

Practice tool: Tips for completing s.82 reports

Overview	Headings and content to include in report
<p>Structure of the report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Legal status of child / young person - orders allocating parental responsibility » Purpose of the report - provide information on suitability of arrangements for the care and protection of child / young person; assess the progress in implementing the Care Plan including progress towards achieving a permanent placement; provide information on the issues specified by the court in the section 82 order » Sources of information – identify dates of any home visits, interviews with child / young person, carers, parents, teachers, counselors, documents / files; and attach a copy of key documents » Short history / background – provide information which is relevant to the purpose of the report » Placement(s) since final care orders were made – duration, strengths, problems and how they are being addressed, permanency of placement, whether placement meeting needs identified in Care Plan » Restoration (if part of Care Plan) – progress, problems and how they are being addressed, any proposed changes to timetable for restoration » Contact - what contact has taken place since orders made or last report prepared; effect of contact on children; whether contact meeting needs identified in Care Plan; any changes proposed to contact arrangements eg frequency, location, etc; where supervised contact has been contracted to another service provider, the outcome of each contact visit need to be recorded, monitored and reviewed » Needs of child / young person – eg current care plan / case plan; placement needs and permanency planning; health, medical and dental needs; participation in recreational / social activities, tutoring, etc; any legal issues (eg victim’s compensation); education / vocation needs; emotional and behavioural needs; birth family / significant other contact; other services / professionals involved; any other issues; and outline how these needs are being met
<p>Tips about how to manage other information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Do not include the names of authorised carers in your report » Consult a legal officer about annexing documents to the report » Where including information from Risk of harm reports, do not identify the reporter (as per s.29)
<p>Final steps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Agency Manager to review the report » Forward report and care order to CFRU for review by Care Legal Support » CFRU completes a Report to Children's Court (Sec 76 (4) & 82 (1)) and attaches the section 82 report and a copy of the care order(s) » CFRU files before the Court’s due date