Papers Laid > Papers Index

Potential improvements to the conversion process

Punctuation

1. The Papers Index needs full stops at the end of the entry for each paper / group of papers.  
   Done

Papers laid on non-sitting days (this is the issue we’ve already discussed)

1. At the moment the date given for all papers is the date the paper was laid. This doesn’t work in the Index for papers laid on non-sitting days – for these papers we need the date of the next sitting day, which is when the record of the paper having been laid appears in the Journal.  
   I think this is fixed

Reformatting recurring categories of papers and combining entries

1. The extraction process currently works well at combining entries for Orders and Regulations. There are some other types of documents that could be usefully combined but which aren’t picked up at the moment. For all of these types of papers it would be useful if even single occurrences were reformatted (e.g. so Civil Procedure (Amendment) Rules, 3 Feb 2017 would appear even on its own as Rules: 2017: Civil Procedure (Amendment), 3 Feb 2017).
   1. Entries for Rules.

For example, this list under Senior Courts of England and Wales:

Civil Procedure (Amendment No. 2) Rules, 7 Jul 2016.

Civil Procedure (Amendment No. 3) Rules, 21 Jul 2016.

Civil Procedure (Amendment) Rules, 3 Feb 2017.

Criminal Procedure (Amendment No. 2) Rules, 10 Mar 2017.

Criminal Procedure (Amendment No. 2) Rules, 7 Jul 2016.

Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Rules, 16 Feb 2017.

Would ideally be combined into this:

Rules: 2016: Civil Procedure (Amendment No. 2), 7 Jul 2016; Civil Procedure (Amendment No. 3), 21 Jul 2016; Criminal Procedure (Amendment No. 2), 7 Jul 2016.

Rules: 2017: Civil Procedure (Amendment), 3 Feb 2017; Criminal Procedure (Amendment), 16 Feb 2017; Criminal Procedure (Amendment No. 2), 10 Mar 2017.

* 1. Entries for Northern Ireland Regulations.  
     There seem to be more than you have listed here…



For example, this list under Social Security:

Benefit Cap (Housing Benefit and Universal Credit) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 17 Oct 2016.

Employment and Support Allowance (Consequential Amendments and Transitional and Savings Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 14 Mar 2017.

Employment and Support Allowance (Exempt Work & Hardship Amounts) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 14 Mar 2017.

Employment and Support Allowance (Sanctions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 13 Jun 2016.

Would ideally be combined into this:

Regulations (Northern Ireland): 2016: Benefit Cap (Housing Benefit and Universal Credit) (Amendment), 17 Oct 2016; Employment and Support Allowance (Exempt Work & Hardship Amounts) (Amendment), 14 Mar 2017.

Regulations (Northern Ireland): 2017: Employment and Support Allowance (Consequential Amendments and Transitional and Savings Provisions), 14 Mar 2017.

* 1. Entries for Orders in Council.  
     Done (for that example at least)



For example, this list under Health Care and Associated Professions:

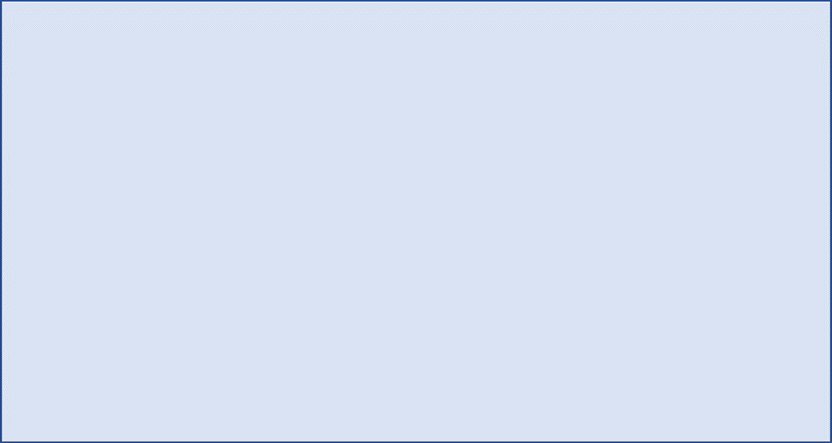
General Dental Council (Fitness to Practise) (Amendment) Rules Order of Council, 13 Sep 2016.

Health and Care Professions Council (Miscellaneous Amendments) Rules Order of Council, 1 Jul 2016.

Would ideally be combined into this:

Orders of Council: 2016: General Dental Council (Fitness to Practise) (Amendment) Rules, 13 Sep 2016; Health and Care Professions Council (Miscellaneous Amendments) Rules, 1 Jul 2016.

* 1. Entries for Account (singular – plural is already picked up). [*see also the issue with the years for this entry – 6a, below*].  
     Sort of done. I think I still need to remove the ‘of the’?



For example, this list under National Loans:

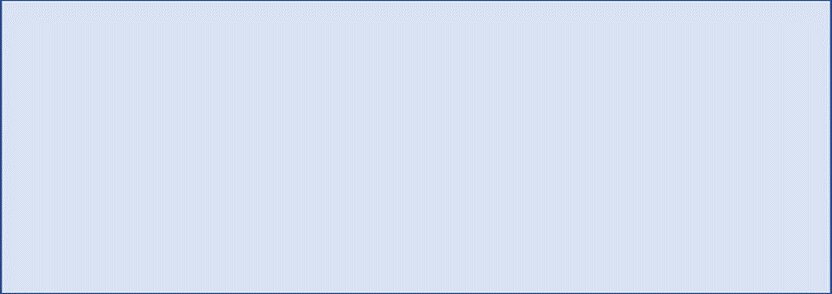
Account of the Consolidated Fund for 2015–16, 7 Jul 2016

Account of the National Loans Fund for 2015–16, 7 Jul 2016

Would ideally be combined like this:

Account, 2015–16: Consolidated Fund, 7 Jul 2016; National Loans Fund, 7 Jul 2016.

* 1. Under Law Commission, Reports of the Law Commission on particular subjects.  
     Do you want the word ‘on’ removed? My sort seems to start ‘on A New Sentencing Code for England and Wales: Transition—Final Report and Recommendations’ is that right?



For example, this list:

Report of the Law Commission on Bills of Sale, 12 Sep 2016.

Report of the Law Commission on Consumer Prepayments on Retailer Insolvency, 13 Jul 2016.

Report of the Law Commission on Criminal Records Disclosure: Non-Filterable Offences, 31 Jan 2017.

Report of the Law Commission on Enforcement of Family Financial Orders, 14 Dec 2016.

Report of the Law Commission on Event Fees in Retirement Properties, 30 Mar 2017.

Would ideally be combined like this:

Reports of the Law Commission: Bills of Sale, 12 Sep 2016; Consumer Prepayments on Retailer Insolvency, 13 Jul 2016; Criminal Records Disclosure: Non-Filterable Offences, 31 Jan 2017; Enforcement of Family Financial Orders, 14 Dec 2016; Event Fees in Retirement Properties, 30 Mar 2017.

* 1. Under UK Borders, Reports of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration on particular subjects: I think this is done?



For example, this list:

Report of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration: A re-inspection of Border Force operations at Heathrow Airport, 8 Sep 2016.

Report of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration: A re-inspection of the handling of Tier 4 sponsor licence compliance for July 2016, 13 Oct 2016.

Report of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration: A short-notice inspection of the Home Office response to 'lorry drops', 21 Jul 2016.

Would ideally be combined into this:

Reports of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration: A re-inspection of Border Force operations at Heathrow Airport, 8 Sep 2016; A-reinspection of the handling of Tier 4 sponsor licence compliance for July 2016, 13 Oct 2016; A short-notice inspection of the Home Office response to ‘lorry drops’, 21 Jul 2016.

Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General

1. Under National Audit, there are lots of Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General. Too many, I think, to combine in the same way I’ve suggested for the Law Commission and UK Borders. For 2015-16 we introduced a sub-heading, which it would be useful to have as a matter of course. I have grouped in the normal way for now.



So, instead of this:

Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on British Broadcasting Corporation: Managing the BBC's workforce, 25 Apr 2017.

Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on Cabinet Office and Department for Culture, Media and Sport: National Citizen Service, 13 Jan 2017.

Reports by the C&AG (only those appearing under National Audit) would ideally be grouped together like this:

**Reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General:**

British Broadcasting Corporation: Managing the BBC’s workforce, 25 Apr 2017.

Cabinet Office and Department for Culture, Media and Sport: National Citizen Service, 13 Jan 2017.

Time period covered by a paper is often omitted.

1. Some less common types of papers state the time period covered by the paper, but this often isn’t getting carried across to the Word document. Here are some of the examples I’ve found in 2016–17. Is there a way to make sure the time period is always brought across?
   1. Entries beginning “Account on”. See, for example, “Account on the Funds in Court in England and Wales for 2015–16, 11 Jul 2016”.  
      I will use the ‘subjectHeading’ field, ‘Account on the Funds in Court in England and Wales 2015-16’. May get sorted into Account, 2015-16…
   2. Entries beginning “Report on”. See, for example, “Report on the British Wool Marketing Board Agricultural Marketing Scheme for 2015–16, 8 Dec 2016”.  
      There is a ‘subject heading’ filed in papers laid with the following value, ‘Report on the British Wool Marketing Board Agricultural Marketing Scheme 2015-16’. I will use the ‘subject heading’ field instead of the title field. Note no ‘for’ should I add the for in?
   3. Entries beginning “Report of”. See, for example, “Report of the Service Complaints Ombudsman for the Armed Forces for 2016, 18 Apr 2017”.  
      same as above
   4. Entries beginning “Report and Financial Statement of”. See, for example, “Report and Financial Statements of the Bank of England for 1 March 2015–29 February 2016, 30 Jun 2016”.  
      The data ‘for 1 March 2015–29 February 2016’ does not appear in papers laid as far as I can tell.
   5. Entries beginning “Report under”. See, for example, “Report under section 2 of the Loans to Ireland Act 2010 for 1 April 2016–30 September 2016, 13 Oct 2016.”  
      The data ‘for 1 April 2016–30 September 2016’does not appear in papers laid as far as I can tell.
   6. Entries beginning “Report by”. See, for example “Report by the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change on the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Act 1996 for 2015, 13 Jul 2016”. ✅  
      same as b
   7. Entries beginning “Statement of”. See for example “Statement of the Nuclear Decommissioning Funding Account”, 15 Dec 2016. Done unless missing data
   8. And some other, standalone examples:  
      I have not included the word ‘for’ but I could do.
      1. The entry “Statistics of Scientific Procedures on Living Animals in Great Britain for 2015, 20 Jul 2016”. ✅
      2. The entry “Report, Fitness to Practise Report and Financial Statements of the General Optical Council for 2015–16, 13 Dec 2016”. ✅
      3. The entry “Report, Accounts and Full Financial Statements of the BBC for 2015–16, 12 Jul 2016”. ✅
      4. The entry “List of new and supplementary pensions granted under the Civil List Act 1972 for 2016–17, 24 Feb 2017.” ✅
      5. The entry “Business Plan of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority for 1 April 2017–31 March 2020, 30 Mar 2017”. Data missing from papers laid
      6. The entry “Contracts for difference and capacity market scheme update for 2016, 20 Dec 2016”. ✅

Alphabetical Order – problems

1. It looks as though the Papers Index follows the rule that the incidental word “and” is disregarded for the purposes of alphabetical order, but even applying that the following entries are in the wrong place:
   1. Health Service Commissioners are appearing before the Health and Safety entries, when it should appear after.
   2. Police Reform and Police Remuneration are appearing before Police and Criminal Evidence, when they should appear after.  
      Fixed but now ‘and’ is included in sort.
2. “The” at the start of the name of some papers is disrupting the alphabetical order. The most obvious example is the list of Reports and Accounts under National Health Service, where Trusts beginning with “The” are indexed in a block under “T”, and Trusts beginning with “the” are indexed in a block at the very end of the list. They should all be indexed by their main title, e.g. “The Christie NHS Foundation Trust” should appear in the “C” section of the list. Is there a way that we can disregard “the” for the purposes of alphabetical order?  
   I think I have fixed this

Alphabetical order is counter-intuitive in some lists.  
I’ll come back to this one as it will be difficult to achieve…

1. Some papers follow on from earlier ones, but this is lost in the alphabetical order. The main examples are when the Index includes an original paper, and also a (No. 2) version, or an original paper and also an (Amendment) version (see examples below). Is there any away to amend this automatically, or is this something I would need to amend by hand?

For example, this entry:

Orders: 2016: First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) Fees (Amendment) (No. 2), 28 Nov 2016; First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) Fees (Amendment), 15 Sep 2016

Would make more sense as

Orders: 2016: First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) Fees (Amendment), 15 Sep 2016; First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) Fees (Amendment) (No. 2), 28 Nov 2016.

And this entry:

Regulations: 2016: Lifts (Amendment), 7 Dec 2016; Lifts, 16 Nov 2016.

Would make more sense as:

Regulations: 2016: Lifts, 16 Nov 2016; Lifts (Amendment), 7 Dec 2016.

1. Some categories of paper would make more sense listed in a chronological sequence rather than alphabetically. For example:  
   I’ll think about if this is possible or not
   1. Parliamentary Standards: Reports from Speaker’s Committees
   2. Political Parties, Elections and Referendums: Reports from Speaker’s Committees
   3. Universities of Oxford and Cambridge: Statutes
   4. Public Accounts: Treasury minutes in response to PAC reports.
   5. Treaty Series
2. Ideally, groups of papers under a heading would always be presented in the following order, to make the arrangement of papers consistent. For each heading there might be one group for the first calendar year of the Session, and another for the second, e.g. Draft Orders: 2016, Draft Orders: 2017.
   1. Draft Orders
   2. Orders
   3. Orders in Council
   4. Draft Regulations
   5. Regulations
   6. Regulations (Northern Ireland)
   7. Rules
   8. Accounts
   9. Report and Accounts
   10. [other papers]  
       I can have a go at this later

**Potential unintended consequences**

The word Draft now appears more frequently

‘Explanatory Memorandum to the draft Carbon Budget Order 2016, 30 Jun 2016 [withdrawn, 7 Jul 2016]’ has become ‘Order: Explanatory Memorandum to the draft Carbon Budget, 30 Jun 2016 [withdrawn, 7 Jul 2016].’ I think that might be wrong…