



Children's Court of Western Australia

Practice Direction 1 of 2022

Protection applications lodged in a regional Children's Court

1. Application of Practice Direction

- 1.1. This Practice Direction applies to the first hearing of a protection application lodged at a regional Children's Court and is to be read in conjunction with Practice Direction 6 of 2021.
- 1.2. This Practice Direction has effect from 10 January 2022.

2. Referral of matter from regional court to circuit magistrate

- 2.1. Where there is no sitting of a regional Children's Court within 3 working days after the lodgment of a protection application at a regional court registry, immediate inquiries should be made as to whether a magistrate at the court which usually circuits to the regional court is available to hear the matter.
- 2.2. If the circuit magistrate is available to hear the matter within 3 days, the first hearing must be listed before that magistrate and the hearing may be conducted by video link or audio link.

3. Referral of matter to Perth Children's Court

- 3.1. Where there is no available circuit magistrate court to hear the matter, it should be referred immediately to the Perth Children's Court for listing and first hearing.

- 3.2. The first hearing may be conducted by video link or audio link from Perth Children's Court to the regional Children's Court.
- 3.3. After first hearing the matter will be adjourned to the next sitting of the regional Children's Court for continuing management in accordance with Practice Direction 6 of 2021.



Judge Hylton Quail

President

Children's Court of Western Australia

6 January 2022