

Changes to the FMC Standards Framework agreed by the FMC Board 12.6.19



The FMC Board agreed that the Standards Framework be changed with immediate effect to include the following:

1. If circumstances make it particularly difficult for a mediator to be observed by their registered PPC, the mediator may be observed by another PPC or FMCA with three years post accreditation experience, with the agreement of and approval by the mediator's registered PPC.

The mediator should include in their portfolio:

- the substitute observer's account of the session
 - a response from the mediator relating specifically to areas for development identified by the substitute and how these can be addressed in their practice or through future supervision with their Registered PPC
 - the following additional information within their Registered PPC's statement in support:
 - the specific circumstances which lead to the decision to use a substitute (eg geography, diary issues etc);
 - the basis on which the Registered PPC thinks they have sufficient knowledge of the mediator to make their statement in support; and
 - confirmation that the Registered PPC has discussed the observation notes and mediator's feedback with the mediator candidate.
2. One of the case commentaries submitted by a mediator as part of their portfolio may be in relation to a case where mediation did not complete, but where, as a minimum:
 - some or partial agreement has been reached on some issues
 - there has been more than one session
 - in financial cases, substantial disclosure has been achieved

If a mediator submits such a case, the mediator must include in their case commentary:

- an explanation of why the case did not complete;
- a statement explaining whether, on reflection, the mediator would have done anything differently and why; and
- any actual or draft summaries of sessions that have been completed and
- any actual or draft Interim Confidential Summary of Proposals/Open Financial Statement I or parenting plans if drafted.

Mediators must still ensure that **all** of the competencies are demonstrated in their portfolio.

3. Where proposals have been reached, but one or both clients have indicated that they do not wish to receive final outcome documentation, provided that this is for one of the case commentaries only, the mediator may draft a Confidential Summary of Proposals for the purpose of supporting the case commentary, as if they had been requested to do so by the client. It should be made clear on the face of the document and within the portfolio that the summary has been prepared for this purpose only.