STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1992 No. 2067

The Family Proceedings (Amendment No. 2) Rules 1992

Welfare officer in Part IV proceedings

12. For rule 4.13, there shall be substituted the following:—

"Welfare officer

- **4.13.**—(1) Where the court has directed that a written report be made by a welfare officer, the report shall be filed at or by such time as the court directs or, in the absence of such a direction, at least 14 days before a relevant hearing; and the proper officer shall, as soon as practicable, serve a copy of the report on the parties and any guardian ad litem.
- (2) In paragraph (1), a hearing is relevant if the proper officer has given the welfare officer notice that his report is to be considered at it.
- (3) After the filing of a report by a welfare officer, the court may direct that the welfare officer attend any hearing at which the report is to be considered; and
 - (a) except where such a direction is given at a hearing attended by the welfare officer, the proper officer shall inform the welfare officer of the direction; and
 - (b) at the hearing at which the report is considered any party may question the welfare officer about his report.
 - (4) This rule is without prejudice to any power to give directions under rule 4.14.".