

Please ask for: Harold Bodmer
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Date: 11 December 2006

**WITNESS STATEMENT FOR ADVANCED AWARD IN SOCIAL WORK
MILES FRANCE**

I am pleased to submit a witness statement in respect of Miles France in support of his work for the Advanced Award in Social Work.

Approved Social Workers in Norfolk identified the need for revised practice guidance. Guidance they were using was outdated, cumbersome and not easily accessible when they were working with service users or patients.

Miles volunteered to draw together a very comprehensive set of information in an easily accessible and updateable format.

Miles undertook meticulous research to deliver a very successful project. He showed considerable leadership in doing this since it required a great deal of complex negotiation with colleagues in the Southern District Mental health team, working groups of other ASW's, the Norfolk ASW Forum and the Approved Social Worker Executive Board.

The manual was very well received by Approved Social Workers in Norfolk who feel that the current guidance leaves them vulnerable. It is seen as an essential tool in working within this specialist and challenging area of social work practice. The guide helps ASW's to identify when more specialist legal advice is required

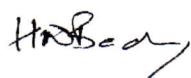
Miles sought my formal agreement to this and secured approval from the County Council legal services that the manual could be used by County Council staff for a County Council function. The guide will now be made available to all ASW practitioners and social work teams. It will be updated to take account of changes in law and practice.

In producing the manual, Miles had to take account of complex policies; law and practice issues and this involved an understanding of the impact of case law in Higher UK courts.

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I have looked at the competencies for the AASW award and firmly believe that this outstanding piece of work meets the range of competencies required in terms of intellectual skills, processes and responsibility.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can provide any further information in support of this.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harold Bodmer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

**HAROLD BODMER
DIRECTOR OF ADULT SOCIAL SERVICES.**