

Assessment Order

Under S55(1) of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 the local authority can apply for a Child Assessment Order if they have reason to suspect that your child has suffered or is likely to suffer significant harm and that an assessment is necessary and that this assessment is being denied.

A Child Assessment Order allows for your child to be seen and where necessary allows for an assessment of your child's health and development to be undertaken.

A Child Assessment Order lasts no more than 7 days.

The Sheriff can attach conditions to the Order to ensure the safety and welfare of the child and to make sure the Order is carried out. For example, the Sheriff may attach conditions that your child lives at a particular place while the assessment is being carried out.

On application to the Sheriff for a Child Assessment Order, if the Sheriff believes that the conditions for making a Child Protection Order exist, he/she will issue a Child Protection Order instead.

If a Child Assessment Order is sought for your child you should seek legal advice at the start of this process. Legal aid may be available.

Under the Age of Legal Capacity (Scotland) Act 1991 depending on their age and understanding, your child has the right to agree or refuse to have a medical examination, assessment or treatment and their consent will be sought before any medical assessment will be carried out.