

## HOW TO RAISE A QUESTION AND APPLY FOR A PTI DETERMINATION

1. Check out the “Determinations” tab on the PTI website to get an idea of what the final product looks like. You will notice that published Determinations are almost entirely composed of quotes and extracts from existing positive (written) law, sandwiched between a clear question, and a logical, deductive answer. There is little in the way of ‘filler’ texts, explanations or of ‘opinions’ (other than the opinions of judges and other experts) because the document itself **MUST** be manifest and unchallengeable, and **MUST** carry the intrinsic weight of positive law.
2. Then, identify a new question that YOU need legal clarity on. Compose the question in such a way that the final Determination can be used by others in similar circumstances, as well as by yourself. Ideally, your question should be a general (but still technically-specific and discrete) cover-all question that does NOT make reference to any particular ongoing occurrences in your own life for example, nor should it refer to particular named people. This is because we want the end product to be of use to anyone-and-everyone who is dealing with a similar issue.
3. Complex questions are slow and problematic to process. So you must try to reduce your question to its most elementary form. This ‘reduction’ process will probably evolve as you go along, with the research process turning up facts and quotes that help you refine the original question before you are done. It’s better to have two or three discrete questions as separate *simple* submissions – rather than a complicated 3-part question, for example.
4. Research the respective ‘positive’ (written) laws that apply using the internet, law books, or whatever resources you can find (some are showcased on the website) and copy-and-paste whatever texts, judgments, decisions, rulings, directives, acts, laws and/or statutes that you can find online into a m-word document (or something similar) so that you can easily edit it later on.
5. Then, do your best to place those quotes in order, as laid out in the Research Template Document. Please don’t worry if you are not too sure of what goes where, but it *is* absolutely crucial that you identify where you got the information from and who wrote it, because that way, we can properly research the sources, and reorganise and rearrange the texts as needs be.
6. This will give you (possibly) quite a lengthy document which you should send in to [research@thepeopletribunal.ie](mailto:research@thepeopletribunal.ie) for review. We may then edit or amend your research document to form the text of a final Determination, which then gets voted on by the PTI Council acting as a peoples’ jury – to qualify and endorse that Determination.
7. Please remember, that your research document can contain ‘necessary clarifications’ or translations of Latin (legalese) for example, but should NOT otherwise contain your own personal opinions or other subjective commentary (unless you are formally, legally qualified).
8. Ideally, what you are trying to achieve in your research document is:
  - **A clear and unambiguous answer** (or a series of law-based answers) specific to the question posed which can be easily ratified by the PTI Council and converted into a 1-4 page final published Determination.
9. The immediate, pressing objective is to raise as many simple, straightforward questions as possible, to populate the PTI website with law-based Determinations that; (i) provide ‘legal certainty’; (ii) that are available to the general public and are useful to lay-litigants in particular; (iii) that are self-evident, authoritative and legally unassailable; and (iv) which will continue to build pressure on mainstream media to cover and expose these disturbing background issues such as endemic criminality, blatant corruption, and the shabby apologetics that allow the authorities to avoid all responsibility for the *proven* absence of the Rule of Law in Ireland?

*“Onward and upwards!”*