



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Corrective Services**

# Fact Sheet

## Curfews and Electronic Monitoring

### What is a curfew?

A curfew is a rule where you have to stay at a certain place for a certain time under the supervision of your parents/caregivers.

Your curfew will be for more than two hours, but no more than 12 hours a day in one place. You can stay on a curfew for up to six months.

### How does it work?

Curfews ordered by the court must be strictly followed. Your parents/caregivers are responsible for making sure you obey the curfew.

If your youth justice officer thinks you are breaking the curfew, they can:

- fit you with an electronic monitor
- make random telephone calls to your home
- visit without warning, or
- have a security guard visit you at random times.

If you don't follow your curfew, you could go back to court to explain why you broke your curfew.

### What is an electronic monitor?

An electronic monitor is a small device, like a bracelet, that can be fitted to your wrist or ankle. It can only be taken off by a youth justice officer. An electronic monitor may be used as soon as you are placed on your curfew, or can be fitted at any time if required. Your youth justice officer will tell you more about electronic monitoring during the curfew assessment.

The electronic monitor sends out a radio signal that tracks where you are. If you break your curfew, an alert sounds and your youth justice officer is told immediately. If you try to take off the monitor yourself, an alert will also be sent.

### What is the assessment about?

The court will ask a youth justice officer to check out how a curfew could work in your case. Both you and your parents/caregivers must agree to have a curfew monitored either electronically or by random home visits or phone calls if required.

The officer will visit your home and talk to you and your parents/caregivers. They then tell the magistrate what they found and how the curfew could be monitored in your case.



## **Curfews and Electronic Monitoring - continued**

### **What happens then?**

If the magistrate gives you a curfew you will need to attend a meeting organised by your youth justice officer. At that meeting your youth justice officer will explain to you when the curfew will apply and how it will be monitored. If electronic monitoring is required then you will be visited at your home in order for the unit to be installed.

### **What if something happens and I can't stay at my home?**

If there is an emergency, or if you feel threatened at home during your curfew hours, you must contact your youth justice officer immediately.

If the emergency happens at night between 5.00 pm and 7.00 am, staff at Killara Youth Support Service can help you or your caregivers.

Killara is a support service for young people and their families who are having difficulties. The service is free and operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You will meet someone from Killara at the post-sentence meeting and you will be given their contact details.