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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2008 No. 2685**

**The Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal)  
(Social Entitlement Chamber) Rules 2008**

**PART 3**

Proceedings before the Tribunal

CHAPTER 2

Hearings

**Public and private hearings**

- 30.**—(1) Subject to the following paragraphs, all hearings must be held in public.
- (2) A hearing in a criminal injuries compensation case must be held in private unless—
- (a) the appellant has consented to the hearing being held in public; and
  - (b) the Tribunal considers that it is in the interests of justice for the hearing to be held in public.
- (3) The Tribunal may give a direction that a hearing, or part of it, is to be held in private.
- [<sup>F1</sup>(3A) Without prejudice to paragraph (3), the Tribunal may direct that a hearing, or part of it, is to be held in private if—
- (a) the Tribunal directs that the proceedings are to be conducted wholly or partly as video proceedings or audio proceedings;
  - (b) it is not reasonably practicable for such a hearing, or such part, to be accessed in a court or tribunal venue by persons who are not parties entitled to participate in the hearing;
  - (c) a media representative is not able to access the proceedings remotely while they are taking place; and
  - (d) such a direction is necessary to secure the proper administration of justice.]
- (4) Where a hearing, or part of it, is to be held in private, the Tribunal may determine who is permitted to attend the hearing or part of it.
- (5) The Tribunal may give a direction excluding from any hearing, or part of it—
- (a) any person whose conduct the Tribunal considers is disrupting or is likely to disrupt the hearing;
  - (b) any person whose presence the Tribunal considers is likely to prevent another person from giving evidence or making submissions freely;
  - (c) any person who the Tribunal considers should be excluded in order to give effect to a direction under rule 14(2) (withholding information likely to cause harm); or
  - (d) any person where the purpose of the hearing would be defeated by the attendance of that person.

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**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the *The Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal) (Social Entitlement Chamber) Rules 2008, Section 30*. (See end of Document for details)

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(6) The Tribunal may give a direction excluding a witness from a hearing until that witness gives evidence.

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**Textual Amendments**

**F1** Rule 30(3A) inserted (temp.) (10.4.2020) by [The Tribunal Procedure \(Coronavirus\) \(Amendment\) Rules 2020 \(S.I. 2020/416\)](#), rules 1(2), **4(3)**

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal) (Social Entitlement Chamber) Rules 2008, Section 30.