



A referral
to the
Children's
Convenor



What is the Children's Convenor?

The Children's Convenor is the person who makes decisions about young people who are having problems in their life. The Children's Convenor is assisted by a Deputy Convenor and three Assistant Convenors. Their titles are often shortened to Convenor.

What is a referral to the Children's Convenor?

A referral is information sent to the Children's Convenor about a young person because they have problems in their life. Most of the information is received from the police, social workers or schools. However, anyone, including you, can contact the Children's Convenor if they are worried about a young person.

There are lots of different reasons why a young person might be referred. These are:

- If they have not been going to school,
- If they have been in trouble with the police,
- If they have been drinking alcohol or taking drugs,
- If their behaviour has been causing concern at home, school or in the community,
- If someone is worried that they are not being cared for properly by their parents or carers,
- If an adult has hurt them or someone in their family in some way.

If I have been referred, what could happen to me?

A Convenor will find out all they can about you and what is going on in your life.

They might speak to a social worker or your teacher and ask them to write a report about you. Once the Convenor has all the information they need, they can decide what to do next.

The Convenor may ask your parents or carers to a meeting to discuss the problems. You may be asked to attend the meeting too.

- The Convenor may decide that you don't need help because you are managing to sort out your problems with help from your family; or
- They may decide that you need some help from somebody like your social worker; or
- They can decide to arrange a hearing of the Child, Youth and Community Tribunal.

If the Convenor decides to arrange a hearing of the Child, Youth and Community Tribunal, you will be sent further information about this.

If you just want to have a chat with someone about any worries you may have, you can contact the HUB. The link to their website is www.thehub.gg



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