

Going to a Children's Hearing? - Your Rights



You have the right to:

- ★ Give your views to the Panel Members - and have them taken into account.
- ★ Provide information that you want the Hearing to consider.
- ★ Be given all the information that the Hearing has - if you can understand it.
- ★ Bring someone with you to help you discuss things in your Hearing (this can be anyone you choose - for example, an advocacy worker, friend or any trusted person who you feel will support you).
- ★ Bring a lawyer (solicitor) as well if you wish.
- ★ Have the number of people attending the Hearing (at the same time) to be kept to as few as possible.
- ★ Appeal against the decision made by the Hearing within 21 days from the date of the Hearing.
- ★ Request another Hearing which can take place 3 months after your last Hearing (if your Hearing made or kept a Compulsory Supervision Order in place).

At your Hearing you can also:

- ★ Ask the Hearing to stop for a while if you would like to take a break.
- ★ Ask the Hearing to stop until another day (sometimes called 'continuing' or 'deferring' the Hearing) if you feel that the Hearing should not make a decision yet (for example, if you need to get more information to give the Panel Members).
- ★ Ask to speak to Panel Members on your own, or only with someone you want to be there with you, for part of the Hearing.

The Panel Members will decide whether to agree to any of these things.



Getting advice

You can get advice about your Children's Hearing from:

- ★ A lawyer (also known as a solicitor). The Scottish Legal Aid Board will help you to find a lawyer in your area. Most children and young people don't have to pay for this. Their number is 0131 226 7061 and their website is www.slab.org.uk
- ★ The Scottish Child Law Centre provides free legal advice to children and young people. Please visit their website at www.sclc.org.uk for more information.
- ★ A Children's Rights Officer or advocacy worker. Your local Social Work Department or Children's Reporter should be able to help you with this, or you can visit the Hearings advocacy website at www.hearings-advocacy.com

Making a complaint

If you are not happy about the way you have been treated by someone, you can tell us. Visit www.scra.gov.uk or speak to your Children's Reporter to get more information.

Any questions?

If you need more information, please visit our website:
www.scra.gov.uk

Need more help?

Scan the QR code to take you to this page on our website - Useful Contacts - SCRA

