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POLEPARK FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRE

REVIEW OF POLEPARK CONTACT WITH [REDACTED] and WILLIAM TARBETT

11 March 1996

Present:

Martin Dey, Sandra Smillie & Fiona Sinclair, Polepark
Philip McGill, Social Worker

[REDACTED] Foster Carers

Karen Dorward & Marion Mitchell, Lilybank Child & Family Centre, joined the meeting halfway through, to discuss issues relevant to William.

Original Reason for Polepark's Involvement:

Since the last Review, there has been a change of foster placement for the boys and a change of social worker for all three children. It was, therefore, felt to be useful to give a very brief resumé of why Polepark was involved with the children.

Sandra and Fiona explained that there had been some concerns about sexualised behaviour by [REDACTED] and William with two sisters in their previous foster home and this had led to a referral to Polepark for help.

From the beginning, a dual focus was agreed that the workers would try and address, not only the sexualised behaviour, but also to help the children express their opinions and feelings about being in care, why they came into care and what life was like when they lived at home. There had been previous concern about [REDACTED] showing some sexualised behaviour, for example, at school, and it was agreed that it would make most sense to involve [REDACTED] in the sessions with her brother as well.

Over the course of involvement, the workers used different permutations of seeing two children at a time and laterally saw the children individually. They were also occasional sessions in which all three children were seen together in order to facilitate sibling access.

The help given to the children to speak about life at home has

provided some useful further insights into the care they received from their natural parents. This has included reflection on some positives but also mention of a number of negatives such as witnessing violence, being hit themselves and witnessing adults involved in sexual acts. It has not been a straightforward task for the Polepark workers or for anyone else involved with the children, to help them with the legacy of this premature sexualisation. The children appear to be left with a sexualised slant on life that can emerge when they are insecure, when they wish to get a reaction and when they are looking to comfort each other.

In the sessions at Polepark, the workers were able to gain some greater insight into the origins of this behaviour and some better understanding of what activities and feelings helped keep the preoccupation with sexual matters alive. Previous Review minutes have detailed discussions of just how difficult it is to reduce the children's dependence on sexualised behaviour for excitement and nurturing. It is clear that the behaviour diminishes the more settled the children feel. If they are given relatively little encouragement from their peers or other adults, then this can also lead to a reduction and, as the children grow in confidence and begin to feel that they can do well and be liked for other things, the need for sexualised behaviour has also reduced. However, these are long, slow processes and it is almost certain in the boys' case that the disruption of the move has also set them back and seen William, in particular, fall back on previous ways of coping with stress. In contrast, [REDACTED] who has had a much less disrupted placement and who has been separate from the reinforcing influence of her two brothers, reveals much less sexualised behaviour and appears to be moving towards coping more maturely with the subject, although it was acknowledged that her behaviour could be seen as flirtatious leaving [REDACTED] vulnerable to anyone who may take advantage of her.

This meeting looked at how difficult it was to give children messages about simulating sexual activity or sexual touching that conveyed to them that it was wrong, that they themselves were not dirty, nor that sexuality in itself, once older, was wrong. The situation was further complicated by the fact that the children express some of their closeness through games such as [REDACTED] playing at getting married and through [REDACTED] and William cuddling in bed. It is another difficult task for children who have been prematurely sexualised to draw the dividing line between acceptable cuddles and unacceptable simulation of sexual activity. This is not a subject that will easily go away but it is hoped that, if the children are able to feel secure and get attention for other things, then the behaviour will become less prominent.

How the Children are Currently Coping:

██████ is the most settled child, reflecting the benefits of continuity of placement. She did appear to have a period of confusion in which she thought that the boys were going to their final families and she was not. She has visited the boys at the ██████ house twice and this has helped her get a realistic picture of where they are.

The plan for ██████ is still to find a permanent family, although this will not now be the ██████ family as was previously put forward as a possibility in past Reviews.

██████ appears to be a difficult child for his new foster carers to cope with. ██████ appears restless and cagey with a resistance to letting people get close to him. Difficult situations can blow up almost out of the blue. It appears to be hard to know what ██████ is thinking as he does not talk much about his feelings in the foster home. A feature of the early months at the ██████ house has been that ██████ has frequently been quite hurtful and nasty to William, including hitting him and saying that he wanted William out and ██████ in.

Those present at this meeting felt that this was a sad development for two brothers who have been through a lot together. It is likely to be a reflection of the fact that ██████ feels in competition with William perhaps regarding who gets liked the most and who, therefore, gets kept. ██████ said that she had worked hard to explain to ██████ that both of them were equally part of the household and this seems to have had some effect in improving the situation. Philip pointed out that there had been some positive interactions between ██████ and William including ██████ giving William a reassuring explanation about respite care. Philip also noted that it was quite healthy for William to turn to ██████ as his main source of support and not see ██████ in this role as it would not be fair on ██████ as a child to be the main support to William.

Martin reported that in the Polepark Children's Group, ██████ had some good moments but was generally proving quite hard to handle and disrupting the running of the Group. ██████ has run away into nearby building sites and provoked fights with other Group members and needed, on occasions, to be taken out to a separate room until he began to calm down. When taken out, he will quite often say that he has been injured in the process and threatened to tell someone. It is possible to see that ██████ appears unhappy and insecure, even when he is behaving badly and he sometimes appears more at home trying to get another child to join him in mucking about than in trying to take part in an activity properly. However, despite this, ██████ did manage to take part in some of the activities and appeared to enjoy when these went well and he was praised for this. It also has to be noted that his behaviour in school is much more manageable.

William has been more unsettled in the family centre this year. There have been times when he has appeared more violent and has shown more sexualised behaviour. Once he is removed from the scene, then he can calm down and apologise. The moods that have come over William appear to reflect a boy who is feeling less secure and more angry with the world. The family centre staff reported that William still can be helpful at times and the hope is that, as he begins to feel more secure in his placement, then perhaps the aggressive moods will diminish.

The point was raised at this meeting whether there was a case for separating William and [REDACTED] into separate placements, to stop them reinforcing each other's sexual activities and to give them space to develop without being in competition with each other. It was agreed that it was too soon in their present placement to start recommending another move like that. Philip said there had been a great many changes in the boys' lives recently, including irregular access, the threat to Lilybank, changes of school, respite foster care and the change of foster placement. Philip outlined a plan in which he wished to put a priority in simplifying the boys' lifestyle. He wanted their main and, if possible, only task right now to be to settle at the [REDACTED] and begin to reap the benefits of settling there. In line with this proposal, he wished the boys to more and more come under the [REDACTED] routine of how to get to school rather than use other drivers.

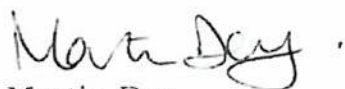
It was also agreed that this would be a good time for the work with Polepark to end. This may be a complete break or only a temporary one. What happens next will depend on what issues are around for the boys once they are more settled.

Conclusion:

[REDACTED] and William will stop having sessions at Polepark for an unspecified period. [REDACTED] contact will end once the Children's Group is over. Philip and Margaret Leslie will take over responsibility for organising the sibling access. Philip has been given the role of feeding back to the natural parents about developments in the case work and he said he would inform them of the ending of contact with Polepark regarding the boys. There was, however, the possibility that Sandra may play a role in helping Philip and the [REDACTED] think about how best to help [REDACTED] and William. Philip undertook to arrange such a meeting.

Precise decisions were not taken about Fiona's contact with [REDACTED] partly due to Margaret not being present and Christine having to leave the meeting early. It was agreed that Fiona would continue to see [REDACTED] once every three weeks and give feedback to Christine on these

sessions. The aim of Fiona's work will be to eventually hand over to Margaret Leslie but no time limit was set on this and this is a task for Fiona and Margaret to negotiate as soon as possible. This will be the last Review of Polepark's work with all three children.



Martin Dey
Depute Head

05 April 1996

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**MINUTE OF TRANSFER DISCUSSION RE TARBETT
HELD AT WHITFIELD SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT
ON 7 DECEMBER 1995**

PRESENT

George Bowie, Senior Social Worker
Marion Selfridge, Social Worker
Anne Partington, Senior Social Worker

ASPECTS OF CURRENT SITUATION

Children's Hearing held on 30 November 1995 for all three children. No word of this Hearing being appealed as yet and it was already a reconvened Hearing following an earlier appeal so there were only seven days for appeal.

Supervision requirement was varied for the two boys [REDACTED] and William to allow them to move to c/o [REDACTED]. No variation for [REDACTED] who remains c/o [REDACTED]

No variation in Mr Tarbett's access which remains at 1 in 4 on Wednesday's at the Whitfield Office for all three children together supervised by social worker. Next access 20 December 1995.

Linda Archer's access is currently weekly for all 4 children (includes youngest [REDACTED]) supervised by Margaret Davidson, Social Work Assistant.

Proposal to reduce this access been discussed with Linda Archer but not yet implemented.

CIC REVIEWS

Movement in care review on 12 December 1995 for [REDACTED] and William.

Next regular CIC review for all three children is 16 January 1995 at St Matthews at 11.30 am. Proposed this remains for all three children together and is target date for formal transfer of cases.

Noted that plan is for Margaret Leslie to assume case responsibility for [REDACTED] and be main contact person for Linda Archer (mother). Phillip McGill to assume case responsibility for [REDACTED] and William and be main contact person for Davy Tarbett. [REDACTED] to remain case responsibility of Marion Selfridge as no plan for permanence and anticipated [REDACTED] will return to his mother's care in near future (Mr Tarbett not his father). Noted parents have now been separated for more than six months. Mother lives in Perth in private rented accommodation, father in Dundee. Social Work Department has undertaken to give Mr Tarbett a two weekly update on the children by letter and a two weekly telephone call for the same purpose.

Polepark involvement to be reviewed on 18 December 1995. Currently all three children attend [REDACTED] on Mondays, William separately. Sandra Smillie and Fiona Sinclair are the workers. Work has focused on sexualised behaviour by the two boys and their understanding of past experiences, reasons for being in care and future plans.

Children know they are not returning home but [REDACTED] would perhaps have favoured a return to mother, the two boys a return to father. Children know mother unable to "manage" them.

SCHOOL AND FAMILY CENTRE

[REDACTED] attends local primary school in Carnoustie - no significant concerns and no plans to move. [REDACTED] attends Grange unit but due to transfer to St Clements in January. Decision made not to open a record of needs. Anticipated no transport problem to get [REDACTED] to St Clements.

William attends Lilybank Child and Family Centre full-time. This will be impracticable as [REDACTED] does transport at present. Preliminary enquiries made at Beechwood Child and Family Centre - may have a place. Foster carers may prefer part-time place. Issue of move to be resolved by CIC review in January.

STRATEGY FOR TRANSFER OF CASES

- 1 Margaret and Phillip to meet parents with Marion.
- 2 Margaret and Phillip to meet foster carers and children in placement.
- 3 Supervision of access to be phased over to permanence team gradually. Maureen currently unable to fit all this into existing access commitments. Marion, Margaret Davidson and Maureen to discuss.
- 4 Form Es - agreed Marion will continue to work on these while permanence team gets to know the carers and establish the ongoing work with carers, parents, school and children, etc.



Anne Partington
Senior Social Worker

13 12 95
AP/DMM
(child1/tftrarbe)

REVIEW SUMMARY

DATE: 21.05.97

VENUE: Kirkton Child and Family Centre

NAME: WILLIAM TARBETT

DOB: 09.07.91

PLACEMENT ADDRESS:

[REDACTED]

DATE OF PLACEMENT:

March 1997

TYPE OF PLACEMENT:

Foster Placement

NAME OF CARERS/KEYWORKER:

[REDACTED]

PARTICIPANTS:

Mr B Chalmers, CARO (Chair)
Mr P McGill, Social Worker
Mr R Duncan, Senior Social Worker
Mr Tarbett, Father
Lisa Tarbett, Sister
Ms H Russell, Resource Worker
[REDACTED]
Miss S Ross, Minutetaker

APOLOGIES:

Mrs Clark, Assistant Headteacher, Longhaugh Primary School
Ms G Thomson, Educational Psychologist
Ms M Petrie, Social Work Assistant

HOW HAVE PARENTS AND CHILD BEEN PREPARED FOR THE MEETING?:

Mr Tarbett has been to many similar meetings in the past and was accompanied by his daughter [REDACTED]. William is too young to comprehend the nature of the meeting and its purpose.

WRITTEN REPORTS RECEIVED FOR THE MEETING:

Social Worker's Report AO16

DATE AND REASON FOR PLACEMENT:

22.09.94

Continuing concerns for the safety of William and his brother [REDACTED]. Behavioural problems of the children at school, Family Centre and at home and Mr Tarbett's refusal to co-operate with the Social Work Department. Children's involvement in on-going acrimony between parents.

LEGAL STATUTE:

Section 70(1) away from home

Date of Hearing:

03.04.97

Any conditions/requirements:

That mother has supervised contact once a month.
That father has supervised contact once a month.

Has safeguarder been appointed:

No

DATES AND REASONS FOR PREVIOUS PLACEMENTS:

(If respite placements - please give dates and number of days)

22.01.94	07.02.94	██████████ Invergowrie
22.09.94	31.11.95	c/o ██████████

PROGRESS ON AGREED TASKS FROM PREVIOUS REVIEW HELD ON 18.11.96

- 1 At a Children's Hearing on 27.11.96 William's Supervision Requirement was continued.
- 2 Mr McGill did discuss relevant parts of the new Children's Act with the appropriate people.
- 3 The Educational Psychologist has seen William at St Clement's Primary School but nothing further has taken place. William now attends Longhaugh Primary School.
- 4 Sexualised and aggressive behaviour has been monitored.
- 5 Mr McGill visits the foster home fortnightly as does Mrs Gall, Resource Worker.
- 6 William moved to Mr and Mrs ██████████ care at the end of March 1997.
- 7 The arrangements of supervision of contact and frequency continue to be the same and this is kept under review by Mr McGill.
- 8 Mr Tarbett and Ms Robertson continue to be advised of William's progress regularly.
- 9 The Permanence Panel decided to place ██████████ and William in separate permanent homes and this is being sought through the Scottish Resource Network.

PLACEMENT:

Mrs ██████████ said that she has had William with her since the end of March and he has settled well. Mrs ██████████ was moving house and William coped very well with this. William can be difficult, he goads others and tells tales but he is learning to abide by the rules. William sleeps well and he has a good appetite. He does like to have the last word and he tests out. William does tell lies and this makes it difficult to know when he is telling the truth or not at times. William is quite friendly and he associates more with the 3 younger children in the placement. He does not however have a lot of respect for property including his own but this could be related to poor fine motor skills.

Mr McGill said that the doctor who carried out William's permanence medical queried his fine motor skills. The doctor referred William to the School Doctor who felt that he did have the skills but he was rarely using them and that this did not warrant further investigation.

Mr McGill felt that there has been quite a change in William since he moved to Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]. His personality is the same but his presentation is quite different in that he is more mature and he is proud to do things that he refused to do before. William does not see himself as the youngest in the placement and seems to realise that there is an expectation that he be more responsible. In addition William does not seem to be quite so temperamental. William is now starting the process of trusting his new carers. William has noticed that Mr [REDACTED] takes a much more active role in dealing with the children than Mr [REDACTED] and he cannot get away with anything!

The plan is to seek a permanent placement for William but a bridging placement will be required prior to that.

Date of Care Plan: Foster Care Agreement will be completed today.

Review of Care Plan:

EDUCATION:

William continued at St Clement's Primary School for a short while after he moved to the new placement and he has only been attending Longhaugh Primary School for 4 weeks. He was quite unsettled in the first few days. William sulks when he does not get his own way and he demands more attention from the teacher than anyone else in his class. He constantly asks to go to the toilet when he does not really need to go. He swears under his breath at times but he has not lost his temper. He needs a lot of encouragement but he does concentrate on things he really enjoys. He is encouraged to listen and think before he does things and be less boisterous.

The way William approaches reading, writing and counting, would give the impression that he has had no education before. The teacher is re-enforcing the basic skills over the next few weeks with William to assess the level of his ability and whether he needs extra support and/or Educational Psychologist's assessment. The school have made arrangements to give William extra homework.

HEALTH:

William last had a permanence medical on 03.04.97 and no concerns were raised at that time about his general health.

Mrs [REDACTED] felt that William has grown in height and slimmed down slightly. He eats very well.

William has just recently visited the Dentist.

CONTACT ARRANGEMENTS:

Mr Tarbett has supervised contact for one hour a month at Kirkton Child and Family Centre. William, [REDACTED] and Mr Tarbett's daughter [REDACTED] also attend. Ms Robertson's contact is once a month supervised also at Kirkton Child and Family Centre and takes place 2 weeks after Mr Tarbett's contact.

Mr Tarbett said that William has a very good relationship with his daughter [REDACTED] and their contact is very important to William.

Since William was moved out of the placement he shared with [REDACTED] they have been back and forward to each other's carers and it is the plan to continue this. On average, [REDACTED] and William's contact is 3 times each month. Their sister [REDACTED] was in a permanent placement and it was agreed that she should not therefore be drawn into this. However [REDACTED] circumstances have changed, she is now in a temporary foster placement and the plan is to involve her in these informal contacts with her brothers.

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Mr Tarbett expressed concern that [REDACTED] William and [REDACTED] have not seen their brother [REDACTED] since Christmas and had consulted with his solicitor on this matter. Mr McGill said that this is due to [REDACTED] complex situation at the moment and it was decided that given his situation is uncertain at this time, contact should be kept fairly minimal for the time being. Mr Chalmers suggested that photographs of [REDACTED] be given to the children meantime. Mr Chalmers advised Mr Tarbett that he can pursue this with his solicitor. Mr McGill said that William has a very different attitude to [REDACTED] compared to his brother [REDACTED]. William does not have the same interest in [REDACTED] and there is also the issue for William as to why [REDACTED] was back living with his mother but he was in a foster placement.

Mrs [REDACTED] said that she has had [REDACTED] for their tea and would be happy for this to be a regular occurrence although not necessarily the 3 children together.

Mr McGill said that Ms Petrie, who supervises contact, has found that since William and [REDACTED] have been in separate placements, their behaviour towards each other during contact has improved. [REDACTED] attends these contact visits and she takes more of an active role with the children than her father. [REDACTED] manages the children's behaviour which is very important as they do need someone to be in charge of them. Ms Petrie feels that [REDACTED] does look forward to spending time with [REDACTED] and her daughter and father.

ANY OTHER ISSUES:

Mrs [REDACTED] had been told by William when he recently returned from school that he had been given a pound from his brother and informed him that his father would be coming to see him at school the next day. The school were quite anxious about this because of the Children's Panel conditions stipulating no unsupervised contact. Mr McGill asked Mr Tarbett not to make such arrangements.

Mr Chalmers confirmed that the Children's Panel condition applied to all contacts between Mr Tarbett and William. It was not, therefore, possible to allow or condone the sort of casual arrangement which had happened.

DOES THE CHILD STILL NEED TO BE LOOKED AFTER?:a Child/Young Person's View (expressed or demonstrated - past/present/future)

William has settled well with Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]. He is now attending Longhaugh Primary School where his basic skills are currently being assessed. William's contact with his family is reported to be going well and informal contacts are also taking place with his siblings.

b Parents' Views (and changes planned)

Mr Tarbett feels that William should be in his care and not being looked by the Local Authority.

c Social Work View

To continue to support William in his placement, while seeking a bridging placement and then a permanent placement.

OVERALL PLANS AND TIMESCALES:

Identified Tasks	Responsible Person	Timescale
1 William continues to stay with Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]	William Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]	On-going
2 Respite care continues once a month with same carers.	Mr McGill	On-going
3 William will continue to attend Longhaugh Primary School and Social Worker to maintain relationships there.	Mr McGill	On-going
4 Copies of the school report due out in June, to be sent to parents.	Mr McGill	June 1997
5 William will have his next dental check up in the next 6 months.	Mr & Mrs [REDACTED]	Within the next 6 months
6 Senior Social Worker to clarify what stage Educational Psychology are at.	Mr Duncan	
7 The Foster Care Agreement is to be signed at the end of this meeting.	Ms Russell	Today
8 Social Worker and Senior Social Worker are pursuing the Scottish Resource Network for Michael.	Mr McGill Mr Duncan	On-going

HAS REVIEW AGREEMENT FORM BEEN SIGNED?:

Yes, except for Mr Tarbett who has been advised by his solicitor not to sign anything.

DISSENT NOTED: None

DATE AND VENUE OF REVIEW:

04.11.97 at 3.30pm

SIGNATURE

DATE


30/5/97

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DISTRIBUTION LIST:

Mr P McGill, Social Worker + copy for Mr Tarbett and Ms Robertson
Mr R Duncan, Senior Social Worker
Ms H Russell, Resource Worker + copy for [REDACTED]
Admin, 6 Kirkton Road
Manager

BC/SR
23.05.97
(carocf/ao15r-z/tarbw.doc)

SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT CASE REVIEWS - CHILDREN IN CARE

Please include comments under the following headings:-

PEN PICTURE OF THE CHILD (including interests as well as physical and emotional attributes);

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE SINCE LAST REVIEW (including frequency of visits);

SUITABILITY OF PLACEMENT (does it meet the child's needs? What are his/her views?)

SCHOOL REPORT (facts about attainment and potential. Also any behavioural or relationship difficulties);

HEALTH (date of first medical and details of any treatment in addition to description of health);

CONTACT WITH NATURAL PARENTS/CURRENT HOME SITUATION/PARENTS' VIEWS RE FUTURE;

PARENTAL CONTRIBUTIONS (has parental assessment form been submitted to HQ?)

SOCIAL WORKER'S VIEWS RE FUTURE ACTION (indicating why any change in direction has taken place since last review/initial assessment. Also indicate why particular goals are used and link with understanding of child's behaviour);

NAME	ADDRESS IN CARE	DOB
WILLIAM TARBETT	C/O [REDACTED]	09.07.91
DATE OF LAST REVIEW OR CASE CONFERENCE	18.11.96	
DATE OF LAST MEDICAL EXAMINATION	03.04.97	
DATE OF LAST SCHOOL REPORT	WILLIAM IN PRIMARY 1 - 1ST REPORT DUE THIS YEAR	
DATE OF LAST FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT (FORM F8)	N/A	

William has experienced a considerable amount of change in the last six months with his move to Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] family and a change of school to Longhaugh Primary.

These changes were brought about through this department's concern that William and his brother [REDACTED], who had up until recently lived together in foster care, were behaving in ways towards each other that could not be managed by the foster carers, and which were compromising the boy's future development. Particularly these behaviours were:-

- aggressive outbursts on a several times per day basis where the boys would hit/kick/punch and aim to deliberately hurt the other
- each ensuring that aggression was kept up through being provocative to the other
- sexual acting out between them, provoked by either one of the boys, sometimes as if in defiance of the foster carer's attempts to intervene
- disruptive action by one against the other, determined to cause disruption/ distress/upset as for example when one would wake up the other to encourage boisterous play; or when either of the boys would "report" on the other's activities to the carers, but would also join in with and encourage the "bad" behaviour being reported.

Prior to his move William was confused and upset, becoming agitated and overtly emotional with laughter and tears seeming always present. These mood changes and disruption in his otherwise happy disposition were due to his feeling undermined by plans to move, and were then slowly relieved through coming to know and trust his new carers.

William has now settled into the [REDACTED] family and has transferred his expectations of being cared for to them. Some definite changes in William's appearance and behaviour have also occurred, with his appearing and acting as if he has become a "bigger boy" who is proud to demonstrate skills (dressing and matching shoes to correct feet; using seat belt) which he previously would not carry out for himself. In his new household, William is one of a group of three younger children and will vie for superiority with the other boy, [REDACTED]. William always has a tale to tell about what [REDACTED] are doing but shouldn't be, and rarely includes mention of his part in these actions.

William's health is good, he continues to be robust and to have good development. No concerns were noted at his recent medical.

William transferred to Longhaugh Primary after the Easter holidays. Mrs [REDACTED] reported that his class teacher, having assessed William as having made hesitant progress in basic language skills, has taken him back to cover the basics again. Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] are working in co-operation with the school to help William make progress, and are encouraging him to complete extra "homework". I have tried to contact the Education Psychology Department in preparation for this review, to determine what involvement they had with William at his previous primary school. This will be a matter for discussion and consideration by Longhaugh as to whether William requires any input from their educational psychologist.

Mr Tarbett and Ms Robertson have kept up their contact with William, alongside [REDACTED] and the boy's sister [REDACTED]. These contacts seem reasonable times for William, where he may behave badly or may not, often seeming at least as interested in the gifts brought along as in his parents. William does not have much to say about contact at other times, though he will ask questions to help him to understand what might be happening. Generally William presents himself as someone who is trying to make the most of where he is, he does not talk about or in other ways suggest that he wishes to be, or expects to be, living with his mother or father.

At the recent Children's Panel, Mr Tarbett specifically asked that his contact be increased; this was refused by the Panel on the grounds that they were concerned about Mr Tarbett's admissions that he was prepared to talk to the children in ways and about matters which are inappropriate - because they can undermine the children's confidence and feelings of security. Mr Tarbett has no trust in the Children's Panel decision, or in the social worker's presentation of this information. As with other matters to do with the children, Mr Tarbett strongly and vociferously disagrees with the views of the Social Work Department in relation to his past and present behaviour, and he essentially maintains that he has never acted against his children and therefore they should be returned to his care.

I have, and expect to continue, to meet with William and his carers on a fortnightly basis, when I will spend individual time with William. Along with my colleague, Margaret Leslie, I will continue to give William's parents opportunities to keep up to date about them.

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William Tarbett

The meetings we have with Mr Tarbett are often quite difficult, given his omnipresent opposition to this department's views and actions, however these meetings are valuable in enabling some limited sharing of information.

This department has determined that William's future will be most securely settled through his eventual move to a permanent placement. It remains a task of mine to investigate any opportunities for such a placement. It should be noted that this department is experiencing serious difficulties in locating such placements.

Signed

Philip McGuire

Date

20.5.97

19.05.97
PMcG/DMM
(ao16r_z/tarbe_w)