

29 March 2018

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN 12195 and ATISN 12205

I refer to my letter and email of 23 March regarding your requests for information. I am now able to provide you with the following information.

The number of Private Law Rule 16.4 cases and number of Public Law cases in which a Cafcass Cymru Guardian was appointed by the court:

Year	Private Law 16.4	Public Law
2011	74	662
2012	106	728
2013	135	1150
2014	109	1398
2015	112	1466
2016	141	1738
2017	158	1856

For the same period you also asked for:

- The number of Private Law cases in which a Rule 16.4 Cafcass Cymru Guardian was appointed and where one or more of the parties did not have legal representation.
- The number of Private Law cases in which a Rule 16.4 Cafcass Cymru Guardian was appointed and where one or more of the parties was / were permitted to use a 'McKenzie Friend' to assist.
- The number of Private Law cases in which a Rule 16.4 Cafcass Cymru Guardian was appointed and where a 'McKenzie Friend' was permitted to exercise rights of audience.
- The number of Public Law cases in which a Cafcass Cymru Guardian was appointed and where one or more of the parties did not have legal representation.
- The number of Public Law cases in which a Cafcass Cymru Guardian was appointed and where one or more of the parties was / were permitted to use a 'McKenzie Friend' to assist.

- The number of Public Law cases in which a Cafcass Cymru Guardian was appointed and where a 'McKenzie Friend' was permitted to exercise rights of audience.

Whilst Cafcass Cymru holds information which falls within the description specified in the remainder of your request, it can only be retrieved by examining individual case files. In order to identify and locate the information, we estimate it will cost more than the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to answer your request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. This represents the estimated cost of it taking over 24 hours of time to determine whether we hold the information and to thereafter locate, retrieve and extract it.

Normally, I would undertake a sample check of cases to evidence the time it would take to locate, retrieve and extract the information. However, I have undertaken similar sample checks in the past and these have averaged 4 minutes per case. The information you have requested is less accessible and I am therefore satisfied retrieving this would take far longer than 4 minutes. At a nominal 6 minutes per file (in reality the average time could be more than this) to locate, retrieve and extract the information would take an estimated 983 hours (9,883 files x 6 minutes = 58,998 minutes/60 = 983 hours).

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to:

Nigel Brown
Chief Executive
Cafcass Cymru
Sarn Mynach
Llandudno Junction
Conwy
LL31 9RZ

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference numbers above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. Normally, however, you should pursue the matter through our internal procedure before you complain to the Information Commissioner.





The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

Tel: 01625 545 745
Fax: 01625 524 510
Email: casework@ico.gsi.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth Gymraeg. Cewch ateb Cymraeg i bob gohebiaeth Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh. Correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not involve any delay.

Tîm Cefnogaeth Ganolog ▪ Central Support Team
Cafcass Cymru
Sarn Mynach
Cyffordd Llandudno ▪ Llandudno Junction
Conwy
LL31 9RZ
Ffôn ▪ Tel 03000 625500

Mae CAFCASS Cymru yn
rhan o Lywodraeth Cymru

CAFCASS Cymru is part of
the Welsh Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government