

Magistrates' Court of Victoria

## **Practice Direction**

No. 1 of 2010

## **MEDIATION PILOT PROGRAMME**

## **Background**

Practice Direction No 6 of 2007 created a mediation pilot programme for certain defended civil proceedings at the Magistrates' Court at Broadmeadows. In Practice Direction No 2 of 2009 the programme was extended to the Magistrates' Court at Sunshine. In Practice Direction No 3 of 2009 the programme was extended to the Magistrates' Court at Werribee. The purpose of this Practice Direction is to extend the programme at the Court at Sunshine and Werribee to all defended civil proceedings under \$40,000 instead of \$10,000.

## **Directions**

- 1. From 17 May 2010, all defended civil proceedings issued in the Court at Sunshine or Werribee will be referred to mediation under section 108 of the Magistrates' Court Act 1989 where the amount sought in the complaint is less than \$40,000.
- 2. This extension to the pilot programme will only involve those proceedings where a notice of defence is filed at the Court at Sunshine or Werribee on or after 17 May 2010.
- 3. Apart from the extension, this Practice Direction does not affect the directions contained in Practice Directions Nos 2 and 3 or 2009.
- 4. This Practice Direction operates from 17 May 2010.

IAN L GRAY Chief Magistrate 14 April 2010