



Mental Health Tribunal

Quarterly Activity Report

1 July to 30 September 2020

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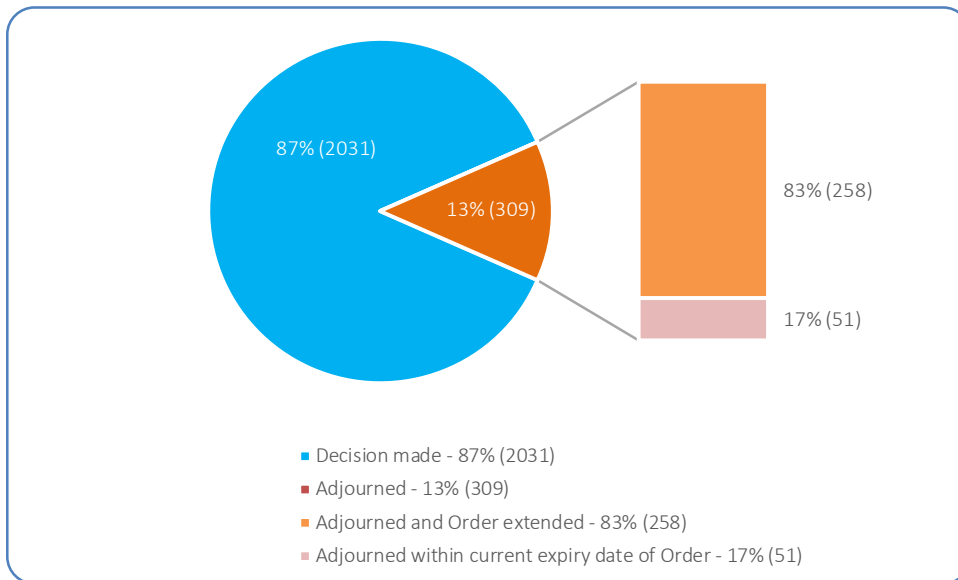
Notes about the MHT Quarterly Activity Report:

To enable the community to be informed of the practical operation of the *Mental Health Act 2014* (the Act) the Mental Health Tribunal (the Tribunal) is committed to providing regular and detailed information about the decisions it makes concerning compulsory mental health treatment. Quarterly Activity Reports are produced for the first three quarters of each financial year and the Annual Report captures the full financial year.



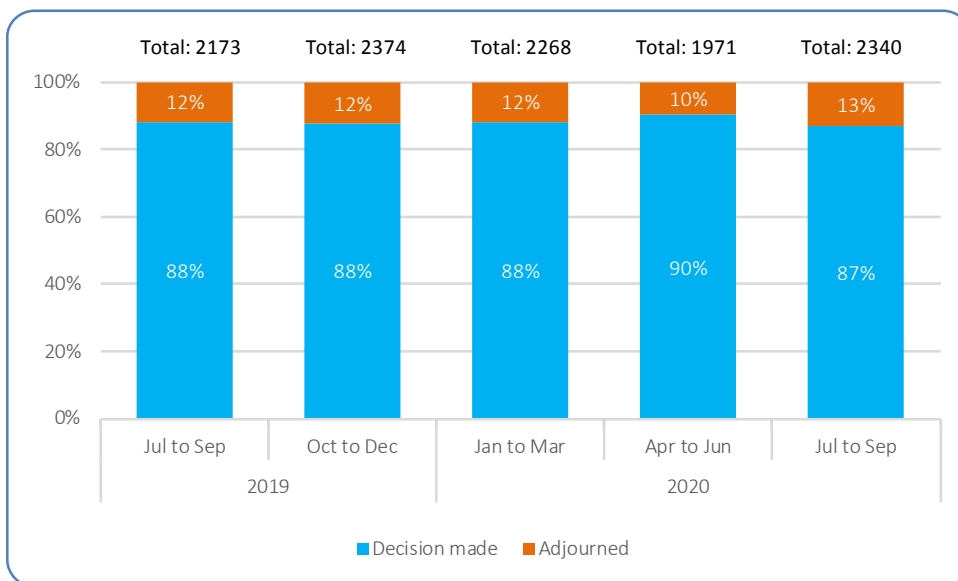
1. Tribunal hearings

Between 1 July and 30 September 2020, the Tribunal conducted 2340¹ hearings. There were a further 1333 matters which were listed for a hearing but did not proceed, usually as a result of the patient’s Order being revoked (cancelled) or the hearing being rescheduled to another date to facilitate the participation of parties. Of the 2340 hearings conducted in this period, 87% (2031) were determined and 13% (309) were adjourned.



1.1 Hearings conducted

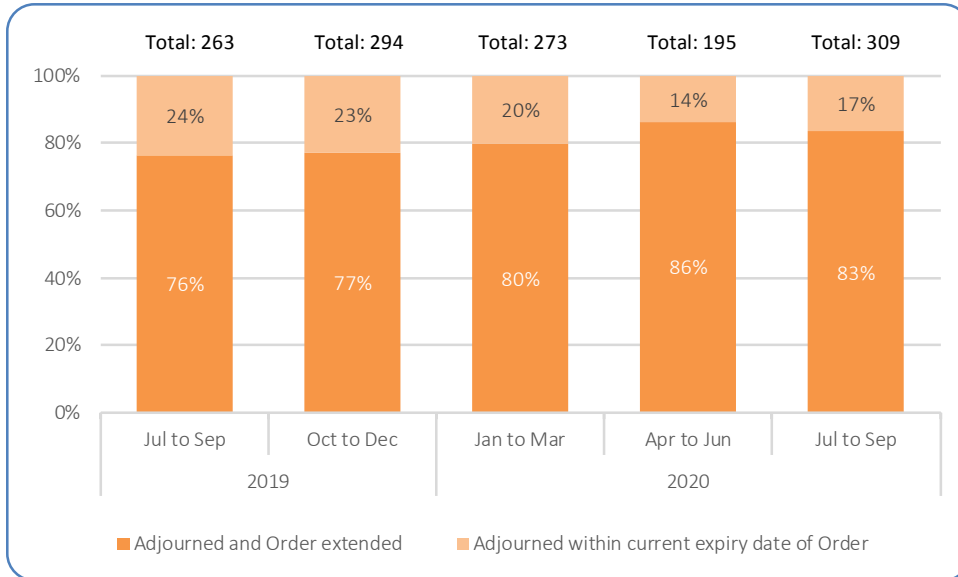
The number of hearings conducted, as well as the split between hearings with a determination and adjournment, has remained relatively consistent over recent quarters.



¹ Total of all Tribunal hearings including Treatment Order, ECT and other hearings.

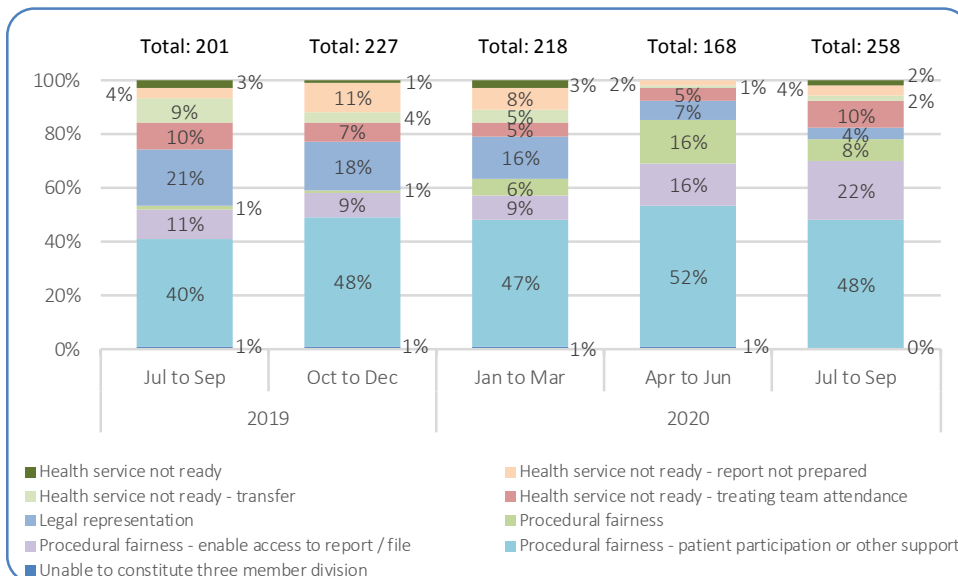
1.2 Adjourned hearings

Hearings can be adjourned to a later date with or without the patient’s Order being extended. The proportion of hearings adjourned with an Order extension was 83% between July and September 2020.



1.3 Reasons for adjournments with extension of Order

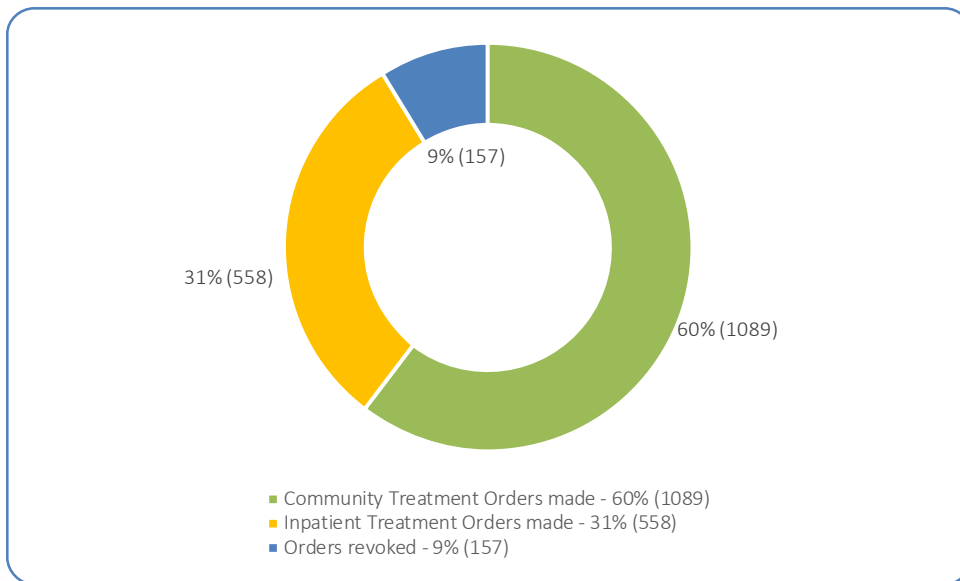
A patient’s hearing can be adjourned, and their Temporary Treatment Order or Treatment Order extended by a maximum of 10 business days if the Tribunal is satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist.



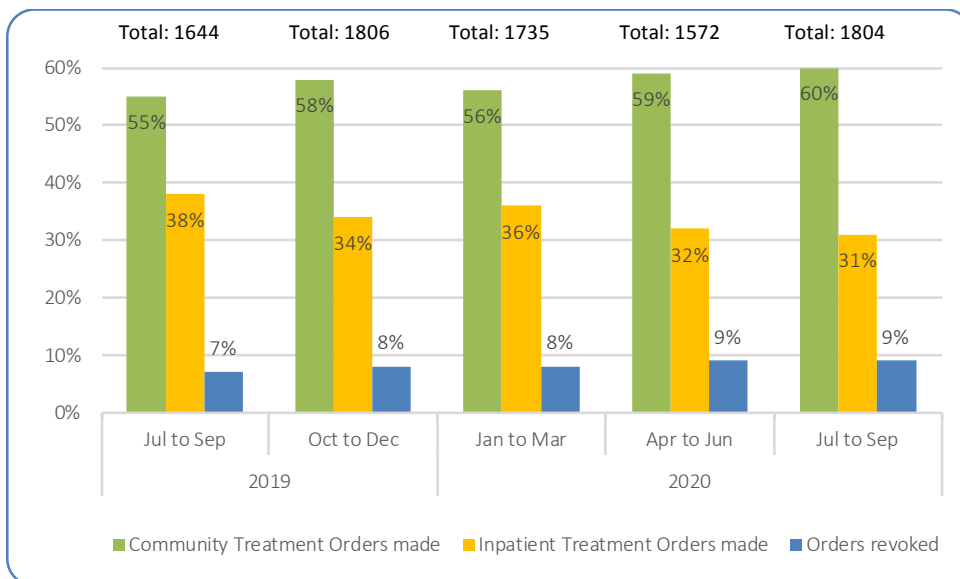
2. Treatment Order Hearings

2.1 Treatment Orders made and revoked by the Tribunal

In any hearing concerning a Temporary Treatment Order or Treatment Order, the Tribunal must decide whether to revoke an Order or make a further Treatment Order. If it makes a Treatment Order the Tribunal must decide whether it will commence as an Inpatient or Community Treatment Order, based on the circumstances at the time of the hearing. Between July and September 2020, the Tribunal conducted 1804 Treatment Order hearings. In these hearings the Tribunal made 1089 Community Treatment Orders, 558 Inpatient Treatment Orders and revoked 157 Orders.



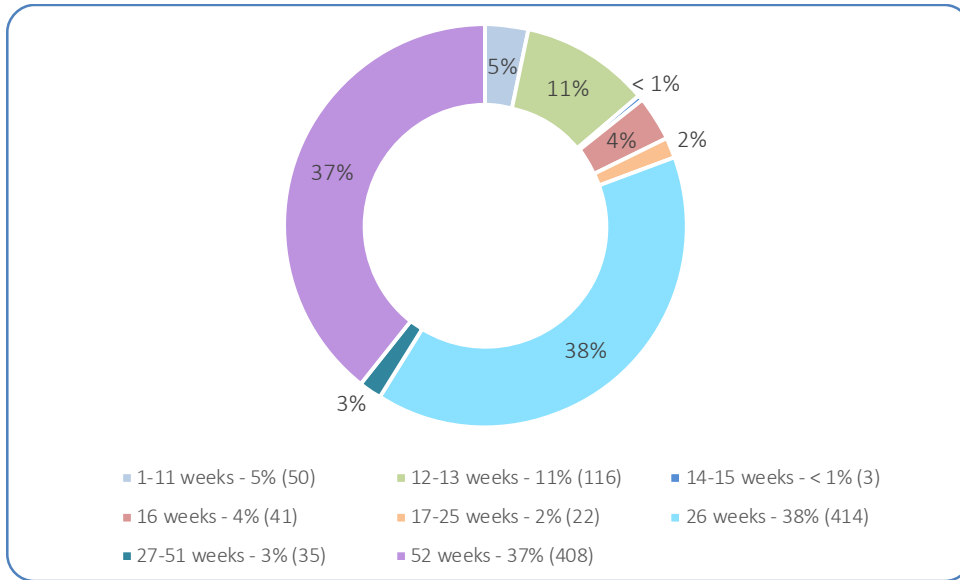
2.2 Comparison of Treatment Orders made and revoked



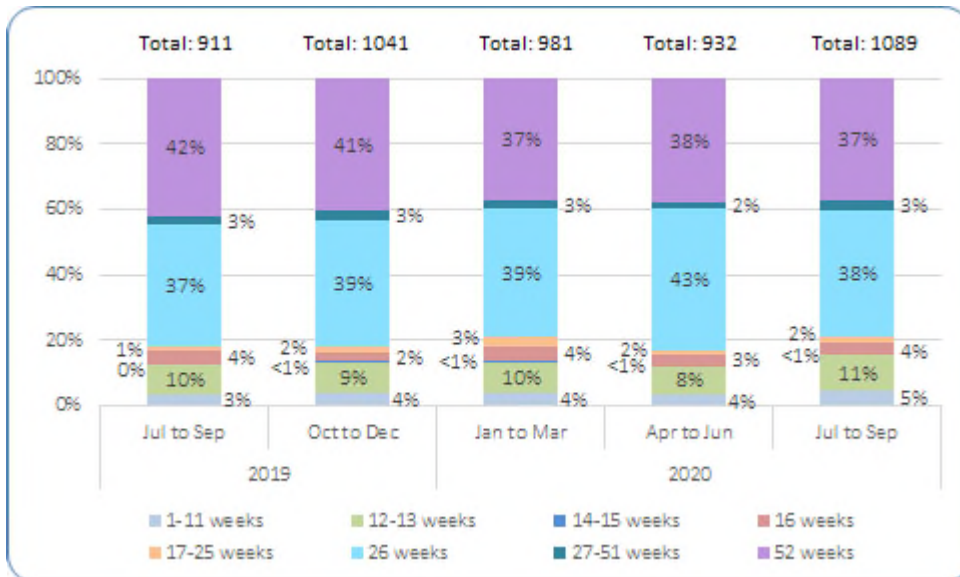
2.3 Duration of Treatment Orders made

When the Tribunal makes an Order, the Tribunal must also set the duration of the Order. Inpatient Treatment Orders for adults can have a maximum duration of six months (26 weeks) and Community Treatment Orders for adults can have a duration of up to 12 months (52 weeks). Inpatient and Community Treatment Orders for children can have a maximum duration of 3 months.

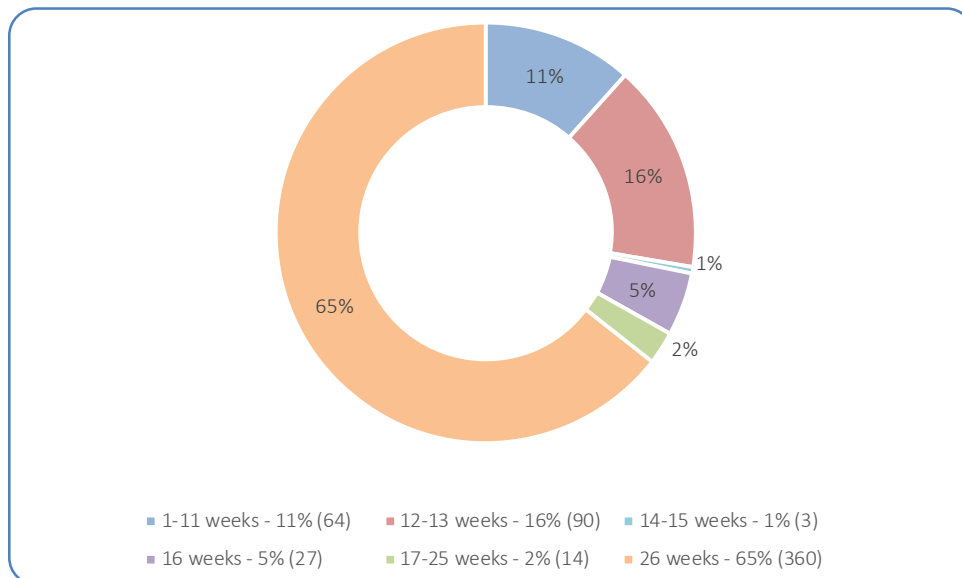
2.3.1 Duration of Community Treatment Orders made



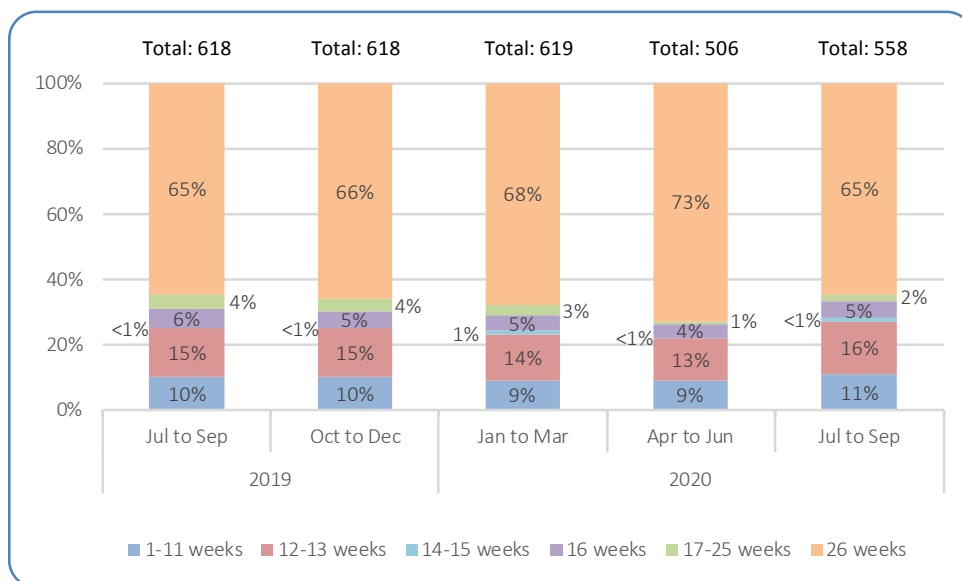
2.3.2 Comparison of Community Treatment Orders made



2.3.3 Duration of Inpatient Treatment Orders



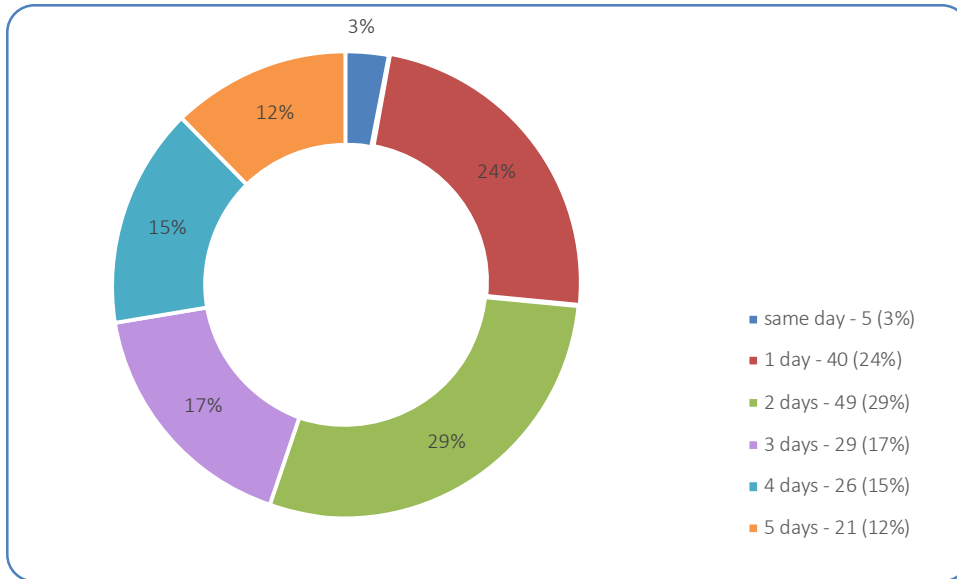
2.3.4 Comparison of Inpatient Treatment Orders made



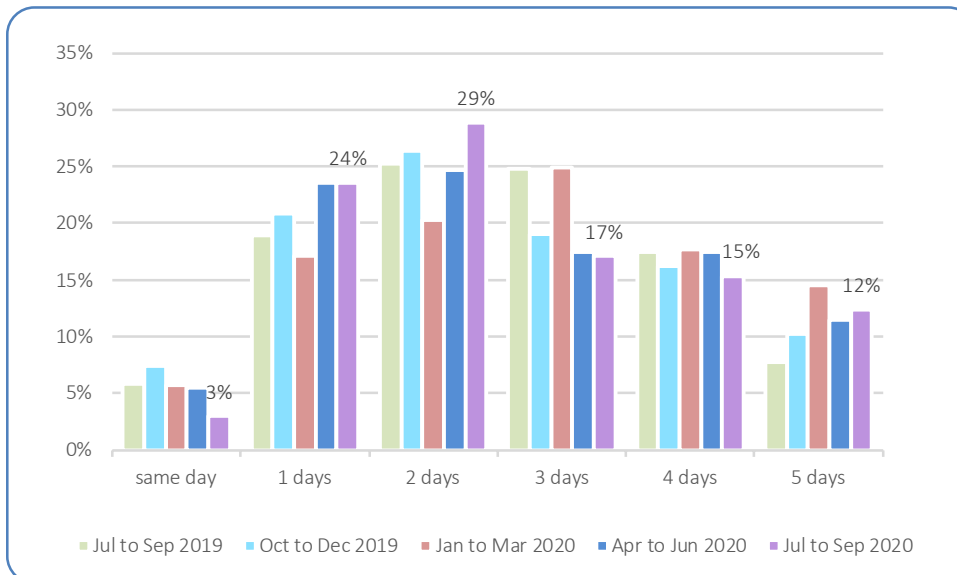
3. ECT Orders

3.1 Elapsed time from receipt of ECT application to hearing

The Tribunal must list and complete the hearing of an application for an ECT Order as soon as practicable and within five business days after receiving the application. The Tribunal Registry seeks to balance considerations of clinical urgency alongside procedural fairness and allowing people reasonable time to prepare for a hearing.

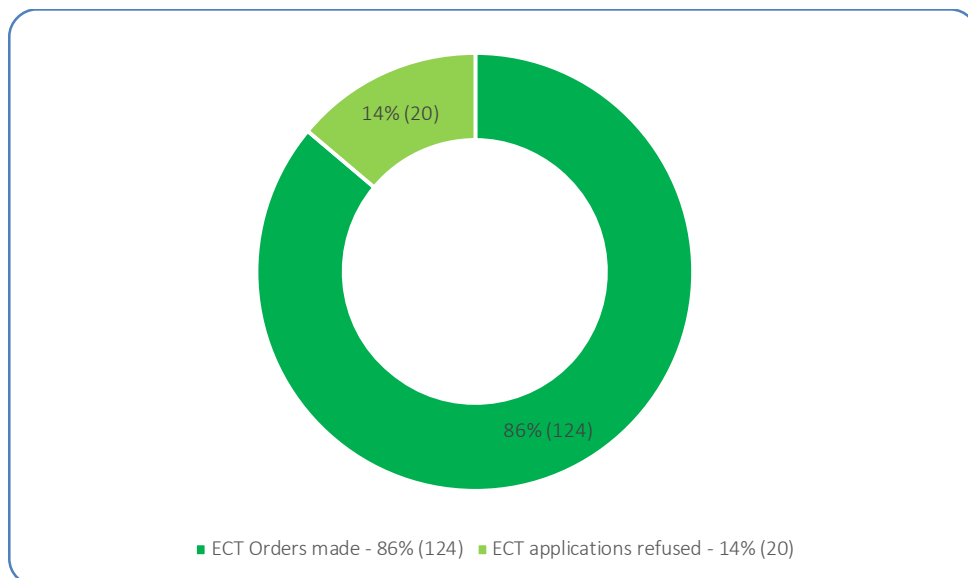


3.2 Comparison of elapsed time from receipt of ECT application to hearing

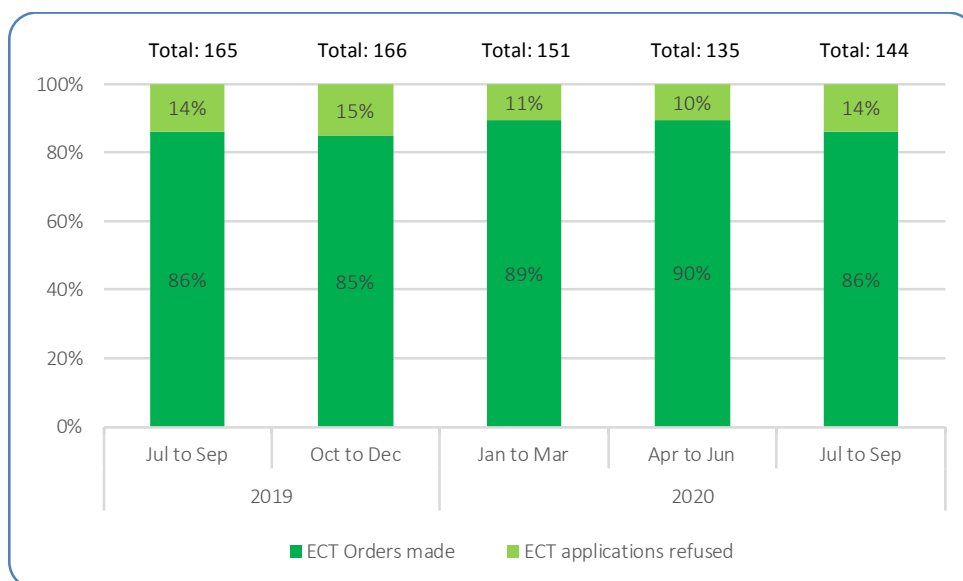


3.3 Outcomes of ECT hearings

The Tribunal heard 144 applications for ECT Orders between July and September 2020. Of those, 124 (86%) ECT Orders were made and 20 (14%) ECT applications were refused.

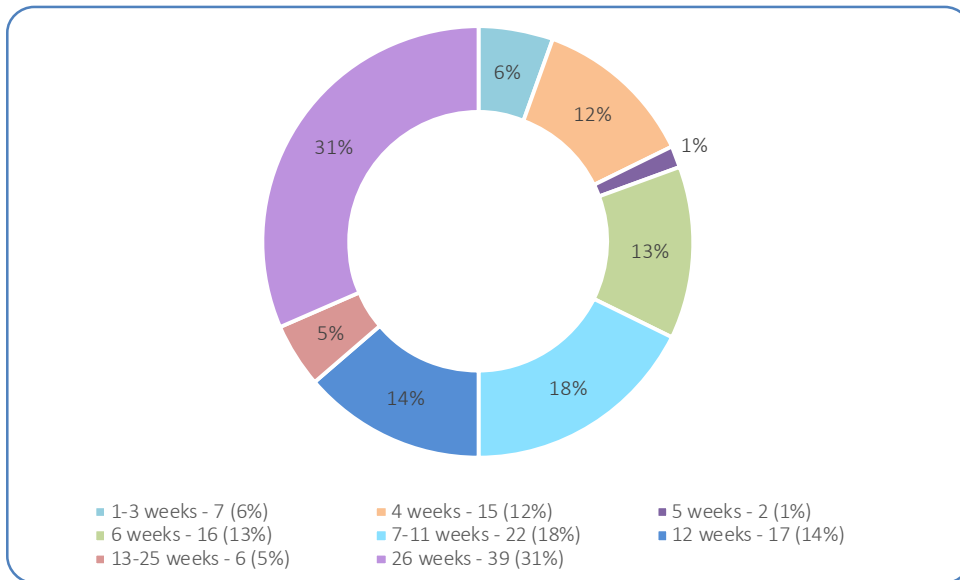


3.4 Comparison of Tribunal ECT determinations

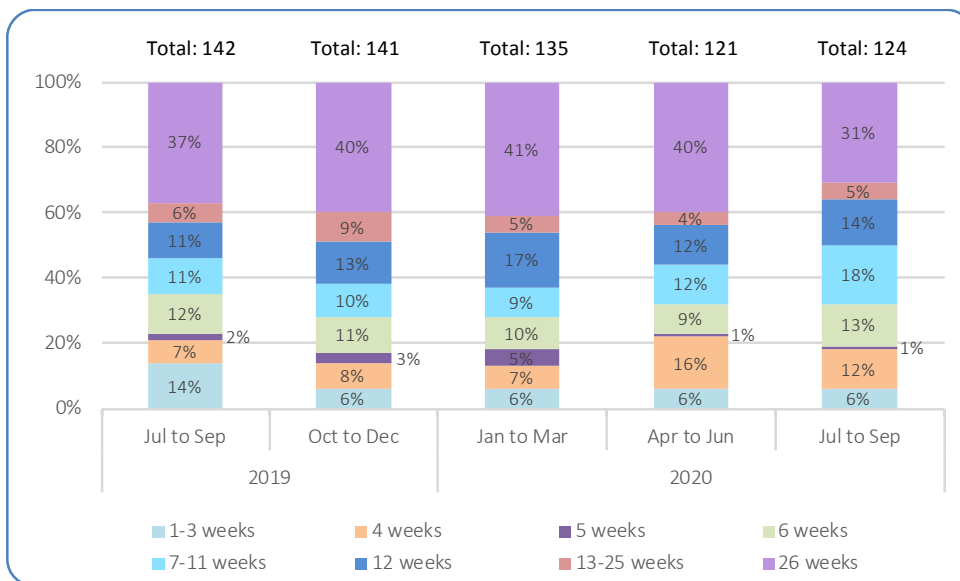


3.5 Duration of ECT Orders

When making an ECT Order, the Tribunal must set the duration of the Order up to a maximum of six months (26 weeks).

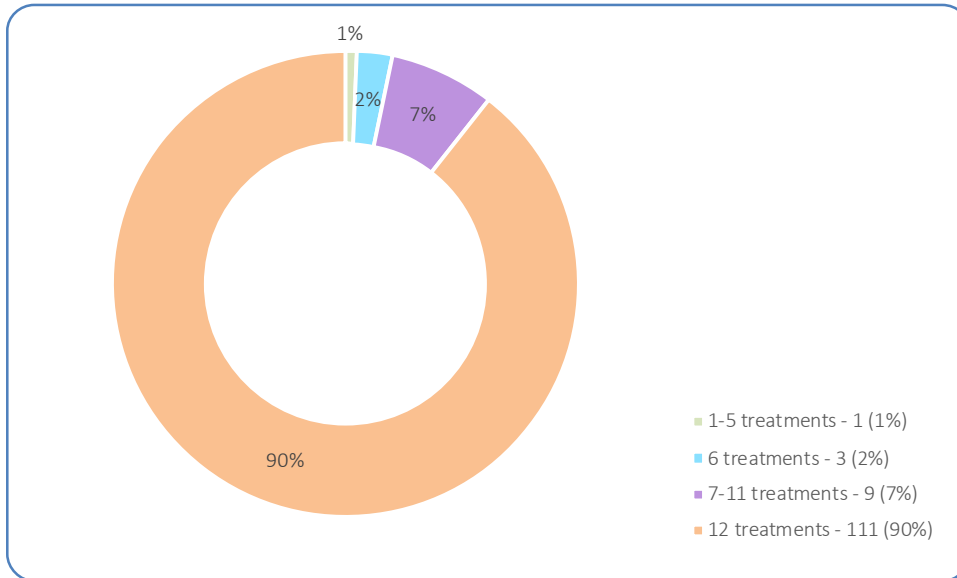


3.6 Comparison of ECT Order duration

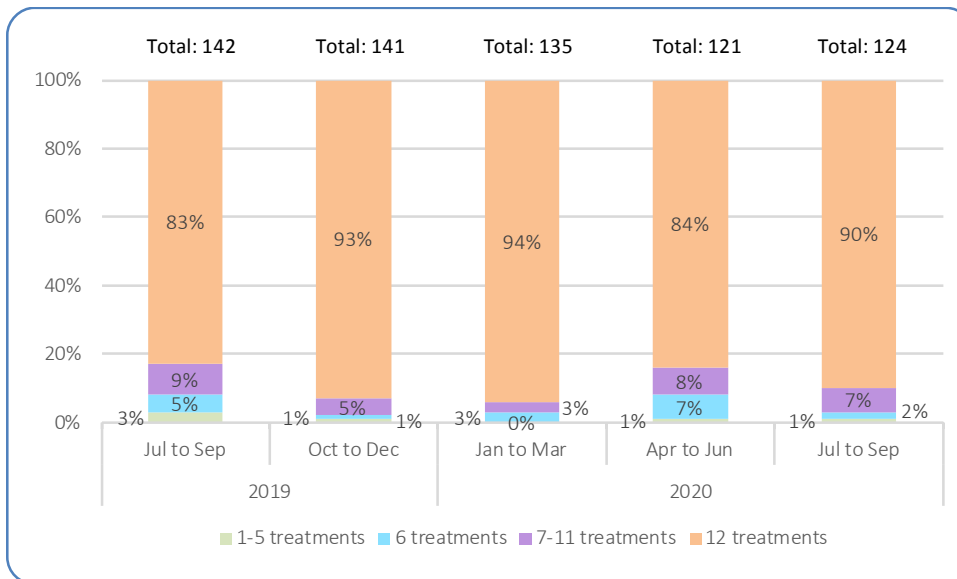


3.7 Number of treatments authorised by ECT Orders

When making an ECT Order, the Tribunal must authorise a maximum number of treatments that can be administered up to a maximum of 12.

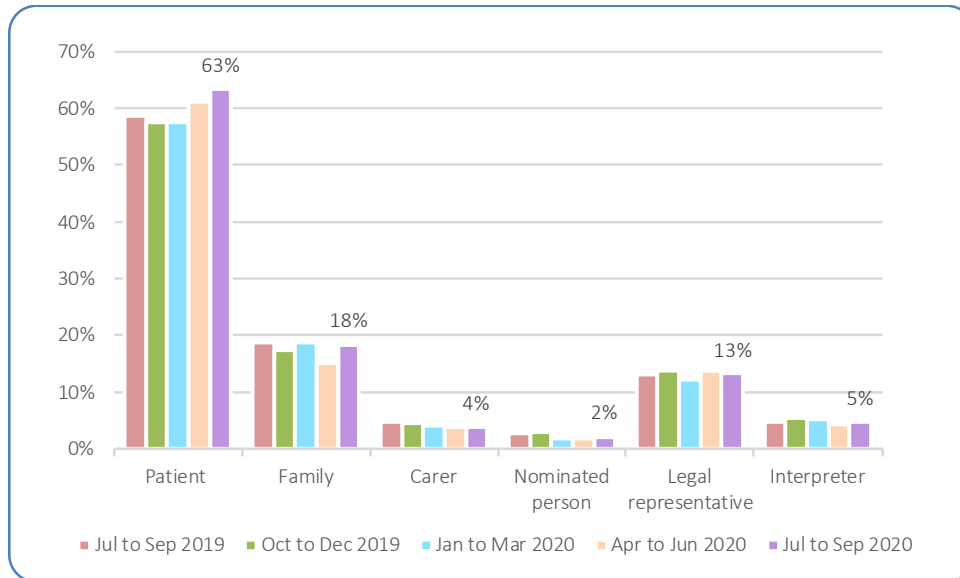


3.8 Comparison of treatments authorised by ECT Orders



4. Participation at hearings

The Tribunal is committed to promoting and encouraging the participation of patients and the people who support them in hearings. The Tribunal seeks to maximise the notice period as much as possible to allow people to participate.

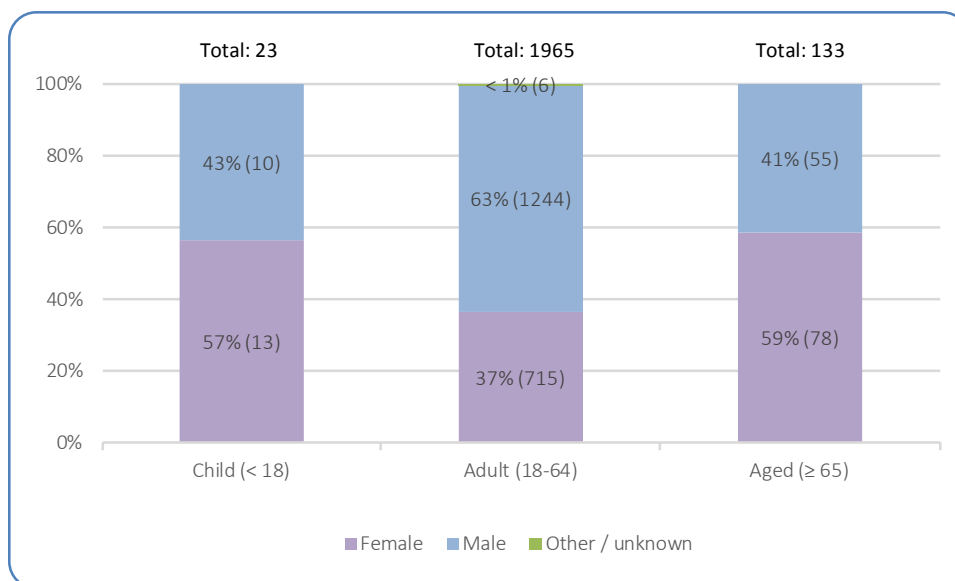


5. Patient demographics

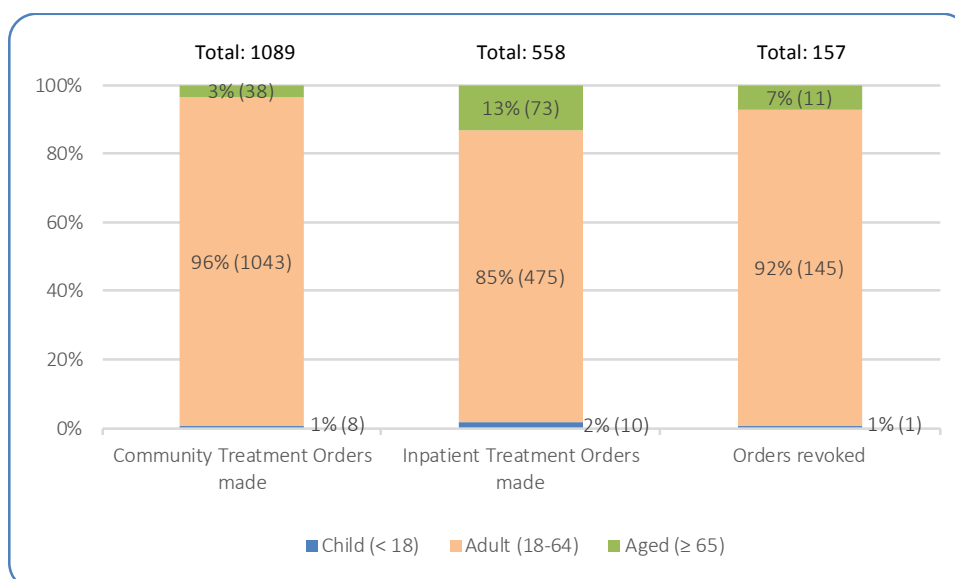
The following information provides patient demographic information for the period 1 July to 30 September 2020.

5.1 Treatment Orders

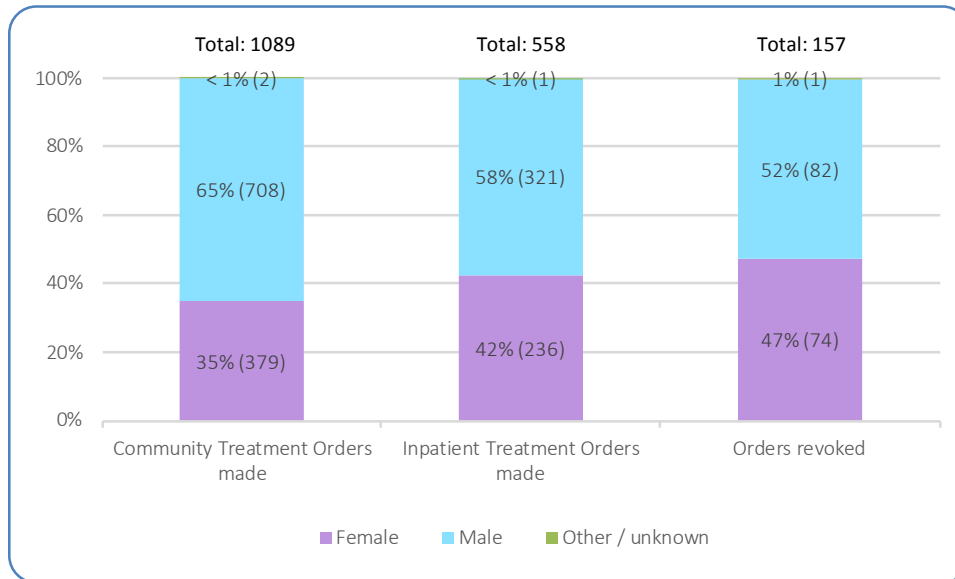
5.1.1 Treatment Order hearings by gender and age



5.1.2 Treatment Orders made and revoked by age

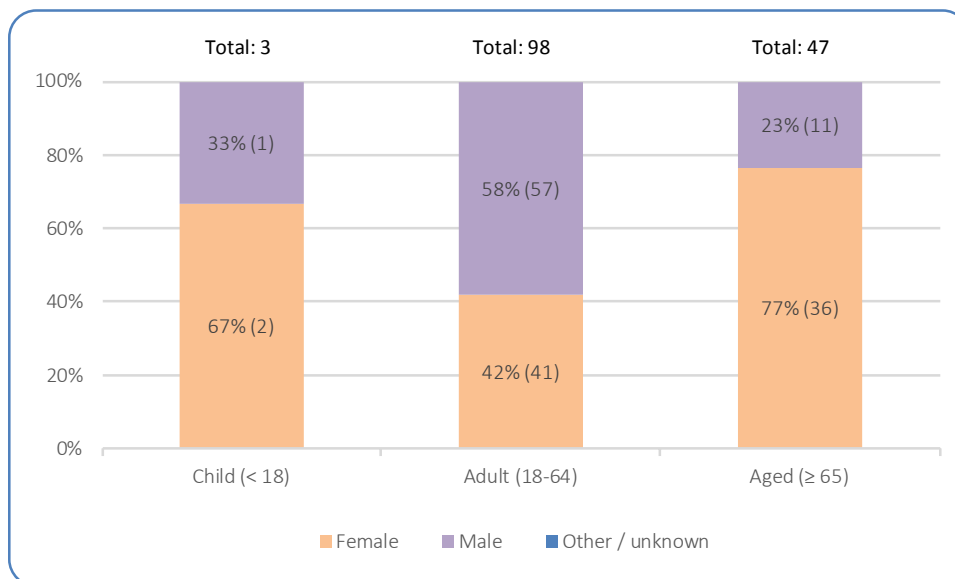


5.1.3 Treatment Orders made and revoked by gender

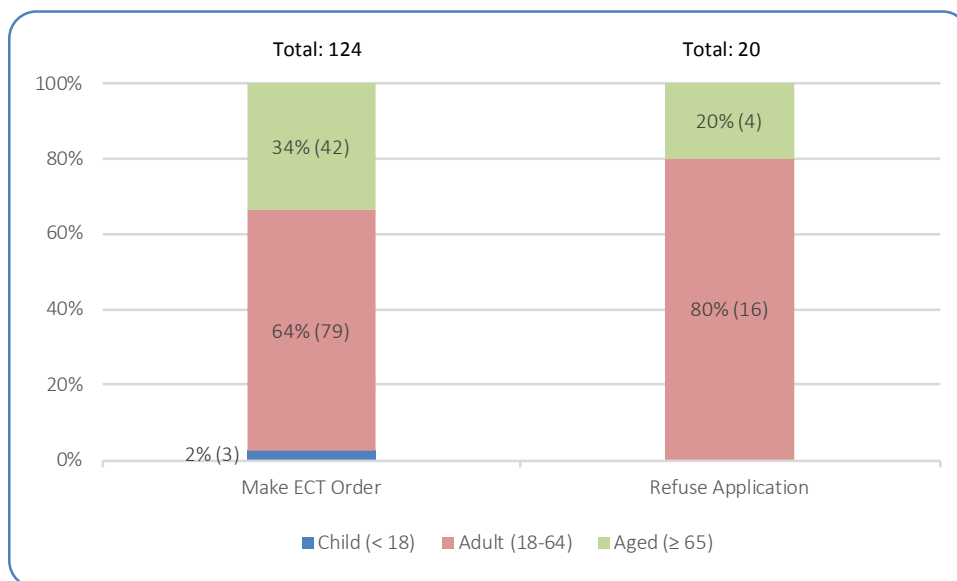


5.2 ECT

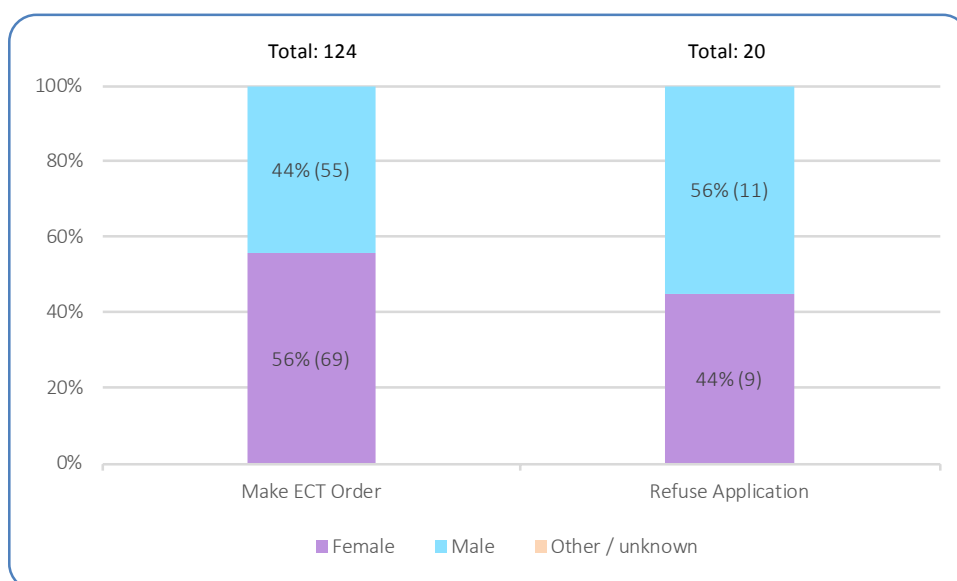
5.2.1 ECT hearings by gender and age



5.2.2 ECT Orders made and refused by age



5.2.3 ECT Orders made and refused by gender



6. Feedback

During the quarter, the Tribunal received four complaints. The complaints related to –

- Comments made by a member in a hearing x 3
- The division failing to mute the teleconference connection when deliberating on a decision, resulting in them being heard by the patient and treating team

During the quarter the Tribunal received nine pieces of written feedback, related to –

- Telephone hearing management x 4
- ECT hearing management x 1
- Lack of video conferencing x 3
- New ECT determinations x1

All complaints and feedback have been responded to in accordance with the Tribunal's feedback and complaints process which is available on the Tribunal's website.