Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)



# Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011

## CHILDREN'S HEARINGS (SCOTLAND) ACT 2011

## PART 1

THE NATIONAL CONVENER AND CHILDREN'S HEARINGS SCOTLAND

## The National Convener and CHS

- 1 The National Convener
- 2 Children's Hearings Scotland
- 3 Further provision about National Convener and CHS

#### The Children's Panel

4 The Children's Panel

## Children's hearings

- 5 Children's hearing
- 6 Selection of members of children's hearing
- 7 Holding of children's hearing
- 8 Provision of advice to children's hearing
- 9 Independence of children's hearings

## Power to change National Convener's functions

10 Power to change National Convener's functions

## Functions of CHS

- 11 Provision of assistance to National Convener
- 12 Independence of National Convener
- 13 Directions

## PART 2

THE PRINCIPAL REPORTER AND THE SCOTTISH CHILDREN'S REPORTER ADMINISTRATION

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

## The Principal Reporter and SCRA

- 14 The Principal Reporter
- 15 The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
- 16 Further provision about Principal Reporter and SCRA

## The Principal Reporter

- 17 Duty as respects location of children's hearing
- 18 Power to change Principal Reporter's functions
- 19 Rights of audience

## Functions of SCRA

- 20 Assisting Principal Reporter
- 21 Provision of accommodation for children's hearings
- 22 Independence of Principal Reporter
- 23 Directions

## Transfer of staff, property etc.

24 Transfer of staff, property etc.

#### PART 3

## GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 25 Welfare of the child
- 26 Decisions inconsistent with section 25
- 27 Views of the child
- 28 Children's hearing: pre-condition for making certain orders and warrants
- 29 Sheriff: pre-condition for making certain orders and warrants
- 30 Children's hearing: duty to consider appointing safeguarder
- 31 Sheriff: duty to consider appointing safeguarder

#### PART 4

#### SAFEGUARDERS

- 32 The Safeguarders Panel
- 33 Functions of safeguarder
- 34 Safeguarders: regulations

## PART 5

## CHILD ASSESSMENT AND CHILD PROTECTION ORDERS

## Child assessment orders

- 35 Child assessment orders
- 36 Consideration by sheriff

## Child protection orders

37 Child protection orders

## Consideration of application by sheriff

38 Consideration by sheriff: application by local authority only

Document Generated: 2024-06-09

Status: Point in time view as at 31/01/2012.

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

39 Consideration by sheriff: application by local authority or other person

## Ancillary measures

- 40 Information non-disclosure directions
- 41 Contact directions
- 42 Parental responsibilities and rights directions

## Notice of order

43 Notice of child protection order

## Obligations of local authority

44 Obligations of local authority

## Review by children's hearing of certain orders

- 45 Review by children's hearing where child in place of safety
- 46 Review by children's hearing where order prevents removal of child

#### Decision of children's hearing

47 Decision of children's hearing

## Variation or termination of order by sheriff

- 48 Application for variation or termination
- 49 Notice of application for variation or termination
- 50 Children's hearing to provide advice to sheriff in relation to application
- 51 Determination by sheriff

## Termination of order

- 52 Automatic termination of order
- 53 Power of Principal Reporter to terminate order
- 54 Termination of order after maximum of 8 working days

#### Other emergency measures

- 55 Application to justice of the peace
- 56 Constable's power to remove child to place of safety
- 57 Sections 55 and 56: regulations

Implementation of orders: welfare of child

58 Implementation of orders: welfare of child

## Offences

59 Offences

## PART 6

#### INVESTIGATION AND REFERRAL TO CHILDREN'S HEARING

## Provision of information to Principal Reporter

60 Local authority's duty to provide information to Principal Reporter

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

- 61 Constable's duty to provide information to Principal Reporter
- 62 Provision of information by court
- 63 Provision of evidence from certain criminal cases
- 64 Provision of information by other persons
- 65 Provision of information by constable: child in place of safety

## Investigation and determination by Principal Reporter

- 66 Investigation and determination by Principal Reporter
- 67 Meaning of "section 67 ground"
- 68 Determination under section 66: no referral to children's hearing
- 69 Determination under section 66: referral to children's hearing
- 70 Requirement under Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004
- 71 Case remitted under section 49 of Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995
- 72 Child in place of safety: Principal Reporter's powers

#### PART 7

#### ATTENDANCE AT CHILDREN'S HEARING

- 73 Child's duty to attend children's hearing
- 74 Relevant person's duty to attend children's hearing
- 75 Power to proceed in absence of relevant person
- 76 Power to exclude relevant person from children's hearing
- Power to exclude relevant person's representative from children's hearing
- 78 Rights of certain persons to attend children's hearing

## PART 8

#### PRE-HEARING PANEL

- 79 Referral of certain matters for pre-hearing determination
- 80 Determination of matter referred under section 79
- 81 Determination of claim that person be deemed a relevant person
- 82 Appointment of safeguarder

## PART 9

#### CHILDREN'S HEARING

## Key definitions

- 83 Meaning of "compulsory supervision order"
- 84 Meaning of "movement restriction condition"
- 85 Meaning of "secure accommodation authorisation"
- 86 Meaning of "interim compulsory supervision order"
- 87 Meaning of "medical examination order"
- 88 Meaning of "warrant to secure attendance"

## Statement of grounds

89 Principal Reporter's duty to prepare statement of grounds

## Grounds hearing

90 Grounds to be put to child and relevant person

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

- 91 Grounds accepted: powers of grounds hearing
- 92 Powers of grounds hearing on deferral
- 93 Grounds not accepted: application to sheriff or discharge
- 94 Child or relevant person unable to understand grounds
- 95 Child fails to attend grounds hearing

Children's hearing to consider need for further interim order

96 Children's hearing to consider need for further interim compulsory supervision order

Application of Part where compulsory supervision order in force

97 Application of Part where compulsory supervision order in force

#### **PART 10**

#### PROCEEDINGS BEFORE SHERIFF

Application for extension or variation of interim compulsory supervision order

- 98 Application for extension or variation of interim compulsory supervision order
- 99 Further extension or variation of interim compulsory supervision order

Power to make interim compulsory supervision order

100 Sheriff's power to make interim compulsory supervision order

## Application to establish grounds

- 101 Hearing of application
- 102 Jurisdiction and standard of proof: offence ground
- 103 Child's duty to attend hearing unless excused
- 104 Child and relevant person: representation at hearing

## Ground accepted before application determined

- 105 Application by virtue of section 93: ground accepted before determination
- Application by virtue of section 94: ground accepted by relevant person before determination

Withdrawal of application: termination of orders etc.

Withdrawal of application: termination of orders etc. by Principal Reporter

## Determination of application

- 108 Determination: ground established
- 109 Determination: power to make interim compulsory supervision order etc.

## Review of sheriff's determination

- 110 Application for review of grounds determination
- 111 Sheriff: review or dismissal of application

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

112 Child's duty to attend review hearing unless excus	112	Child's duty	to attend	review	hearing	unless	excuse
--	-----	--------------	-----------	--------	---------	--------	--------

- 113 Child and relevant person: representation at review hearing
- 114 Sheriff's powers on review of grounds determination
- 115 Recall: power to refer other grounds
- 116 Recall: powers where no grounds accepted or established
- 117 New section 67 ground established: sheriff to refer to children's hearing

Application of Part where compulsory supervision order in force

118 Application of Part where compulsory supervision order in force

#### **PART 11**

#### SUBSEQUENT CHILDREN'S HEARINGS

- 119 Children's hearing following deferral or proceedings under Part 10
- 120 Powers of children's hearing on deferral under section 119

#### **PART 12**

CHILDREN'S HEARINGS: GENERAL

## Views of child

121 Confirmation that child given opportunity to express views before hearing

Children's advocacy services

122 Children's advocacy services

Warrants to secure attendance

123 General power to grant warrant to secure attendance

Child's age

124 Requirement to establish child's age

Compulsory supervision orders: review

125 Compulsory supervision order: requirement to review

Contact orders and permanence orders

126 Review of contact direction

Referral where failure to provide education for excluded pupil

127 Referral where failure to provide education for excluded pupil

Parenting order

128 Duty to consider applying for parenting order

#### **PART 13**

REVIEW OF COMPULSORY SUPERVISION ORDER

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

## Requirement for review

- 129 Requirement under Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004
- 130 Case remitted under section 49 of Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995
- Duty of implementation authority to require review
- Right of child or relevant person to require review
- 133 Principal Reporter's duty to initiate review
- Duty to initiate review if child to be taken out of Scotland
- Duty to initiate review: secure accommodation authorisation
- 136 Duty to initiate review where child transferred

## Functions of Principal Reporter and children's hearing

- 137 Duty to arrange children's hearing
- 138 Powers of children's hearing on review
- 139 Powers of children's hearing on deferral under section 138
- 140 Interim variation of compulsory supervision order
- Preparation of report in circumstances relating to permanence order or adoption

## Review of relevant person determination

Review of determination that person be deemed a relevant person

## **PART 14**

## IMPLEMENTATION OF ORDERS

Power to transfer child in cases of urgent necessity

143 Transfers in cases of urgent necessity

## Implementation of compulsory supervision order

- 144 Implementation of compulsory supervision order: general duties of implementation authority
- Duty where order requires child to reside in certain place
- 146 Breach of duties imposed by sections 144 and 145
- 147 Application for order
- 148 Order for enforcement

Compulsory supervision orders etc.: further provision

149 Compulsory supervision orders etc.: further provision

Movement restriction conditions: regulations etc.

150 Movement restriction conditions: regulations etc.

#### Secure accommodation

- 151 Implementation of secure accommodation authorisation
- 152 Secure accommodation: placement in other circumstances
- 153 Secure accommodation: regulations

#### **PART 15**

#### **APPEALS**

170 171

Status: Point in time view as at 31/01/2012.

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

	Appeal against decision of children's hearing
154 155	Appeal to sheriff against decision of children's hearing Procedure
156	Determination of appeal
157	Time limit for disposal of appeal against certain decisions
	Compulsory supervision order: suspension pending appeal
158	Compulsory supervision order: suspension pending appeal
	Frivolous and vexatious appeals
159	Frivolous and vexatious appeals
	Other appeals
160	Appeal to sheriff against relevant person determination
161	Appeal to sheriff against decision affecting contact or permanence order
162	Appeal to sheriff against decision to implement secure accommodation authorisation
	Appeals to sheriff principal and Court of Session
163	Appeals to sheriff principal and Court of Session: children's hearings etc.
164	Appeals to sheriff principal and Court of Session: relevant persons
165	Appeals to sheriff principal and Court of Session: contact and permanence orders
	Requirement imposed on local authority: review and appeal
166 167	Review of requirement imposed on local authority Appeals to sheriff principal: section 166
	PART 16
	ENFORCEMENT OF ORDERS
168	Enforcement of orders
169	Child absconding from place
170	Child absconding from person

## **PART 17**

Offences related to absconding

## PROCEEDINGS UNDER PART 10: EVIDENCE

Use of evidence obtained from prosecutor
Cases involving sexual behaviour: evidence
Cases involving sexual behaviour: taking of evidence by commissioner
Sections 173 and 174: application to sheriff for order as to evidence
Amendment of Vulnerable Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2004

## **PART 18**

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Document Generated: 2024-06-09

Status: Point in time view as at 31/01/2012.

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

	Children's hearings: procedural rules
177	Children's hearings: procedural rules
	Disclosure of information
178 179 180	Children's hearing: disclosure of information Sharing of information: prosecution Sharing of information: panel members
	Implementation of compulsory supervision orders: annual report
181	Implementation of compulsory supervision orders: annual report
	Publishing restrictions
182	Publishing restrictions
	Mutual assistance
183 184	Mutual assistance Enforcement of obligations on health board under section 183
	Proceedings before sheriff under Act
185	Amendment of section 32 of Sheriff Courts (Scotland) Act 1971
	Consent of child to medical examination or treatment
186	Consent of child to medical examination or treatment
	Rehabilitation of offenders
187	Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974: treatment of certain disposals by children's hearings
	Criminal record certificates
188	Criminal record certificates
	Places of safety
189	Places of safety: restrictions on use of police stations
	Orders made outwith Scotland
190	Effect of orders made outwith Scotland
	PART 19
	LEGAL AID AND ADVICE
191 192	Legal aid and advice Power to make regulations about contracts for provision of children's legal aid

PART 20

**GENERAL** 

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

#### Formal communications

193 Formal communications

**Forms** 

194 **Forms** 

## Subordinate legislation

- 195 Subordinate legislation
- 196 Negative procedure
- 197 Affirmative procedure
- Super-affirmative procedure 198

#### *Interpretation*

- 199 Meaning of "child"
- 200 Meaning of "relevant person"
- Meaning of "relevant local authority" 201
- 202 Interpretation

#### General

- 203 Consequential amendments and repeals
- 204 Ancillary provision
- Transitional provision etc. 205
- Short title and commencement 206

SCHEDULE 1 — Children's Hearings Scotland

Status

(1) CHS—(a) is not a servant or agent of...

## Membership

(1) The members of CHS are to be appointed by...

## Persons disqualified from membership

3 A person is disqualified from appointment, and from holding office,...

## Resignation of members

A member of CHS may resign office by giving notice...

## Removal of members

(1) The Scottish Ministers may revoke the appointment of a...

#### Remuneration, allowances etc.

(1) CHS must pay to its members—

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

## Chairing meetings

7 (1) The Scottish Ministers must appoint one of the members...

#### The National Convener

8 (1) CHS is, with the approval of the Scottish Ministers,...

Supplementary powers of National Convener

9 The National Convener may do anything that the National Convener...

Delegation of National Convener's functions

10 (1) The functions of the National Convener conferred by virtue...

Staff

11 (1) CHS may employ any staff necessary to ensure the...

Area support teams: establishment and membership

12 (1) The National Convener must establish and maintain a committee...

Transfer of members from CPACs

13 (1) This paragraph applies where the National Convener establishes an...

Area support teams: functions

14 (1) An area support team is to carry out for...

#### Committees

15 (1) CHS may establish committees. (2) The members of committees...

CHS's supplementary powers

16 (1) CHS may do anything that it considers appropriate for...

## Procedure

17 (1) CHS may determine— (a) its own procedure (including quorum),...

Delegation of CHS's functions

18 (1) Any function of CHS (whether conferred by virtue of...

## Financial interests

19 (1) The Scottish Ministers must from time to time satisfy...

#### Grants

20 (1) The Scottish Ministers may make grants to CHS of...

#### Accounts

21 (1) CHS must—(a) keep proper accounts and accounting records,...

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

## Provision of accounts and other information to Scottish Ministers

22 (1) The Scottish Ministers may direct CHS to give them...

## CHS's annual report

23 (1) CHS must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after...

National Convener's annual report

24 (1) The National Convener must, as soon as is reasonably...

Validity of proceedings and actions

25 The validity of proceedings or actions of CHS (including proceedings...

SCHEDULE 2 — The Children's Panel

Recruitment and tenure of panel members

1 (1) The National Convener may make arrangements for the recruitment...

## List of panel members

2 (1) The National Convener must publish a list setting out...

## Training

3 (1) The National Convener may train, or make arrangements for...

#### Allowances

4 (1) The National Convener may, with the approval of the...

SCHEDULE 3 — The Scottish Children's Reporter Administration

## Status

1 (1) SCRA— (a) is not a servant or agent of...

## Membership

2 (1) The members of SCRA are to be appointed by...

## Persons disqualified from membership

3 A person is disqualified from appointment, and from holding office,...

## Resignation of members

4 A member of SCRA may resign office by giving notice...

## Removal of members

5 (1) The Scottish Ministers may revoke the appointment of a...

#### Remuneration, allowances etc.

6 (1) SCRA must pay to its members—

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

## Chairing meetings

7 (1) The Scottish Ministers must appoint one of the members...

## The Principal Reporter

8 (1) The Principal Reporter is to be appointed by SCRA...

Supplementary powers of Principal Reporter

9 The Principal Reporter may do anything that the Principal Reporter...

Delegation of Principal Reporter's functions

10 (1) The functions of the Principal Reporter conferred by virtue...

Staff

11 (1) SCRA may employ any staff necessary to ensure the...

Appeals against dismissal

12 (1) A person employed by SCRA who is of a...

#### Committees

13 (1) SCRA may establish committees. (2) The members of committees...

## SCRA's supplementary powers

14 (1) SCRA may do anything that it considers appropriate for...

#### Procedure

15 SCRA may determine— (a) its own procedure (including quorum), and...

## Delegation of SCRA's functions

16 (1) Any function of SCRA (whether conferred by virtue of...

#### Financial interests

17 (1) The Scottish Ministers must from time to time satisfy...

#### Grants

18 (1) The Scottish Ministers may make grants to SCRA of...

#### Accounts

19 (1) SCRA must—(a) keep proper accounts and accounting records,...

Provision of accounts and other information to Scottish Ministers

20 (1) The Scottish Ministers may direct SCRA to give them...

## SCRA's annual report

21 (1) SCRA must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after...

Changes to legislation: Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

## Principal Reporter's annual report

22 (1) The Principal Reporter must, as soon as is reasonably...

Validity of proceedings and actions

23 The validity of proceedings or actions of SCRA (including proceedings...

SCHEDULE 4 — Transfer of staff and property to CHS

## Interpretation

1 In this schedule— "recognised" has the meaning given by section...

Staff transfer orders

2 (1) The Scottish Ministers may by order (a "staff transfer...

Schemes for transfer of staff: consultation

3 (1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where a staff transfer order includes...

Effect on existing contracts of employment

4 (1) This paragraph applies where—(a) a person is to...

Transfer of property etc. to CHS

5 (1) The Scottish Ministers may make a transfer scheme.

SCHEDULE 5 — Minor and consequential amendments

Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986 (c.47)

1 (1) The Legal Aid (Scotland) Act 1986 is amended as...

Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (c.36)

2 (1) The Children (Scotland) Act 1995 is amended as follows....

Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004 (asp 8)

3 In section 12 of the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act...

SCHEDULE 6 — Repeals

## **Status:**

Point in time view as at 31/01/2012.

## **Changes to legislation:**

Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 09 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.