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27 November 2009

Our Reference CAS-105533-X675DJ

Mr Arthur Peasgill
Sent by email to: request-22492-
601fbc4@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Peasgill

Your request for information

Thank you for your email dated 3 November 2009 sent to enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk in which you have requested the following information:

- What is our view on Caldicott Guardians and can we provide any internal information in relation to Caldicott Guardians?
- Can we provide any guidance or information released to Caldicott Guardians/Councils in order that they can assist in the vital work of Ofsted?
- Are Caldicott Guardians recognised as a vital part of the child/adult services by Ofsted?
- Do we talk to and involve Caldicott Guardians in inspections?
- Is the safety and security of personal information at Councils/public bodies regarded as an important part of our inspections bearing in mind the role of the Caldicott Guardian?

We have not treated your request as a Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000 as it is not a request for recorded information that we hold. I will however endeavour to answer your questions.

The role of Caldicott Guardian is a statutory one.

Ofsted does not directly engage with Caldicott Guardians in its work, and has not issued any internal information to staff on the matter. Nor has Ofsted specifically issued guidance to Caldicott Guardians on its own work. Within local authorities, the Caldicott Guardian will be a senior manager, and will have full access to the very comprehensive material that Ofsted shares with local authorities as part of its inspection programme.



Our inspection methodology does not require Caldicott Guardians to be interviewed as part of an inspection. However, it should be noted that, in reaching a judgment on the quality of leadership and management in its full inspections of safeguarding services, the evaluation schedule requires inspectors to consider whether 'information schedules are established across the partnership with regular open and appropriate exchange'. Caldicott Guardians in both local authorities and the NHS are likely to hold lead responsibility for the development of these arrangements.

If you have any queries in relation to this response, please do not hesitate to contact me on the telephone number above or by email at Helen.Franklin@ofsted.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Franklin
Information Access Officer
Information Access Team