

Placement in secure welfare services

This Advice provides Child Protection practitioners with an overview of placements at secure welfare services (SWS), including appeal procedures.

In this practice advice:

- Introduction and purpose
- [Legislation](#)
- [Standards and procedures](#)
- [Considerations for good practice](#)
- [Contact for further procedural advice](#)
- [Checklist of required standards](#)

Date of advice: 14 January 2013

Advice no: 1459

Endorsed by: Assistant Director, Child Protection, Statutory and Forensic Services Design Branch

Introduction and purpose

[Display entire practice advice](#)

 [Print this section](#)

Print entire advice: [\(PDF - 93.6 KB\)](#)

This Advice provides child protection practitioners with an overview of placements in secure welfare services (SWS), and appeal procedures.

SWS may be considered where:

- a child or young person (aged 10-17 years) is at substantial and immediate risk of harm and the child or young person's freedom of movement within the community needs to be restricted in order to ensure their protection from harm
- a placement in a secure setting provides the only suitable option for ensuring the child or young person's safety and wellbeing. Lack of adequate accommodation is not by itself a sufficient reason for placing the child in a secure welfare service.

In these circumstances, depending on the legal status of the child or young person, the divisional Child Protection Operations Manager (or designated on call manager outside office hours) or the Court may make a decision to place the child or young person at a SWS.

Where the case management is contracted to a community service organisation (CSO), the CSO will be responsible for procedural tasks relating to the SWS placement. The case planner is ultimately responsible for overseeing the placement of a child or young person at a SWS.


This Advice should be read in conjunction with Advice number 1069 'Secure welfare service', Advice number 1365 'Placement in secure welfare services pursuant to a section 598 warrant' and Advice number 1367 'Provision of transport between court and secure welfare services' (see [Related links](#)).

In this practice advice:

- Introduction and purpose

- Legislation
- Standards and procedures
- Considerations for good practice
- Contact for further procedural advice
- Checklist of required standards

For information relating to this page contact:cpmanual@dhs.vic.gov.au
Authorised by: Director, Child Protection, Placement and Family Services
Last updated: January 11, 2013

 Disclaimer: If you print and store this document you may be looking at an obsolete version. Always check the latest version of this document online before taking action.