

SCHEDULE 1

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF SERVICE COMMITTEES

PART IV

PROCEDURE IN RELATION TO HEARINGS

Quorum for a service committee

14.—(1) The quorum at a hearing of a service committee shall be—

- (a) except for a joint services committee, the chairman, 2 lay members and 2 professional members; and
- (b) in the case of a joint services committee, the chairman together with—
 - (i) 2 lay members; and
 - (ii) for each category of professional person concerned in the hearing, 1 professional member in the same category.

(2) Prior to the commencement of a hearing, the chairman shall ask the members of the service committee whether any of them has a personal interest, either directly or indirectly, in the complaint or reference which is the subject of the hearing and any such member who has, or considers that he might have, such an interest shall inform the chairman.

(3) If, having been informed by a member of the service committee in accordance with subparagraph (2), the chairman is of the opinion that the member has such an interest as mentioned in that subparagraph, he shall notify that member accordingly and that member shall take no part in the hearing but a deputy may act in his place.

(4) Where the chairman of a service committee is of the opinion that a hearing is likely to be concerned with the interests of a woman or of a child under the age of 16 years, he shall ensure that the service committee which hears the complaint or other matter includes at least 1 woman lay member.