

MENTAL HEALTH COURT

PRACTICE DIRECTION NUMBER 4 of 2017

CASE MANAGEMENT COMPLEX CASES

1. A Judge of the Mental Health Court will manage complex cases by conducting supervised reviews as part of the regular sittings of the Mental Health Court, including with the assistance of the Assisting Psychiatrists who are rostered to sit with the Judge in any given sittings.
2. Each complex case will be allocated to one of the Judges of the Mental Health Court who will have the management of it up to, and including, the hearing of the reference.
3. All references in relation to a killing will be treated as complex cases pursuant to this Practice Direction.
4. The Registrar may bring cases to the President's attention as potentially warranting management pursuant to this Practice Direction.
5. A party to a reference may apply, either at a call-over, or at a sittings of the Mental Health Court, for a case to be managed pursuant to this Practice Direction.
6. Management of a case pursuant to this Practice Direction may occur from the time a reference is filed, and include consultation with the Assisting Psychiatrists as to what expert reports are obtained.
7. The purpose of management includes facilitating the early disclosure of relevant documents by all parties, but particularly the DPP; ensuring that doctors reporting to the Court are fully briefed with all relevant documents prior to providing reports, and ensuring that all relevant doctors are given sufficient notice of the need to give oral evidence at any contested hearing.



JUSTICE JH DALTON
President

Date: 12 October 2017