



Ein cyf/Our ref HID/00492/18

David Rowlands AM
Chair - Petitions committee.
National Assembly for Wales

government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

11 July 2018

Dear

David,

Petition P-05-0751 – Recognition of Parental Alienation

Thank you for your letter of 21 June asking for further information of interest to Committee members concerning the Parental Alienation petition.

In respect of pathways, Cafcass Cymru's approach to private law work is currently being reviewed and new practice guidance, *Best Practice Approach in Private Law: Child in Focus*, will be completed by the end of 2018 with the intention that it will be operational as from early 2019.

The review is actively considering the work being undertaken by Cafcass England in respect of alienating behaviours and a representative from Cafcass England has been invited to support this work. The new practice guidance will build on the work of academics including the report Cafcass Cymru commissioned from Cardiff University to review the academic literature and case law on the subject of parental alienation.

Cafcass Cymru is engaging with practitioner staff to consider their training and professional development needs in light of the revised approach to private law work including identifying, assessing and responding to alienating behaviours. A range of training and practice development opportunities to support the implementation of Cafcass Cymru's new practice guidance will be made available to practitioners that will include identifying and responding to alienating behaviours. The timing of this will complement the operational roll out of the new practice guidance.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

I hope this additional information is helpful to Committee members.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Huw', with a horizontal line underneath the letters.

Huw Irranca-Davies AC/AM

Y Gweinidog Plant, Pobl Hŷn a Gofal Cymdeithasol
Minister for Children, Older People and Social Care