

**REPORT ON TCC BUSINESS 2021**

1. There has been an increase in the number of claims issued in the London TCC over the last 5 years (figures awaited for the TCC outside London for the purpose of the annual report):

Year	Number of claims
2016-2017	378
2017-2018	429
2018-2019	446
2019-2020	487
2020-2021	521

2. This has been accompanied by increases in the number of applications and procedural issues dealt with electronically through CE-file.

3. Despite the increase in workload, challenges created by lockdowns and restrictions, and no increase in judicial resources, the TCC has continued to hear all trials and application hearings as listed (with one exception, where a short trial was adjourned for two months last term due to a shortage of judges).

4. TCC work continues to cover a broad spectrum – building and engineering disputes account for the largest element of work, together with disputes concerning computer and IT infrastructure systems and energy projects.

5. There has been a significant increase in adjudication claims (the number has almost doubled over the last two years). The lower value claims are transferred to Central London County Court to ensure an early hearing.

6. Procurement claims continue to keep the court busy, including challenges arising out of procurement during the pandemic. The ability of the TCC to offer early hearing dates, with an expedited timetable where appropriate, has resulted in a number of procurement hearings settling.

7. There has been a steady flow of claims concerning cladding defects and other fire protection issues in respect of residential, commercial and public developments. So far, the larger claims have settled before trial.

8. The TCC is very grateful to the deputies who provide invaluable support, hearing the shorter trials and adjudication enforcement work, together with assistance in dealing with the Friday procedural lists.

Mrs Justice O'Farrell DBE  
Judge in Charge, Technology and Construction Court