
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1998 No. 3132

The Civil Procedure Rules 1998

PART 39

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS RELATING TO HEARINGS

General rule—hearing to be in public

- 39.2.**—(1) The general rule is that a hearing is to be in public.
- (2) The requirement for a hearing to be in public does not require the court to make special arrangements for accommodating members of the public.
- (3) A hearing, or any part of it, may be in private if—
- (a) publicity would defeat the object of the hearing;
 - (b) it involves matters relating to national security;
 - (c) it involves confidential information (including information relating to personal financial matters) and publicity would damage that confidentiality;
 - (d) a private hearing is necessary to protect the interests of any child or ^[F1]protected party];
 - (e) it is a hearing of an application made without notice and it would be unjust to any respondent for there to be a public hearing;
 - (f) it involves uncontentious matters arising in the administration of trusts or in the administration of a deceased person's estate; or
 - (g) the court considers this to be necessary, in the interests of justice.
- (4) The court may order that the identity of any party or witness must not be disclosed if it considers non-disclosure necessary in order to protect the interests of that party or witness.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in rule 39.2(3)(d) substituted (1.10.2007) by [The Civil Procedure \(Amendment\) Rules 2007 \(S.I. 2007/2204\)](#), rules 1, 12

Commencement Information

- I1** Rule 39.2 in force at 26.4.1999, see [Signature](#)

Status:

Point in time view as at 31/08/2009. This version of this provision has been superseded.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Civil Procedure Rules 1998, Section 39.2.