



Children Act 1989

1989 CHAPTER 41

PART I

INTRODUCTORY

7 Welfare reports.

- (1) A court considering any question with respect to a child under this Act may—
 - (a) ask [^{F1}an officer of the Service][^{F2}or a Welsh family proceedings officer] ; or
 - (b) ask a local authority to arrange for—
 - (i) an officer of the authority; or
 - (ii) such other person (other than [^{F1}an officer of the Service][^{F2}or a Welsh family proceedings officer]) as the authority considers appropriate, to report to the court on such matters relating to the welfare of that child as are required to be dealt with in the report.
- (2) The Lord Chancellor may make regulations specifying matters which, unless the court orders otherwise, must be dealt with in any report under this section.
- (3) The report may be made in writing, or orally, as the court requires.
- (4) Regardless of any enactment or rule of law which would otherwise prevent it from doing so, the court may take account of—
 - (a) any statement contained in the report; and
 - (b) any evidence given in respect of the matters referred to in the report, in so far as the statement or evidence is, in the opinion of the court, relevant to the question which it is considering.
- (5) It shall be the duty of the authority or [^{F1}officer of the Service][^{F2}or a Welsh family proceedings officer] to comply with any request for a report under this section.

Status: Point in time view as at 01/04/2005. This version of this provision has been superseded.

Changes to legislation: Children Act 1989, Section 7 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 7(1)(a)(b)(ii)(5) substituted (1.4.2001) by 2000 c. 43, s. 74, **Sch. 7 Pt. II para. 88(a)(b)**; S.I. 2001/919, **art. 2(f)(ii)**
- F2** Words in s. 7(1)(a)(b)(ii)(5) inserted (1.4.2005) by Children Act 2004 (c. 31), s. 40, **Sch. 3 para. 6**; S.I. 2005/700, **art. 2(2)**
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Commencement Information

- I1** S. 7 wholly in force at 14.10.1991 see s. 108(2)(3) and S.I. 1991/828, **art. 3(2)**

Status:

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