

12 January 2016

Dear ,

Thank you for your email of 22 December seeking information under the Freedom of Information Act. For ease of reference I have responded to your questions in the order they were raised.

1. The number of cases we have dealt with in 2015 that involved matters relating to allowing child custody.

Child Custody is not a term used in our workload recordings, but based on our understanding that the request refers to applications for Child Arrangements we can confirm between 1st January 2015 and 30th November 2015, we received 2137 applications for Child Arrangements across Wales.

2. The number of those cases that involved Marcus de Max.

Of the 2137 applications, Marcus de Max was involved in 38.

3. The number from those cases where we advised that a parent should not have access to their child.

I can confirm that CAFCASS Cymru holds information which falls within the description specified in your request. However the recommendations made to the court and the final decisions made by the court are contained within court reports and court orders held on individual case files. We estimate that it will cost more than the appropriate limit established in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to consider your request.

The request captures information in over 2,000 case files. We undertook a sample exercise to go through 5 case files to extract the requested information. These took an average of 5 minutes. We estimate, therefore that it would take in excess of 166 hours to gather the requested information (2000 files x 5 minutes).

4. The number of cases that have involved a Daniel T Wilcox.

We have not been able to identify Mr Wilcox through searches of our IT systems. To establish whether or not he has been involved in any cases would require scrutiny of every case file. This task would take longer than that detailed in our response to part 3 of your request. Consequently we are invoking the Fees Regulations mentioned above and will not be taking this part of the request forward.



Gwasanaeth Cyngori a Chynorthwyo Llys i Blant a Theuluoedd
Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service

If you believe that I have not followed the relevant laws, or you are unhappy with this response, you may request an internal review by writing to:

Catrin Williams
Executive Director
CAFCASS Cymru
Sarn Mynach
Llandudno Junction
Conwy
LL31 9R3

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

Also, if you think that there has been maladministration in dealing with your request then you may make a complaint to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales who can be contacted at:

Public Services Ombudsman for Wales
Ffordd yr Hen Gae
Pencoed
Bridgend
CF35 5LJ

Yours sincerely,

Tîm Cefnogaeth Ganolog ■ Central Support Team
GCCLBT Cymru ■ 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