



Voogdijraad  
*Rijkdienst Caribisch Nederland*

# Annual Report 2024

Guardianship Council CN





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# Foreword

Dear reader,

Please find enclosed the annual report and annual figures for 2024 of the Guardianship Council CN.

2024 was primarily the year in which an important foundation was laid for the further professionalisation of the Guardianship Council. For example, the Guardianship Council relocated, new staff members were recruited, and we worked with the Ministry of J&V to shape the approach of the change assignment. Many positive steps have already been taken, and in the coming period we will focus primarily on the actual realisation of these changes, so that the Guardianship Council becomes even more professional, stable and future-proof.

Despite understaffing and various policy challenges, we have once again accomplished a great deal of important work. The passion and the quality of our team are highly valued in the field. Nevertheless, the pressure on the implementation throughout the chain has remained noticeable and requires additional attention.

The cooperation with the Ministry of Justice and Security has also been strengthened, with investments made in additional capacity and resources to achieve our goals.

I am proud of our team, which, despite all the difficulties and restrictions of the past year, has managed to continue its work through their knowledge and dedication. I therefore look forward with great confidence, energy and a positive attitude to the major challenges that lie ahead of us in the coming year.



Kind regards,

Bart Kraaijeveld

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bart Kraaijeveld', written over a white background.

Deputy Director  
Guardianship Council CN

# 1

## Civil duties

### Child protection investigations

In 2024, 33 child protection investigations were reported or initiated. Most of the investigations were conducted into children residing on Bonaire. Two investigations were conducted into children on Saba and two into children on St. Eustatius.

Most of the requests for investigation originated from ZJCN. Four requests originated from the Care and Safety House, and four investigations were initiated ex officio by the Guardianship Council CN in response to other types of investigations.

With ZJCN, cooperation arrangements were evaluated and adjusted with regard to child protection investigations, among other things. They describe the roles and tasks involved when a child protection investigation is on the waiting list, how child safety is assessed, and what happens after an investigation has been completed. These cooperation arrangements also include a pilot project on how the assessment task can be shaped. The goal is to then gain a clear understanding of the frequency and deployment required for the assessment task in 2025 and 2026.

The document “Request for investigation regarding a child protection investigation” (RFI) was also evaluated with ZJCN and revised, after which the new version was implemented. The current version is not only more user-friendly but has also been made more concrete and specific. The effect of the implementation of the new RFI is

already visible. The reports now provide, among other things, a clearer picture of the development of a child, history and previous assistance provided to a family. This enables the Guardianship Council CN to draw up a more targeted investigation plan at the start of a child protection investigation. This then has a positive impact on the duration of the investigation.

In terms of the promotion of expertise, two internal and two external training courses were offered in order to guarantee and improve the quality of the child protection investigations. Consider, for example, training on intergenerational transmission and sexual development.

### Custody and access investigations

In 2024, there was an increase in the number of divorce cases before the Courts and the resulting C&A investigations. This may be due to the population growth on the islands, combined with the fact that mediation processes are not included in the range of support services to which every resident is entitled. A mediation process is now only possible for a fee. However, parenting mediation is freely accessible to residents, in the course of which parents are supported in drawing up a parenting plan.

Looking back on the year 2024, it can be noted that the Guardianship Council conducted 49 of these types of investigations on behalf of the court. What is striking here is that, in factual and quantitative terms, more children were involved in C&A investigations than in CP or criminal investigations.

The majority of the instructions for these investigations were issued by the Court on Bonaire. There were four instructions from the Court on St. Eustatius and two from the Court on Saba.

In addition, the parents of 16 children in the Caribbean Netherlands applied for joint parental authority, which parents can also request the Court through the Guardianship Council CN. What is striking is that these types of applications decreased compared to 2023. This may be because the 2024 Guardianship Council provided less information on this subject during pregnancy classes.

## Guardianship investigations

The Guardianship Council conducts various types of investigations into guardianship measures. In 2023, following coordination within the chain on the CAS islands and with the Netherlands, changes were made to the following two types of guardianship investigations:

Guardianship Scheme for young people from the Antilles when they go to the Netherlands to study.

Guardianship requests from the IND or individuals who want to emigrate a minor without their parents from abroad to the Caribbean Netherlands.

Due to the changes, the Guardianship Council hardly conducted any of these investigations in 2024, and the number has decreased dramatically.



## Child support

Unlike in the European Netherlands, the Guardianship Council oversees the entire process of child support. In 2024, a basic administration tool was introduced to enable periodic reporting and to improve data exchange between the Guardianship Council and the Tax Office CN. After the court has determined the amount of child support, the Tax Office CN, under the mandate of the Guardianship Council CN, carries out the task of collecting and paying child support. This tool lays the foundation for the insight into the subject matter, but the development of a supporting workflow system is still needed to be able to properly manage the performance of these tasks in the future.

The task of child support is therefore an important part of the change assignment, which is further elaborated in 2025 and beyond.

In addition, in 2024 the Guardianship Council lent cooperation in the Child Support (Preferential Status) Act, which takes effect in 2025.

## Central Authority for International Children's Issues (CA ICI)

The Central Authority implements several conventions in the area of child abduction, adoption and child protection. In 2024, further research was conducted into the implementation, interpretation and possibilities for this within the Guardianship Council as part of the change assignment. In 2025, the Guardianship Council will form a vision and take a position on this matter.

# 2

## Criminal duties

### Juvenile delinquency

There has been an increase in violent crime among young people on all three islands. This is reflected in the number of criminal investigations conducted compared to 2023.

In 2024, the Guardianship Council CN prepared 17 early intervention reports (investigation following police custody). One of these cases concerned a young person from Saba and one concerned a young person from St. Eustatius. A total of 16 information reports (following a regular criminal hearing) were prepared, all for young people on Bonaire.

Various research reports and figures are available on juvenile delinquency in the Caribbean Netherlands. What is striking here is that the figures from the essential chain partners do not match due to the different methods of registration. The various organisations in the juvenile justice system therefore conducted a survey in 2024 to determine how they could jointly collect the correct data in order to gain more insight into the growth of juvenile delinquency. A start has already been made on this by and with the Coordinating Policy Officer Juvenile Criminal Law. This has resulted in a more reliable statistical picture of the number of young people who come into contact with the police and the justice system, and for what reasons.

Nor do the studies provide a clear picture of the cause of the increase in juvenile delinquency. What did become clear is that there is a greater need and demand for appropriate prevention measures, including the deployment of Halt.

There is also a need and demand for appropriate behavioural interventions that can be used in juvenile criminal law. In 2024, a new behavioural intervention was introduced under the name "Know your limit". The training can be used in a voluntary or judicial context. "Know your limit" is intended for boys aged 12 to 18 who have exhibited sexually transgressive behaviour (online). Several employees of the Guardianship Council received training in this area (together with other chain partners) and are able to provide this training.

### Judicial Case Review

The Judicial Case Review (JCR) is a chain review in which young people who have come into contact with the police and the judicial system are discussed. In addition to judicial chain partners, compulsory education and/or care organisations can also be involved in the review.

The options under criminal law for the settlement and the progress of criminal proceedings are discussed. Other objectives are

- Promoting effective cooperation between the care and justice chain when offering assistance and deploying interventions.
- Promoting mutual understanding between organisations and sharing knowledge and expertise, both at case and organisational level.
- Obtaining and maintaining an overview, as well as monitoring progress in juvenile (criminal) cases.

At the beginning of 2024, the JCR was reintroduced on Bonaire. At the end of 2024, an evaluation was carried out, after which adjustments have been made to the interpretation of the JCR. It is now also possible to discuss a cross-disciplinary approach with each other to reduce juvenile delinquency, and specific moments for promoting expertise were introduced.

In order to introduce the JCR on Saba and St. Eustatius, consultations were held with the Public Entities and the relevant organisations in order to discuss the interpretation and implementation. The further implementation of this takes place in 2025.

An additional benefit of the JCR is better coordination within the judicial chain. In order to align these work processes even more closely, it was agreed that a joint work process will be established in 2025. This will also ensure that young people know even sooner and more clearly where they stand after coming into contact with the police or the justice system. When describing the work process in 2025, specific attention will be paid to IVS, as there is a difference of opinion among various chain partners about the role of the Guardianship Council



## Halt

Halt remains an important tool for offering minors on the BES islands a second chance after committing a minor criminal offence. The number of Halt registrations is still lagging behind, so in 2024 the Guardianship Council actively worked on the strengthening of the chain cooperation around Halt by initiating an administrative letter of intent with local chain partners and recruiting an employee specifically for the Halt task. A Halt employee was also hired on Bonaire who focuses specifically on the strengthening of the position of Halt in the chain and the implementation of the Halt settlements. On St. Eustatius, there is also a council employee who focuses on this for young people on both St. Eustatius and Saba.

In addition, a broad campaign was organised on the BES, with posters, brochures, commercials and radio interviews in various languages. The aim of this campaign was to increase awareness, knowledge and further development in the area of Halt. The figures for 2024 already show that this has led to more Halt registrations than in 2023.

These efforts are expected to lead to an even higher number of Halt cases being registered in 2025.

## Risk assessment tool

In the last quarter of 2024, the risk assessment tool was implemented and announced, and it was given the name YORIAS+. All council investigators have also been trained in it.

The tool was developed specifically for the Guardianship Council Caribbean Netherlands and is therefore suitable for minors on Bonaire, Saba, and St. Eustatius who come into contact with the law. It was developed in close collaboration with staff from the Guardianship Council and is based on current scientific knowledge about risk assessment and the prevention of recidivism.

With YORIAS+, the council investigator assesses the risk of recidivism, the factors that determine the criminal behaviour, the possibilities for behavioural change and the interests of the victim. This leads to well-founded opinion to the court and the PPO on what is needed to influence the risk of recidivism. Where necessary, the opinion includes specific conditions and a plan of approach describing the objectives and feasibility.

# 3

## Quality and services

In the first quarter of 2024, the organisational research report was delivered, on the basis of which a change assignment was formulated. In response to this, a change manager was appointed in the third quarter for a term of two years. The change assignment is a two-year process that focuses on, among other things;

- Resolving the backlog of child support payments;
- Improving turnaround times and managing standard times;
- Questioning tasks and services based on analyses;
- Improving and further professionalising in the area of ICT;
- Formulating the structure and vision for a sustainable Guardianship Council;
- Investing in team development.

Temporary funding and capacity have been made available for this. The change assignment will put more pressure on implementation than it will provide relief. This has also been noticeable and tangible for all employees in 2024.

Together with the team of the Guardianship Council, a start has been made, among other things through team sessions, to gain more insight into each other's qualities, the qualities within the organisation and the expectations for the future when it comes to the services and tasks of the Guardianship Council. This will continue in 2025.

A number of improvements have also been implemented, aimed at reducing the waiting list and minimising the risks for minors. The waiting list has decreased significantly compared to 2023. In 2023, there were an average of 40 children on the waiting list, compared to 15 in 2024. One of the tasks related to the waiting list and its management is prioritising the cases on the waiting list. From the first quarter of 2024 onwards, there will be weekly consultations between screeners and waiting list management, but with an additional focus on prioritisation and the distribution of cases.

A final point of attention is that two internal work processes / protocols were evaluated and additional attention was paid to privacy rules and legislation.

# 4

## Business operations

### Relocation

In 2024, the Guardianship Council CN was forced to relocate from its main location on Bonaire due to the termination of the lease agreement. Given the scarcity of office locations on Bonaire, in June 2024 the Guardianship Council CN relocated to temporary housing whilst awaiting a permanent location.



### Formation and staffing

The small size of the agency, combined with a large number of different statutory tasks, remains vulnerable to unexpected absences. At the end of 2024, after a long period of understaffing, the Guardianship Council CN succeeded in filling all positions and areas of expertise.

In the third and fourth quarters, the staffing levels were almost at maximum capacity, with two FTEs being temporary reinforcements. Maintaining the capacity in the implementation remains vulnerable. Absenteeism fluctuates greatly, and the shortage of staff working on child support is a particular cause for concern. The current formation is not sufficient for the current cases and backlogs. During a period of four to five months, the positions of Legal Adviser and Business Operations and Policy Adviser were not filled due to the departure of two employees. This has also had an impact on both the employees and the performance of various tasks.

### Council composition

As part of the change assignment, a process was launched in the last quarter of 2024 to recruit members of the Guardianship Council, who oversee the functioning of the office of the Guardianship Council. At the end of 2024, this led to the nomination of a member from Saba and a chair from Bonaire to the Ministry of Justice and Security.



# 5 Annual figures

The inflow of requests and the number of cases handled were compared with the inflow figures from previous years. Compared to the year 2023, there is an 8% increase in the total inflow. The total inflow in 2023 arrived at 166, and in 2024 it reached 180. These are only the civil and criminal cases. The inflow from the Central Authority and Child Support are excluded from this.

These figures give a partial impression of the scope of the work of the Guardianship Council and the developments.

The activities of the Guardianship Council can be divided into investigations in the area of civil law and criminal law. In addition, this publication mentions the role of special guardian in parentage cases, the Central Authority and Child Support.

There are four categories of civil investigations: protection investigations, custody and access, (temporary) guardianship and RSAP (renunciation, screening of foster parents, adoption and parentage). There are two categories within criminal investigations: juvenile criminal cases and Halt

## Protection investigations

Parents have the primary responsibility for the upbringing of their children. This does not always go smoothly. If there are problems within a family, parents can get help from family, friends or a professional care provider such as Aksezo or Care and Youth Caribbean Netherlands (ZJCN). If voluntary assistance is insufficient and/or the development or safety of a child is at risk, the Guardianship Council may be called in. The Guardianship Council investigates and decides whether a measure should be requested from the court.

### Protection measures

The protection duties of the Guardianship Council relate to situations in which the (physical) safety and development of a child is at risk. Based on child protection investigations, necessary measures can be taken, such as placing children under supervision, removing them from their homes, and terminating parental authority. In urgent cases, a child can be placed under temporary supervision and removed from their home. After that, a thorough investigation is conducted to find a long-term solution for the child. The guiding principle is that assistance and/or treatment should be provided on the islands or in the region as much as possible. If this is not possible due to a lack of facilities on the islands, young people can be placed in an open or closed youth care institution in the European Netherlands (EU NL).

### Request for investigation

Requests for investigation usually originate from Youth Care, but can also be received from the court and several other chain partners. The Guardianship Council also receives reports from abroad, for example from Guardianship Councils in the region or from EU NL. If there are sufficient indications, the Guardianship Council can also extend an ongoing investigation ex officio to a protection investigation or to other children within a family.

**Domestic Violence and Child Abuse advice and reports**

Citizens can initially contact Akseso for care and social assistance. Consider assistance with problems at home, questions about parenting, or budget guidance in case of debts. Akseso also houses the advice and reporting hotline for domestic violence and child abuse (Guiami) for first-line advice. Here, members of the public can report (suspected) unsafe situations or obtain advice on what steps can be taken. If necessary, Guiami can forward a report to ZJCN and/or the Guardianship Council.

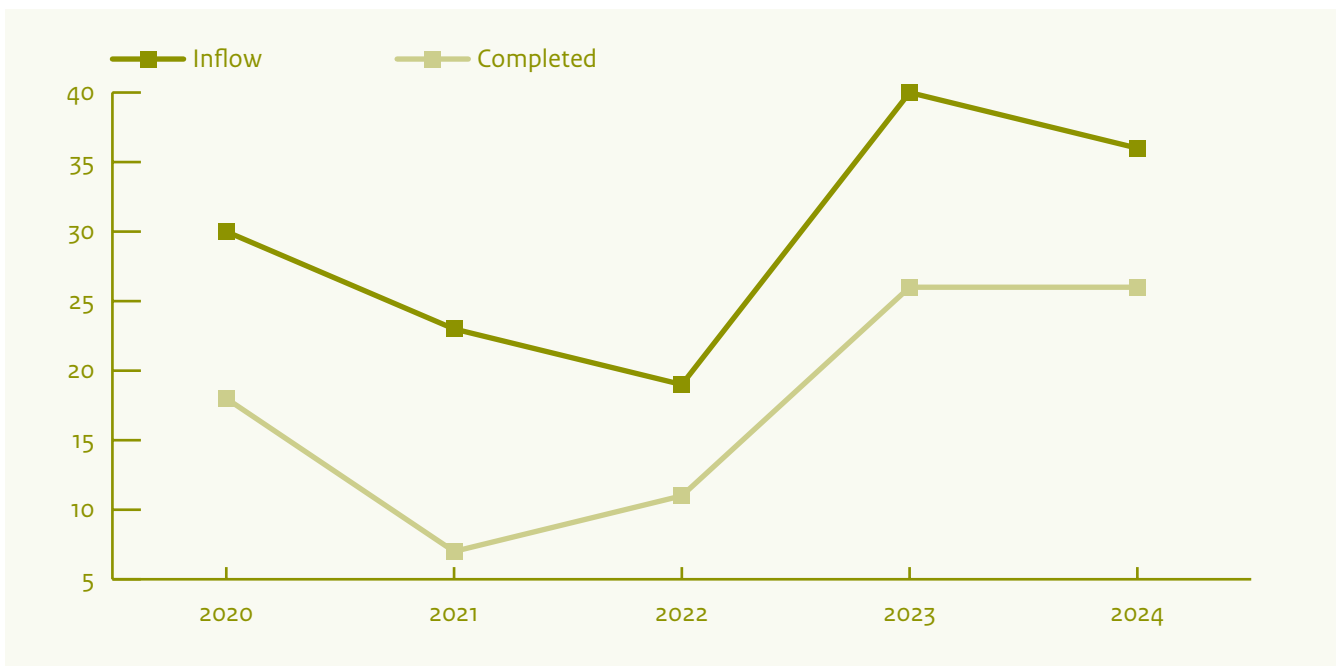
**Figures**

In 2024, a slight decrease can be seen in the number of child protection investigations. Not all requests for investigation that were received have been completed.

Seven are currently being carried out and two of them are still on the waiting list. 26 (72%) of the total inflow of 36 are requests from ZJCN. Of the inflow, 36 were regular child protection investigations. Almost the entire inflow (89%, 32 out of 36) originates from Bonaire.



Graph: Protection investigations



## Custody & Access

**When parents divorce, it is important that they make arrangements regarding the care and upbringing of their child. If they cannot reach agreement on this, it is necessary for a court to make a decision. The court can ask an opinion from the Guardianship Council in this regard.**

The Guardianship Council then conducts an investigation into custody and access and advises the court so that the most appropriate decision can be made in the best interests of the child. This opinion can concern: the parental authority over a child, the division of care and upbringing tasks, the main place of residence of the child and/or a contact arrangement for the child and the parent with whom the child does not live. Sometimes child support is also part of this opinion.

### Other C&A cases

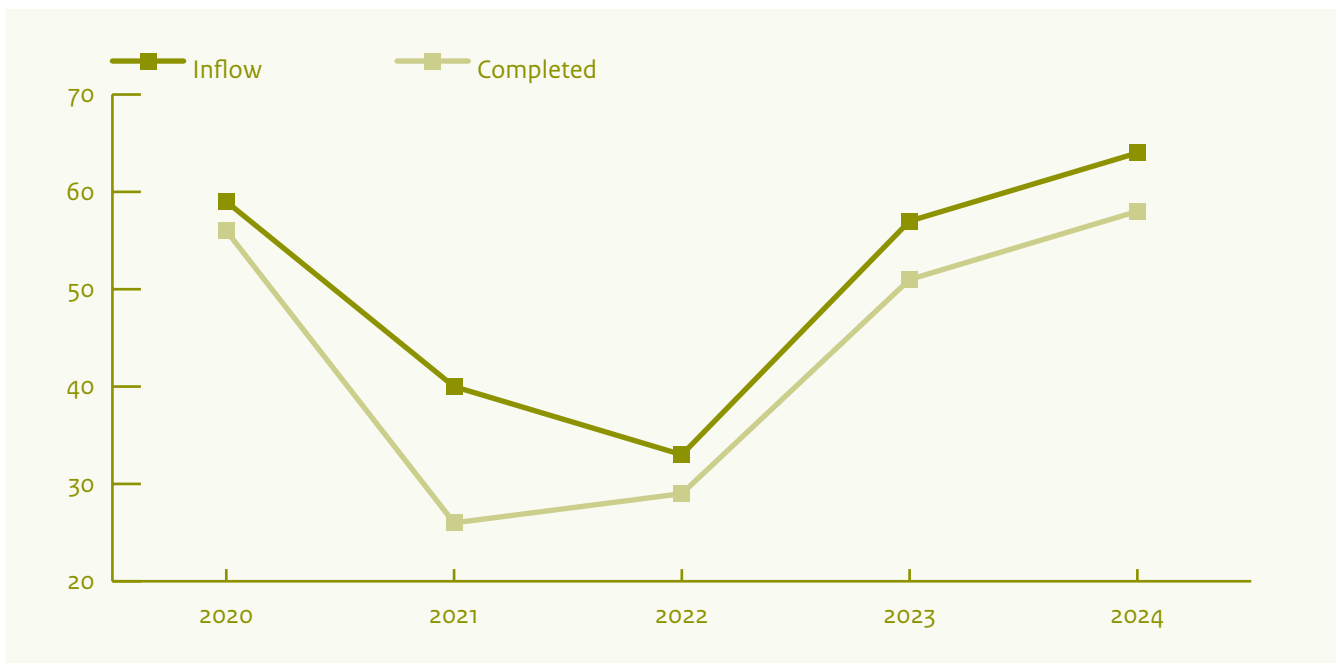
Parents can also apply for joint parental authority through the Guardianship Council. These cases also fall under the category of Authority and Access. These parents are not married, but would like to have joint parental authority over a child. The Guardianship Council assists parents in this process by drafting an application. The court pronounces this joint parental authority. Parents can also submit this application to the court themselves.

Other cases include changes in the parental authority. These are, for example, cases in which a parent had been suspended from parental authority because the child had a guardian. A parent can then submit a request to have the parental authority restored.

### Figures

The inflow of C&A cases increased in 2024 compared to the previous year. Of the total inflow in 2024, 31% (20) were requests for joint parental authority and 76% (49) of the 64 cases of the total joint parental authority cases were on Bonaire.

Graph: Custody & Access



## Guardianship

**A minor must always be under the authority of an adult. If this cannot be the parent, for example due to death, a guardian is required. In principle, authority can also be exercised remotely. The person with parental authority and the child do not need to live together. Underage mothers who are pregnant or have a child over whom they do not yet have parental authority must also have a guardian for the (unborn) child until they come of age.**

In such situations, the parental authority is transferred from the parent(s) to someone else. Then it is called guardianship. A guardian is someone who takes over the responsibility, care and upbringing of the child from the parent(s). A guardian therefore performs official acts on behalf of the minor, such as signing important documents and managing the finances.

When appointing a guardian if the parent(s) are still alive, the parents are suspended from their parental authority. In order to regain the parental authority, parents must apply for 'reinstatement of parental authority'. In order to be reinstated in the parental authority, an investigation is conducted and the guardian must give their consent.

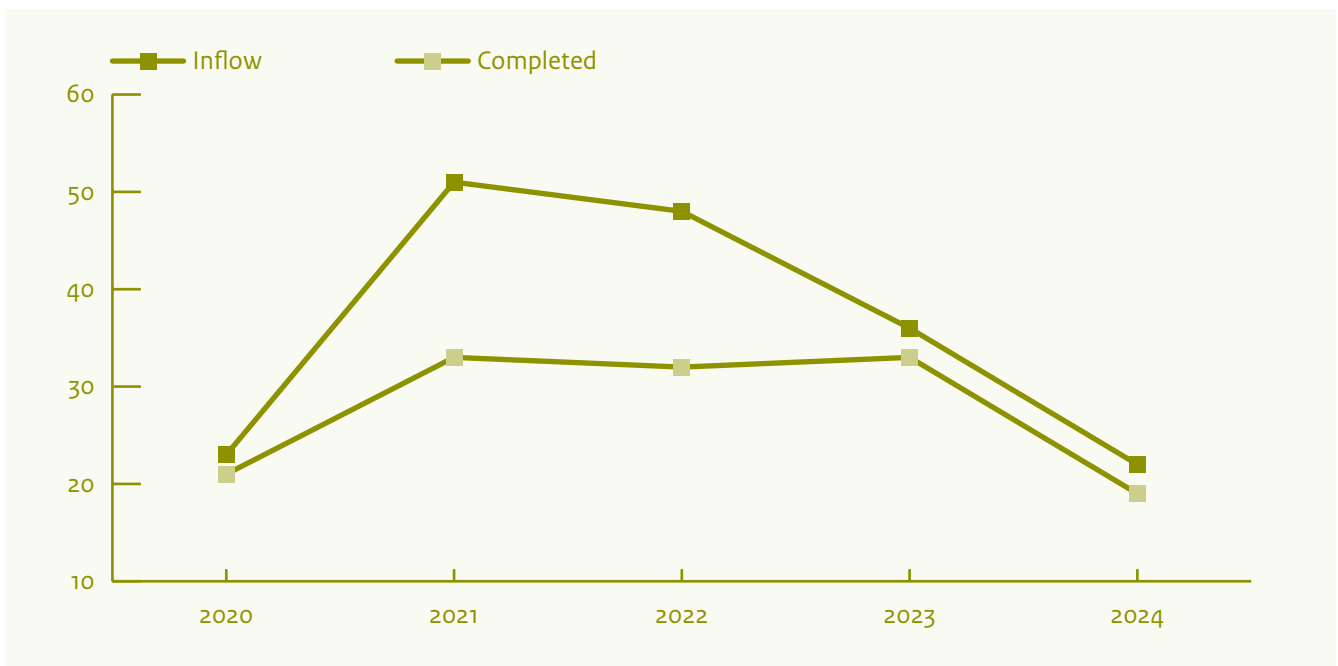
### Teenage pregnancy

If a minor becomes pregnant, it is necessary to appoint a guardian. A minor under the age of 16 cannot yet have parental authority over a child. A teenage mother can request a declaration of majority from the court from the age of 16, so that she can yet obtain the parental authority. The Guardianship Council can submit this kind of application.

### Figures

In 2024, there was a decrease in the number of guardianship applications. The category 'guardianship' also includes declarations of no objection issued to minors who move to the European Netherlands for study purposes. In 2024, this accounted for 40% (9). In 2024, 32% (7) of the guardianship cases concerned underage mothers who were not yet able to exercise the parental authority over their (unborn) child.

Graph: Guardianship cases



## RSAP

**RSAP stands for investigations in the areas of Renunciation, Screening (of prospective foster parents), Adoption Requests and Parentage.**

### Screening of foster parents

When prospective foster parents register with ZJCN, the Guardianship Council conducts part of the screening process. This screening involves the Guardianship Council checking whether there is any incriminating information available about the prospective foster parents, their children or other residents at the same address. Specific attention is paid to whether these residents have been involved in child protection measures. If the Guardianship Council finds no incriminating information, a declaration of no objection is issued to ZJCN. Since mid-2020, this also applies to network foster families. Network foster families are located within the social circle of the minor, for example family or other acquaintances.

### Domestic adoption

It may happen that a child has been living with a foster family for years and the foster parents want to officially adopt the child. This application is submitted to the court, after which the court requests an adoption investigation from the Guardianship Council.

Graph: Screening of foster parents



### Parentage

Children who want information about their biological parents, and parents who want information about a child they have given up, can contact the Guardianship Council. The Guardianship Council assesses whether the information is available and what information the child or parent is permitted to view. To date, no such requests have been received.

### Renunciation

This concerns mothers who renounce their babies. To date, the renunciation of children has not occurred in the Caribbean Netherlands. What may play a role here is that women who have unwanted pregnancies are having abortions. If women do not want to terminate a pregnancy, there is usually agreement within the family that the child will be raised by, for example, the grandmother, aunt or other family members.

### Figures

The number of requests for screening prospective foster parents remained roughly the same compared to 2023. The Guardianship Council does not know how many network foster families are involved or what the final outcome of the overall screening is.

### Special curatorship

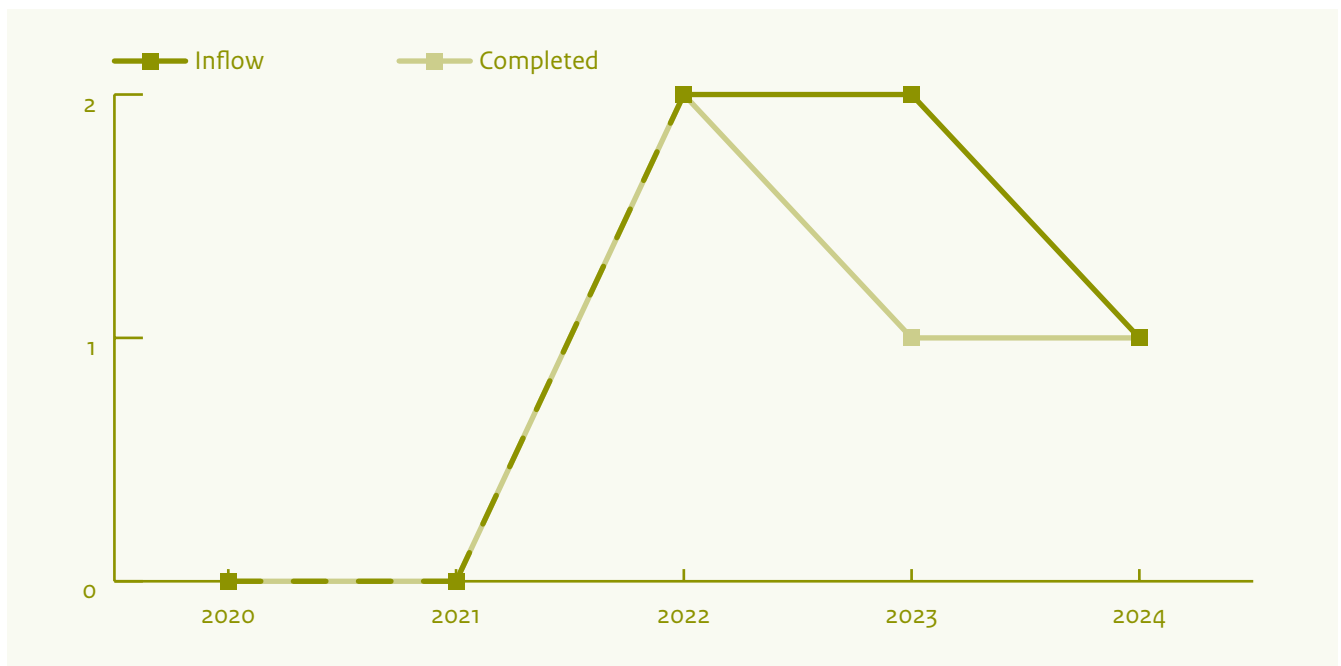
In cases concerning parentage, the Guardianship Council can be appointed as a special curator to represent the minor in the proceedings. This appointment is made by the court.

Parentage cases can concern, for example: judicial determination of the paternity, denial of the paternity arising from marriage, annulment of acknowledgement and substitute consent for acknowledgement. After the Guardianship Council has been appointed as special curator, an investigation is conducted into the factual and legal accuracy of the grounds put forward by the parties. The findings of the investigation are shared with the court and the interested parties.

Since mid-2022, the Guardianship Council has been appointed as special curator in several parentage cases for the first time.



Graph: Special curatorship



## Juvenile criminal cases

The Guardianship Council has an important role in juvenile criminal cases. Since the entry into force of juvenile criminal law (2020), it has been possible to give more appropriate (punishment) advice. This is possible through an expansion of the options for specific juvenile sanctions and appropriate guidance, taking into account the development and situation of the minor.

### Early intervention

When a minor is taken into police custody, the Guardianship Council is notified. At that point, the Guardianship Council launches an investigation that provides information to the PPO and the court about the minor and their situation. In the event of police custody, this investigation is carried out as quickly as possible (within two days) and a recommendation is issued on whether or not to suspend the police custody and under what conditions. This kind of investigation is called an “early intervention”. In principle, attempts are always made to suspend the custody of a minor, subject to appropriate conditions. Reasons for not suspending can relate to the seriousness of the criminal offence, the grounds for investigation or a multi-problem situation in which preconditions (e.g. assistance or accommodation) must first be organised in order to suspend the detention of a minor.

### Regular sentencing recommendation

In addition, after investigation, the Guardianship Council issues an opinion on an appropriate sentence. The sentencing recommendation is based on a risk assessment and aims to prevent the re-offending of the young person and to guide their development. In juvenile criminal cases, the Guardianship Council also focuses on addressing any underlying issues.

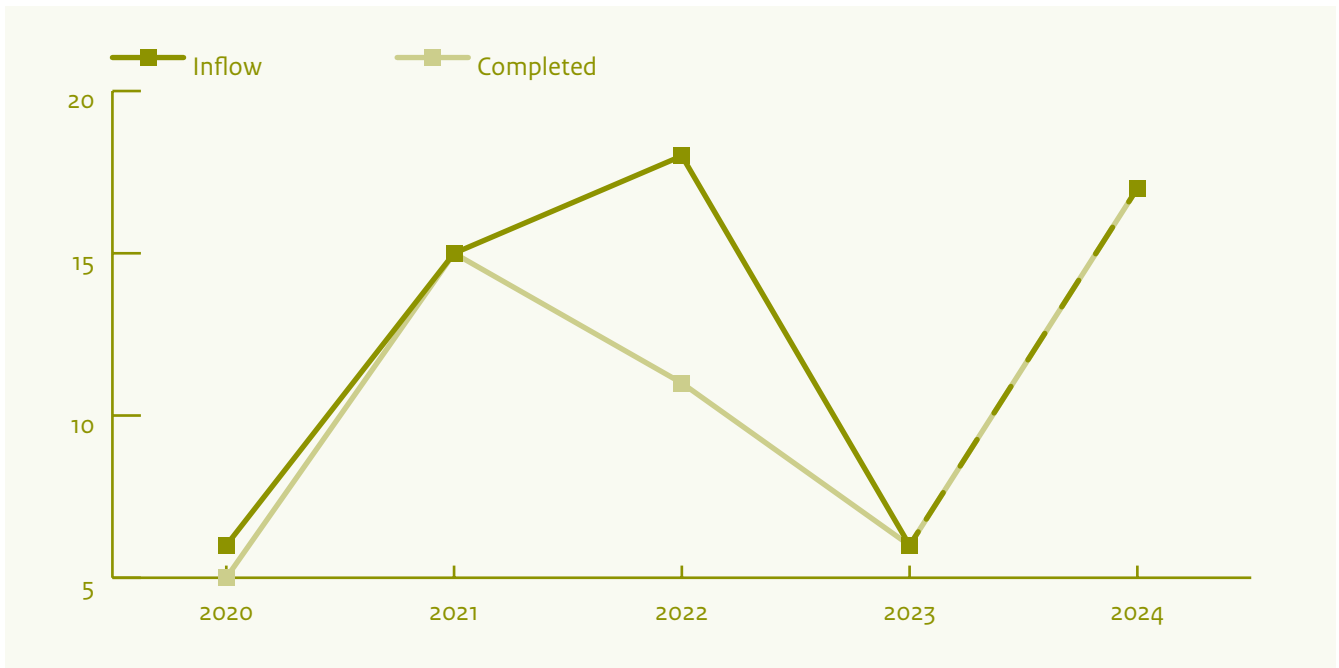
The Guardianship Council always acts in the best interests of the minor and with the understanding that a minor is still developing. The pedagogical nature of juvenile criminal law is enshrined in the International Convention on the Rights of the Child (ICRC) and in the BES juvenile criminal law.

### Figures

The number of early intervention recommendations and the number of criminal investigations increased in 2024 compared to 2023. It is still unclear what is causing this increase in inflow. In 2024, all early intervention recommendations took place on Bonaire.



Graph: Early intervention



Graph: Sentencing recommendation



## Halt

*un chèn mas / one more chance*

**Over the past two years, there has been a sharp increase in the number of juvenile criminal cases, whilst the number of Halt cases has fallen significantly. It is noteworthy that Halt cases do not show the same increase, despite the fact that young people can receive a Halt settlement for minor offences.**

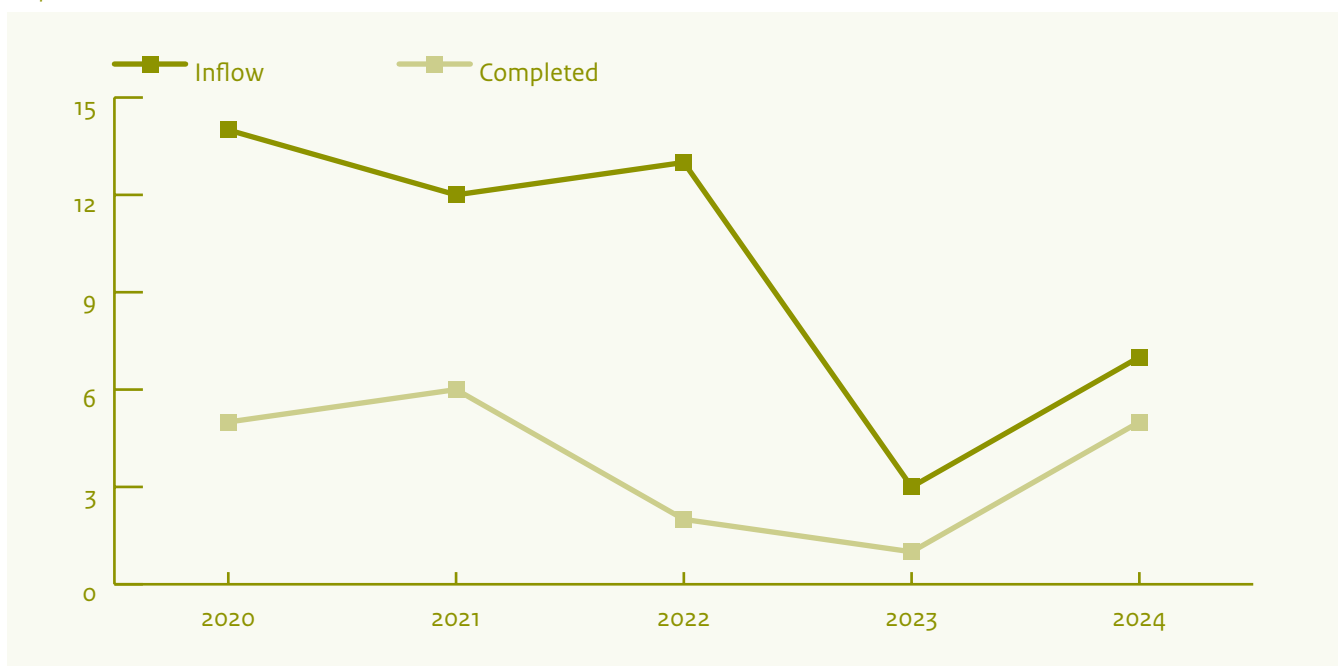
With the entry into force of juvenile criminal law, Halt was also officially launched as an extrajudicial settlement procedure. Under the law, minors who commit certain minor offences for the first time (such as vandalism and driving without a licence) can be referred to Halt. Truancy cases also constitute grounds for a Halt settlement. In response to this, a tailored sentence is imposed, lasting a minimum of six and a maximum of 20 hours. The Halt process always consists of the following components: discussions with parents and the juvenile, learning assignment(s) and making apologies. In addition, a work assignment is optional and depends on the number of hours imposed. In the Halt process, the emphasis is on the pedagogical nature of the sentence. Upon successful completion of the Halt process, the minor avoids a criminal record.

If any victims are known, they will be contacted to see whether they are open to receiving an apology from the minor. The aim of the settlement is to make a minor aware of their own behaviour and to teach them to accept responsibility for it. In addition, the aim is to curb transgressive behaviour in a timely manner and to offer redress to the victim and the community. The support and cooperation of parents in this process is very important.

### Figures

In 2024, the inflow of Halt cases increased compared to 2023. Of the Halt cases handled, five were concluded positively and one negatively.

Graph: Halt cases



## Central Authority

Currently, the Guardianship Council also serves as the Central Authority for the Caribbean Netherlands (CA CN). The matters that the Central Authority can be involved in are:

- International child protection;
- International child abduction;
- Collection of international child support;
- Intercountry adoption.

The Central Authority can receive requests or reports concerning these matters for consideration. As Central Authority in the Caribbean Netherlands we also submit requests ourselves to other Central Authorities or to the embassy of a relevant country if there is no Central Authority active there.

Notifications and requests between the European Netherlands and the Caribbean Netherlands are interregional and therefore do not form part of the Central Authority. These cases are part of the regular business of the Guardianship Council.

In 2024, one formal outgoing request was made to other Central Authorities / countries. In addition, there were a total of three incoming requests: two from Bonaire and one from Saba.

## Child support

When parents separate, financial arrangements must be made for the children. This is called child support. A request for child support can be submitted to the Guardianship Council CN. The Guardianship Council then makes a calculation (even if the parents have agreed on an amount between themselves) and submits an application to the court. The Guardianship Council also advises the court in divorce cases on the level of child support.

The court records its decision in a ruling. Parents are legally required to make payments through the Guardianship Council. The Guardianship Council is responsible for the collection and payment of child support funds and works together with the Tax Office CN to implement this. The Guardianship Council is authorised to seize wages via the employer of the person liable for payment and mediates in the engagement of a bailiff for the person entitled to payment.

If there are any significant changes, a recalculation can be requested. For example, if the place of residence of the child changes or if the income of the person entitled to or required to pay support changes substantially.

The Guardianship Council uses a fixed methodology to calculate the child support. This calculation model is evaluated and updated annually on the basis of case law, policy changes and figures like indexations.

In total, over USD 57,000 per month in support payments must be collected from those liable to pay support and paid to the entitled recipients.

The total claim for 2024 amounted to almost USD 686,000. Of this amount, 55% were actually paid by those liable to pay support.

At the end of 2024, there were 340 persons liable to pay support, 29 of whom flowed in in 2024.

## Finances

At the end of 2023, the budget for 2024 was set at USD 1,662,500. In 2024, more money was spent than budgeted. This is mainly due to:

- Higher travelling and subsistence expenses due to the removal of two new employees from the Netherlands.
- Higher housing costs due to compulsory relocation of the Bonaire Guardianship Council.
- Increased external hiring, including the development of the Risk Assessment Tool Yorias+.
- Intensification of business trips.
- Two invoices (total USD 54,779) that should have been paid in 2023 but were paid in 2024.

2024	Budget (USD)	Realisation (USD)	Percentage (%)
Salaries	1.335.000,00	1.319.324,01	99%
External hiring	50.000,00	229.982,98	460%
Travelling and subsistence expenses	20.000,00	99.635,86	498%
Other employee expenses	50.000,00	95.598,57	191%
<b>Total Staff</b>	<b>1.455.000,00</b>	<b>1.744.541,42</b>	<b>120%</b>
ICT	70.000,00	43.080,47	62%
Services and resources	77.500,00	82.535,39	106%
Transport and housing expenses	5.000,00	6.444,44	129%
Housing	54.000,00	148.040,48	274%
Communication	-	-	
Other expenses	-	-	
<b>Total Equipment</b>	<b>206.500,00</b>	<b>280.100,78</b>	<b>136%</b>
Other specific equipment expenses	1.000,00	310,65	31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.662.500,00</b>	<b>2.024.952,85</b>	<b>122%</b>



### **Do you have questions?**

Visit [www.rijksdienstcn.com/voogdijraad](http://www.rijksdienstcn.com/voogdijraad) or contact the Guardianship Council CN on your island.

#### **Bonaire**

+599 715 8898

[voogdijraadbes@rijksdienstcn.com](mailto:voogdijraadbes@rijksdienstcn.com)

Find our address on [www.rijksdienstcn.com/voogdijraad](http://www.rijksdienstcn.com/voogdijraad)

#### **Saba**

+599 416 3283

Upper Road Z/N, The Bottom (achter het politiebureau)

#### **St. Eustatius**

+599 318 2814

H.M. Beatrixstraat 17, Oranjestad

