

Chapter 10: Youth justice

We have set out this chapter to consider the role of the social worker when conducting appropriate adult duties, what happens when a child is accused of a crime, details of bail and then what happens in court and disposals. The accompanying slides follow a similar process.

For those social workers working in Youth Offending Teams, it is important that they should be able to understand children's human rights when they are accused of a crime and especially when they are up in court following charges.

The range of disposals available to courts is set together with the process of youth cautions which occur short of being charged. We have provided details of the sentencing guidance so that social workers can explore the way courts will go about deciding on appropriate disposals. We have also provided more details about the implications for care planning when a child is remanded into the care of the local authority and when they are detained in custody. Detention Placement Plans are described which we hope is useful for social workers to consider in respect of how they should support children in those circumstances.