



Family group meeting

The Department of Child Safety must prepare a case plan which is considered appropriate for meeting the child/children's assessed protection and care needs.

Section 51G of Child Protection Act 1999 outlines the purpose of a Family Group Meeting.

- a) To provide family based responses to children's protection and care needs; and
- b) To ensure an inclusive process for planning and making decisions in relation to children's wellbeing and protection and care needs.

Section 51 L outlines who should be involved in a Family Group Meeting.

The convener must give the following persons a reasonable opportunity to attend and participate in the meeting:

1. The child, unless it would be inappropriate because of the Child's age or ability to understand;
2. The Child's parents;
3. Other members of the Child's family group who the convenor considers likely to make a useful contribution to the plan's development at the meeting.
4. Other persons who the child has a significant relationship;
5. Any legal representative of the child;

Please advise your Solicitor or the Department of Child Safety should there be anyone else you feel should be present at the Family Group Meeting.

The issues that are addressed at a Family Group Meeting include but are not limited to:

1. The ability to meet day to day care needs of the child/children in an appropriate manner in a safe and stable environment.
2. Appropriate parenting skills.
3. Health issues
4. Accommodation issues
5. Education issues
6. Domestic violence issues.
7. Family contact and
8. Communication with the Department

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