

REPORT ON: TOMMY TARBETT

D.O.B: 16 7 73

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Carolina House Children's Home
281 Strathmore Avenue
DUNDEE

SOCIAL WORKER: Peter Devlin

OFFICE ADDRESS: Social Work Dept
6 Kirkton Road
DUNDEE

REPORT FOR: ~~ANNUAL~~ PANEL/REVIEW

DATE:

SCOTTISH REGIONAL COUNCIL
CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT
DUNDEE WEST AREA

RECEIVED 18 SEP 1989

ACTION

Since the last review on 30 1 89 Tommy has continued to reside in the Ogilvie House unit within Carolina House. The emphasis of the unit is on preparing residents for an eventual move to independent living. This is achieved through giving them increased responsibilities for their own budgeting, laundry, cooking etc. Tommy handles his responsibilities well and they are well within his capabilities.

The identified tasks at the last review were:

1. Continue the placement, which is felt to be appropriate, working towards independence.
2. Giving necessary support and encouragement with 'O' levels.
3. Establishing a regular pattern of social worker visits.
4. Maintaining contact with father and grandmother.
5. If mainstay placement is found for Lisa, then negotiate regular contact between them.

All the above, with the exception of No 5, have been addressed and are discussed more fully elsewhere in the report.

A mainstay placement has yet to be found for Lisa.

There have been some internal structural changes within Carolina House and Tommy and two other residents are in a self-contained unit. This unit contains 3 bedrooms, kitchen and toilet. There is also the possibility of a sittingroom in the future. A contract/lease agreement has been drawn up and a further degree of independence is envisaged. This fits in well with future plans for Tommy and is a positive step towards independent living for him. Full support will still be given and be available from key worker.

Tommy maintains a key place within his peer group which has undergone a few changes also. He relates well to them all and, in particular, one or two of them. At weekly resident meeting he is never slow to let his feelings and thoughts be known often taking the lead in discussions.

He also has a very good relationship with the staff group and is highly thought of. There have been no incidences of any "sulking" to note. His relationship with key worker is also being built up steadily.

He is still very much involved with sporting activities. He plays with an under 18 football team and also plays football and rugby for his school.

He has kept up his contact with Menzieshill Saturday club and is seen as a key member there. He has had a weekend trip with them and thoroughly enjoys his time with them.

A room was made available for study purposes and, much to his credit, he availed himself of this facility. A study rota was worked out between myself and Tommy and he adhered to this and perhaps did more than was asked of him. He felt confident about his chances of passing most of his 'O' levels. At a school evening the respective teachers all had a good report for Tommy and were pleased with his level of work and output. The feeling was that he should pass his exams.

He sat 6 'O' levels and passed four - Maths, history, computing and arithmetic. He missed out on geography and English. He had hoped to appeal for them both but his marks weren't high enough. He is resitting English but, unfortunately, there is no opportunity to resit geography.

He has also started 5th year at school.

FAMILY CONTACT

Contact with father and grandmother has been on a bi-weekly basis, alternating between the two, one week to dads, next to grans. This hasn't always been kept up by Tommy and it appears that his sporting activities have sometimes taken precedence over visits. When asked about his visits, he has assured me nothing is wrong or has happened to make him want to avoid visiting.

There have certainly been no signs of anything untoward for Tommy.

He has also visited brother Grahame in Greenock on two occasions, also he has visited him once in Dumfries with Lisa and key workers. There is never much feedback from the visits, other than it goes well.

Tommy enjoyed the group holiday to the South of France in June/July.

Social Worker has seen Tommy fairly regularly over past few months. Again there is not much response from Tommy about these visits.

Tommy's health has given no cause for concern and he appears quite an energetic youngster.

CONCLUSION

Tommy continues to progress steadily. He has handled the basics of independent living and taken things a bit further within the self contained unit. This will need to be carefully monitored and every possible support given and made available for him.

He still wants to remain at school for at least another year. I think his feelings re future careers are that it is far enough away at the moment not to have to worry about it.

I feel that Tommy should continue to reside here and be given every help and support towards his stated wish of independence, albeit in perhaps a couple of years time.

Derry Meredith
Key Worker