



JUDICATURE (NORTHERN IRELAND) ACT 1978

DIRECTION OF THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND

WHEREAS the definition of "mental disorder" in Article 3 of the Mental Health NI Order 1986 excludes personality disorder

AND WHEREAS "a person under disability" as defined in Rule 6.1(1) of the Family Proceedings Rules (NI) 1996 incorporates the aforesaid definition of mental disorder and thus excludes a person with a personality disorder but without a mental disorder.

PURSUANT TO the power vested in me by Section 75(2)(b) of the Judicature (Northern Ireland) Act 1978 I hereby direct that in proceedings which do not fall within the Family Proceedings Rules only by reason of the exclusion of "personality disorder", judges and masters of the Court of Judicature and judges in the Family Care Centre may invite the Official Solicitor to be the guardian ad litem for the purposes of those proceedings if satisfied on the evidence (including any medical evidence) that the individual has a personality disorder.

Dated this 4th day of April 2019

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Baron Horgan".

Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland