

Easy Read Information Guide for Parents/Carers

Compulsory Supervision Orders



Welcome

This information guide has been produced by the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration, sometimes called SCRA for short.

If your child has to go to a Children's Hearing, they might get put on a Compulsory Supervision Order. If this happens, we want to make sure you have the right information and get all the help you need.

If you would like more information about Children's Hearings, we also have a number of other easy read guides on our website www.scra.gov.uk.

Background information

A Compulsory Supervision Order is a legal document.

It is there to make sure children and young people are safe.

It means a Social Worker will visit your child to make sure they are looked after.

What is a Compulsory Supervision Order?

Compulsory Supervision Orders are made at Children's Hearings.

Children's Hearings take place in Hearings Centres.

Specially trained people called Panel Members will make a decision about what's right for your child.

What does it mean?

Every Compulsory Supervision Order is different.

A Compulsory Supervision Order can mean your child stays at home with your Social Worker coming to visit you and your family.

Your child might need to live away from home, with foster carers or another family member.

Because it's a legal order, the things in it have to happen.

What happens next?

You and your child will be asked to come back to a Hearing within a year of their Compulsory Supervision Order being made.

This is called a Review Hearing.

But if you think your child's Compulsory Supervision Order needs to be changed, you can ask for a Review Hearing.

What if you don't agree?

You or your child have the right to appeal if you're not happy with the decision of the Hearing.

A Sheriff at the Court – a judge – will then listen to everyone involved and make a decision.

How long do they last?

Sometimes Compulsory Supervision Orders last just for a little while; sometimes they can last for a few years.

The longest they can last for is until your child turns eighteen.

They can be ended at any time if things get better.

Need more help?

You can contact the Children's Reporter - their name and contact details will be on the letter which was sent to you about your Hearing.

You can also get legal advice and support and bring a lawyer to your child's Hearing.

You can contact the Scottish Child Law Centre at www.sclc.org.uk or the Scottish Legal Aid Board at www.slab.org.uk for more information.

You can contact Parentline on 08000 28 22 33 or visit their website - www.children1st.org.uk/parentline

Lots more information about Children's Hearings is available at www.scra.gov.uk.

