



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 a legal representative;
- 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.

The tribunal cannot order that you be detained in hospital again, it can only order that the CTO continue, or be discharged. If you want your CTO to end, you should attend a hearing.

You do not have to attend a hearing if you do not want to. If you choose to attend or be represented at a hearing, the tribunal doctor will wish to examine you before the hearing and your psychiatrist, care coordinator and social worker may also attend the hearing itself.

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 let us know by the date on the front of this leaflet.

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.justice.gov.uk

If you require any further information, please contact:

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

Communication and Customer Services

Phone: 0300 123 2201

(This line is open between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.00 pm, Monday to Friday)

Email: MHRTEnquiries@hmcts.gsi.gov.uk

or for cjsm users: MHRTEnquiries@hmcts.gsi.gov.uk.cjsm.net

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

Case number

Name of patient

Date of birth

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 wish to attend or be represented at a hearing, then the tribunal may reach a decision on my case without a hearing.

Do you wish to attend a tribunal hearing? Yes No

Do you wish your legal representative to attend the hearing on your behalf? Yes No

Signature

Date

This form was completed by:

- The Patient
 The Patient's Representative