

## **Widows/ Widowers Pension for Life – Update 01/12/22**

The Appeal against the original decision of Mr Justice Fordham was heard by the Court of Appeal on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

The Appeal Hearing was streamed live, via the Court of Appeal's Website and YouTube. The Appeal was heard by two Lord Justices and a Lady Justice of Appeal, Lady Justice Asplin, Lord Justice Peter Jackson and Lord Justice Bean

NARPO and the three Claimants bringing the Appeal, were represented in Court by Professor Conor Gearty KC. At the end of the Hearing, Lord Justice Bean informed all of the parties present in Court and the public, that because of the importance of the issues in the Appeal, the Court would not be formally delivering their Judgment. Instead,, Judgment has been reserved

When the Court have written their Judgment they will distribute a draft to the legal parties. The legal parties will have time to consider and reflect on the Judgment. At the appropriate time, the Court will then give date for when the Judgment is formally handed down and at that stage, available to the public.

However, we cannot give any estimate as to when the Judgment is likely to be handed down. Our hope would be that the Justices of Appeal are able to prepare their written decision before Christmas. However, in all of the circumstances, and no doubt particularly having regard to all of the other commitments placed on the Justices, it is more likely that Judgment will be handed down in this Appeal, sometime in January 2023.

This is also on our website, along with the link to view the recording of the Hearing- <https://www.narpo.org/widows-pension-life/>

Regards  
Alan Lees (CEO NARPO)