

## Probate work moves to courts and tribunals service centre

People applying for grants of probate online will now have their cases dealt with by trained experts located at a regional centre.

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## New technologies for manufacturing drugs: apply for funding

New drugs and therapies that meet the needs of individual patients have the potential to revolutionise healthcare in the UK. Manufacturing these new drugs and getting them to the patient at the right time is a significant challenge for UK businesses.

The UK Government's Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF) Leading-edge Healthcare Challenge is investing £181 million to speed up the development of these new medicines and get them to patients.

A large part of this investment is in facilities to improve the UK's ability to manufacture new drugs and treatments. Innovate UK, as part of UK Research and Innovation, has up to £3.7 million from the fund to invest in projects developing new technologies that will support the commercial manufacture of new drugs.

### **Projects must focus on advanced therapies**

Projects must focus on gene therapy, engineered tissue or cell therapy and work with standards bodies such as [National Physical Laboratory](#), the [LGC Group](#) (formerly Laboratory of the Government Chemist), [BSI](#) (British Standards Institution).

They should use external technology to look at ways of improving process mechanisation that will support the commercial manufacture of the new drugs and therapies they have developed.

Projects must show how they will increase productivity, competitiveness, capability or growth for at least one of the UK businesses involved.

### **Competition information**

- the competition opens on 27 August 2019, and the deadline for applications is at midday on 25 September 2019
- businesses of any size may apply
- we expect projects to range in size between £1 million and £2 million

- a briefing event will be held on 3 September 2019
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## **Probate work moves to courts and tribunals service centre**

- User satisfaction for online service at 92%
- All digital probate work now to be managed at service centre
- Birmingham Probate Registry to close on 31 August 2019

Following the launch of the digital probate service in July 2018, more than 20,000 applications have been received with user satisfaction at 92%.

The Birmingham Courts and Tribunal Service Centre will now process all online applications, while new paper applications received by post will be redirected to the Newcastle Registry Office.

The existing probate registry based at the Priory Courts in Birmingham will close on 31st August 2019 and all affected staff have been redeployed within HM Courts and Tribunals Service.

Service centres are being set up as part of a £1 billion reform programme delivered by HMCTS. These bring trained expertise together under one roof and use technology to solve queries more efficiently.

New paper cases can now be sent to Newcastle District Probate Registry, No 1 Waterloo Square, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, NE1 4DR. People wishing to hand-deliver paper copies or documents in Birmingham will still be able to do this at the old Birmingham registry, at The Priory Courts, 33 Bull Street, B4 6DU.

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## **ESFA Update: 14 August 2019**

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