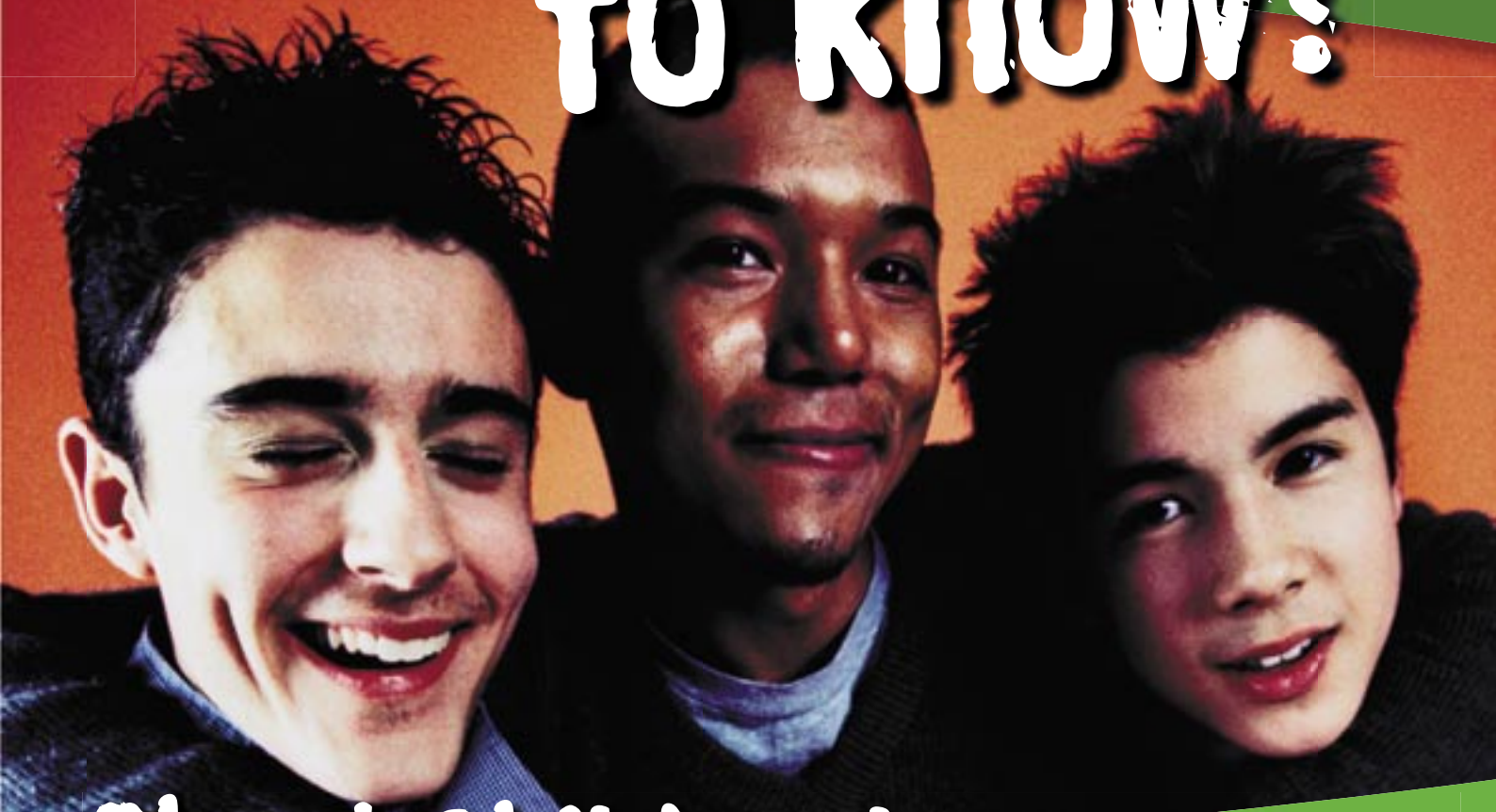


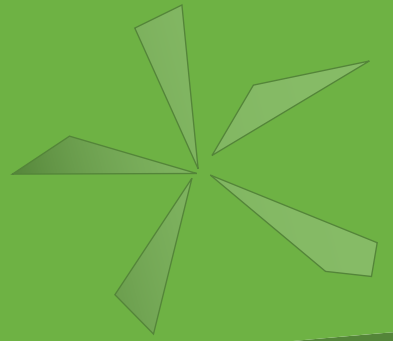
Information for Victims of Youth Crime



**Do you want
to know?**



About Children's Hearings



Do you want to know what happens to the person who did this to you?

The police and other officials take it **VERY SERIOUSLY** when young people break the law and hurt other young people. They are expected to learn from their mistakes and change how they behave.

First of all, if the police think a young person has committed a crime, they usually pass the details to the **Children's Reporter**.

The Children's Reporter will then make a decision on what to do next. In some instances they may decide that an official meeting needs to take place to decide what should be done. This meeting is called a **Children's Hearing**.

A Children's Hearing looks at things that are going on in a young person's life as well as what they have done. It aims to make things better for everybody by trying to look at the behaviour that causes problems and what's best for the young person.



Who goes to a Hearing?

The people who usually attend a Children's Hearing are three Children's Panel Members (specially trained volunteers), the young person who did this to you, their parents/carers, the Children's Reporter, and maybe a social worker or teacher.

If the Children's Hearing decides that something needs to be done, they can give the young person "compulsory supervision". This means that they have to work with a social worker or other people whose job is to help young people who do these kind of things.



Do you want to know what happens to you?

You are not involved in what happens under the law. This doesn't mean that no one cares about you or what happened to you. It's just the way it works.

You don't go to the Children's Hearing. This is because these meetings discuss private information about the young person who did this to you. Children's Hearings find out what happened from the police and the Children's Reporter.

Sometimes the case goes to a Sheriff in the Sheriff Court if people don't agree with the decision. You might have to tell the court what you saw (give evidence) if that happens, but this is very unusual.



Do you want to know what is decided?



You won't be told automatically, however, Victim Support Scotland can tell you how to find out.

You can phone us on: **0845 603 9213 Monday to Friday 9am-4.30pm.**

Outwith these times you can phone UK Victim Support on 0845 303 0900 Monday to Friday 9am-9pm; weekends 9am-7pm and public holidays 9am-5pm.





Victim Support Scotland values diversity and is committed to working towards equality in all aspects of the service.

We welcome feedback from service users.

Please contact us if you would like this document in Braille, large print, audiotape, computer format or a community language.

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You can contact us using Typetalk

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Patron HRH The Princess Royal

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