



Sandra Jackson  
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Cafcass National Office  
3rd Floor  
21 Bloomsbury Street  
London  
WC1B 3HF

**Your ref: CAF 15-22**

**Our ref: Gov/CAF 15-22**

Tel 0300 456 4000

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015

Dear Ms Jackson

**Re: Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your email of 12<sup>th</sup> February 2015. Please see below for responses to your requests for information:

Please confirm how many of your employees if any, hold specific Mental Health/Illness qualifications - please do NOT include employees that may have qualifications where Mental Health/Illness formed only part of a course.

Cafcass does not record this information, as this is not a required qualification for Family Court Advisors. Please see [here](#) for required qualifications.

Please also confirm if Cafcass provide training for employees and if so, provide details of the training, reasons for the training and whether recognised qualifications are obtained as a result, and if so, specify what these qualifications would be.

Cafcass does not provide in-house training for our practitioners which focuses exclusively on mental health. The topic is briefly taught within our Risk and Harm induction course. This training is given in order to teach our practitioners about risk and harm issues in relation to their role in family court proceedings, and there are no recognised qualifications obtained as a result. In the Risk and Harm induction training the impact of domestic violence on children's mental is explored, such as post-traumatic stress, neuro-biological changes, and depression; practitioners are referred to research in the area; and consideration is given to mental health issues of parents and the fact that children whose parents have mental health issues are at increased risk of developing this themselves.

Baroness Tyler of Enfield Chair  
Anthony Douglas CBE Chief Executive





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)

Baroness Tyler of Enfield Chair  
Anthony Douglas CBE Chief Executive



Cafcass, the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service, is a non-departmental body of the Ministry of Justice  
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