

Extracts - 2

CHRISTOPHER MULHOLLAND EXTRACTS FROM DOCUMENTS HELD BY SCRA

Please note: Some names have been removed from the document extracts. It would not be reasonable or appropriate to disclose this information to you. In order to make the extracts reader-friendly, names of relevant third-parties have been replaced with a descriptor or [].

2014-09-03 Child Protection Report

Concerns were raised on 19th June 2014 by Ayrshire Out of Hours who reported that Police notified them of an incident involving [] and [] father Mr Christopher Mulholland. Police advising that they attended the family home at 10:30am on 19th June 2014 with Mr Christopher Mulholland, Mr Mulholland was taken to Ayr Police Station, when searched he was found to have ten wraps of heroin secreted within himself. Mr Mulholland was charged with possession and intent to supply heroin. He was released from custody to return home and attend Court at a later date. Police also secured a warrant to return to the family home at 16:30 in the evening for a further search. Following this search, no further illegal substances traced within the home.

Social Work became involved with Mr Mulholland when he was about twelve years old and he was placed in Red Brae Residential School. Mr Mulholland was involved with the Children's Hearing System and was subject to Supervision until sixteen years of age. He described his experience in care as positive and attended mainstream school four days per week.

Mr Mulholland is currently not involved with Addiction Services stating that he does not need support for relapse prevention. He has recently completed a Community Payback Order and has become involved with Police again due to his criminal activity.

Mr Mulholland's engagement with services appears superficial and concerns remain regarding his criminal activity and possible substance misuse

Mr Mulholland is of the opinion that there is no need for social services involvement in his life

This recent incident involving Mr Mulholland's criminal activity is also concerning as there is a risk that he is storing illicit substances within the family home. Mr Mulholland appears to be controlling and his engagement with services also appears superficial.

Mr Mulholland has a history of previous substance misuse, including heroin, however has had two episodes of detox with Suboxone and claims that he no longer needs the support of Addiction Services as he feels he can cope on his own without any agency involvement to support him with relapse. Without monitoring of Mr Mulholland's possible substance misuse there is a greater risk that he will relapse.

It is concerning that Mr Mulholland has recently been charged with offences relating to drugs. He has chosen not to inform [] of his recent charge and this potentially places the [] at risk. It is questionable whether this action is to protect [] and [] or whether Mr Mulholland is minimising his drug use/involvement.

2014-09-26 STATEMENT OF GROUNDS

Section 67 Ground

The children's reporter has arranged a children's hearing for [] because the reporter believes the following ground(s) apply:

that in terms of section 67(2)(a) of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011, [] likely to suffer unnecessarily or [] health or development is likely to be seriously impaired, due to a lack of parental care.

Supporting Facts

On the 19th June 2014, Christopher Mulholland was found to be in possession of 10 bags of heroin.

On the 29th July 2014, Christopher Mulholland & [] presented as homeless with [] The family were fleeing violence linked to Christopher Mulholland's criminal activity.

2014-11-04 Statutory Record of Proceedings

Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision - Contact with father Christopher Mulholland a minimum of 3 days a week 1.5 hours supervised by social work due to the seriousness of the allegations. Mr Mulholland was unhappy with the decision as he was unsure about a section 25 voluntary arrangement and the compulsory supervision order.

2014-11-04 Statutory Record of Proceedings

Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision - As contact is positive the unanimous decision was to keep contact as it is, 3 days a week 1.5 hours supervised by social work

GROUND OF REFERRAL AS AMENDED ESTABLISHED AT KILMARNOCK SHERIFF COURT ON 20th November, 2014 STATEMENT OF GROUNDS

Section 67 Ground

The children's reporter has arranged a children's hearing for []
Because the reporter believes the following ground applies:

that in terms of Section 67(2)(a) of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act, 2011 he is likely to suffer unnecessarily or his health or development is likely to be seriously impaired, due to a lack of parental care.

Supporting Facts

Grounds for referral under section 67(2)(a) of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011, were established at Kilmamock Sheriff Court on 14 April 2014, in relation to [] and

On the 29 July 2014, Christopher Mulholland & [] presented as homeless with [] Christopher Mulholland stated the family were fleeing violence linked to Christopher Mulholland's criminal activity.

2014-12-02 Statutory Record of Proceedings Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

It was explained to Mr Mulholland that he needs to engage with addiction services because of the issues he has with illicit drugs.

2015-10-05 Statutory Record of Proceedings Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision - To continue the compulsory supervision order dated 01.12.14 Christopher Mulholland (dad) still has substance misuse issues. Since moving to Irvine, he has been allocated a new addictions worker. [] parents have settled in their new home, and it is hoped that being away from previous negative influences will be of benefit. It was emphasised that it is vitally important that he fully engages with all supports and is seen to do so, to the satisfaction of Social Services and the hearing system.

2017-05-17 Statutory Record of Proceedings Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision - To proceed in the absence of the child's father, Christopher Mulholland. Mr Mulholland has reported that he has a new job and would not be attending. He was informed that the papers were ready for collection but did not collect. The panel decided to proceed in his absence in the best interests of the children but did not grant him dispensation given that he has a responsibility as well as a right to attend.

The children should reside with the foster carers given that they have been able to provide them with a safe and therapeutic environment for several years. The parents have not been able to provide a safe and secure environment because of their lack of understanding of the risks they were to the children, their capacity to parent was not good enough, there were contradictions on what they said to social work and because of the controlling relationship that Mr Mulholland had on [].

There is no benefit or value in the contact of [] with [] father therefore it was terminated. [] Mr Mulholland is only a negative influence during contact. All parties agreed on this.

2017-12-01 CHILD ASSESSMENT AND PLAN

Health issues

Family or Carer – Identified need, Dad has an opiate dependency.

Historical

Mr Christopher Mulholland

In relation to his upbringing, departmental records note that Mr Mulholland was born in Rutherglen and raised in the Easterhouse and Castlemilk areas of Glasgow. He has two older sisters and his parents separated when he was about four years of age. He and his father moved to Beith when he was eleven years old and he attended Garnock Academy for approximately one month. Mr Mulholland advised the writer that around this time his father had a breakdown and left home. Departmental records note that Mr Mulholland experienced behavioural difficulties in school. Social Work became involved and he was placed in Red Brae Residential School.

Mr Mulholland was involved with the Children's Hearing System and was subject to Supervision until aged 16. He described his experience in care as positive and attended mainstream school four days per week. Mr Mulholland advised that he left school at sixteen with four GCSEs and went to college to undertake a course in motor mechanics. On leaving school, Mr Mulholland moved into the Dreghorn Hostel for a period, before returning to live with his father in Beith. Mr Mulholland reported that he worked full time as a roofer however after injuring his knee whilst working he left this. Mr Mulholland began a relationship with his daughter's mother after she moved to Beith. He said that his ex partner was an ex user of illicit substances during their relationship however relapsed. He advised he occasionally used cannabis however he began using heroin when he was about twenty six or twenty seven years of age.

Mr Mulholland was involved with [] (community payback team) in 2003, in relation to unpaid fines and there was a warrant issued for his arrest to attend court. When he was arrested Mr Mulholland appeared at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court on 30th October 2013 where he received 1x20hrs plus 1x40hrs community service in relation to unpaid fines. Departmental records note that Mr Mulholland's attendance could be sporadic however did complete his Community Payback Order. Mr Mulholland has another child who is in the full time care of her Maternal Grandmother. This child's mother ended her relationship with Mr Mulholland after another person, who was an associate of Mr Mulholland, had an overdose in the house and drug paraphernalia was found in the property where the children lived. He now has no contact with this child.

A Child Protection Case Conference Review was held on 8th August 2012 where the decision was made to remove [] name from NAC Child Protection Register. Positive progress had been made during the period of registration. Mr Mulholland continued to engage with Addiction Services and successfully completed a Suboxone programme to aid withdrawal from methadone. [] and Mr Mulholland appeared to be parenting [] positively and no issues reported. However the previous writer felt that compulsory measures of care were needed for [] given the family history and high level of support that had been offered to support his parents with parenting him. As such the writer made a referral to the Reporter's Department however no grounds of referral could be found. However, social work remained involved as part of Child Protection de-registration procedures.

In March 2013, Mr Mulholland's father, who was very supportive to [] and Mr Mulholland, sadly passed away. The writer soon observed a marked decline in Mr Mulholland's presentation and he disclosed in April/May 2013 that he had relapsed and was using illicit substances again.

Mr Mulholland successfully completed a suboxone detox however his father passed away from cancer in March 2013. It appears that this significant event contributed to Mr Mulholland turning to substances to deal with his grief and loss and contributed to a decline in [] and Mr Mulholland's relationship. In June 2013 the writer carried out a home visit to [] and Mr Mulholland to follow up allegations that Mr Mulholland was using illicit substances and storing them in his house. Mr Mulholland was putting pressure on [] to return to live with him and denying domestic abuse taking place.

Due to the accumulative concerns involving [] a Child Protection Investigation was commenced with the decision made that a Child Protection Case Discussion was convened. All agencies involved at the meeting expressed concern about Mr Mulholland's behaviours, substance abuse. This meeting then led to a Child Protection Case Conference being convened on 16th September 2013. At this meeting Police reported concerns regarding intelligence relating to Mr Mulholland's criminal activity and non-attendance at court [] name was placed on North Ayrshire Council's (NAC) Child Protection Register at that meeting due to the following risk factors identified; Domestic Abuse Parental Mental Health Issues Emotional Abuse Parental Drug Misuse Other Concern- Historical Issues Other Concern- Criminal, Violent or Anti Social Behaviour. Mr Mulholland did not attend the CP Case Conference.

The writer remained the allocated lead professional for [] and visited weekly with monthly core groups being held. A high level of support was provided to the family through health, education and social work. Mr Mulholland was presenting as stable and his involvement with services had increased since the previous February.

He did not feel the need for engagement with addiction services. The couple also appeared more united in their relationship and demonstrating a commitment to the work in respect of []. Police did not have any new evidence or intelligence in respect of drugs, however had information around the possibility of Mr Mulholland being concerned with handling and storing stolen property which was strongly denied by Mr Mulholland. At []'s Child Protection Review Case Conference on 11th June 2014 []'s name was removed from North Ayrshire Council's Child Protection Register.

However, on 19th June 2014 social services received a referral from Ayrshire Out of Hours advising that Police had notified them of an incident involving [] and unborn baby's father Mr Christopher Mulholland. Police advised that they attended the family home at 10:30am on 19th June 2014 with Mr Christopher Mulholland. Mr Mulholland was then taken to Ayr Police Station, when searched he was found to have ten wraps of heroin secreted within himself. Mr Mulholland was charged with possession and intent to supply heroin. He was released from custody to return home and attend Court at a later date. Police also secured a warrant to return to the family home at 16:30 in the evening. This incident initiated a further Child Protection Investigation for [] with recommendation to proceed to a Child Protection Case Conference. A Pre-Birth Child Protection Investigation had also been completed on [] with the recommendation to proceed to a Pre-Birth Child Protection Case Conference.

On 31st July 2014 social work received a telephone call from Glasgow Homeless Social Worker [] advising that Mr Mulholland and [] presented at Out of Hours Glasgow Homeless Office on 29th July at 5:15pm, stating they were living with Mr Mulholland's sister. They were advised to return the following day to the Homeless Office. Mr Mulholland did on his own and advised the family were living with his sister but could not provide details of an address. He informed that he was presenting as homeless as he was fleeing violence in Beith and wanted a house in Glasgow as he had family in Glasgow.

On 5th September 2014, social work completed a home visit to the property in Beith and drug paraphernalia was found within the parents bedroom. Mr Mulholland's presentation was also questioned, however he denied any drug use and declined a drug screening test. There were significant concerns regarding the chaotic lifestyle of Mr Mulholland and [] , which would potentially place [] at risk.

Addictions (2015):

Mr Mulholland reported to Addiction Services in 2015 that he was using approximately 2-3 bags of Heroin per week (1/2 gram). Mr Mulholland had not reported this to Social Services, and claimed that he was stable on 25ml prescribed Methadone. Mr Mulholland's substance misuse has remained a concern for staff since. The writer would suggest that Mr Mulholland has not been open and honest with social work regarding his use. In November 2014, Mr Mulholland self referred to Addiction Services, he attended one appointment and was prescribed suboxone. He did not engage any further with the service following the initial appointment, although advised social work that he was. He then self referred again on 6th March 2015 following discussion with the writer regarding evidencing change. He was tested as part of the assessment and tested positive for cocaine, benzodiazepine and cannabis. He tested negative for opiates. Mr Mulholland was described to be very aggressive and angry with addiction's staff due to not being placed on a Methadone script, as this is how he felt he would get his children returned to his care. A further appointment was made on 8th April 2015 and Mr Mulholland was prescribed 25ml Methadone (daily supervised) given that he tested positive for opiates at that appointment and reported to be using heroin. This was then monitored every three months by NHS addictions. The previous writer had concerns for Mr Mulholland's

presentation at contact on 19th May 2015, however Mr Mulholland denied any drug misuse and declined a drug screening test by his Addictions support worker the following day. Mr Mulholland's prescription increased by 10ml on 3rd September 2015 (to 35ml) due to Mr Mulholland advising that he was using around 2-3 bags of Heroin a week. Following his move to Irvine, Mr Mulholland is now allocated to [] , NHS Addiction Service who plans to meet with him every 2-3 weeks at present to closely monitor his circumstances.

Criminal Justice (2015):

Mr Mulholland was sentenced to a 100 hour Community Payback Order in May 2015 in relation to unpaid fines dating back to 2006. He failed to complete this order in the time given, therefore was given a three month extension on 6th August 2015. Mr Mulholland provided a medical certificate between 10th July and 4th September 2015, however has failed to engage with his worker since the end of this period, therefore has been given a first formal warning.

Criminal Justice (2016):

On 8th October 2015 Chris's unpaid work order was extended by 3 months.
On 20th October 2015 Chris's CJS worker noted that he believed Chris to be lacking in motivation to change, however Chris refuted this. He requested a DTTO.

1st November FTA

4th November Court Disposal: 12 month supervision requirement

10th November Chris is subject to a tag until 6th March

15th November FTA, notification of breach issued (subsequently attended appointments as required)

30th March Court Disposal: 100 hours of unpaid work to be completed within 3 months

26th April Chris advised to increase unpaid work days to meet time limit of order

24th May FTA

14th June Chris warned that he was running out of time to complete unpaid work within timeframe

15th June Chris attended appointment and said he would do extra days of unpaid work

21st June FTA

28th June telephone call to Chris to say he hasn't completed unpaid work within time. Chris was unhappy with this decision and feels he should have had an extension.

29th July Court Disposal: warrant to cite in breach proceedings. Chris has to appear in court on 24th August

2nd August Chris attended appointment.

Current (2017)

Mr Mulholland is no longer engaged with services in North Ayrshire, as he has reportedly moved to Mauchline. No paper confirmation has ever been given of this address. An unannounced home visit was attempted but access was not gained.

Mr Mulholland's engagement with services appears superficial and concerns remain regarding his criminal activity and possible substance misuse.

[] and Mr Mulholland had a period of homelessness between August 2014, and receiving their own tenancy in August 2015 in Irvine

Analysis

Mr Mulholland appears to be controlling and his engagement with services also appears superficial.

Mr Mulholland has a history of substance misuse, namely Heroin, since the age of 26 years old. Mr Mulholland has sought support from Addictions Services periodically, and has at times made progress. However, Mr Mulholland has been unable to sustain these changes, and in the past has been unable to be open and honest with Social Work regarding his illicit substance misuse.

At an office visit on 27th July 2016 with the writer Mr Mulholland reported not having a substance misuse problem but failed to mention the positive tox screen earlier that month. This would suggest that Mr Mulholland is not willing to be as open and honest with the writer as he could be. On 28th July 2016 the writer asked Mr Mulholland to discuss the impact his substance misuse has had on his children. He was of the opinion that his substance misuse has had no effect on his children. The writer pointed out that it was a primary reason why his children were looked after but neither parent had any response. During appointments Mr Mulholland dominated the conversation and even after the writer pointed out that it is important for "name removed" to equally contribute he continued to give her little opportunity or encouragement to voice her views. Given the dynamic observed between the parents, which indicates a level of coercive control in existence

2018-01-15 Statutory Record of Proceedings Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision - To excuse Christopher Mulholland (Father) from attending, The reporter does not have a current address for Christopher Mulholland, so he was not aware of the hearing taking place. He no longer plays any part in [] 's life. To include in the order a direction that the child shall have no contact with Christopher Muiholland, Father. Christopher Mulholland is a negative influence on [] due to his poor lifestyle choices and controlling attitude. There would be no benefit to [] if she had contact with her father.

2018-06-25 Extracted from Chronology

17/05/2017 - The Panel have decided that the children are to have no further contact with Mr Mulholland. - The children will be protected from his negative behaviours

26/05/2015 – Christopher Mulholland (Father) given 100 hours community service in relation to unpaid fines dating back to 2006. - 100 hours Community Service to complete

19/05/2015 - Chris's presentation was concerning on 18th May at contact. Staff suggested drug screening test on 19th May 2015 by Addiction Services

12/02/2015 - Mellow Dads group completed.

28/01/2015 - Chris assaulted in Stevenston.

06/01/2015 - Mr Mulholland discharged from addiction service due to failure to attend appointments. Attended one appointment since November 2014.

30/10/2014 – Chris began attending mellow Dads group.

19/06/2014 - Chris Mulholland has been charged with possession and intent to supply heroin. He was found to have ten wraps of heroin secreted within himself. House also searched however no further illegal substances were found.

29/04/2014 – [] , SW and [] , FCW deemed Chris Mulholland (Father) to be under the influence of a substance when returning to the hospital to see [] . Chris denied any drug use and denied a drug screening test. Chris was asked to leave the hospital, which he did do.

2018-09-24 Extracted from Safeguarders Report

The whereabouts of Mr Mulholland are unknown

2018-11-28 Child Plan

Mr Mulholland continues to pose a risk of harm to the children as evidenced by his recent disengagement from addiction services, recent domestic abuse as reported by [] and non-engagement with the writer for over a year. Mr Mulholland historically showed no insight into the impact of his substance misuse, namely Heroin, on his children. He also denied that he had ever committed domestic abuse. Therefore he continues to be a significant risk factor, who could potentially cause the children harm

Mr Mulholland is no longer pursuing residency. His whereabouts are unknown. He has made no contact with North Ayrshire for 18 months.

The writer attended an address he gave justice services over summer however the occupants said he no longer resided there.

2024-07-07

The whereabouts of Mr Mulholland are unknown. His last contact with the children was in 2017. Records indicate that heroin use has featured in his life. He was most recently known to th/e Justice Services in 2018 due to offending behaviours.