



Irish Foster Care Association Legal Protection

As a member of the Irish Foster Care Association you can avail of this cover. Please contact the association for details of annual membership fees.

Covers

- **Legal Defence**
 - Defence for your legal rights when dealing with the Gardai where it is alleged that you have committed a criminal offence in connection with your activities as a foster carer
 - Defence for Criminal prosecutions or certain civil actions against you as member of the Irish Foster Care Association
 - Defence for Disciplinary hearings brought against you by a regulatory authority or professional body
- **Telephone Helplines**
 - Legal advice
24/7 confidential legal advice on any personal legal problem under the laws of the Republic of Ireland
 - Counselling
24/7 confidential counselling support in dealing with personal problems for you or your family

We provide these services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE THAT OUR LEGAL HELPLINE CAN ASSIST YOU WITH

My neighbour keeps interfering with my boundary what should I do?

My employer has cut my pay without my consent what should I do?

Suffered a personal injury while out or in work, do I have a claim?

Booked a holiday which was cancelled by organiser what are my rights to a refund?

How does a family separation work?

CIVIL CLAIM EXAMPLE

A complaint is made against a Foster carer. While TUSLA investigate the child is removed from the care of the Foster carer. ARAG will assist the carer from the outset with legal advice and ensure that TUSLA follow the appropriate procedures in investigating the complaint while guaranteeing the foster carers rights are protected.

CRIMINAL PROSECUTION EXAMPLE

If an allegation of abuse is made against the foster carer and the DPP (Director of Public Prosecutions) commences a prosecution against the foster carer, ARAG will assist in the defence of the prosecution.

Claims procedure – what to do

It is important to contact ARAG as soon as you become aware of a problem. ARAG Legal Advisors are available 24 hours a day 365 days a year. ARAG have been notified of numerous potential claims, all have been settled out of court and in favour of the Irish Foster Care Association.

These claims centred around allegations of abuse either by the child or and outside party. ARAG have a wealth of knowledge in providing support, guidance, and advice in dealing with these issues.