

# **CHILDREN'S HEARINGS (SCOTLAND) ACT 2011**

---

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### **Part 1 – the National Convener and Children's Hearings Scotland (Chs)**

##### **The Children's Panel**

##### *Section 4 – The Children's Panel*

6. This section places a duty on the National Convener to appoint persons to be members of the national Children's Panel. The National Convener has a duty to ensure that the Children's Panel is sufficiently staffed and includes people from all local authority areas. This supports the principle of having people from the local community involved in local decision making. Subsection (3) introduces schedule 2 which makes detailed provision concerning the recruitment, appointment, training and payment of expenses of panel members. This section establishes one national Children's Panel for Scotland in place of the 32 local authority panels which currently exist.