

Information sharing by the Children's Reporter

What you need to know if you are aged 16 or 17

This leaflet provides you with important information if you are aged 16 or 17 and either:

- You have a Compulsory Supervision Order, or
- You were referred to the Children's Reporter before your 16th birthday and you are still waiting for a final decision on that referral (either by the Children's Reporter or by a Children's Hearing if the Reporter arranged one).

If that applies to you, in some situations you will still legally be a child.

The law says that the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) has to tell the police that you are still legally a child. The police will record this information on the Police National Computer. This is not because you have done anything wrong, but is to make sure the police know you are still a child.

When a final decision is made about the referral or when your Compulsory Supervision Order ends, the Children's Reporter will tell the police who will then remove this information from the Police National Computer.

You might come to the attention of the police because people are worried about your safety or your behaviour. If this happens, the police must make sure that you are treated legally as a child.

If you have committed an offence, the Procurator Fiscal will discuss things with the Children's Reporter and decide who should deal with the case.

You have a right to know how information held about you is being used. This right is set out in the Data Protection Law. You can ask for a copy of the information we hold about you at any time. This is called a Subject Access Request. If you want to do this, you can contact us at your local Hearing Centre or email our Data Protection Officer at inforequest@scra.gsi.gov.uk. You can also ask someone else to speak to us, for example a member of your family or a solicitor, on your behalf.

If you need any more information, you can access our website at www.scra.gov.uk to read more about how your information will be used and our policies. If you would like to know more about the Data Protection Act, please go to the Information Commissioner's web site at www.ico.gov.uk.