



**NORTH AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL**

GEORGE L. IRVING: DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK

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Your Ref:
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Date: 9th April 1998

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SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

**LEWIS DUNCAN (22.10.84)
114 MORAR PLACE
CASTLEPARK
IRVINE**

To be read in conjunction with Social Background Report dated 6th March 1998

Lewis appeared at a Childrens Hearing on 10th March 1998 at which time a decision was taken to allow a short period for him to make a commitment to attending school regularly.

In the subsequent four week period Lewis attended fairly regularly in the initial stages, however, was unable to sustain the commitment. By the beginning of the second week period truancy became an issue which escalated into half day truancy by the end of the week.

As a consequence a decision was taken to return Lewis to Newfield to allow him to reflect on his actions.


The Keyworker/.....

The Keyworker, George Hutton spent time with Lewis considering actions and consequences. This work together with his extra time at Newfield appeared to have an impact, with Lewis returning to school and sustaining complete days. The situation deteriorated again fairly quickly which resulted in Lewis being returned to Newfield for a further extended period.

The reasons for Lewis being unable to sustain a commitment to school are unclear, however it is the opinion of his parents that he is unable to undertake classroom work as he has missed so much of his education. In addition Lewis has indicated on more than one occasion that he is being bullied. Exploration of this possibility has been frustrated by the fact that Lewis has left school following incidents without explanation of reasons, or identification of the perpetrator.

It would appear that an alternative to mainstream is now the only option, however, a Looked After Review will be required to discuss the various options, given that the parents are considering withdrawing Lewis from mainstream education in order to educate him at home. They have expressed concern that Lewis would be educated in a specialist resource as a day boy, which may lead to an escalation in his previous offending pattern, due to peer influences. They also feel should that situation arise it will have a negative impact on the family circumstances.

It is therefore requested that a further continuation take place to discuss the feasible option which are acceptable to all parties.


CAROLINE GARRIGAN
SOCIAL WORKER