



Options for your Tribunal Referral Hearing

Community Patients

Dear Patient

Your case has been referred to the First-tier Mental Health Tribunal because the law says that, every so often, the tribunal should check whether you need to stay on your Community Treatment Order (CTO).

You may find it helpful to discuss your choices with a solicitor, advocate or other representative before filling in the reply slip.

This leaflet explains the choices that you now have about the handling of your case. Although the form may be completed by your representative, only you may make the decision about what option to choose.

You can choose:

- A) to attend the hearing on your own or with legal representative, either face to face or remotely
- B) not to attend the hearing but ask your legal representative to go on your behalf
- C) to neither attend the hearing, nor ask your legal representative to go. In this case the tribunal can decide your case by reading all the reports, without holding a hearing.

If you do not fill out the form and tell us what you want, then a hearing will be arranged.

You do not have to attend a hearing if you do not want to. The tribunal cannot order that you be detained in hospital again, it can only order that the CTO continue, or that it be brought to an end. If you want your CTO to end, you should attend a hearing.

Whether or not you want to attend a hearing, you or your legal representative will still have a chance to see the reports. If you want to write a letter or send any documents to the tribunal you may do so and these will be fully considered. Remember that, even if you choose not to attend a hearing, the tribunal can still decide that there should be a hearing. If so, you will be consulted about the arrangements and given a chance to attend.

When you have decided how you want the tribunal to deal with your case, please complete the form overleaf and return that part in the envelope supplied (no stamp required).

Then post the envelope back to the tribunal, or ask your representative to complete it and send it for you.

Representatives with secure CJSM email are encouraged to return the form electronically, where possible.

Forms are available on the Ministry of Justice website at www.gov.uk/court-and-tribunal-forms

If you require any further information, please contact:

Customer Services

Phone: 0300 123 2201

Email: MHRTEnquiries@justice.gov.uk

HM Courts & Tribunals Service
First-tier Tribunal (Mental Health)
PO Box 8793
5th Floor
Leicester
LE1 8BN

Please complete and return this page of the leaflet in the envelope provided.

Case number

Name of patient

Date of birth

Day Month Year

Name of representative (if any)

I understand that the First-tier Tribunal (Mental Health) is going to look at my case and, if I do not want to attend or be represented at a hearing, then the tribunal may reach a decision on my case without a hearing.

Do you want to attend a tribunal hearing?

Yes

No

Do you want your legal representative to attend the hearing on your behalf?

Yes

No

Signature

Date

Day Month Year

This form was completed by:

The patient

The patient's representative

If you are signing this document on behalf of the patient and you are not the patient's legal representative, then by signing this form you are confirming that you have recently seen the patient and have discussed with them whether or not they want to attend or be represented at a hearing and that you are satisfied the patient is content for the tribunal to deal with the case on the papers, without a hearing.

Please confirm in the space provided below your relationship to the patient and why exactly the patient has not been able to sign the form personally.