Circular 6 of 2021 court users are reminded that whilst at present the use of face masks in courtrooms is not mandatory, paragraph 3 of Practice Direction 2 of 2021 allows a Judge, Presiding Magistrate or Coroner, to require their use if there is good reason.
- 2. With the increased prevalence of Covid-19 in our community, the use of masks will be considered by judges on a case by case basis, taking particular account of the number of persons which it is anticipated are likely to be present or are actually present in the courtroom. Where possible, notification of the requirement to wear masks will be given beforehand, but lawyers and parties are urged to have a face mask at their disposal at all times when attending court.

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H Cumbo (Ms) Chief Executive