

# The Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 Safeguarder Panel Regulations 2012



## RESPONDENT INFORMATION FORM

Please Note this form **must** be returned with your response to ensure that we handle your response appropriately

### 1. Name/Organisation

Organisation Name

Perth & Kinross Council

Title Mr  Ms  Mrs  Miss  Dr  *Please tick as appropriate*

Surname

Taylor

Forename

Gillian

### 2. Postal Address

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### 3. Permissions - I am responding as...

Individual /  Group/Organisation  
*Please tick as appropriate*

(a) Do you agree to your response being made available to the public (in Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site)?

*Please tick as appropriate*  Yes  No

(b) Where confidentiality is not requested, we will make your responses available to the public on the following basis

*Please tick ONE of the following boxes*

Yes, make my response, name and address all available

or

Yes, make my response available, but not my name and address

or

Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address

(c) The name and address of your organisation **will be** made available to the public (in the Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site).

Are you content for your **response** to be made available?

*Please tick as appropriate*  Yes  No

(d) We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

*Please tick as appropriate*  Yes  No

## CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

**1. For draft Regulation 3, do you agree with the proposed arrangements for the recruitment and selection of members of the Safeguarders Panel?**

Comments

I agree with the proposed arrangements for recruitment and selection as detailed in draft regulations 3.

**2. In respect of draft regulation 5(2)and 5(3), do you agree with the suggested prerequisites for appointment to the safeguarders panel?**

Comments

I agree with the suggested prerequisites for appointment as detailed in draft regulations 5(2) and 5 (3).

**3. In respect of draft regulation 5(4), do you agree with the proposed classes of persons disqualified from appointment, or from continuing as a member of the Safeguarders Panel?**

Comments

I agree with the proposed classes of persons disqualified from appointment or from continuing as a member of the Safeguarders Panel

**4. Based on draft regulation 7(1) & 7(2), do you agree with the basis on which the Scottish Ministers must appoint and reappoint a person as a member of the Safeguarders Panel?**

Comments

I agree with the basis on which the Scottish Ministers appoint and reappoint a person as a member of the Safeguarders Panel.

**5. In considering draft regulation 7(4), do you conclude that the grounds on which a person may be removed from the Safeguarders Panel are sufficiently wide?**

Comments

The grounds proposed for removing a person from the Safeguarders Panel as detailed in regulation 7(4) are sufficiently wide.

**6. Do you support the requirements set out in draft regulation 8 – that mean that members and prospective members of the safeguarders panel must attend (and successfully complete) training required by the Scottish Ministers?**

Comments

I support the requirements set out in draft regulation 8 which require both members and prospective members of the Safeguarders Panel to attend and successful complete training as specified by Scottish Ministers.

**7. Do you support the proposals set out at draft regulation 10 for the payment of fees, expenses and allowances to members and potential members of the Safeguarders Panel?**

Comments

I support the proposals as set out in regulation 10 for the payment of fees, expenses and allowances to be published and paid to all Safeguarders in an appropriate and consistent manner. It may be useful to consult with local authorities regarding fees, expenses and allowances currently being paid to Safeguarders and the difficulty budgeting for this demand led service.

**8. Do you agree with the proposed arrangements set out at draft regulation 11(4) and (5) for the monitoring and assessment of the performance of members of the safeguarders panel? Are they realistic and proportionate?**

Comments

I agree with the proposed arrangements set out at draft regulation 11(4) and 11(5) for the monitoring and assessment of the performance of members of the Safeguarders Panel.

Whilst noting that Safeguarders are self employed and independent from all other agencies involved in the Children's Hearings system, there is a need to monitor and assess the performance of the Safegaurders panel, particularly as their services are effectively being commissioned and paid for by public funding.

On 13 November 2010, the Scottish Government published their [National Child Protection Guidance in Scotland 2010](#). Underpinning this guidance is the [Children's Charter](#) and the [Framework for Standards](#). This guidance provides a national framework for the care and protection of all children and young people in Scotland. This extends to the safeguarding of all children's needs and rights.

Part 2 of this guidance also specifies the core business functions for all Child Protection Committees (CPCs) in Scotland. This includes the need

for self-evaluation, performance management and quality assurance.

Given the unique role of CPCs locally and the current Care Inspectorates' role in terms of inspection per the [HMle Quality Indicators](#) and forthcoming inspection of children's services model, we feel there could be merit and/or a role, remit and responsibility here either for CPCs to ask Safeguarders to produce self evaluation reports and/or for the care inspectorate to seek for, examine and/or report on their performance locally during future inspections.

This would be particularly relevant in terms of the following child protection inspection Quality Indicators:-

- Quality Indicator 2.1 children and young people are listened to, understood and respected;
- Quality Indicator 2.2 children and young people benefit from strategies to minimize harm;
- Quality Indicator 2.4 Children and young people's needs are met
- Quality Indicator 5.1 Involving children and families in key processes;
- Quality Indicator 5.2 Information sharing and recording;
- Quality Indicator 5.3 Recognising and assessing risks and needs
- Quality Indicator 5.4 Effectiveness of planning to meet needs;
- Quality Indicator 6.3 Involving children and families in developing policies and services