



DECISION REGARDING NOTICE OF APPEAL

1. A notice of appeal has been received by the Tribunal from Mr William Thackeray dated 29th April 2010 against a Decision Notice issued by the Information Commissioner (the 'Commissioner'), FS50284021.
2. Under Rule 22(2) of the Tribunal Procedure (First-tier) Tribunal (General Regulatory Chamber) Rules 2009 (the 'Rules'), a notice of appeal must include, inter alia,
 - (a) the name and address of the appellant; and
 - (c) an address where documents for the appellant may be sent or delivered;
3. Mr Thackeray's notice of appeal contains his name and an e-mail address, not a postal address. He submits that this e-mail address is sufficient to meet the requirement under Rule 22(2)(a) and (c). In support, he argues that this was considered sufficient in two previous appeals lodged by him that have been dealt with by the Tribunal.
4. Mr Thackeray has refused to provide a postal address citing fears of harassment. Despite assurances from the Information Rights Team Leader, he does not accept that the Tribunal is able to maintain confidentiality of this information.
5. I acknowledge that Mr Thackeray is not legally represented and I am not in a position to make any finding regarding his fears of harassment save to observe that this Tribunal handles large amounts of confidential information on a regular basis. I also accept that previous cases have been conducted without difficulty. In interpreting Rule 22 I have had

regard to the overriding objective in Rule 2 and I am satisfied that Rule 22 (a) and (c) require a postal address to be provided. While other methods for the delivery of documents can be provided for pursuant to Rule 13, there may be issues as to confidentiality which means such a method of delivery is unacceptable to a party in a particular instance. Additionally, although not necessarily relevant in this particular case, there may be a case where an order for costs is made but is unenforceable because no postal address has been provided.

6. In the absence of the information required by Rule 22, I am not satisfied that the notice of appeal is valid and therefore I do not admit the notice of appeal.

Appeal

7. If Mr Thackeray wishes to seek permission to appeal against this decision, he must make a written application to the Tribunal for permission to appeal within 28 days of the date of this decision. Such an application must identify the error or errors of law in the decision and state the result the party is seeking. Relevant forms and guidance for making an application can be found on the Tribunal's website at www.informationtribunal.gov.uk.



Annabel Pilling
Judge

21 June 2010