

[request-152502-a9af9b5b@whatdotheyknow.com]

Your ref: CAF 694
Our ref: JJ/CAF 694
Date: 2nd April 2013



6th Floor
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

Tel: 0844 353 3350
Fax: 0844 353 3398

Dear Soraya,

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your email, which was received on 8th March 2013. You requested the following information:

Can you advise what your policy if any is on having a witness of my choosing with me whilst being interviewed by yourselves under instruction from the Court.

We do not have a written policy. The answer to your query would generally be that it would depend on the circumstances of the case. The Cafcass Officer has a degree of discretion to how they undertake their enquiries.

You may approach the Cafcass Officer to discuss your wishes and needs directly.

The scope of the enquiries instructed by the Cafcass Officer is determined by the Family Proceeding Rules and by the direction of the court. If there is a dispute about the extent of these enquiries it will be settled by the court. You may find some information either via legal advice or through guidance from Her Majesty's Courts Service (HMCS)
<http://www.justice.gov.uk/about/hmcts/>

You may also contact your local service manager for case specific information.

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

Fax
01625 524 510

Yours sincerely,

Governance Team Governance@cafcass.gsi.gov.uk
Cafcass

Baroness Tyler of Enfield Chair
Anthony Douglas CBE Chief Executive

