



Child Youth &  
Community Tribunal

# Volunteer information

Could you make  
the right decisions  
for our children?



## What is the Child Youth and Community Tribunal?

As part of the Children (Guernsey and Alderney) Law, 2008, the Child Youth and Community Tribunal (CYCT) was established and a Children's Convenor appointed.

The Children's Convenor with her Deputy and Assistants are responsible for considering cases where there is concern about a child or young person. If they decide that the grounds set out in the Law may be met, the case can be referred to a hearing of the CYCT.

The CYCT is a legal tribunal in Guernsey and Alderney that makes decisions to help improve the lives of children and young people.

The CYCT system is based on the Children's Hearing system that has been operating successfully in Scotland since 1971.

The CYCT is currently seeking to recruit volunteers.



## Key Facts

- The CYCT is independent and is made up of trained volunteers
- The volunteers are selected from a wide range of backgrounds and receive intensive training
- CYCT members must be aged between 21 and 70
- CYCT members deal with cases that can be complicated and emotionally challenging
- The CYCT makes decisions about children who are in need or in trouble
- The CYCT has powers to make a legal order for children
- CYCT members are formally considered for appointment by the Royal Court on successful completion of their training
- CYCT members receive a small allowance
- CYCT members do not need formal qualifications



## What training do CYCT members receive?

There is a requirement for all CYCT members to undertake a pre-service training programme. Training mainly takes place over weekends and evenings and includes taking part in a simulated hearing session comprising of three case studies.

As well as covering factual topics such as child development, the Law and family relationships, the training will also develop skills including:

- Leadership
- Analytical thinking
- Teamwork
- Decision-making
- Communication
- Influencing and negotiating

All of these skills and knowledge are useful in other areas and are transferable to the workplace.

## What qualities do CYCT members need?

- A real interest in and commitment to improving the lives of children and young people
- An ability to read and understand reports and other information
- An ability to work with other people as a member of a team
- An ability to listen
- A willingness to learn
- An understanding of families and relationships and the problems that can make life difficult for children and young people
- An ability to be open-minded and not to pre-judge people
- The ability to commit to the pre-service training and a further two days of refresher training each year.

## What does a CYCT member gain?

- Knowledge and skills
- A greater understanding of themselves and others
- Satisfaction from helping children and young people to overcome their problems
- Working as part of a group of other committed people, who learn together and support each other

## How do I apply

Contact the CYCT by telephone on 01481 213290 or visit [www.convenor.org.gg](http://www.convenor.org.gg)



## You can make a difference

By joining the Child Youth and Community Tribunal you can play a part in helping children and young people whilst gaining new skills and understanding.



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