



Family Justice Young People's Board (FJYPB) Report to the Cafcass Board

Recommendations

1. The Cafcass Board is asked to:
 - i) Where desired, ask for further information on the updates below.

Noteworthy updates since 16 December 2013

1. Planning for the next Voice of the Child Conference is now well underway. It will be held at The Grand Connaught Room in London on 24 July 2014. Thus far we have secured Sir James Munby's attendance to speak as part of the opening address.
2. On the 16 December Cafcass signed up to the National Charter and it is now being delivered at the Cafcass Development days that we have been requested to attend, focussing on how practitioners can incorporate the Charter into their practice. Consultations for other members of the FJB are currently being arranged.
3. A briefing paper and evidence of the work of the FJYPB has been compiled ready for the imminently expected Ofsted inspection. A selection of members have also expressed that they would be willing to meet with the inspectors should they request it. Any member who will be meeting with Ofsted will receive a full briefing and be supported by Marie Gittins and Jennifer Lynch
4. On 12 January 2014 a second recruitment day was held in York where 6 new members were appointed to the board. We now have a total of 44 FJYPB members.
5. As a direct result of two FJYPB members attendance at the Annual Northern Circuit Family Conference on 21 November 2013, the Board has been invited by Mr Justice Jackson to present at the High Court Family Division Seminar on the 3 February 2014.
6. Developments are underway with NACCC for the FJYPB to be part of the accreditation process of contact centres from 1st April 2014. This will involve 32 centres over a three year period. The FJYPB will receive separate funding for this project.
7. The FJYPB have had their initial meeting with their link, Holly Simpson, from the Ministry of Justice to consider future liaison and commissions. Holly will be joining the next FJYPB meeting.
8. The FJYPB are developing a selection of pilots to enable courts to become more child-friendly and ensure they hear the voice of the child.
9. The FJYPB have published their wish list for 2014.

FJYPB Member

29 January 2014