

CHILDREN'S HEARINGS (SCOTLAND) ACT 2011

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 1 – the National Convener and Children's Hearings Scotland (Chs)

The National Convener and CHS

Section 1 – The National Convener

3. This section provides for the creation of the post of National Convener of CHS. The first National Convener will be appointed by the Scottish Ministers and thereafter appointments will be made by CHS with the approval of the Scottish Ministers, under terms set out in schedule 1, paragraph 8. Subsection (3) places a duty on the Scottish Ministers to take reasonable steps to involve persons under 21 in the process for selecting the first National Convener and this responsibility is passed to CHS for subsequent appointments in schedule 1. Appointments are for a fixed term of 5 years and the terms and conditions of the first National Convener are to be determined by the Scottish Ministers. The terms and conditions for subsequent appointments will be determined by CHS and approved by the Scottish Ministers.

Section 2 – Children's Hearings Scotland

4. This section provides for the establishment of a dedicated national body to support the Children's Hearings system to be known as Children's Hearings Scotland.

Section 3 – Further provision about National Convener and CHS

5. This section introduces schedule 1 which makes further provision for the National Convener and CHS.