

## **Deputy High Court 2018 - Skills and Abilities**

### **The role**

High Court work is fundamentally important to parties and to society. After a period of preparation, those who sit in the High Court deal with the most complex and high-profile cases. These require skilled management of matters of important legal principle and of issues of wide significance at the cutting edge of the law.

### **Skills and abilities**

The skills and abilities of a Deputy High Court Judge are grouped into three areas:

#### **Legal and judicial skills**

- Exceptional intellect.
- Analysis of complex issues, reaching clear reasoned decisions.
- Expertise in one or more areas of law, and, if unfamiliar, mastering it fast.
- Grasp of what underpins a fair hearing.

#### **Personal qualities**

- Integrity and independence of mind.
- Resilience and calm under pressure.
- Attentive listener, clear communicator.
- Courteously authoritative in court even in complex and demanding situations.
- Understanding and treating fairly, different communities.

#### **Working Effectively**

- A team player, seeking and offering candid advice when needed.
- Efficiently despatching business, including by supporting staff.
- Supporting change throughout the judiciary.
- Aware of the role of the judge in twenty-first century society.