

# Swansea Civil Justice Centre Family Court Business Committee

## Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2006 MINUTES

### Present:-

Her Honour Judge I Parry Swansea Civil Justice Centre

His Honour Judge Richards Swansea Civil Justice Centre

District Judge T J Lewis Swansea Civil Justice Centre

District Judge P Evans Swansea Civil Justice Centre

District Judge Llewelyn OBE Swansea Civil Justice Centre

District Judge H Godwin Haverfordwest County Court

District Judge J Garland Thomas Neath and Port Talbot County Court

Judith Evans Swansea Magistrates Court

Jim Hehir Neath Port Talbot Magistrates Court

Lyn Naylor Avery Naylor

Phillippa Ashworth

Debbie Smith West Glam Joint Child Care Legal Dept

Kay Waldron West Glam Joint Child Care Legal Dept

Sara Forrest Pembrokeshire County Council

Laraine Roblin Iscoed Chambers

Ann Banks Child & Family Division, City & County of

Swansea

Lee Graham Swansea Civil Justice Centre

### Apologies:-

Moira Starke CAF/CASS

Dilys Calder National Public Health Service

Matthew Rees Swansea Bar

Teresa Hallett CAFCASS

Marilyn Edwards Swansea Civil Justice Centre

Sue Cumpston Neath and Port Talbot County Court

## **1. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2005 were agreed with no amendments.

## **2. Matters arising**

### **(i) Judicial resources**

Her Honour Judge Parry will be meeting with Mr Justice Hedley in April to discuss this matter. It is anticipated that there will be the same number of sitting

days during 2006-7 as 2005-6 but due to financial constraints, Her Honour Judge Parry was pessimistic that additional resources would be available.

### **(ii) Implementation of the Private Law Framework**

In respect of the North Wales pilot, Dafydd Ifans, Chief Executive of CAFCASS Cymru, has written to Her Honour Judge Parry about the possibility of

extending the pilot to South West Wales. The Judge would support and welcome this proposal. This would involve the identification of cases suitable for

diversion from the court to mediation between parents and CAFCASS.

### **(iv) Posting of minutes**

HHJ Parry confirmed that the minutes can be posted on the Swansea Law Society web-site, **with the proviso that any information in respect of individual**

**cases is removed.** The Court is to send the minutes to Lynne Naylor for posting.

## **3. The Private Law Programme: an update**

The Programme will be implemented at Neath and Port Talbot County Court from May 2006. Judith Evans from Swansea FPC stated that the FPC

would also be introducing the Framework based on the same format and it is the intention of the Dyfed courts to harmonise.

District Judge Lewis informed the meeting that, to date, there was only a limited uptake of the new Programme as **only a few applications have**

**been suitable for this process, most other cases including allegations of domestic violence and/or alcohol/drug abuse.** The progress of the Scheme

is to be further monitored with feedback to the next meeting.

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