



*Issued 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2017*

**PRACTICE DIRECTION 1 OF 2017**

**FAMILY PROCEEDINGS – COMMUNICATION OF INFORMATION &  
DISCLOSURE OF ACTS OF COURT AND JUDGMENTS FOR THE PURPOSES OF  
AN INSPECTION OF THE SAFEGUARDER SERVICE (KNOWN AS THE FAMILY  
PROCEEDINGS ADVISORY SERVICE)**

1. I am directed to issue the following practice direction to take immediate effect in The Royal Court, the Guernsey Magistrate’s Court and the Guernsey Juvenile Court.
2. Rules 58 to 60 of the Family Proceedings (Guernsey and Alderney) Rules 2009 together provide that, subject to any direction of the relevant court to the contrary, Acts of Court and other information relating to family proceedings (documentary or otherwise) must not be disclosed to any person who is not a party to the proceedings.
3. The Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills (“OFSTED”) has been commissioned by the Committee *for* Home Affairs of the States of Guernsey to conduct an independent inspection of the Safeguarder Service (known as the Family Proceedings Advisory Service (“the FPAS”)) to commence in October 2017.
4. It is recognised that in order for there to be an effective independent inspection of the FPAS for the purposes of evaluating the quality and effectiveness of its practice, communication of information and disclosure of documents relating to family proceedings, including acts of court and judgments, to appointed inspectors is necessary and appropriate in furtherance of the protection of children provided that adequate safeguards are in place.
5. Consequently, it is directed that the Family Proceedings Advisory Service and Family Proceedings Advisers may disclose to OFSTED any information, whether documentary or otherwise including acts of court and judgments, relating to family proceedings whether the proceedings have concluded or otherwise which is required by OFSTED for the purpose of the inspection referred to in paragraph 3.
6. OFSTED may communicate such information disclosed by the FPAS for the purposes of the inspection referred to in paragraph 3 only.
7. The person making the disclosure of the information, whether documentary or otherwise, on behalf of the FPAS is required to make the OFSTED inspector to whom it is disclosed aware that they are required to store and use the information only for the purposes of the inspection referred to in paragraph 3 and only in such a way that the confidentiality of the information disclosed is maintained and to remind them that the usual data protection principles apply.

S M D ROSS  
Her Majesty’s Senior Deputy Greffier