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Your ref: CAF 15-119
Our ref: Gov/CAF 15-119

Tel 0300 456 4000

22 June 2015

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email of 22 June 2015. You made the following requests for information:

1. I am looking to find out more about your procedures when making a section 7 report.

Please see the Cafcass [Operating Framework](#) (sections 4.19-4.24) which sets out what Cafcass practitioners should have regard to when working on a section 7 report. Cafcass practitioners also use a [standard form](#) of report which provides template headings for each subsection.

All Cafcass recommendations are based on professional judgement of how a child's welfare can best be promoted and safeguarded, with reference to the [Welfare Checklist](#), and all recommendations are case specific.

2. Is it common to have limited contact with a caseworker and no expected home visit (given the distance between the Cafcass office and my home) before the assessment?

In the absence of a specific direction from the court, practitioners will determine who needs to be interviewed, and how many times. The needs and circumstances of each individual case will determine the nature and extent of the enquiries made by the practitioner, depending on how each practitioner has planned to carry out their work of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the child.

For further details, please see the Cafcass [Operating Framework](#):

- Section 1.23-29 'Working with parents and carers'
- Section 2.24-25 'Interviewing'

3. Is it common procedure to visit children whilst in the care of their father (which may pressure them to influence what they may say)? Is it not better the children are at a neutral venue with both parents in close attendance?

Baroness Tyler of Enfield Chair
Anthony Douglas CBE Chief Executive





Cafcass practitioners will exercise their professional judgement in deciding where to see the children they work with. This will depend on the individual circumstances of the case. Please see the Cafcass [Operating Framework](#):

- Section 1.17 'Working with children and young people'
- Section 1.21-22 'Seeing children'
- Section 2.21-23 'Visiting children'
- Section 2.24-25 'Interviewing'

We hope that you feel your question has been answered effectively. If you are unhappy with the decisions made in relation to your request, you may ask for an internal review to be undertaken. If you are dissatisfied with the way the internal review is handled or with the final decision made at that review about the information released, you are free to contact the Information Commissioner's office (www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk):

Post

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Wycliffe House, Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
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SK9 5AF

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Yours sincerely,

Governance Team

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Baroness Tyler of Enfield Chair
Anthony Douglas CBE Chief Executive

