

Single or multiple supply?

Tumble Tots

Customs were successful at a recent High Court appeal case which saw the original Tribunal ruling overturned in their favour.

Tumble Tots ran a scheme for children whereby it was a requirement for children attending classes to be members of the club and at a Tribunal hearing it was decided that the benefits provided to the children amounted to a mixed supply of class attendance, T-shirt provision, members' handbooks, and gym bag, etc. However at the appeal hearing the Judge ruled that the main function of the class was a right of admission to the activity and he dismissed Tumble Tots' appeal expressing the opinion that the payment was a single standard rated supply and should not be subject to apportionment because the other benefits made available to the children attending the classes were incidental.

Commercial courses

Another Tribunal case looked at whether the supply of home study courses could be regarded as zero rated books or standard rated educational services.

Customs' argument that the supply was very much more than books and printed material was persuasive. The Tribunal ruled that the books were ancillary to the provision of what in this case was standard rated education.