

27/2/95



Director — [redacted]

Dalkeith Area Office,
11 St Andrew Street,
Dalkeith EH22 1AL

Telephone: [redacted]

FAX No. [redacted]

Our Ref.

Your Ref.

Date

[redacted]

Please find enclosed copies of
Review minutes for Peter.

All the best,

[redacted]

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL
Department of Social Work

RECORDS OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT
REVIEW OF CHILD IN CARE (CCR2)

Review Date 2.2.95	Place Moore House School
Child's Name Peter Meaney	D.O.B. 20.3.79
Placement Moore House School	

ACTION TO BE TAKEN BEFORE NEXT REVIEW	PERSON RESPONSIBLE

LONG TERM PLAN Continue at Moore house till school leaving date - 31 May 1995

Date 13.2.95	Signature of Chairperson [REDACTED]	Date of Next Review/Time
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RCP/LA

Participants/Designation	Copy	Administrative Use
Peter Meaney [REDACTED], SW [REDACTED], Unit Manager [REDACTED], Keyworker [REDACTED], Mother [REDACTED], Maternal Grandmother		

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL
Department of Social Work

RECORDS OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT
REVIEW OF CHILD IN CARE (CCR3)

Review Date 2.2.95	Place Moore House School
Child's Name Peter Meaney	D.O.B. 20.3.79
Placement	Moore House School

(Note: Use in conjunction with CCR2 when inserting details in heading box)

School

After some initial false starts and a difficult period last week, Peter has begun to accept the placement at Moore House and to settle.

Home contact

Is able to have contact by phone with home. Has every weekend at home from Friday pm to Monday am to which will soon be added Wednesday. Spends some of some weekends re spent with [REDACTED]

Peter has presented no issues during home leaves to date.

Health

No health issues.

Long term plan

Continue at Moore House till school leaving date - 31 May 1995.

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL
Department of Social Work

RECORDS OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT
REVIEW OF CHILD IN CARE (CCR2)

Review Date
2.2.95

Place
Moore House School

Child's Name
Peter Meaney

D.O.B.
20.3.79

Placement Moore House School

ACTION TO BE TAKEN BEFORE NEXT REVIEW

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

LONG TERM PLAN

Continue at Moore house till school leaving date - 31 May 1995

Date

13.2.95

Signature of Chairperson

Date of Next Review/Time

RCP/LA

Participants/Designation

Copy

Administrative Use

Peter Meaney

[REDACTED], SW

[REDACTED], Unit Manager

[REDACTED], Keyworker

[REDACTED], Mother

[REDACTED], Maternal Grandmother

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL
Department of Social Work

RECORDS OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT
REVIEW OF CHILD IN CARE (CCR3)

Review Date 2.2.95	Place Moore House School	
Child's Name Peter Meaney		D.O.B. 20.3.79
Placement Moore House School		

(Note: Use in conjunction with CCR2 when inserting details in heading box)

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Peter has presented no issues during home leaves to date.

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Long term plan

Continue at Moore House till school leaving date - 31 May 1995.

██████████
Divisional Reporter
Children's Hearing Centre
██████████

██████████
18 July 1994

Dear ██████████

re: Peter Meaney (20.3.79)
43 Oak Crescent, Mayfield, Dalkeith

Since receiving your original requests for information I have interviewed Peter alone, and in the presence of his ██████████. I have also discussed his situation with ██████████ who has confirmed that Peter appears to be experiencing difficulty in a number of areas of his life.

Peter has always lived in Mayfield. His ██████████, ██████████ split up with his ██████████ when he was 2.1/2 y.o. Peter has regular contact with his ██████████ who lives in Bonnyrigg, and also with his parental ██████████

██████████ family have also played a great part in his life. Her brother, who was present for part of one of my interviews, has "been like a ██████████ to Peter", (██████████ words). The house in which Peter and ██████████ live was previously ██████████ family home, and has been since ██████████ was seven. Her father lives in ██████████ in ██████████, her mother lives in ██████████.

██████████ informed me that as a consequence of Peter's offending she moved him to his ██████████ home in ██████████ to keep him away from the boys with whom he was offending. This appears to have a short-term effect on his getting into trouble, although his attendance at school remained problematic.

I have discussed his situation with ██████████ at Newbattle High. Peter's attendance has been poor for quite some time, Peter's explanation for this was that he was being intimidated, but ██████████ felt that there were a number of boys in a similar situation, that Peter's situation was no worse than that of other boys, and that this was not in his opinion of sufficient seriousness to merit the poor attendance displayed by Peter.

Mr/...

2.

██████████ had arranged to pick Peter up from Bonnyrigg one morning however, this arrangement was not sustained. I gather ██████████ has been in to see ██████████ on more than one occasion but this has resulted in no significant improvement in his attendance. I spoke with ██████████ a week prior to the end of term to be informed that Peter had not been seen at school for "quite some time".

Peter's involvement in offending has also given cause for concern. Peter admits his involvement in the thefts from Debenhams. He could come up with no explanation for this, but stated that he had no material need to steal which was confirmed by his mother.

Peter informed me that he and ██████████ had also stolen £600 from his friend's father's home. This had been opportunistic in that they had seen the money, taken it and then gone to Edinburgh where they had spent the greater part of it on "walkmans, and things like that". They had in effect spent it until it was used up. He maintained they had gained little from it. Shortly after this however, ██████████ had ganged up with ██████████ whose father's money it was, and Peter had been threatened with assault. This had gone on for a couple of weeks until someone "had a word" with the individual whose money had been stolen and the threats ceased.

At the time of writing I am unaware of the circumstances around Peter's involvement in breaking the panes of coldframe glass.

Given Peter's difficulties at school and also in relation to his offending it would seem that he may be outwith the control of his mother, although I am not sure whether she would recognise this. Both Peter and his ██████████ are aware of the possibility of a Hearing being called.

Yours sincerely

██████████
SOCIAL WORKER
██████████



MEMORANDUM

Our Ref:

From: [REDACTED]

Your Ref:

To: [REDACTED]

Date:

2.8.94

[REDACTED] Re: Peter MEANEY - 20.3.79

Please find attached papers re Peter - I'll phone you over the next couple of days to discuss his situation. There is a hearing on 17 August, grounds being his offending + truancy.

All the best,

[REDACTED]



**LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK**

**PARENTAL CONSENT
TO MEDICAL TREATMENT
AND ACTIVITIES**

Child's Surname MEANEY	Case Number
Forename(s) PETER	D.O.B. 20 3 79

Home Address 15 H DOUGALL COURT MAYFIELD	Name and Address of G.P. NEWBATTLE GROUP PRACTISE MAYFIELD PARKWAY
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A CONSENT TO MEDICAL TREATMENT:

I hereby give my consent to vaccination against Poliomyelitis, Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, or any other disease, and to any treatment, injection or operative measures, including the administration of an anaesthetic considered necessary by a registered medical practitioner or dental surgeon, for the time that my child remains in the care of Lothian Regional Council.

I understand that wherever possible I will be consulted about any significant treatment so long as my whereabouts remain known to the Social Work Department.

CONSENT TO ACTIVITIES:

I give my consent to my child being involved in normal sporting, holiday and social activities during his/her stay in the care of Lothian Regional Council.

I also understand that if my child is to participate in any significant holiday, sport, or hazardous activity I will be notified and consulted about this so long as my whereabouts are known to the Social Work Department.

I also understand that sport and activities will be supervised, where appropriate, by a responsible adult.

I have detailed below those activities in which I do not wish my child to participate.

LIST OF ACTIVITIES NOT AGREED TO:

1.
2.
3.
4.

Signed **X** Parent/Guardian Date **20.1.95**
 Signed Witness Date **19.1.95**

B REFUSAL TO CONSENT TO MEDICAL TREATMENT:

I have been asked to give my consent to appropriate treatment for my child during his/her stay in the care of Lothian Regional Council and I have refused to give this consent.

Signed Parent/Guardian Date
 Signed Witness Date

C TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The parents of this child are unable to be found or have refused to sign their consent to any essential medical treatment which the child may require.

* The child is now in the care of the Lothian Regional Council Department of Social Work under Section of the Act 19

OR * The child is subject to a Place of Safety Warrant/Court Order in terms of Section of the Act 19 and is presently being cared for by the Lothian Social Work Department.

Since the Lothian Regional Council does not at this stage hold parental rights in respect of this child I would request medical staff, in consultation with their colleagues, to consider offering any necessary medical or surgical treatment despite the absence of parental consent.

Signature Designation Date

ADDITIONAL GROUNDS FOR REFERRAL

S O C I A L W O R K (S C O T L A N D) A C T 1 9 6 8

1 On Friday 27th January, 1995, at 10.00 a.m. at [REDACTED].
Peter Meaney (20.3.79) c/o [REDACTED]

is being referred to a children's hearing for the Lothian Region on the grounds of the following conditions:

Section 32(2)(g) - that he has committed the offences specified below:

In support of the above condition it is stated:

1. That he did on 20th October, 1994, within [REDACTED], whilst acting along with another person, assault [REDACTED] by kicking and punching him to his head and body to his injury, this being an offence of assault.
2. That he did on date and place last above libelled, whilst acting along with other persons, conduct himself in a disorderly manner and commit a breach of the peace, this being an offence of breach of the peace.

Children's Hearing Centre
29 Elmfield Court
Dalkeith

23rd January
.....1995

[REDACTED] Divisional (Reporter)

NOTES

At the children's hearing the child or his parents may or may not accept the grounds for bringing the child before the hearing. If the grounds are accepted by the child and his parents, if present, the children's hearing will discuss and consider with the child and his parents what is best for the child. If any of the grounds are not accepted, the hearing may either discharge the referral or direct the reporter to refer to the Sheriff for a decision as to whether or not any of the grounds exist. If this happens the child will have to appear before the sheriff at a later date. If the sheriff decides that any of the grounds do exist, the children's hearing will then discuss and consider what is best for the child, as if these grounds had been accepted. If the sheriff decides that no grounds exist the referral will be discharged.

- 1 Name and address of child

Signed:

S O C I A L B A C K G R O U N D R E P O R T
F O R C H I L D R E N ' S H E A R I N G
S o c i a l W o r k (S c o t l a n d) A c t 1 9 6 8 S e c t i o n 3 9 (4)

(Religion)
(School)

REPORT WRITTEN BY: [REDACTED] (Author)
Social Worker
OF: Dalkeith Social Work Centre (Area Team/
11 St Andrew Street Unit address)
Dalkeith EH22 1AL

ON: 24 January 1995 (Date)

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS:

Family background

Peter's family circumstances were outlined in the Hearing report of 17.8.94.

Since that Hearing Peter and his [REDACTED] have gone to live with his maternal [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] has now given up her own tenancy and has been living with her [REDACTED] for the past three months. Peter continues to have very regular contact with his paternal [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in Bonnyrigg.

[REDACTED] had been finding Peter's behaviour extremely difficult to cope with as they had received calls from him on a fairly regular basis saying he was stuck late at night in Mayfield. They would then pay for a taxi to return him to them. This occurred during a period prior to and around the time [REDACTED] moved in with her [REDACTED]. In the period between giving up her tenancy and moving in with her [REDACTED] she was living with her boyfriend in Gilmerton. Unfortunately the flat in Gilmerton was small and is inadequate in terms of providing accommodation for Peter.

Peter refused to return to Newbattle High. As a result a referral was made to Moorehouse School and I visited with Peter, his [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. We then arranged for Peter to spend an evening at the school, to be followed by an overnight stay. Unfortunately Peter although present in the family home did not answer the door when I called to collect him. He later told me he'd been nervous about going to the school. We arranged a further visit, which again fell through due to Peter not being at home at the time we had agreed I would collect him.

Following further discussion with his [REDACTED], with [REDACTED], Educational Psychologist, and Moorehouse School, I arranged a further attempt on January 11th. On this occasion Peter was at home and he went to the school for the evening visit. This went extremely well and this was followed by an overnight visit the following night. As a consequence we arranged for Peter to be admitted to the school as of January 12th. Reports so far have been positive. Peter has been welcomed by the other young people and he seems to have settled in well.

Peter will be part of a Leaver's Group and work will concentrate on social skills in addition to consideration of longer-term employment options for Peter.

3.

Offending

1 & 2 Peter informed me that he and another young man had been allowed a shot of the motorcycle. Peter drove the bike off and abandoned it.

3. Peter informed me he did not steal this bicycle.

4. Peter denied his involvement in this offence, but informed me of a similar offence committed against another boy.

5, 6 & 7. Peter denies breaking the windows, saying that this had been committed by [REDACTED], an older woman who had been part of the crowd of around thirty or so youths. Peter did tell me that he had been drunk at the time of the incident, as had a number of his friends. He tells me he does not know [REDACTED] and would not normally socialise with her.

8. Peter denies assaulting the Policeman.

9. Peter admits that he conducted himself in a disorderly manner.

10. Peter accepts that he did run away from the Policeman.

Peter acknowledges that he has been involved in a number of offences over the past few months and is concerned that he is building up a reputation that results in his coming to the attention of the Police. [REDACTED] has told me that he has stolen items from the family home in the past, although Peter has denied this.

The incident referred to in grounds 5 - 10 were of great concern to Peter and his family. He is very aware of the seriousness of the incident which appears to have got out of control. Peter was taken to Dalkeith Police Station under an "unruly certificate", and only after negotiation was he released into the custody of his [REDACTED]. He has since been of good behaviour.

Given that plans for Peter's move to Moorehouse School were at an advanced stage it was agreed to set a date for a hearing which would allow a brief period of assessment. This appears to have gone well so far, although his key worker who will attend the Hearing will give a fuller report.

Conclusion

Peter has had a very unsettled period over the past few months. He has failed to attend school, has been involved in petty offending, in drinking and in dabbling with drugs. Additionally his home base has been very unclear.

The Christmas and New Year period has been fairly settled for Peter other than the serious incidents involving the broken windows. His relationship with his [REDACTED] has improved over this period although she was very distressed by the events of the recent weekend.

Peter's past offending gives cause for concern, although he is aware of the implications of future offending in view of his forthcoming sixteenth birthday. He has expressed a desire to keep out of trouble and has recently displayed a commitment to attending Moorehouse School.

With this in mind I would recommend varying the Supervision Requirement with a condition that he attend Moorehouse School.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
SOCIAL WORKER

[REDACTED] 24.1.95

[REDACTED] 120.

Released to:
at his/her request on:

Signed:

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

S O C I A L B A C K G R O U N D R E P O R T
F O R C H I L D R E N ' S H E A R I N G
Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 Section 39(4)

FOR: 29 Elmfield Court (Children's Hearings Centre)
 Dalkeith
ON: 29.8.94 (Date)
 4.15pm (Time)

ABOUT: Peter Meaney (Child's Full Name)
 20.3.79 (D.O.B./Age)
 43 Oak Crescent (Address)
 Mayfield
 Dalkeith

(Religion)
(School)

GROUNDS OF REFERRAL:

Update since 17.8.94

REPORT WRITTEN BY: [REDACTED] (Author)
 Social Worker
OF: Dalkeith Social Work Centre (Area Team/
 11 St Andrew Street Unit address)
 Dalkeith EH22 1AL

ON: 29 August 1994 (Date)

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS:

2.

Since the Hearing I have met with [REDACTED] to discuss circumstances. [REDACTED] had been unaware of the Hearing on 17.8.94 as she had not received the letter.

Due to her difficulties with Peter she had felt she had to show Peter she was not prepared to deal with the behaviour he was presenting. As a consequence she had only rarely been back at her home in Mayfield. She stated very clearly that had she been aware of the Hearing she would not have missed it. From my previous contact with her and as I stated in the Hearing I would have found it surprising for her to fail to attend if she had been aware of it.

[REDACTED] informed me that she had seen Peter the previous day and they had had a long discussion about recent events. At one point during the period she was in Gilmerton she had heard that Peter with friends had climbed in the window of her house at Oak Crescent.

When she returned the house was in a state of disarray. In the course of cleaning and tidying the house she found the letter from the Reporter which had been opened and discarded. Peter later confirmed he had done this.

We discussed her plans for Peter's long-term future, [REDACTED] has decided to give up her tenancy in Mayfield which she feels has recently caused nothing but problems. She has spoken with Peter who feels he would rather stay with his mother than anywhere else. I informed her that when asked this in the Hearing Peter had stated his wish would be to live with his [REDACTED]

In a conversation with [REDACTED] early last week Peter's [REDACTED] informed me that although they cared and would continue to care deeply for Peter, [REDACTED] would find it difficult to cope with a boy of his age in the longer term. Given this, and my later conversation with [REDACTED] I have not pursued the Boarding Out and Fostering Regulations with regards to [REDACTED]

Conclusion

[REDACTED] was unaware of the Children's Hearing regarding Peter. She has since indicated a desire to work with Peter to resolve their difficulties. The next few months will be difficult for both Peter and his [REDACTED]. Under the circumstances I would recommend that Peter be made the subject of a Supervision Requirement.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
SOCIAL WORKER

29.8.94

.088

Released to:
at his/her request on:

Signed:

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

S O C I A L B A C K G R O U N D R E P O R T
F O R C H I L D R E N ' S H E A R I N G
Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 Section 39(4)

FOR: 29 Elmfield Court (Children's Hearings Centre)

Dalkeith

ON: 17.8.94 (Date)

2.00pm (Time)

ABOUT: Peter Meaney (Child's Full Name)

20.3.79 (D.O.B./Age)

43 Oak Crescent (Address)

Mayfield

Dalkeith

(Religion)

(School)

GROUND'S OF REFERRAL:

Failure to attend school.

Shoplifting etc.

REPORT WRITTEN BY: [REDACTED] (Author)

Social Worker

OF: Dalkeith Social Work Centre (Area Team/

11 St Andrew Street

Unit address)

Dalkeith EH22 1AL

ON: 17.8.94 (Date)

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS:

Family members

██████████ - mother
 Peter Meaney (15) - subject of report.

Family background

Peter has always lived in Mayfield with his ██████████. ██████████ split up with Peter's ██████████ when Peter was 2.1/2 years old. Peter has had irregular contact with his ██████████ throughout his life but is particularly close to his paternal ██████████ who live on Bonnyrigg.

██████████ family have also played a great part in his life. ██████████ described her ██████████ as having "been like a father to Peter". The house in which Peter and ██████████ live was previously ██████████ family home, and has been since she was seven. Her ██████████ lives in ██████████, her ██████████ lives in Fife.

██████████ is involved in a new relationship and spends a great deal of time with her boyfriend, ██████████ at his home in Gilmerton. Peter gets on well with ██████████, but unfortunately his home is too small for Peter to move in were ██████████ to decide to do this on a permanent basis.

When I first had contact with ██████████ and Peter I was given the impression that there were no great difficulties, however some time after I saw them, ██████████ contacted this office to say their situation had deteriorated significantly and she was finding difficulty in coping with Peter's behaviour. She described him as being outwith her control, saying he was sneaking into the house when she was not at home and bringing friends in when she was out. She also expressed concern that Peter was smoking cannabis.

Peter's school attendance has been poor for quite some time. Peter explained that this was partly due to being intimidated but agrees that prior to this there were times he'd leave school after arrival as he couldn't be bothered. I have discussed Peter's situation with ██████████, Assistant Headmaster at Newbattle High School whose impression was that Peter's situation was no worse than that of certain other boys who were continuing to attend, and that the intimidation was not of sufficient seriousness to merit the poor attendance displayed by Peter.

Two months or so before the summer break Peter had gone to live with his ██████████ in Bonnyrigg. This was following a difficult period between Peter and his ██████████. ██████████ Peter's ██████████ had spoken with ██████████ at the school and ██████████ had agreed to pick Peter up at Bonnyrigg on his way to school, as he passed that way in the morning. This occurred on one occasion, but although Peter waited for ██████████ the following day, he drove past without noticing Peter. When I discussed this later with ██████████ it seemed there was a misunderstanding about the arrangement. I have recently discussed this with Peter and his ██████████, and Peter acknowledges that it is ultimately his own responsibility to ensure that he attends school.

Recen events.

██████████ contacted me towards the end of July to say she was having difficulty with Peter, and requesting that I visit. I did so and a fairly fraught discussion took place, in which ██████████ acknowledged that circumstances had been worse than she had previously indicated, that Peter had stolen money from her as well as from her parents, and that she felt he was outwith her control. At the end of this meeting we agreed that both ██████████ and Peter would attempt to compromise, that Peter would keep to agreed time limits for coming in at night, and that I would visit the next week.

When I visited the following week at the agreed time no-one was home. I returned fifteen minutes later and still no-one was home, at which time I left a note. When I returned to the office later in the day Peter had phoned to say he had been to the house, and wondered whether the visit had been cancelled. It would seem that I had missed him by minutes, but to this point I have had no explanation for ██████████ absence.

I later heard from Peter's ██████████ that unable to gain entry to the house he had phoned them later in the evening to ask what he should do. He went over to Bonnyrigg and has been there since.

I have recently discussed his situation with Peter and his ██████████. They have indicated that they have no objection to Peter living with them as long as he behaves himself, keeps out of trouble and attends school.

Offending

1. Peter tells me he stole a pair of sunglasses from Debenhams, but did not steal the top.
2. The £600 was stolen by Peter and another youth, ██████████. Both boys state that it was the other who actually removed the cash from the suit jacket pocket of the father of one of their friends. Despite this lack of clarity Peter acknowledges that whether or not it was actually he who removed the money, he was involved in the theft and helped spend it. Neither boy has much to show for it, most of the goods having been given away to friends. I understand Peter's ██████████ have agreed to repay half of the amount.
3. Peter was in BHS with a group of boys, one of whom had nudged a man on the escalator. This man turned round and assaulted Peter who retaliated. The security guards put the group of youths out of the store and the man followed Peter along the street. The fight between them continued and Peter was arrested by the Police.

Peter's/...

Peter's tendency is to minimise his involvement in these offences, but it is of concern that he has been involved in a number of different types of offence over a period of time. He agrees that it is no excuse, but feels much of this is due to having nowhere to go when his [REDACTED] is out at work.

I have been unable to speak with Peter's [REDACTED] recently. I have visited the house on a number of occasions with and without appointments. It would seem that she has not recently been to the house.

This situation is clearly of some concern. Difficulties have existed between Peter and his [REDACTED] for some time and I have had limited opportunity to address this with [REDACTED]

I have referred Peter for consideration for a residential school place, but at the time of writing I am not aware of whether vacancies are available.

Summary

Over the past few months circumstances have been difficult for Peter and for his [REDACTED]. Peter has given me an assurance that he would like to return to Newbattle High. I have not been able to discuss this recently with [REDACTED] to discuss this, but as Peter has not been excluded there is no reason why he should not return there next week.

Peter's [REDACTED] are willing to have him living with them and provided Peter can control his behaviour I can see no problem with this.

It is of concern to me that I have been recently unable to speak with his mother, but I would hope to contact her in the near future.

Under the circumstances I would recommend that Peter be made the subject of a Supervision Order.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
SOCIAL WORKER
17.8.94
079