

Links to Deprivation

Focused on children most at risk, our fundamental purpose is to:

- make effective decisions about a need to refer a child to a Children's Hearing
- enable children and families to participate in Hearings
- provide suitable accommodation for Children's Hearings
- disseminate information and data to inform and influence improved outcomes for children and young people

Current trends

13,523 children in Scotland were subject to Supervision Requirements as at 31 March 2009, an increase of 2.3% on the year before. A Supervision Requirement is made for a child where a Children's Hearing decides that compulsory measures are needed to protect the child or address their behaviour. Specific conditions can be attached to the Supervision Requirement such as changing the place where a child may live.



Supervision Requirements across Scotland

The most common places children with a Supervision Requirements resided in 2008/09 were:

Types of Supervision Requirements	%
At home with parents or relevant persons	52.9%
With foster carers	27.8%
With friends/relatives	9.7%
A residential school	0.5%
Local authority home	3.1%
Other	3.3%



Links with deprivation

SCRA conducted its own study on deprivation and children referred to the Reporter – specifically children on Supervision Requirements. SCRA's study looked at all wards across Edinburgh, which was chosen due to the differences between areas of high and low levels of deprivation within the city.

The study found that areas with the highest multiple deprivation had the highest numbers of children on Supervision Requirements.

- Children with Supervision Requirements average 1% of the national child population.
- The ward with the highest multiple deprivation in Edinburgh had 7% of its children subject to Supervision Requirements.
- 49% of children in this ward lived in a house with no adult working, 60% lived in socially rented housing, 51% lived with a single parent and 59% of these children were entitled to free school meals.
- In the ward with the lowest multiple deprivation, the situation was very different. No children were subject to Supervision Requirements. 3% lived in a house with no adult working, 7% lived with a single parent and 2.5% were entitled to free school meals.

The majority of children with Supervision Requirements in Edinburgh (72%) had been referred to the Reporter on care and protection grounds. Whilst 26% of these children had offence and non-offence grounds of referral, only 1.7% had been referred for offending only.

