

Temporary amendment to the President's Guidance dated 22 April 2014 on Allocation and Gatekeeping for Care, Supervision and other Proceedings under Part IV of the Children Act 1989 (Public Law) ("the Guidance")

Issued in accordance with rule 21 of the Family Court (Composition and Distribution of Business) Rules 2014

Paragraph 3 – Gatekeeping Teams

Until 30 October 2020, paragraph 3 of the Guidance is to be modified to add the following text (to broadly adopt the approach to allocation as reflected in the equivalent guidance for private law proceedings) -

'The Designated Family Judge (DFJ) will in consultation with the Senior Legal Manager responsible for Family Business for the Circuit, determine whether gatekeeping decisions are to be made by the District Judges or a justices' legal adviser acting alone or together.'

Subsequent references in the Guidance to the approach to joint gatekeeping decisions only apply to those areas where it is determined by the DFJ and Senior Legal Manager that gatekeeping decisions are to be made jointly. All references in the Guidance to Justices' Clerk are to be read as the Senior Legal Manager responsible for Family Business.