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Tel 0300 456 4000

23 August 2016

Your ref: CAF 16-111

Our ref: Gov/CAF 16-111

## Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email of 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2016. You made the following requests for information:

14. Copies of the case worker/ guardian qualifications, specifically but not limited to, identifying Child Abuse, and dealing with child victims of Child Abuse.

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 [here](#).

Further to experience in social work, our Family Court Advisers receive training while at Cafcass in order to assist with their continued professional development; as part of registration with the HCPC, all social workers on a biennial basis must provide evidence of their professional development.

- All social work staff are required to complete six core in-house training modules upon joining the organisation, which will be completed within the first 12 months:
  - Four of these training modules are delivered in a training environment with supported learning:
    - Risk and Harm in Cafcass;
    - Legal Context and Court Skills;
    - Case Work Start to Finish;
    - Interviewing Skills in Cafcass.
  - Two are mandatory eLearning courses:
    - Basic Introduction to Private Law;
    - Starting Work as a Children's Guardian.
- Basic training is complemented by other training events available throughout the year for both social work and non-social work staff.

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Anthony Douglas CBE Chief Executive





- Cafcass have an internal National Improvement Service (NIS) who run workshops across the country tailored to local training needs analysis.
- mySkills, an online eLearning platform, offers learning on a range of social work and non-social work topics.

15. Copies of my case worker/ guardian qualifications, specifically but not limited to, identifying Parental Alienation, and dealing with child victims of Parental Alienation

Your case worker has been qualified as a Social Worker since 1993. She has worked for Cafcass since 2008. Please refer to answer 1 for more information on training provided.

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](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)):

**Post**

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House, Water Lane,  
Wilmslow,  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

**Fax**

01625 524 510

**Tel**

0303 123 1113

**E-mail**

[casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Governance Team

Cafcass

[Governance@cafcass.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Governance@cafcass.gsi.gov.uk)

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Anthony Douglas CBE Chief Executive

