

---

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

---

**2011 No. 2947**

**The Parole Board Rules 2011**

**PART 4**

**Proceedings with a hearing**

**Hearing procedure**

- 25.**—(1) At the beginning of the hearing the chair shall—
- (a) explain the order of proceeding which the panel proposes to adopt; and
  - (b) invite each party present to state their view as to the suitability of the prisoner for release.
- (2) The panel—
- (a) shall avoid formality in the proceedings;
  - (b) may ask any question to satisfy itself of the level of risk of the prisoner; and
  - (c) shall conduct the hearing in a manner it considers most suitable to the clarification of the issues before it and to the just handling of the proceedings.
- (3) The parties shall be entitled to—
- (a) take such part in the proceedings as the panel thinks fit;
  - (b) hear each other's evidence;
  - (c) put questions to each other;
  - (d) call a witness who has been granted permission to give evidence; and
  - (e) question any witness or other person appearing before the panel.
- (4) If, in the chair's opinion, any person at the hearing is behaving in a disruptive manner, the chair may require that person to leave.
- (5) The chair may permit a person who was required to leave under paragraph (4) to return on such conditions as the chair may specify.
- (6) A panel may produce or receive in evidence any document or information whether or not it would be admissible in a court of law.
- (7) No person shall be compelled to give any evidence or produce any document which they could not be compelled to give or produce on the trial of an action.
- (8) The chair may require any person present to leave the hearing where evidence which has been directed to be withheld from the prisoner or their representative is to be considered.
- (9) After all the evidence has been given, the prisoner shall be given an opportunity to address the panel.