STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2009 No. 2269

The Valuation Tribunal for England (Council Tax and Rating Appeals) (Procedure) Regulations 2009

PART 4 PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE VTE

CHAPTER 2

Hearings and inspection of premises

Public and private hearings

- **31.**—(1) Subject to the following paragraphs, all hearings must be held in public.
- (2) The VTE or the VTE panel may give a direction that a hearing, or part of it, is to be held in private.
- (3) Where a hearing, or part of it, is to be held in private, the VTE or the VTE panel may determine who is permitted to attend the hearing or part of it.
 - (4) Where the VTE or the VTE panel considers—
 - (a) that the conduct of any person is likely to disrupt the hearing;
 - (b) that the presence of any person is likely to prevent another person from giving evidence or making submissions freely; or
 - (c) that the presence of any person is likely to defeat the purpose of the hearing,
- the VTE or the VTE panel (as the case may be) may give a direction excluding the person from any hearing, or part of it.
- (5) The VTE panel may give a direction excluding from any hearing, or part of it any person whose conduct the VTE panel considers is disrupting the hearing.
- (6) The VTE or the VTE panel may give a direction excluding a witness from a hearing until that witness gives evidence.