

Evidence Review and Chronology of Care

Review of four supplied social-work / foster-care record pages

Purpose	To identify evidence relevant to placement, eligibility, abuse indicators, impact, discrepancies and chronology for a Scottish Redress application.
Page numbering	The source records were supplied as four individual image pages. References in this report use Pages 1-4 in the order supplied.
Approach	The report records only what can reasonably be read from the supplied pages. Where handwriting or identity links are uncertain, this is stated rather than assumed.

Key finding: *The documents provide strong contemporaneous evidence of foster-care placements and official social-work involvement. They do not, on their face, provide direct evidence of physical or sexual abuse. Page 1 does record significant emotional distress experienced by Adele after a family visit, but the record does not attribute that distress to abuse.*

1. Executive Summary

- **Page 4:** George McAuley, date of birth 24 October 1976, is recorded as received into care on 3 April 1978. His previous address is recorded as 27 Overton Crescent, Denny, and the new address is a foster placement with Mr. and Mrs. Muir at 42 Fairlie Street, Falkirk.
- **Page 1:** George and Adele Liston are recorded in a foster placement with Mr. and Mrs. Muir at 32 Fairlie Street, Camelon, for the period 4 April 1978 to 13 April 1978. The record says they settled well. It also records that a visit involving Adele's grandmother had a very bad effect on Adele and that she took several hours to calm down.
- **Page 2:** Adele Liston, aged 15 months, and George Liston, aged 6 months, are recorded as having been placed with foster parents Mr. and Mrs. Craig, 29C Graystale Road, St. Ninians. Their social worker is recorded as Ian Shovlin. No calendar date is visible on the supplied page.
- **Page 3:** A Central Regional Council Social Work Department review record identifies George Thomas Reid, date of birth 24 October 1976, and records a foster placement commencing on 24 February 1986 with foster parents whose name appears to read Mr. and Mrs. J. McMillan at Rodmans House, Muirlands by Denny.
- **Identity / address issue:** The records use the surnames Liston, McAuley and Reid in relation to George. Pages 3 and 4 show the same date of birth, which is important corroborative evidence, but the legal or factual reason for the surname changes is not established by these pages. The Muir address also appears as 32 Fairlie Street on Page 1 and 42 Fairlie Street on Page 4.

2. Evidence Review

The following assessment applies the categories requested to the material visible in the four supplied pages.

Category	Finding	Pages	Assessment
Proof of placement and eligibility	Multiple foster placements, placement addresses, care status, a date received into care, placement commencement date, social worker and local-authority social-work involvement are recorded.	1-4	Strong direct and corroborative evidence.
Physical abuse	No description of assault, restraint, corporal punishment, injury caused by staff/residents, use of force, police involvement or related medical treatment appears on these pages.	1-4	No direct evidence identified.
Sexual abuse	No sexual assault, inappropriate touching, night-time visits, grooming, sexualised conduct, disclosure or institutional response to sexual misconduct appears on these pages.	1-4	No direct evidence identified.
Emotional / psychological abuse or impact	Page 1 records that a visit involving Adele's grandmother had a "very bad effect" on Adele and that she took several hours to calm down. The record does not say this was caused by abuse.	1	Relevant contemporaneous emotional-impact evidence; causation should not be assumed.
Neglect	No inadequate food, accommodation, supervision, medical care, educational provision or safeguarding failure is identified on these pages.	1-4	No direct evidence identified.
Disclosures / complaints	No allegation or disclosure of abuse to a social worker, family member, teacher, doctor, police officer, manager or Children's Hearing is recorded.	1-4	No disclosure identified.
Institutional knowledge / failure to act	No previous complaints, staff discipline, investigations, inspection concerns or child-protection failures appear in these pages.	1-4	No such evidence identified.
Mental-health / medical consequences	Page 1 refers to Adele having a "health problem" and to several hours of distress after a family visit, but no diagnosis, injury or treatment is specified.	1	Limited corroborative health / emotional evidence only.

Category	Finding	Pages	Assessment
Education / relationships / life impact	No school disruption, work impact, offending, homelessness, relationship breakdown or adult-life impact is recorded in these four pages.	1-4	No evidence identified in this material.
Apparently contradictory / positive material	Page 1 states that George and Adele "presented no problems", were settling into the home, made necessary adjustments and got on well with the Muir children. It also states that the Muirs handled Adele's distress very well.	1	Should be retained and explained. It does not by itself disprove abuse occurring at another time or not recorded in this note.

3. Page-Reference Schedule

Page	Date / period	Document / author	Relevant extract / fact	Evidential value
1	4.4.78 - 13.4.78	Typed foster-placement record; author not visible on supplied page	"Foster placement - George and Adele Liston with Mr. and Mrs. Muir, 32 Fairlie Street, Camelon." States that the children settled well. Records slight problems caused by Mrs. McAuley and her mother, a grandmother visit, a very bad effect on Adele and several hours to calm down.	Direct proof of placement; contemporaneous emotional-impact evidence; positive/possibly contradictory evidence about settling.
2	Date not visible	Typed letter / note; addressed "Dear Peter"; author not visible	Adele Liston - 15 months; George Liston - 6 months. "The above children were placed today with Foster parents Mr. and Mrs. Craig, 29C Graystale Road, St. Ninians. Their Social Worker is Ian Shovlin."	Direct proof of foster placement, placement address and social-worker involvement. Calendar date requires another source.
3	Placement commenced 24 February 1986	Central Regional Council, Social Work Department - Review of Children in Care / Report from Foster Parents	Child appears as George Thomas Reid ; DOB 24-10-76 . Foster parents appear to read Mr. and Mrs. J. McMillan , Rodmans House, Muirlands by Denny. Handwriting should be checked against further records.	Official local-authority review record; direct evidence of foster placement, DOB and placement commencement date.
4	Received into care 3.4.78	"Information regarding a child received into care or transferred to new address"	Name: George McAuley . DOB: 24.10.76 . Previous address: 27 Overton Crescent, Denny . New address: foster parents Mr. and Mrs. Muir, 42 Fairlie St., Falkirk .	Strong direct evidence of entry into care before 1 December 2004 and of foster placement/residence.

4. Identity and Record Discrepancies Requiring Clarification

- **George's surname:** The pages refer to George Liston, George McAuley and George Thomas Reid. Pages 3 and 4 both give the same DOB, 24 October 1976, which strongly supports a link between those two entries, but the reason for the surname changes is not shown.
- **Muir foster address:** Page 1 gives 32 Fairlie Street, Camelon. Page 4 gives 42 Fairlie Street, Falkirk. Camelon is in the Falkirk area, but the difference between house numbers 32 and 42 should be checked against additional records.
- **Page 2 date:** It says the children were "placed today" but the calendar date is not visible. The ages should not be used to invent a date.
- **Page 3 handwriting:** The foster-parent surname and address appear to read Mr. and Mrs. J. McMillan, Rodmans House, Muirlands by Denny. Because the handwriting is faint, this should be verified against another record before being treated as definitive.

5. Chronology of Care

This chronology is limited to events that can be identified from the four supplied pages. Where a record has no visible calendar date, it is placed separately rather than assigned an inferred date.

Date / period	Care setting / placement	Event or concern	Person(s) / organisation	Record / consequence
Undated	Foster placement - 29C Graystale Road, St. Ninians	Adele Liston (15 months) and George Liston (6 months) are recorded as placed "today" with foster parents.	Mr. and Mrs. Craig; Social Worker Ian Shovlin	Page 2. Direct placement evidence, but exact date not visible.
3 April 1978	Foster placement - 42 Fairlie Street, Falkirk	George McAuley is recorded as received into care. Previous address: 27 Overton Crescent, Denny. New address: foster parents.	Mr. and Mrs. Muir	Page 4. Direct evidence of entry into care and foster residence.
4-13 April 1978	Foster placement - 32 Fairlie Street, Camelon	George and Adele Liston recorded in foster placement. They are described as settling and presenting no problems. A family visit involving Adele's grandmother is recorded as having a very bad effect on Adele; she took several hours to calm down.	Mr. and Mrs. Muir; Mrs. McAuley and her mother mentioned in relation to family contact	Page 1. Placement corroboration and contemporaneous evidence of emotional distress.
24 February 1986	Foster placement - Rodmans House, Muirlands by Denny	Placement commencement recorded for George Thomas Reid, DOB 24 October 1976.	Foster parents appear to read Mr. and Mrs. J. McMillan; Central Regional Council Social Work Department	Page 3. Official care-review evidence of placement and local-authority oversight.

6. Evidential Assessment for Redress

Placement / eligibility: The strongest evidence is on Pages 3 and 4 because they are official social-work / care records containing a DOB and a specific care-entry or placement commencement date. Pages 1 and 2 provide additional corroboration of foster placements, addresses and social-worker involvement.

Abuse evidence: These pages should principally be relied on as placement and identity evidence. They do not contain a direct allegation or account of physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect or institutional failure. Page 1 is relevant to emotional impact because it records observable distress in Adele after family contact, but the record itself does not identify abuse as the cause.

Positive or inconsistent records: Page 1 records that George and Adele were settling well and presented no problems. This should not be omitted. It can be explained as a contemporaneous observation during a defined period and does not necessarily resolve what may have occurred outside the note or in other placements.

Further evidence to seek: Where available, obtain complete social-work files, placement authorisations, admission/discharge records, Children's Hearing material, foster-care review minutes, school and medical records, and any records explaining the surname changes or the Muir address discrepancy.

Overall evidential classification: Strong proof of foster placement and care status; limited evidence of emotional impact; no direct abuse evidence identified in the four supplied pages.