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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2017 No. 1035**

The Court of Protection Rules 2017

PART 4

HEARINGS

*Private hearings*

**General rule – hearing to be held in private**

- 4.1.**—(1) The general rule is that a hearing is to be held in private.
- (2) A private hearing is a hearing which only the following persons are entitled to attend—
- (a) the parties;
  - (b) P (whether or not a party);
  - (c) any person acting in the proceedings as a litigation friend or rule 1.2 representative;
  - (d) any legal representative of a person specified in any of sub-paragraphs (a) or (b); and
  - (e) any court officer.
- (3) In relation to a private hearing, the court may make an order—
- (a) authorising any person, or class of persons, to attend the hearing or a part of it; or
  - (b) excluding any person, or class of persons, from attending the hearing or a part of it.
- (4) The general rule in paragraph (1) does not apply to a hearing for a committal order or writ of sequestration (in respect of which rule 21.27 makes provision).