Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email of 10 May 2016. You made the following requests for information:

I would also like to know what qualifications and experience your Cafcass officer have to qualify making a C7 report.

Please see below for our response.

In certain family proceedings Cafcass will be instructed by the court to provide a Section 7 report. The work in preparation for, and the writing of, this report will then be undertaken by a Family Court Adviser (Cafcass officer). All Cafcass Family Court Advisers are qualified social workers with a Diploma in Social Work (or recognised equivalent) and at least three years post qualifying experience in social work with children and families at risk. As a condition of employment, Family Court Advisers must maintain their registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). The job description for a Family Court Adviser, including person specification, is available on Cafcass' website.

There are circumstances where the investigation and writing of Section 7 reports may be undertaken by student social workers on placement. All reports prepared by student social workers are subject to rigorous scrutiny and supervision by highly experienced supervisors.

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):
Yours sincerely,

Governance Team
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