



# **The First-tier Tribunal (Health, Education and Social Care Chamber) Mental Health**

## **General Direction**

The Mental Health Act 1983

The Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal) (Health, Education and Social Care Chamber) Rules 2008

*By Rule 2(4) parties must help the tribunal to deal with the case fairly and justly, and must co-operate with the tribunal generally.*

**Direction applicable to all Applications and References in Mental Health Cases  
Received by the Tribunal on or before 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014  
But not finally disposed of by the Tribunal on or before date.**

Before:

Judge M Hinchliffe, Deputy Chamber President (HESC – Mental Health)

Direction:

In accordance with Rule 5(1) and (2), and Rule 34(2)(c) I direct that:

1. In relation to all applications and references in mental health cases received by the tribunal on or before 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014 but not finally disposed of by the tribunal on or before that date, the appointed Panel Medical Member must, so far as practicable and having regard to any expressed wishes of the patient, examine the patient in advance of the hearing in order to form an opinion of the patient's mental state;
2. In any such case, the Panel Medical Member may interview the patient in private.

Judge: M Hinchliffe DCP

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014

Notice

If a party wishes to challenge this direction, they may do so by applying for another direction that amends, suspends or sets aside the first direction.