

Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011 Safeguarders: remuneration



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

FAMILY LAW ASSOCIATION

Title: Mr Ms Mrs Miss Dr (Double left click on the relevant box and select the 'checked' option then 'ok')

Surname

GALLAGHER

Forename

JENNIFER

2. Postal Address

BLACKADDERS LLP

30 & 34 REFORM STREET

DUNDEE

Postcode 001 1R5 Phone 01382 229222 Email jennifer.gallagher@blackadders.co.uk

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

POSSIBLE FEES OPTIONS FOR SAFEGUARDERS

Question 1: Do you agree that the current fee scheme should be abolished and replaced?

Yes No

Comments Current structure lacks fairness and uniformity. The level of remuneration is inadequate. The role is important and challenging. There is a high degree of responsibility. Safeguarders are motivated by a desire to benefit the children involved in their cases however the rate of payment should be higher in recognition of the level of responsibility.

Question 2: Which of the fees options (1 - 4) would you support?

Option 1 Option 2 Option 3 Option 4

Comments The structure should allow an initial report fee then payments at certain stages of the process and for each report produced. The fee structure should reflect the fact that this is important essential work. The fees should be reviewed and increased annually.

Question 3: Do you have a suggestion as to alternative method of fees payments? If so, please provide details.

Comments In many cases the safeguarder must carry out extensive work. Constraints on the public purse are such that remuneration has to be realistic and is never likely to be paid at a level that accurately compensates the safeguarder for their time. In order to obtain good, experienced professionals to do this work rates of payment should be higher.

EXPENSES AND ALLOWANCES FOR SAFEGUARDERS

Question 4: Do you accept the proposal to apply Scottish Government Rates for expenses and allowances?

Yes No (if you have answered 'No' please give your reasons below)

Comments

Question 5: Are there other expenses or allowances you would like to be added to the proposed list?

Comments *None*

Question 6: If you support an alternative set of expenses and allowances, please provide detail.

Comments *No*