

FIFE REGIONAL COUNCIL - SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

PLANNING FOR CHILDREN IN CARE - REVIEWS

AREA OFFICE:

Kirkcaldy

poor quality copy in file

PART 1

Name of Child: Jason Paterson **D.O.B.:** 7.1.74 **Religion:**

Legal Status: 44 1 b **Date of Hearing/Court Order:** 6.2.87

Home Address: 37 Rossend Terrace Burntisland

PART 2 - FAMILY STRUCTURE:

Mrs L Paterson	Mother	
Lee Paterson	Brother	
Jason Paterson	SUBJECT	7.1.74

PART 3

Date of Reception into Care: 2.9.85 **Grounds:** Theft

Circumstances surrounding admission to care:

Offences were the basis; from this to the present Jason has been in care of some sort or other eg 44(1)(a): 37(4): 37(5): 44(1)(b). Grounds of referral have invariably involved offences of theft and of housebreaking - also truancy and also outwith parental control.

PART 4 - Chronological list of all placements, including present placement (names, addresses and dates):

29.1.77 to 23.6.77 Maternal grandmother
23.6.77 to 16.8.77 Valley Gardens Children's Home
16.8.77 to 21.3.78 C/o Jons | Cowdenbeath - fosterpare
21.3.78 to 27.9.79 Pitteuchar Children's Home
27.9.79 to 15.5.84 at home on Sect 44 (1)(a)
2.9.85 to 6.2.87 At home on Sect 44 1 (a)
6.2.87 to present Melville House.

JASON PATERSON

PART 13 (Current Review) • / Part 5 (Previous Review) •

Date of Review:

20th April 89.

(including legal situation, plans, time-scale and persons responsible for action.)

1. (a) It was noted that Jason will be brought before a Children's Hearing in May 1989, which has been called by the Regional Reporter to consider further offences which Jason is alleged to have committed.
- (b) It was agreed that the Social Worker will request that these offences are dealt with under Jason's existing Supervision Requirement.

Persons Attending	Copy to (tick)
Jason Paterson	✓
J Hanev	✓
Harry Light	✓
S Moran	✓
Libby Bailey	✓
Additional Copies to	(tick)
Alice Lumsden	✓
Peter Tempest	✓

2.

- (b) In light of Jason's forthcoming Hearing, of Melville House's firm view that Jason should remain at Melville House until his school leaving date at Christmas 1989, and of Jason's expressed opinion that he does not wish to move to Balwearie for his last term (or part of his last term) at school, it was agreed that no appeal should be made on this issue, but that Libby Bailey should write to the Director of Education on the general issue of a child who had been caught between the Children's Panel saying that they could not discharge a residential Supervision Requirement until an alternative educational place had been found, and the Director of Education saying that he could not consider an alternative school placement until the Children's Panel indicated that the residential Supervision Requirement was to be rescinded.

PART 14

Seen by (initials and date)

Social Worker:

Senior Social Worker:

8/5/89.

PART 15

Dates:

Next Review:

Noted in Diary:

Copy to HQ:

4. Schooling

- (a) Melville House Staff said that in the last two months Jason has made excellent progress within the school.
 - (b) Melville House plans that between April and June 1989 Jason will continue as a residential pupil at Melville House with two nights at home per week (this is in accordance with Jason's expressed wishes).
 - (c) From the start of the new school session in August 1989 Melville House hope to organise one or two days a week work experience and to enrol Jason for a Scotvec course.
 - (d) From August 1989, Jason's time at home will be gradually increased until hopefully Jason is only spending one night a week at Melville prior to leaving school at Christmas 1989.
5. (a) It was stated that there are still issues to be addressed in relation to Jason's continued offending, Jason's ambivalence about spending time at home, how Jason occupies his time in Burntisland, and how Jason will fit back into his community on leaving school.
- (b) Although Jason said he was not keen on another worker being involved to address these issues, it was agreed that Sean Moran (Social Worker with the Out of Care Team) would meet with Jason and his mother to discuss his involvement in addressing these issues. Sean Moran will work in close co-operation with the Social Worker and John Haney.
6. The next Social Work Review will be held
either in May 1989, following the Children's Hearing, if the Panel decide then to make a new Supervision Requirement
or in August 1989, prior to Jason's Review Children's Hearing, if the Panel decide in May to continue Jason's current Supervision Requirement.

Libby Bailey
Depute Area Organiser

Child's Name: JASON PATERSON

5. Date of previous review: 22nd April 89 For Conclusions please see previous page

6. PRESENT REVIEW

Date 4th Aug 89 Venue BURNTISLAND HEALTH CENTRE

7. a) Name and Address of Present Placement Melville House
 Starting Date 6.2.87
- b) Dates of Social Worker's visits since last review to
 child in carer's home
5.5.89, 9.5.89, 30.5.89, 8.6.89, 14.6.89
- c) Number and frequency of Social Worker's contacts with:
 Child outside carer's home Fortnightly
 Carers Weekly
 Parents Fortnightly
 Others
- d) Number and frequency of parental contacts with child
 Every weekend.

8. Date last report received:

School Medical Other Agencies
 (specify)

9. Financial position:

- a) Special fostering allowances (reason and amount):
- b) Are there problems arising with regard to:
- Parental Contributions YES/NO Child's Contribution YES/NO
- Special Fostering Allowances YES/NO
- (If YES please comment in Social Work Report)

10. Names and current addresses:

Doctor:

School: Melville House School

Employer:

Mother: Mrs L Paterson, 37 Rossend Terrace, Burntisland

Father:

Child's Name:

Jason Paterson

Date of Review: 4-7-89

SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT

Please specifically address the following issues:

- a) Progress since last review (including work done and its effectiveness);
- b) current situation; c) specific goals and means of achieving them;
- d) appropriateness of legal status.

At the Children's Hearing on 12th June 89 the decision was to issue another S44 1 b naming Melville House.

It is envisaged that Jason will continue to attend Melville House until the end of this year when he will legally be entitled to leave school. Therefore a Children's Hearing should be scheduled for December 89 as near to the school leaving date as possible.

Unfortunately Jason continues to be involved in offending. Whilst at present the Reporter is prepared to offer Jason a further chance to cease offending, her patience is finished and further offence based referrals will result in her exercising her right to call a further panel. Given circumstances the possibility of an outcome naming Rossie School is not outwith the bounds of possibility.

Melville House staff will arrange some form of work experience for Jason in the next term. This will allow him further time at home.

Contact with the O.O.C. team has not been successful as Jason has not kept any appointments with Mr Moren. This was not totally unexpected.

Future work is to encourage Jason to resist the temptation to steal and commit other offences; to maintain regular attendance at Melville House and to set in motion appropriate work experience for Jason.

How?

JASON PATERSON

PART 13 (Current Review)*/Part 5 (Previous Review)* Date of Review: 4.8.89

(including legal situation, plans, time-scale and persons responsible for action.)

CONCLUSIONS OF CIC REVIEW HELD ON 4.8.89

1. The overall plan is for Jason to remain on his residential supervision requirement at Melville House until his school leaving date of Christmas 1989.

2. There will be a change of Social Worker within the next few weeks.

3. There will be no further involvement by the Out of Care Team as Jason has made it clear that he does not want to meet with a Social Worker from that Team.

4. Jason, his Social Worker and Melville Staff will work to try and prevent any further offending in order to lessen the risks of an admission to Rossie.

5. It is hoped that Melville staff will arrange appropriate work experience prior to his leaving school.

6. The new Social Worker will discuss Jason's home leave with Jason, his Mother and Melville staff.

7. Unless there is a change to the above plan

a) there will be no further Child Care Reviews,

b) the new Social Worker will call a Review Children's Hearing in December 1989 to seek to have Jason's residential supervision requirement discharged.

Persons Attending	Copy to (tick)
L Bailey	☒
H Light	☒
J Paterson	☒
Additional Copies to	(tick)
J Hainey	☒
A Lumsden	☒
P Tempest	☒

Libby Bailey
Depute Area Organiser

PART 14

Seen by (initials and date)

Social Worker:

Senior Social Worker:

OK
5/9/89

PART 15

Dates:

Next Review:

Noted in Diary:

Copy to HQ:

MELVILLE HOUSE

Lee

Telephone Letham 343

STD Code 033 781

MONIMAIL
CUPAR
FIFE KY7 7RJ

Our Ref. DAB/RR

Your Ref.

26th January 1988

Mr. K. Quinn
Social Worker
Fife Regional Council
Social Work Department
Wemyssfield
Kirkcaldy

Dear Mr. Quinn

Re: Jason Paterson (d.o.b.7.1.74)
37 Rossend Terrace, Burntisland

I refer to your memo of 12th January to Mr. R. Lee at Social Work Headquarters. This memo was brought to the attention of the Melville House Admissions Group at its meeting on January 26th.

It was agreed that your request for a day place for Jason should not be considered by the Admissions Group.

Since Jason is already in residence at Melville House, it would be more appropriate for you to enter into discussions with them about the advisability of the move you are suggesting.

Yours sincerely

David A Burns
Principal

cc Mr. R. Lee
Mr. W. Anderson

THE FIFE REGIONAL COUNCIL

To
From
Date
Our Ref.
Your Ref.
SUBJECT

Rae Lee - Principal Officer (Residential Services) HQ
Keith Quinn Social Worker - Kirkcaldy
12 Jan 88
KQ/MH

Jason Paterson DOB 7.1.74 37 Rossend Terrace Burntisland

The above named child is currently subject to a Residential supervision order, naming Melville House as his place of residence. Jason has been resident in Melville House since February 1987.

At that time a children's hearing decided that Jason should be placed on a residential supervision order due to his involvement in a large number of offences. Jason was also experiencing difficulties coping with mainstream school.

With regard to his involvement in offending; Jason, over a period of 12 - 18 months, was involved in a large number of offences, predominantly theft. The vast majority of these offences were committed along with four of his peers from the street where he lives in Burntisland.

With regard to school, Jason has experienced difficulties in mainstream school since his final year at Burntisland Primary School. He also experienced difficulties at Balwearie High School. These difficulties included truancy, disruptive behaviour in class and corridors - leaving school during class time. Jason's educational attainment was also poor. Prior to admission to Melville House, application for small group education places were being considered.

Since Jason's admission to Melville House he has undoubtedly made some progress, though it is acknowledged that he still has some way to go. At a Child in Care Review on 29.10.87 it was decided that Jason had made sufficient progress to be returned home in the near future and plans were drawn up to facilitate this.

It was recognised that whilst Jason may be able to cope with living at home, it is unlikely that he would cope with this and also be able to maintain himself in mainstream school. It was decided that a day place at Melville House be sought in order to resolve the above. The longer term aim would be to return him to mainstream school when it was felt to be appropriate.

In view of the above I would therefore request that Jason be considered for a day place at Melville House.

Mr Keith Quinn
Social Worker

MELVILLE HOUSE

Telephone Letham 343

STD Code 033 781

MONIMAIL
CUPAR
FIFE KY7 7RJ

Our Ref. JH/RR

Your Ref.

5th October 1987

Jason Paterson (d.o.b.7.1.74)
37 Rossend Terrace
Burntisland

Date of Admission 17.2.87

Report of Case Discussion held at Melville House on Thursday 1st Oct
1987.

Present	Lenor Paterson	-	Mother
	Keith Quinn	-	Social Worker
	Mr. McCracken	-	Vice Principal
	Mr. A Condie	-	Class Teacher
	John Haney	-	Residential Social Worker
	Jason		

Mr. McCracken began by welcoming everyone and circulating the reports prepared by Melville House Staff.

Mr. Condie elaborated on his report

It
was explained to Jason that his mother needed time on her own too.

Mr. Quinn agreed that Jason had made progress in leaps and bounds since coming to Melville House. In terms of keeping himself out of trouble over the Summer Holidays it was recognised that Mrs. Paterson had worked extremely hard by doing things as a family such as fishing and camping.

Mr. Haney expanded on his report and commented that although progress had been made there was still room for a lot more and that Jason should build on this. He also saw Jason remaining at Melville House for the foreseeable future. Mrs. Paterson and Mr. Quinn agreed.

Summary It was quite a positive meeting for Jason although everyone was aware of the difficulties still around for him. Clear messages were given to him about his language and behaviour at home.

continued 2.....

(2)

Mrs. Paterson was pleased with Jason's progress at Melville House but realised that it was imperative to keep up the continuity of controls while at home.

John Haney
Residential Social Worker

NAME JASON PATERSON

DOB 20.12.73

SOCIAL WORKER S. BLOOMFIELD

22.12.89 DISCHARGED FROM
MELVILLE HOUSE

APPLICATION FOR PLACEMENT OF CHILD IN RESIDENTIAL ESTABLISHMENT
(Submit to Social Work Headquarters - for Allocation Group)

1a DETAILS OF CHILD

Surname: Paterson	Date of Birth: 7.1.74
Forenames: Jason	Religion: Protestant
Age: 13	Sex: Male

Home Address: 37 Rossend Terrace, Burntisland
Present Address: (State Householder's relationship to child - ie, foster parent, relative, etc) As above - Mother.

1b STATUTORY CIRCUMSTANCES

If child is currently in care or under supervision, give DETAILS including ACT and SECTION:	44 1 a Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 until 6.2.87
Hearing or Court appearance PENDING - SPECIFY and give DATE(S): N/A	RECENT (ie, within past 6 months) Hearing or Court appearance - SPECIFY and give DATE(S): 6.2.87 - Panel 44 1 a made to Melville no application had been asked for previously.

2 STAFF AND OFFICE LOCATION

Name of Social Worker Involved: Keith Quinn	Name of Senior Social Worker: Moira Miller
Office location: East Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy	Office Telephone Number: 268691

3 PLACEMENT

(a) Irrespective of vacancies, what would be the IDEAL placement for this child? Home	(b) Please state type of placement required if different from (a): Melville House
--	--

Signature of

Social Worker :

Date of application: 12.2.87

Lobby Bailey 17.2.87

FOR OFFICE USE

APPLICATION to be considered on:

Date	Time
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DECISION:

Date of receipt (stamp):

SOCIAL WORK DEPT.
23 FEB 1987
HEADQUARTERS

4 CHILD CURRENTLY IN CARE (If applicable, otherwise leave blank)

(a) PRIMARY reason for present application:

Instructed by panel to place Jason at Melville House

(b) ATTITUDE of staff or foster parents to change of placement:

N/A

5 DETAILS OF PREVIOUS PLACEMENTS AWAY FROM HOME

23.6.77 Valley Gardens Children's Home

1.7.77 Foster placement

6.2.78 Pitteuchar Children's Home

21.1.87

- 6.2.87 Community Carers.

6 FACTORS PRECIPITATING PRESENT APPLICATION

(EXCLUDING those which may be shown at Section 4(a) above)

Decision of hearing

Grounds: Offences

7 AIMS OF REQUESTED PLACEMENT

(a) Aims and expectations of placement:

Social Work Department feel this placement is not in Jason's best interests; however, the panel are of the opinion that he requires "specialised help" and outlined no other objectives.

(b) Social Worker's immediate AND long term plans for child, including any request for assessment:

1. To return Jason to his family to enable me to carry out work planned prior to hearing on 6.2.87 (see attached report).

8 OTHER INFORMATION (INCLUDING OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED)

(EXCLUDE details given in child's social history at pages 3 and 4 overleaf)

Peter O'Reilly (Educational Psychologist)
Child Guidance Clinic.

DESCRIPTION OF CHILD, INCLUDING PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Jason is a small, slim built boy with blonde hair. He can look quite angelic when he wants to. When he's relaxed he is cuddly and has a mischevious smile.

10 INTELLIGENCE AND SCHOOLING (*Delete as necessary):

(a) Present School:

(b) IQ:

(if known)

or ASSESSED LEVEL:

* ~~XXXXXXX~~ ~~Average~~ X

* Average

* ~~XXXXXXX~~ ~~Average~~ X

} intelligence

(c) If child needs special schooling, state need:

(d) Can child cope with "normal" school?

*YES/~~NO~~

(e) Specify any current school difficulties:

Truancy and minor behaviour difficulties eg shouting in corridor, talking in class.

(f) Is child known to Child Guidance Service?

*YES/~~NO~~

11 LEISURE PURSUITS (If important to placement):

Jason does not take part in any organised leisure pursuits. He spends much of his time repairing and playing on his bike. He is facinated by cars and motor bikes.

12 SIGNIFICANT MEDICAL HISTORY

Jason suffers from enuresis from time to time. This can be controlled by medication.

13 CHILD'S ATTITUDE TO COMING INTO CARE:

Very negative.

14 INTERRELATION BETWEEN CHILD AND PARENTS/SIBLINGS:

Jason is close to his mother and brother, though like most adolescents, he is often at odds with his brother.

15 INTERRELATION BETWEEN CHILD AND PEERS, ADULTS OTHER THAN PARENTS, AUTHORITY, OTHER SEX:

Jason seems to fit in relatively well with his peers and can be quite skilled at manipulating other kids. With adults, especially women, Jason is very polite.

16 PARENTS/SIBLINGS ATTITUDE TO CHILD COMING INTO CARE:

Very negative. Mrs Paterson has asked her lawyer to lodge an appeal against the order.

17 HOUSEHOLD IN WHICH CHILD LIVES:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>School or Employment</u>
Lenore Paterson	Mother		
Lee Paterson	Brother		

18 FAMILY (If different from Section 17 above):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>School or Employment</u>
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19 OTHER SIGNIFICANT RELATIONSHIPS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>School or Employment</u>
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20 SYNOPSIS OF PERSONAL AND FAMILY HISTORY as it affects child:

(Give dates of all significant events)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Age of Child</u>	<u>Event</u>
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This is the C1C3 on Jason

Review 21st June 82.

Kenner.

NAME JASON PATERSON

DOB 7.1.74

SOCIAL WORKER Euid Fleming
St-Clair Street.

29.3.82 Admitted to Pittenchar

~~21.6.82~~ Jason Paterson
Hearing on 30 June. Jason expected to be discharged from Pittenchar on 2 July 82.

30.6.82 Discharged home from
Pittenchar.

17.2.87 Admitted to Melville

APPLICATION FOR PLACEMENT OF CHILD IN RESIDENTIAL ESTABLISHMENT
(Submit to Social Work Headquarters - for Allocation Group)

**JASON
PATERSON**

1a DETAILS OF CHILD

Surname:	PATERSON
Forenames:	JASON

Date of Birth:	7.1.74
Religion:	Protestant
Age:	8
Sex:	Male

Home Address:	37 Rossend Terrace, Burntisland
Present Address: (State Householder's relationship to child - ie, foster parent, relative, etc)	As above - with mother

1b STATUTORY CIRCUMSTANCES

If child is currently in care or under supervision, give DETAILS including ACT and SECTION:	Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 Section 44(1)A
Hearing or Court appearance PENDING - SPECIFY and give DATE(S):	HEARING (ie, within past 6 months) Hearing or Court appearance - SPECIFY and give DATE(S):
Hearing Review due before 21.7.82	

2 STAFF AND OFFICE LOCATION

Name of Social Worker Involved:	Name of Senior Social Worker:
Enid J Fleming	Robert Shepherd
Office location:	Office Telephone Number:
246 St Clair Street, Kirkcaldy	53441

3 PLACEMENT

(a) Irrespective of vacancies, what would be the IDEAL placement for this child?	(b) Please state type of placement required if different from (a):
Foster placement	Childrens Home
Signature of Social Worker: <i>Enid J Fleming</i>	
Date of application: 29 April 1982.	

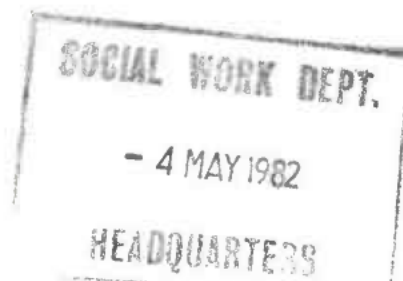
FOR OFFICE USE

APPLICATION to be considered on:

Date	Time

DECISION:

Date of receipt (date):



4 CHILD CURRENTLY IN CARE (If applicable, otherwise leave blank)

(a) PRIMARY reason for present application:

(b) ATTITUDE of staff or foster parents to change of placement:

5 DETAILS OF PREVIOUS PLACEMENTS AWAY FROM HOME

23.6.77 - 1.7.77 Valley Gardens Childrens Home

1.7.77 - 6.2.78 with foster parents

6.2.78 - 27.9.78 Glenrothes Childrens Home

6 FACTORS PRECIPITATING PRESENT APPLICATION

(EXCLUDING those which may be shown at Section 4(a) above)

Jason has recently been involved in a number of offences outwith the home (breaking windows in particular) in the company of other children,

A period away from home was felt to be desirable in the child's best interests as mother's threats could not be taken lightly - she is in full agreement with the plan.

7 AIMS OF REQUESTED PLACEMENT

(a) Aims and expectations of placement:

To provide a stable environment for Jason

Also to observe Jason's behaviour and in particular his reaction to weekends spent at home and contact with his mother during visits.

(b) Social Worker's immediate AND long term plans for child, including any request for assessment:

The placement is seen as very much a short-term arrangement (approx 3 months) to relieve pressure within the family.

It is expected that he will return home permanently during the school summer vacation period.

8 OTHER INFORMATION (INCLUDING OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED)

(EXCLUDE details given in child's social history at pages 3 and 4 overleaf)

DESCRIPTION OF CHILD, INCLUDING PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Jason is an attractive blond haired little boy with freckles and an impish face with a cheeky smile. Although he can very noisy at home, he initially presents as being shy. Tends to be a bit of a loner and is easily led by older boys.

10 INTELLIGENCE AND SCHOOLING (*Delete as necessary):

(a) Present School: **Burntisland Primary**

(b) IQ:

(if known)

OR ASSESSED LEVEL:

* ~~Above average~~

* ~~Average~~

* Below average

} intelligence

(c) If child needs special schooling, state need:

(d) Can child cope with "normal" school?

*YES/~~NO~~

(e) Specify any current school difficulties:

Occasional truancy

(f) Is child known to Child Guidance Service?

~~YES~~/NO

11 LEISURE PURSUITS (If important to placement):

No particular hobbies - is not a member of any local club or organisation.

12 SIGNIFICANT MEDICAL HISTORY

Health generally good. Is enuretic.

13 CHILD'S ATTITUDE TO COMING INTO CARE:

Jason was very quiet and withdrawn and obviously fighting back tears when informed that he would be coming into care for a short period, but tried hard not to let his feelings show.

14 INTERRELATION BETWEEN CHILD AND PARENTS/SIBLINGS:

Has a close relationship with his mother and is very sensitive to her feelings and outbursts - he can become distressed when his mother is upset. Gets on well with his older bother Lee, although they have the usual brotherly squabbles.

15 INTERRELATION BETWEEN CHILD AND PEERS, ADULTS OTHER THAN PARENTS, AUTHORITY, OTHER SEX:

Is a bit of a loner and tends to tag on to older children ie easily led. Has a good relationship with his aunt and grandmother, seems very wary of his stepfather. Is initially shy with other adults, but can also be very cheeky and use very colourful language.

17 HOUSEHOLD IN WHICH CHILD LIVES:

NameRelationshipAgeSchool or Employment

Mrs Linore Simpson
 Lee John Paterson

Mother
 Brother

20 SYNOPSIS OF PERSONAL AND FAMILY HISTORY as it affects child:

(Give dates of all significant events)

DateAge of ChildEvent

June 77

3

Admitted to care

Sept 78

4

Returned home

5

NAME

Jason Paterson

DOB

7. 1. 74

SOCIAL WORKER

Erin Fleming, St-Clair St.

DATE OF ADMISSION

DATE RECEIVED

ACTION

15 June I phoned the social worker for the up to date situation.

Jason has a Hearing on 30 June but irrespective of this he will go home from Putterches on 2nd July. He and his mother are going on holiday under the holiday project scheme and when they come home he will remain at home with his mother.

THE FIFE REGIONAL COUNCIL
SOCIAL WORK HEADQUARTERS

To
From
Date
Our Ref.
Your Ref.
SUBJECT

Area Social Work Organiser Nicol Street
Adviser, Residential Services
22 April 82
DSW/7.000/JIC

For the ATTENTION of
S.W. Enid Fleming
St Clair Street

JASON PATERSON - 7.1.74

I would be grateful if you would let me have up to date papers on the above named child who was admitted to Pitteuchar Children's Home on 29 March 82 since the only papers that we and the children's home have at present date from his admission 4½ years ago.

A/I Carragher,
Adviser, Residential Services.

Copies to

THE FIFE REGIONAL COUNCIL
SOCIAL WORK HEADQUARTERS

To
From
Date
Our Ref.
Your Ref.
SUBJECT

Area Social Work Organiser Nicol Street
Adviser Residential Services
29 March 82
DSW/7.000/JIC

For the ATTENTION of
S.W. Enid Fleming
St Clair Street

JASON PATERSON

I should like to confirm that there is a place available for the above
named child at PITTEUCHAR CHILDREN'S HOME from MON. 29 MARCH 82

U I Carragher
Adviser Residential Services

Copies to

O.I.C. Pitteuchar Children's Home

NAME JASON PATERSON

DOB 7.1.74

SOCIAL WORKER *Christ Fleming*
St. Clair Street

~~29.3.82~~ Jason Paterson
Social worker requested children's home placement. A place was allocated at Pitteuchar. Admission today Monday 29 March 82.

ALLOCATION GROUP DECISION

Name Jason Paterson

Social Worker Gwen McDowell

Date Received 25:11:77

Date Discussed 28:11:77

Decision

No offer of plans
made. long term fostering to
be pursued.

30.1.78. Greenlaw Cus.

Frid 3rd. Feb.

27/9/78 discharged home

Fostering?

FIFE REGIONAL COUNCIL
SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

② PATERSON'S

~~215~~ 3.30

APPLICATION FOR PLACEMENT IN RESIDENTIAL ESTABLISHMENT

Child's Surname PATERSON Christian Names JASON
Date of Birth 11.6.72 / 7.1.74 Age 5 / 3 years 5 7/12 + 4
Name Known By Lee / Jason

Is the Child at present in Care? YES
If so, give Act and Section Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 44(1)B
Date of any pending Hearing/Court appearance NONE

Social Worker Miss G. McDowell
Senior Social Worker Mrs. J. Craft
Office Address 189 Nicol Street, Kirkcaldy
Telephone Number 68691
Date 24.11.77 Signature of Social Worker

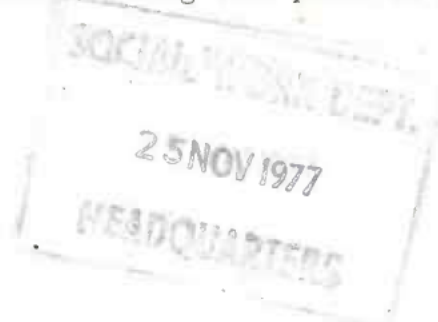
NOTE:

A personal social history should be attached including the following information:

Details of Family - Description of Home and Local Community.

Pen picture of Child - Significant medical history - Synopsis of significant events.

Social Worker's assessment and reason for application - Expectations of placement and long term plans as presently seen.



DETAILS OF FAMILY HISTORY AND RECENT EVENTS

At that time the Childrens Panel placed Jason in care with a condition of residence at Valley Gardens Family Group Home, Kirkcaldy. The Order was varied at a Childrens Hearing on 16 August 1977 and the children are now resident with short-term foster parents

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Jason is attending Playgroup in Cowdenbeath and is a fairly mischevious character. It was unfortunate that had to be moved from Valley Gardens Childrens Home on account of over-crowding but certainly responded well to a steady male figure found in the foster home. also appreciated the individual attention offered. very good eaters when arrived at Mrs. Jones bedwetting. Now Jason is finding it very difficult to eat very much and do not bedwet at all unless particularly anxious. wet the bed recently but only after mothers visits.

JASON

Jason unfortunately seems to be finding life very difficult. His behaviour is extremely disruptive and he finds taking a telling very difficult. He enjoys the company of other children at the Playgroup but this seems to be making him wilder. He also recognises that the Social Worker is the way back to mother and he keeps asking Mrs. Jones to telephone me so that I can take him back to his mother.

really needing to know what is going to be happening to them. This case has been presented to the Allocation Committee today because the foster parents are only short-term foster parents and it would seem that an alternative should be sought for at an early date. After discussion within the Department it is felt that would respond well to a small family group home.

a short-term foster home might be the best situation at this time. There is some urgency to let know what is happening around Christmas time as this is very important



THE FIFE REGIONAL COUNCIL

SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT
FLEMINGTON ROAD
GLENROTHES KY7 5QG

Telephone Glenrothes 754411

ALLAN J. BOWMAN, *Director of Social Work*

(35)

Mrs. Sue Montgomery,
Chairman,
Fife Children's Panel,
Ladyinch,
Westport,
CUPAR,
Fife.

Your Ref. SM/RDW

Our Ref. DSW/1.000/JA/BP

If telephoning or calling please ask for

..... Mr. Aitken - ext. 3754

Date 8th May, 1987

Dear Mrs. Montgomery,

JASON PATERSON, BURNTISLAND

Thank you for your letter of 1st May, 1987 and enclosed copy letter from you to John Hughes dated 11th February, 1987.

On re-reading the full series of correspondence, I believe that all the points raised by yourself have been adequately covered either by John Hughes or by myself. You will recall that we also had some discussion at our meeting on 5th May, 1987, about the stance which Social Workers should take in putting forward and supporting particular recommendations, about preparing families for Hearings and advising them of the options open to Panels, discussing the options and possible outcomes with families as part of the process of preparing the report for the Hearing and advising families on the likely consequences of certain courses of action, both positive and negative.

You are already aware of my Department's views regarding the advantages and disadvantages of placing children in residential care, based on all the research evidence of the experiences of such children, and you are also aware of my views as to how this knowledge and information should be translated into policy and practice.

I, therefore, have no further comments to add to those contained in my earlier letter of 24th March, 1987.

Yours sincerely,

ALLAN J. BOWMAN
Director of Social Work

FIFE CHILDREN'S PANEL

SA
to prepare reply

Mrs Sue Montgomery
Chairman

LADYINCH
WESTPORT, CUPAR
Telephone Cupar 53668

SM/RDW

1st May 1987

A.J. Bowman, Esq.,
Director of Social Work,
Fife Regional Council,
Flemington Road,
GLENROTHES.

Dear Mr. Bowman,

Re: Jason Paterson, Burntisland

Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying to your letter of 24th March. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the initial letter to Mr. Hughes, to which you refer in the second paragraph of your letter. In your reply to my letter you made no reference to the remarks made by Mr. Quinn at Jason's hearing in Kirkcaldy. You may recall I had asked you for comment on that issue specifically in my letter dated 12th March. Perhaps you would comment on this.

With regard to the last paragraph of your letter, I think paragraph 3b of my letter to Mr. Hughes dated 11th March covers adequately the decision making of the hearing members. We do of course acknowledge that social workers, like any other person present, will have clearly defined reasons for making recommendations to hearings - that is always taken into account by panel members.

Yours sincerely,

PP SUE MONTGOMERY
Chairman

Enc.

FIFE CHILDREN'S PANEL

Mrs Sue Montgomery
Chairman

LADYINCH
WESTPORT, CUPAR
Telephone Cupar 53668

John Hughes
Area Social Work Organiserr
Social Work Department
Wemyssfiled
KIRKCALDY

SM/KS

11TH FEBRUARY 1987

Dear John

RE JASON PATERSON, BURNTISLAND

I was in the chair at the hearing held for the above boy on Friday 6th February in Kirkcaldy when the unanimous decision of the panel was to make a 44(1)(b) order at Melville House. The first panel member was in the process of giving her decision to Jason and his mother when Mr Quinn of your department interrupted to tell everyone present of the record of boys at Melville House re-offending and absconding. The panel were quite frankly appalled at this conduct which served only to upset Jason's mother. I would welcome comment from you on the above.

Yours sincerely

Sue Montgomery



THE FIFE REGIONAL COUNCIL

(30)

SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT
FLEMINGTON ROAD
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A. J. BOWMAN, *Director of Social Work*

Γ

Mrs. S. Montgomery,
Chairman,
Fife Children's Panel,
Ladyinch,
Westport,
CUPAR,
Fife.

Your Ref. SM/RDW

Our Ref. DSW/1.000/AJB/IG

If telephoning or calling please ask for

Mr. Bowman - Ext. 3755

Date 24th March, 1987.

Dear Mrs. Montgomery,

JASON PATERSON, BURNTISLAND
CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN YOURSELF AND THE AREA SOCIAL WORK
ORGANISER - KIRKCALDY

Thank you for your letter of 12th March, 1987, which I received here on 16th March, 1987.

I have considered John Hughes' letter of 24th February, 1987 to yourself and your reply, dated 11th March, 1987, to him, but I am somewhat at a disadvantage without having sight of your earlier letter to John Hughes, which he refers to as having received on 19th February, 1987.

With regard to the statements made in paras. 2 and 3b, there are, I feel, some issues that merit further consideration. Perhaps much of our difficulty centres around reference to Melville House. While you will be aware that I fully support the study and findings contained in the research into children in care in Melville House, it is not, in my view, helpful for Children's Hearings to have this document referred to when considering the needs of an individual child. The issue is in reality a much wider one. All the available research evidence would appear to suggest that two out of three of all children admitted to residential care do not do well following placement. Additionally, research studies reflect the difficulty in identifying which children might benefit from admission to residential care, which adds to the considerable concern that surrounds residential placement.

It would be very helpful for me if you were able to acknowledge the existence of such research and to accept that my Social Work staff have a duty to consider the outcomes of particular courses of action for children before recommending them. While one recognises that the decision ultimately remains with the Children's Hearings, I am sure you would agree that it is important in each child's case that that decision is as well informed as possible and has regard to the best outcomes for the child. In this context I would hope you could appreciate the reasons why we must not fail in our duty to inform parents and Panel members of the likely consequences of certain courses of action, be they positive or negative.

As I have said, I do not think it helpful if Melville House is referred to directly in reports presented to Hearings but you will be aware that we require our Social Work staff to present their proposals for children referred to Hearings in a clear and/

Mrs. S. Montgomery.

24th March, 1987.

and consistent manner. This requires them to be specific about the services they will provide to children and families. Given that a considerable amount of work goes into the formulation of these proposals and reports, I would expect my staff to be able to argue their recommendations to Hearings and to provide assistance to Hearings in considering why other courses of action have not been recommended.

Yours sincerely,

A rectangular white box used to redact the signature of Allan J. Bowman.

Allan J. Bowman,
Director of Social Work.

FIFE CHILDREN'S PANEL

(27)

Mrs Sue Montgomery
Chairman

LADYINCH
WESTPORT, CUPAR
Telephone Cupar 53668

My ref: SM/RDW
Your ref: JH/EG

11th March 1987

John Hughes, Esq.,
Area Social Work Organiser,
Social Work Department,
East Fergus Place,
KIRKCALDY KY1 1XT.

Dear John,

Re Jason Paterson, Burntisland

Thank you for your letter of 24th February concerning the above boy which I have discussed with the panel members present at the hearing on 6th February. I will answer the points you raised as follows:

1. The panel would presume that children attending any hearing are made aware by the social worker of the range of disposals open to the panel. In Jason's case the panel wrote in the reasons for the decision reached at the hearing on 29th August 1986 that further offences would be viewed seriously and that more compulsory measures would be considered.
- 2a. We were under the impression that the research document about Melville House was no longer to be referred to.
- 2b. Presumably there are also documented cases of young people with no previous criminal convictions taken into care, who do not offend or abscond once there. There is also, one would assume, documented evidence of children at home or being cared for in the community with no previous criminal convictions, who are offending.
- 3a. The panel reject this statement completely. They were concerned that Jason is increasingly at risk.
- 3b. The panel also reject this statement. We acknowledge that the social worker's recommendation and the decision of the hearing will not always concur. The purpose of a hearing is to take into account all reports from all the agencies involved as well as listening carefully to what is said at the hearing, before reaching a decision in the best interests

of the child. In doing so we realise we cannot please all the various agencies at every hearing.

- 3c. We entirely agree with your last sentence that "a 'vacancy' is not the only criteria for a placement". Hearings do from time to time make a 44(1)(b) requirement if they feel it is appropriate without first continuing a case to seek placement.
- 3d. Both hearing members, myself as chairman and the reporter present at the hearing, do not accept that Mr. Quinn's statement has been misrepresented - it was in fact a very clear reference to boys at Melville House having a history of absconding and re-offending and interrupted the closing stages of the hearing when the decision was being given to Jason and his mother.

The hearing members are concerned that Melville House should be undermined in such a way at a hearing, as well as in your letter. It is a resource run by the Region without joint social work and education input. The Regional policy has a clear place for residential care, when such statements are made it makes the job of any residential establishment that much more difficult - surely the Regional resources should be working together to help children with problems in order that they may return home better able to cope with life in their community.

I have sent a copy of this letter to Mr. Bowman for comment, together with your letter.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Montgomery.

Copy to: Mr. Bowman, Regional Director of Social Work
Mr. Burns, Principal of Melville
Mr. Kelly, Regional Reporter



THE FIFE REGIONAL COUNCIL

26

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A. J. BOWMAN, *Director of Social Work*

Mrs Sue Montgomery
Chairman
Fife Children's Panel
Ladyinch
Westport
Cupar

Your Ref.

Our Ref. JH/EG

If telephoning or calling please ask for

Mr Hughes

Date 24 Feb 87

Dear Sue

JASON PATERSON
BURNTISLAND

Many thanks for your letter which arrived here on 19 Feb 87.

1. As I understand it, the decision to place this young man in Melville House was made out of the blue. No preparation had been undertaken and both the child and family were considerably upset by the decision.
2. We clearly have to accept that the evidence of young people getting into further difficulties by being placed in residential care is strong, and the research document about Melville House gives good indication of this. In fact, we have documented cases of young people having no previous criminal convictions but being in trouble with the Police and the Courts within a week of arriving into residential care.
3. Keith Quinn, rightly I think, considered it important to raise these matters, and I understand the family are appealing and have sought out appropriate legal representation to deal with the matter, as is their right. What disturbs me still further about the whole incident, as described to me by Keith Quinn, is:
 - (a) The rather punitive attitude of the Panel; apparently being more interested in the numbers of offences than the needs of the child.
 - (b) The dismissive attitude and somewhat aggressive stance adopted by members of the Panel towards the social work viewpoint. This clearly does not enhance the working relationship between two services who are both supposed to be acting in the best interests of the child.
 - (c) That a residential supervision order was made, without allowing this department to apply for a place to be allocated to the child. This action seems to be at odds with normal procedures, and is not good child care practice. A 'vacancy' is not the only criteria for placement.

(d) That Mr Quinn's statement has been misrepresented. He, in fact, was referring to the fact that the child had a history of absconding from school along with others, and from this, becoming involved in offences. The concern was that this pattern may be repeated from Melville House, with serious consequences.

I hope you will accept that there are different perceptions about what takes place at a Hearing. Keith Quinn is a very conscientious and reliable worker. Taking all these points into consideration, I hope you will accept his sincerity and professionalism in regards to this case.

Yours sincerely

~~John Hughes~~
Area Social Work Organiser

10-B
1-G

Glennothes

Name	D.O.B	D.O.A	D.O.D	Rate															

1	8	15
4	4	4
75	78	78

Paterson	Jason	7.1.74	6.2.78	27-9-78	20.30															

✓	✓	✓
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