

AJTC/CQC Joint Project

Patients' Experiences of the Mental Health Tribunal

Note: If the Service User has had more than one tribunal this questionnaire should concentrate on the most recent one

Identification of service user:
NB: please refer to coding sheet

MHA section appealed against:

[Approximate] Date of most recent application to MHT:

Date of hearing (if known):

Time taken to deal with application

1. Did anyone help you to apply to the tribunal? yes no

If so who?

2. Were you given any information about how long it would take for your application to the tribunal to be heard? yes no

3. Was there any delay in arranging your tribunal hearing? yes no

If so: What reasons were given for any delay or adjournments?

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4. Do you have any comments about the time taken to deal with your application?

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Access to legal advice and representation

5. Did you know you could have a lawyer to help you at your tribunal?

[n.b. for lawyer read any legal representative, however qualified] yes no

6. Did you have any problems finding a lawyer to advise you about your application and/or to represent you at the tribunal? yes no

How did you go about this?

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7. How many times did you meet with your lawyer to discuss your case before the hearing?

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8. Do you think that your lawyer was properly prepared for the tribunal hearing?

yes no

9. Do you have any comments about the performance of your lawyer?

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10. Did you have any mental health advocacy involvement in your hearing?

yes no

Examination by the medical member

11. What information were you given about the pre-hearing examination (or interview) by the tribunal doctor?

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12. Did the doctor explain that information from the examination would be shared with the tribunal panel? yes no

13. When did the examination take place? [on the day of the hearing or beforehand?]

14. How did it affect you?

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15. Do you have any comments about how the medical examination was conducted?

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The hearing

16. What information were you given, and by whom, about what would happen on the day of the hearing?

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Did you get to see the reports prepared about you? yes no

17. Did the tribunal judge

(a) introduce the panel? yes no

(b) introduce other people in the room? yes no

(c) explain what would happen? yes no

18. Do you feel you were given the chance to explain your views and to participate in the hearing? yes no

19. Do you feel you were listened to? yes no

20. Do you feel the tribunal gave equal weight to your point of view and that of the hospital? yes no

21. Do you have any comments about how the hearing was conducted?

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Was the venue of the hearing suitable? yes no

The tribunal's decision

22. When were you told the tribunal's decision? [at the end of the hearing or later?] Who told you the decision?

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23. How did you feel about the outcome of the hearing?

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Was it useful to you in any way, [even if you were not discharged]? yes no

If so, how did it help you?

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24. How long after the hearing did you receive the written decision?

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25. Did you understand the reasons for the tribunal's decision? yes no

26. Were you offered any further explanations? yes no

If so, by whom?

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27. What information were you given about any further right of appeal? [eg to the Upper Tribunal?]

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Other comments

28. Do you have any further comments about your experiences of applying to the MHT?

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