

17.03.97

Interview with Stacey Leonard at 49 Millfield Place, Arbroath

Present: Stacey Leonard
Irene Claffey Carer
Debbie Donkin PC, CAFSES
Elizabeth Ross Social Worker

Stacey was introduced to Debbie and a general discussion took place between them about school, etc. Stacey was asked if she knew why we were visiting today and when she confirmed that she did, she was asked to tell us what had happened on Sunday. She advised that [REDACTED] and herself were playing tig outside [REDACTED] flat. [REDACTED] fell and they both went to [REDACTED] flat to see Irene who told them to play outside with their dolls.

Stacey then said that they "started playing a rude game which we shouldn't have". "Irene called us up to [REDACTED] and she had a talk when we went to the harbour".

Stacey was asked "what was the game?". She replied "lying on top of each other and cuddling and that's all". Stacey was asked what she meant by "cuddling". Stacey did not answer.

Irene then asked Stacey to tell us what she was doing when she shouted her up. Stacey initially didn't answer but then said in a low voice "had our hands on our front bottom".

Stacey was asked if she had played the games a few times. She replied "yes" and then said she had played the game with [REDACTED] Gino, [REDACTED] grandad and mum.

She was asked if anyone else was there when she played the game with grandad, she replied "can't remember".

She was asked how many times she had played the game and said "I played it a few times before I come into foster care".

Stacey was then asked about the touching, she was asked who does the touching and she replied "both". She was asked where and replied "don't know".

Irene then asked Stacey to write the word down and she suggested that she go and get her special pen. Whilst Irene was out of the room Debbie gave Stacey a pen and she wrote the words "front bottom" on a pad of paper.

She was asked if grandad touched her "front bottom" and she replied "yes". She was then asked if she touched grandad and said "no". She was asked if grandad asked her to touch grandad and she said "no". She said that her

mum was in [REDACTED] house when she played the game with grandad and that she played the games in grandad's house. Stacey was asked if they were on their own and Stacey advised that her mother and sister were present. She said that her grandad touched them when she was there and that grandad was "cuddling us" and "trying to kiss us". She was asked whereabouts and she replied "on the cheek" and replied "no" to the question "anywhere else".

She was then asked if grandad would say anything about the game and she said he "never said anything". She noted that she hadn't told mum but then said "mummy said it was okay to play that game".

Stacey was asked if [REDACTED] had told their mum about the game. She replied "don't know". She was asked about the game she played with her mum and she said the game was the "same with grandad". "She was touching me and kissing me and I can't remember what else".

She was asked if her mum touched her on the front bottom and she replied "yes". She was asked about hands and she said that mum didn't move her hand but grandad did. She was asked if she played the same game with Gino and she replied "yes".

She said that they were not alone and that her mum, brother and sister were present and that these games had taken place in grandad's house.

She replied that the games took place "on top of her clothes" and that "Gino did the same as mum".

She was asked what she was wearing when she played the game with her mother and she said "her nightie". She was asked if she had her pants on and replied "yes" and she said that her mother had touched her on top of her pants.

Stacey was then asked to explain the game with grandad. She said that she would lie on her back and that he would lie on top of her and kiss her. Mum was listening to music downstairs.

Stacey was asked what grandad was wearing when he was lying on top of her. She noted "his vest and pyjama trousers". She was asked if he kept them on and said "yes".

Stacey then confirmed that she had her own bedroom.

Stacey was asked if her grandad ever got angry with her. She said "yes" and that "he would smack us", "smack us on the bottom" and "sometimes a leather belt". Stacey was asked if her grandad smacked [REDACTED], she replied "yes" "for not doing what we're told", "sometimes for annoying him".

She was asked if anyone else hit her with a belt, she noted "Aunty Carol" hit them sometimes with her hand or the belt, but hit them with the belt when they were "very naughty".

She was asked if she played the sex games with anyone else. She said that she saw [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. She clarified that they were Carol's friends.

She was asked to describe what happened when

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DRAFT AO14

1 PERSONAL DETAILS (If current Social Work involvement, simply update as necessary)

Surname: <i>Leonard</i>		Alias:
Forename(s): <i>Stacey</i>		Alias:
DOB: <i>28.4.88</i>	Sex: <i>F</i>	Urn: <i>92009044</i>

Title: (Tick Appropriate Box Below)

☐ Mr
 ☒ Miss
 ☐ Mrs
 ☐ Ms
 ☐ Under 16

Current Address:

40 Clatter
49 Millfield Rd
ambroth

Home Address: (If Different from Current Address)

.....

Postcode:

Tel No:

879846

Postcode:

Tel No:

Current Address Type: (Tick Appropriate Box Below)

☐ Home	☐ Residential School	☐ Caravan Site	☐ Homeless Hostel
☐ With Relative(s)	☐ Secure Unit	☐ Hospital/Res. Health Unit	☐ Women's Refuge
☐ With Friend(s)	☐ Residential Home - YP (Vol)	☐ Young Offenders Inst'n	☐ Other (specify below)
☒ Foster / Mainstay Care (LA)	☐ Independent Living Unit	☐ Bail Hostel	
☐ Foster Care - Private	☐ Supported Lodgings - YP	☐ Prison	
☐ Foster Care - Other	☐ Mother and Baby Unit	☐ Homeless	
☐ Residential Unit - YP (LA)	☐ Bed & Breakfast	☐ Homeless Unit (LA)	

Client Group: (Tick Appropriate Box Below)

☒ Child and Family Care
 ☐ Other (please specify)

GP:

Health Visitor:

Standard Admin. Records Check Carried Out? (Tick box)

☐

Outcome (tick appropriate box below):

☒ Known to Social Work Department
 ☐ Not known

K2 Record Type (if applicable):

☒ Client - Active
 ☐ Cross Reference
 ☐ Missing Person
☐ Client - Closed
 ☐ Information Only

If current Social Work Involvement with Client, Give Details Below: (Include Names of Workers Involved)

Open case to E. Ross

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Secondary Details

Ethnic Origin: (Tick Appropriate Box Below) <table border="0"> <tr> <td>☐ Bangladeshi</td> <td>☐ Mixed Race</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Black - African</td> <td>☐ Pakistani</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Black - Caribbean</td> <td>☒ White - UK</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Black - Other</td> <td>☐ White - Other</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Chinese</td> <td>☐ Other</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Indian</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		☐ Bangladeshi	☐ Mixed Race	☐ Black - African	☐ Pakistani	☐ Black - Caribbean	☒ White - UK	☐ Black - Other	☐ White - Other	☐ Chinese	☐ Other	☐ Indian		Religion: (Tick Appropriate Box Below) <table border="0"> <tr> <td>☐ Bahai</td> <td>☐ Muslim</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Buddhist</td> <td>☐ Protestant</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Catholic</td> <td>☐ Sikh</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Hindu</td> <td>☐ Other (Specify Below)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Jewish</td> <td>.....</td> </tr> </table>	☐ Bahai	☐ Muslim	☐ Buddhist	☐ Protestant	☐ Catholic	☐ Sikh	☐ Hindu	☐ Other (Specify Below)	☐ Jewish	
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☐ Catholic	☐ Sikh																							
☐ Hindu	☐ Other (Specify Below)																							
☐ Jewish																								
School/Occupation: <i>Inverbroath Rd PS</i>	Education/Employment Status: (Tick Appropriate Box Below) <table border="0"> <tr> <td>☐ Pre-School</td> <td>☐ Employed Full-Time</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☒ School</td> <td>☐ Employed Part-Time</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Full-Time Education</td> <td>☐ Unemployed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Part-Time Education</td> <td>☐ Not Seeking Employment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Self Employed</td> <td>☐ Retired</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Training Scheme</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	☐ Pre-School	☐ Employed Full-Time	☒ School	☐ Employed Part-Time	☐ Full-Time Education	☐ Unemployed	☐ Part-Time Education	☐ Not Seeking Employment	☐ Self Employed	☐ Retired	☐ Training Scheme												
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Disabilities/Characteristics: (Tick Any that Apply) <table border="0"> <tr> <td>☐ Learning Disability</td> <td>☐ Developmental Delay</td> <td>☐ Mental Illness</td> <td>☐ Alcohol Misuse</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Physical Disability</td> <td>☐ Visual Impairment</td> <td>☐ Severe Behaviour Problems</td> <td>☐ Drug Use</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Physical Illness</td> <td>☐ Hearing Impairment</td> <td>☐ Special Educational Needs</td> <td>☐ Substance Use</td> </tr> </table>		☐ Learning Disability	☐ Developmental Delay	☐ Mental Illness	☐ Alcohol Misuse	☐ Physical Disability	☐ Visual Impairment	☐ Severe Behaviour Problems	☐ Drug Use	☐ Physical Illness	☐ Hearing Impairment	☐ Special Educational Needs	☐ Substance Use											
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2 CROSS REFERENCES (FAMILY / HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS)

If current Social Work involvement, simply update as necessary

NAME	DOB	RELATIONSHIP	ADDRESS

3 CONTACT PEOPLE ASSOCIATED WITH REFERRAL (eg Teacher, Police Officer, Neighbour)

NAME	RELATIONSHIP / DESIGNATION	AGENCY (if appropriate) AND ADDRESS
<i>Debbie Donkin</i>	<i>Cafes - Forfeal</i>	

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4 REFERRAL DETAILS (Including Re-referrals)

Referral Received

Date: 17.3.97

Received By: F. Ross
(Worker Name)

Referral Number

Method: (Tick Appropriate box)

- ☒ Telephone
☐ Internal Referral
☐ Home Visit/Client Seen
☐ Office Visit
☐ Mail

Office: academy lane
almonk

Cost Centre:

Tag to previous
referral? (Y/N)If Y, input previous
referral number

(a) Who Referred to the Social Work Department: (Insert 1 in Appropriate Box Below)

- ☐ Self
☐ Child/Children Involved in Referral
☐ Parent/Guardian
☐ Other Family Member/Relative
☐ Neighbour/Friend
☐ Member of Public
☐ Anonymous
☐ Social Work Staff - Tayside
☐ Referral from Another LA
☐ CP Register Transfer from Another LA
☐ Childminder/Playgroup/Private Nursery/
 Out of School Care

- ☐ Education (Nursery/School) - Teaching Staff
☐ Education - TEPS
☐ Education - Support Services
☐ Education - Other
☐ Residential Establishment Staff Non SWD
☐ GP
☐ Hospital - Health Board Staff
☐ Community Medical Officer
☐ School - Nurse, Doctor, Dentist
☐ Health Visitor/District Nurse
☐ Other Community Nurse
☐ Child and Family Psychiatry
☐ Other Health Personnel

- ☐ Police
☐ Housing Department
☐ Dept of Social Security
☐ Fuel Authority
☐ Court
☐ Councillor/MP
☐ Solicitor
☐ Reporter
☐ Children First
☐ Other Voluntary Organisation
☐ Religious Institution
☒ Other (specify below)

Foster Care

(b) Optional, Who Referred to the Person Identified at 1 (Insert 2 in Appropriate Box Above)

Presenting Reason(s) for Referral: (Tick up to 3 boxes below)

- ☐ Absconder/Failure to Return
☐ Access to Specialist Service
☐ Access to Personal Files
☐ Adoption - Counselling
☐ Adoption - Request For
☐ Adult Abuse/At Risk
☐ Adult Emotional Disturbance
☐ Adult Health/Disability
☐ Adult Self Care
☐ Alcohol Misuse
☐ Bereavement
☐ Child/Young Person's Behaviour
☐ Carer Needs
☐ Child Health/Disability
☐ Child Protection Concerns
☐ Children's Panel Report
☐ Concern for Older Person

- ☐ Childminder Assessment/Reg'n
☐ Child Care - Request for
☒ Child Care Concerns - Other
☐ Custody/Access/Maintenance Dispute
☐ Day Care (Children) - Request For
☐ Diversion
☐ Domestic/Home Management
☐ Domestic Violence
☐ Drug/ Substance Use
☐ Family/Personal Relationships
☐ Financial Support
☐ Fuel Debt
☐ Guardianship Report
☐ Homelessness
☐ Housing/Accommodation
☐ Juvenile Offences
☐ Material Aid

- ☐ Matrimonial Report
☐ Missing Person
☐ Offender Disposal
☐ Offender Non-Parole Licence
☐ Offender Report
☐ Offender Post Custodial
☐ Parenting Problems
☐ Parent/Carer's Ill Health/ Disability
☐ Post Placement Support
☐ Private Fostering
☐ Problems with Neighbours
☐ Prospective Foster/Adoptive Carer
☐ Report Request - Other
☐ Request for Respite Care
☐ Section 22 Adoption
☐ School Non-Attendance
☐ Social Isolation

ANGUS COUNCIL - SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

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b If Child Protection Risk Assessment, Please Complete Section Below:

Start Date: 17.3.97.

Responsible Worker: E. Ross.

Actions Taken (Tick All Those That Apply)

☒ CP Register Check

☒ Clarification Meeting

☒ Home Visit/Child seen, and Date 18/3/97

Other Agencies Actively Involved or Consulted by the Social Work Department
(Enter A if Actively Involved in Referral, C if Consulted)

☐ Health Service
☐ Education

☐ Reporter
☐ Children First

☒ Other (Please Specify Below)

CARSC.

CP Risk Assessment Completion Date: 18.3.97.

Outcome (Tick appropriate box below)

☒ Formal Child Protection Investigation

☐ No Formal Child Protection Investigation

6 OUTCOME OF REFERRAL

Referral Note - to be provided by Social Worker, for admin input to K2 (brief summary of the assessment, actions taken and outcome)

Investigations Proceeding

Social Worker's Recommendation (Tick appropriate box below):

☐ No further Action

☒ Further Assessment

☐ Passed to Specialist Team

Senior Social Worker's Decision (Tick appropriate box below):

☐ No further Action

☐ Further Assessment

☐ Passed to Specialist Team

Comments (if required):

Referral Passed on to (if applicable):

Worker:

Office:

Team:

Date:

Social Worker (Signature) [Signature]

Date: 19/3/97

Senior Social Worker (Signature)

Date:

DRAFT REFERRAL FORM - CHILD AND FAMILY CARE

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5a INITIAL ASSESSMENT

(If child protection risk assessment also complete Section 5b)

Start Date: 17.3.07.

Responsible Worker: E Ross

Description of Presenting Problem(s) and Initial Social Work Response (Including dates):

See app. B.

REPORT OF A CHILD PROTECTION INVESTIGATIONCP1
APPENDIX B1**1 SUBJECT CHILD**

Unique No:		Date of Referral:	17/03/97
Surname:	LEONARD	Alias:	
Forename(s):	STACEY LOUISE	Alias:	
Sex (M/F):	FEMALE	DOB:	28/04/88
Home Address (before removal to Care, Hospital or Place of Safety): c/o Irene Claffey 49 Millfield Road Arbroath			
Current Address (if different from above):			

2 REFERRAL

Name of Referrer:	Irene Claffey	Agency/Status:	Foster Carer
Address: 49 Millfield Road Arbroath			
Details of Referral: Irene telephoned Social Work Department to advise that she had seen Stacey and [REDACTED] touch each other between the legs (on top of clothing) and that Stacey had disclosed that she had been involved in playing these types of games with her mother, grandad and Gino.			
Specific Requests of Referrer:			

3 ACTION CHECKLIST

	Date		Date
CIS Check:	Open case	Police:	
Health Check:		School/Nursery/Pre-school:	
Enter Referral on CIS:		Consultation SSW/Manager:	17/03/97

4 INVESTIGATING PERSONNEL

Date Report submitted for typing : 19 March 1997

	Name:	Office:	Signature:	Date
Lead Worker:	Elizabeth Ross	Arbroath SWD	[REDACTED]	17/3/97
2nd worker (if involved):				
SSW/Co-ordinator:	Mike Briggs	Arbroath SWD	[REDACTED]	20.03.97
Manager:	Douglas Dunlop	Arbroath SWD	[REDACTED]	00/3/97

5 CHILD'S LIVING GROUP

MOTHER OR SUBSTITUTE		FATHER OR SUBSTITUTE	
Surname:	LESSELLS	Surname:	
Alias:		Alias:	
Maiden Name:	Leonard		
Forename(s):	Susan	Forename(s):	
DOB (d/m/y):	21/11/68	DOB (d/m/y):	
Relationship to Child:		Relationship to Child:	
Birth Parent:	☒	Birth Parent:	☐
Adoptive Parent:	☐	Adoptive Parent:	☐
Step-Parent:	☐	Step-Parent:	☐
Relative:	☐	Relative:	☐
Co-hab:	☐	Co-hab:	☐
Other:	☐	Other:	☐
Foster Parent:	☐	Foster Parent:	☐
If Relative or Other, please specify:		If Relative or Other, please specify:	

6 OTHER CHILDREN (if non-resident, deceased or non-sibling, state relationship to subject child)

Name	Sex	DOB	Relationship	Location
	M		Brother	
	F		Sister	

7 OTHER SIGNIFICANT ADULTS (including birth parents if not mentioned in 5)

Name	DOB	Address	Relationships to Child
David Lessells		26 Seton Terrace, Kennoway	Mother's husband

8 AGENCY LINKS

	Child's GP	Health Visitor	School/Nursery/Pre-School Play Group
Name:			Inverbrothock PS
Address:			Arbroath
Tel No:			

9 CHILD PROTECTION RECORD CHECK

Is/was child's name on Register?	YES
If YES, which names?	Stacey, Brian, Tammy Leonard
Date of de-registration, if appropriate (d/m/y):	12/06/96
Details of Social Work Department record check:	
Open Case to Elizabeth Ross.	

10 POLICE INVOLVEMENT IN REFERRAL

(i) Police Officer contacted or referring (delete if inapplicable)

Name: CAFSES	Rank	No:	Division: Central
Office: Forfar		Tel No:	Eastern
Time of Contact: 2.30 pm		Date of Contact:	Western

(ii) Did the Police indicate that they would investigate? (Y/N) Y

Investigating Officer: Debbie Donkin	Investigating Officer:
Rank: PC	Rank:
Station: CAFSES	Station:
Station: Forfar	Station:
Commencement date of Police investigation: 18/03/97	

(iii) Information provided and action taken by Police to date:

Joint investigation with Social Work Department to proceed.

(iv) Known Offenders (adults convicted of offences involving children):

Name: Thomas Leonard	Current Address:	
Previous Offence(s):	Schedule 1 Offender	Date:
		Court:
Name:	Current Address:	
Present Offence(s):		Date:
		Court:

(v) Proposed future action by Police:

--

11 MEDICAL INVESTIGATION (Y/N) N [FIRST STAGE]

(i) Dr (Name):

Address:

Tel No:

Date:

Location of medical

(ii) Comment by medical practitioner on nature and extent of injuries:

(iii) Outcome of medical investigation (tick appropriate box)

Strong medical evidence of abuse:

Diagnosis uncertain:

No indication of abuse:

Proceed to Specialist Assessment (Y/N)

12 SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT

Dr (Name):

Status

Address:

Place of Examination:

Date:

Dr (Name):

Status

Address:

Place of Examination:

Date:

Were x-rays taken? (Y/N)

Were photographs taken? (Y/N)

Any other medical tests? (please specify)

Outcome of medical investigation regarding evidence of abuse (tick appropriate box):	Remarks:
Definite: ☐	
Probable: ☐	
Uncertain: ☐	
No Indication: ☐	

13 RECORD OF INVESTIGATION

(i) Summary of actions taken (times/dates):

17/03/97. 2 pm. Discussion with Mike Briggs.

Mike advised that B Cowan (Social Worker) had telephoned requesting that he contact Irene Claffey, Foster Carer re allegations made by Stacey on Sunday. Agreed to contact I Claffey for details.

2.30 pm. Telephone call to Irene Claffey

Irene advised that she had taken Stacey and her other foster child [REDACTED] to work with her on Sunday - for approximately 1 hour. Whilst Irene was working [REDACTED]

and Stacey were playing in the street. When Irene looked out of the window she saw Stacey and [REDACTED] touching each other in between the legs. When Irene discussed this with Stacey she admitted to playing the "sex game" with [REDACTED] and had also stated that she had played similar types of games with her mother, grandad and Gino and children from another family. Advised Irene that SWD would need to pursue this further with Stacey - possibly with the involvement of the police but would call her back to confirm.

Discussion with Mike Briggs.

Mike Briggs contacted CAFSES re joint investigation. Agreed to contact A Robertson, Link Worker.

Discussion with A Robertson

Advised of discussion with Irene and pending investigation.

Issues discussed:

1) Stacey and [REDACTED] have been involved in inappropriate games in the past. Efforts to address this with the girls has been unsuccessful to date. Need to consider if the girls being in the same placement is in their interests and/or issues of supervision for the future.

2) Irene taking the girls to work with her - is this appropriate. Planning meeting to be arranged pending investigation.

Discussion with M Dey, Snr Social Worker

Advised Martin of investigation. [REDACTED] is an open case to Anne Ferguson.

Discussion with Mike Briggs.

He advised that CAFSES are unable to proceed with investigation this afternoon. Joint investigation to be arranged for tomorrow.

5(a)

Telephone call to Irene Claffey

Advised of above. Irene agreed to ensure that the girls have no unsupervised contact this evening. Girls have been going to the Brownies on Mondays, carer plans to cancel this for tonight. Advised that I would contact her tomorrow to confirm arrangements.

18/03/97. Telephone call from A Robertson, Link Worker.

Advised that investigation was to go ahead today.

Telephone call to PC Kenny Hart, CAFSES

Debbie Donkin to investigate - made arrangements and provided background information.

Telephone call to Irene Claffey

To advise of arrangements for joint home visit.

Joint Home Visit: Present - Stacey Leonard, Irene Claffey, PC Debbie Donkin, Elizabeth Ross.

Stacey admitted to playing a game with [REDACTED] which involved touching each other between the legs, kissing each other on the cheek and cuddling each other. Stacey denied initiating the game, she is fully aware that such behaviour is inappropriate and that her contact with [REDACTED] will be closely monitored by her carer and other adults.

Stacey also alleged that she had played similar games with her [REDACTED] step-grandad (Tam Leonard) and [REDACTED]. She called the games "sex games" and they involved those adults touching her "front bottom" with their fingers - on top of her clothes. Stacey noted that her bottom was sore following such incidents. [REDACTED]

It would

appear that these incidents took place at Tam Leonards home.

Discussion with I Claffey

Irene to ensure that Stacey [REDACTED] do not have unsupervised interviewed by Police later in the week. Planning meeting to be forward for both girls.

Discussion with PC Debbie Donkin

Debbie wants to interview [REDACTED] and then Susan Less tomorrow to set up meetings with the children.

Discussion with Mike Briggs

Advised of discussion with Stacey and her carer. Investigation proceeding.

19/03/97

js

"Sex game"
explanations & names

(ii) Family history and current situation:

Stacey [REDACTED] have been in care since November 1995, Stacey was moved to Irene Claffey's when her placement with the McConnachie family broke down in June 1995. Attempts to rehabilitate the children to their mother's care have failed and permanency is being pursued for them.

(iii) Assessment of Risk to subject child; other children in the household; and proposed responses/support:

Stacey and [REDACTED] have admitted to playing games involving inappropriate touching on two previous occasions, although this has been addressed with them and their contact is closely supervised, they continue to involve themselves in such behaviour. It would seem that they are both willing participants and although both have been made aware that this is inappropriate and have been given strategies to avoid becoming involved in this type of play, they continue to engage in such behaviour and may therefore pose an ongoing risk to one another.

Stacey has no contact with members of her extended birth family and contact with her mother is supervised. They therefore do not pose a risk to her.

I am of the opinion that there is not sufficient concern to warrant convening a case conference but that a planning meeting should be arranged to look at ways to manage the girls future contact with each other.

14 PROTECTIVE ACTION TAKEN

- | | |
|--|---------|
| (i) Recommend convening Case Conference? | (Y/N) N |
| (ii) Referral to Reporter? | (Y/N) N |
| (iii) Action proposed to advise referrer of outcome: | _____ |
| (iv) Other | |

15 CONFERENCE INVITEES / MANAGERS COMMENTS IF NO CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATION

Agreed to no case conference given there is no ongoing risk of abuse. The girls behaviour together is to be addressed through a planning meeting.

D Dunlop
21/03/97



PRELIMINARY MEDICAL NOTE OF
JOINT PAEDIATRIC/FORENSIC EXAMINATION



PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

TAYSIDE POLICE

Surname LEONARD Forename STACEY HOUSE

Address 49 MILLFIELD RD, ABERNETHY

Date of Birth 28.04.88 Sex F

Names of Doctors DRS BAIN + MILES

Date 27.03.97 Time 1320 - 1400

Place of Examination Leysburn Lodge

Nature of Examination Alleged Sexual Abuse

Preliminary findings and comments

Deasant intelligent articulate young girl -
able to give a limited account of what had allegedly
befallen her between the ages of 3 + 5 yrs.
Appeared in good health + to have reached normal
developmental stages for her age.
Physical examination - revealed an intact hymen
but a breach in the fourchette which appeared
asymmetrical the lining of which tore + bled
on traction - this finding being indicative of a
trauma in the area which could have been
caused as alleged.

Note: Any preliminary findings and comments in this note are of an interim nature only and this does not constitute a Soul and Conscience Report.

Signature [Redacted] ... Signature [Redacted]

Designation White Surgeon ... Designation Visiting Consultant

Enquiry Officer [Redacted]

Police Officer [Redacted]

**COMMENTS BY
SOCIAL WORKER / LINK WORKER
(CURRENT PLACEMENT)**

(Separate Form to be completed by Social Worker and Link Worker)

1. **Is the placement appropriate, taking into account the carer's approval range, skills and experience and the needs of the child?**

Yes. Initially the care plan was rehabilitation, but is now permanency. Irene has had previous experience of working with children who are moving to a permanent family.

Stacey has many worries about her past experiences and uncertainties about her future and Irene offers her a high degree of support.

If the decision is to work toward reuniting Stacey with her siblings then this will involve increasing contact between the children. Irene has not been able to accommodate sibling contact to date.

2. **Comment on the quality of relationships within the carer's home, ie. between carers, their own and other children in the foster home. How does the child fit it?**

There are some tensions between Stacey and the other children in placement. Stacey tries to monopolise Irene's attention which makes her unpopular at times. Contact between Stacey and the other foster child needs close monitoring due to inappropriate touching.

Relationships between members of the carer's family appear positive. Stacey is very fond of Irene and enjoys [redacted] involvement with her. She is accepting of Doug, but is ambivalent about [redacted].

3. **Comment on the quality of physical/practical care given to the child, ie. how are the child's physical and day to day practical needs met?**

Stacey receives a high standard of physical care and her needs are being met.

It has come to our attention that Stacey has been accompanying Irene to her place of work at weekends and I have some concern about this arrangement, eg. supervision/safety of Stacey during such times. I have asked that this issue is raised with Senior Management and that clarification is given about carers taking foster children to their place of employment.

Irene needs to ensure that Stacey and [redacted] contact with each other is closely monitored due to the inappropriate play they have been involved in. This places a high demand and restrictions on Irene.

4. **Comment on the quality of the emotional care given to the child, ie. carer's receptiveness to the child's emotional state, ability to help child with his/her feelings, to help understand his /her situation, etc.**

Irene provides Stacey with opportunities to discuss her worries and concerns. She is very receptive to changes in Stacey's mood/behaviour and responds to this.

Irene has supported Stacey through a recent Child Protection Investigation - this will be ongoing for some considerable time.

5. **Comment on the carer's quality of working relationships with the following. (Are there any difficulties and how are they resolved?)**

A Child's parents and significant other people

Given some of the various demands placed on her, ie. two foster children, work commitments, Irene has been restricted in terms of participating in attempts to facilitate contact between Stacey and her siblings. Distance between siblings, transport difficulties, commitments of other foster families, makes contact very difficult to organise and manage.

Susan has limited contact with the placement, however there are no significant difficulties - Susan phones Stacey and Irene facilitates this.

It may be helpful if Irene would bring significant events eg. school events to our attention as quickly as possible, in order that we can give consideration to Stacey's siblings and mother being included in such events.

B Members of the Social Work Department's staff

Irene will contact the Social Work Department to share information about issues or events. Any unresolved issues are addressed with Link Worker.

C Other agencies, ie. Health/Education

Irene ensures that Stacey attends health appointments as appropriate and has regular contact with the school.

6. **Is the support and practical help given appropriate to meet the needs of the placement child?**

Yes, the support and practical help is appropriate.

7. **Comment on the carer's ability to use advice and support with regards to this placement.**

Irene manages Stacey's day to day care with minimal advice and support, but seeks this out to discuss issues as they arise.

8. **Are the tasks in relation to the placement goal being achieved? If not, why?**

Yes.

9. **Commencement on positive and negative features of this foster home.**

Placement gives Stacey a high degree of stability and security which has allowed her the space to work out some of her worries/concerns, gain self confidence and grow in self esteem.

Lack of opportunity for Stacey to have more contact with her siblings.

10. Areas you consider carers would need further information, advice or training.

Child Protection Investigation - roles and responsibilities of the various agencies and carers role in this process.

Signed by Social Worker / Link Worker:-

Date:-

[Redacted Signature]

30/4/12

Subject Access Request

COMMENTS BY THE CHILD/YOUNG PERSON
(CURRENT PLACEMENTS)

NAME OF CARER/S

Irene Claffey

DATE OF PLACEMENT

05.06.95

All children over the age of 7 and others depending on their age and understanding should be offered an opportunity to comment on their Foster and Mainstay placement.

It is the responsibility of the child's social worker to ensure that the child's views are heard and recorded on this form.

Separate forms should be completed by each child in case of a family group of children.

- 1 What do you think about your foster/mainstay home? Circle a number on the scale to say how much or how little you like it.

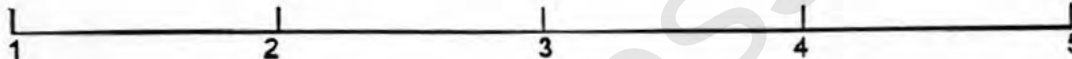
Not at All

Very Rarely

Sometimes

Most of the
Time

All the
Time



- 2 The best thing about the foster/mainstay home is: *Spells me takes good care of me She comes up at night and tucks me in. Says nice things*

- 3 The worst thing about it is: *When me and [redacted] fight and she calls me a spaz.*

- 4 Do you get on with:

- a foster mum/foster carer
- b foster dad/foster carer
- c their children
- d their relatives (gran, etc)
- e other children in the foster home

YES/NO

YES/NO

YES/NO

YES/NO

Sometimes YES/NO

Anything else you want to say:

5 When you want to talk to someone, who understands you - who do you go to?

- a foster mum/foster carer
- b foster dad/foster carer
- c their child/children, who?
- d other child/children in the foster home
- e another relative/friend - who?
- f nobody

YES/NO
YES/NO
YES/NO
YES/NO
YES/NO
YES/NO

6 Do you manage to keep in touch with your family - does anyone help you to do this?

Elizabeth helps me to keep in touch with my family

7 Would you like to see your family more often?

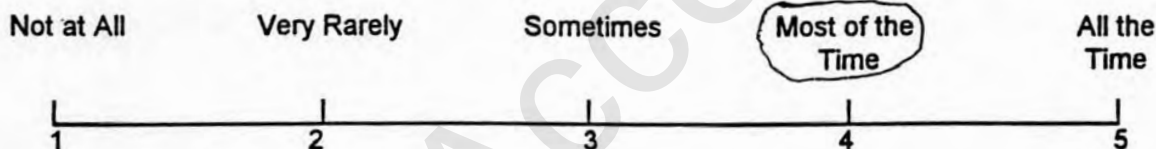
YES/NO

Do you want to say more? everybody

8 Are you happy with your social worker?

YES/NO

Circle a number on the scale to say how helpful you find him or her.



Say something more if you like. Sometimes I do not like talking about things that happened in the past.

9 Do you attend school/college/work?

YES/NO

Any problems? No because I tell.

10 Is there anything else you would like to say about your stay with the foster/mainstay family?

11 Do you think this form is helpful?

YES/NO

12 If you cannot or do not want to write anything, draw a picture or a diagram here about you in your foster/mainstay family.

Signed by Child/Young Person Shay Leonard

Date 15/9/7

Angus Council - Social Work Department

ADOPTION AND PERMANENCE PANEL

CHILDREN SCOTLAND ACT 1995

PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS OR FOSTER CARERS

THE ADOPTION AGENCIES (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 1996

THE FOSTERING OF CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 1996

THE ADOPTION ALLOWANCE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 1996

APPLICANTS	SURNAME	FORENAMES	DATE OF BIRTH
MALE			
FEMALE	LEONARD	STACEY LOUISE	28.04.88
ADDRESS: c/o Mrs Claffey 49 Millfield Road			
POST CODE: ARBROATH			

Minutes and Recommendations of **ADOPTION AND PERMANENCE PANEL**
HELD AT WHITEHILLS HOSPITAL,
FORFAR ON 15 May 1997

PRESENT AT PANEL

	Name	Designation	Agency	Present
Chairperson 1	Mark Hodgkinson	Service Manager	Social Work Department	✓
Depute Chairperson 2	Douglas Dunlop	Service Manager	Social Work Department	
Panel Co-Ordinator 3	Chris Longmuir	Adoption and Fostering Co-ordinator	Social Work Department	✓
Medical Adviser 4	Dr Kamni Anand	Sen Clinical Medical Officer	Angus NHS Trust	✓
Legal Adviser 5	Margaret Ludgate	Solicitor	Angus Council	✓
Panel Members 6	Sheena Reigate	Manager Ch & FC	Arbroath	
7	Irene McGugan	Senior Resource Worker	Broomfield Resource Centre	✓
8	David Wilson	Senior Resource Worker	Brechin Sub-Office	✓
9	Roger Flavahan	Principal Educational Psychologist	Education	✓
10				
Minute Taker 11	Christine Russell		Social Work Department	✓

PURPOSE OF PANEL**PERMANENCY APPLICATION - FORM E****REPORTS CONSIDERED BY THE PANEL**

TITLE	DATE COMPLETED	YES	NO
FORM F			
FORM E	15.04.97		
MAINSTAY REPORT			
MATCHING REPORT			
REVIEW REPORT			
ADOPTION/CUSTODY ALLOWANCE REPORT			
APPLICATION FORM (include stat checks)			
MEDICAL REPORT			
PERSONAL REFERENCES			
POLICE CHECKS			
LOCAL AUTHORITY CHECKS			
HEALTH CHECKS			
OTHER			

APPLICANTS ATTENDED THE PANEL MEETING:

MALE:

FEMALE:

REASON FOR NON-ATTENDANCE:

MALE:

FEMALE:

GUIDANCE ON RECOMMENDATIONS**1. ADOPTION, FOSTERING AND PRIVATE FOSTERING APPLICATIONS:**

RECOMMENDATION SHOULD HIGHLIGHT PERCEIVED STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES
OF APPLICATION, MOTIVATION AND TYPE OF CARE RECOMMENDED:-

Be specific about:-

- a Type of care for which recommended, e.g.
Adoption/Permanence/Temporary/Mainstay/Respite/Relative/Private
- b Number and age range of children to be placed;
- c Whether or not it is for a specific child only;
- d If recommendation is against approval - State reasons clearly

Minute of Angus Adoption and Permanence Panel held on Thursday 24 April 1997 at Whitehills, Hospital, Forfar

Permanency Application - Form E

CHILD

dob

Address

Legal Status

CHILD

dob

Address

Legal Status

CHILD

STACEY LEONARD

dob

28.04.88

A/C 17/97

Address

**c/o Mrs Claffey
49 Millfield Road
ARBROATH**

Legal Status

Section 70 (3) Children (Scotland) Act 1995

Present at discussion

Elizabeth Ross, Social Worker, Academy Lane, Arbroath

Mike Briggs, Senior Social Worker, Academy Lane, Arbroath

Introduction

The panel were asked to consider whether the [REDACTED] children are children in need of permanency and subsequently what the legal route to permanency should be. The worker is recommending that the [REDACTED] children should remain together

Identified Issues

- 1 Background from social worker
- 2 Health update
- 3 Contact
- 4 Views of the fathers
- 5 Worker's recommendation

1 Background from social worker

Elizabeth Ross said [redacted] Stacey [redacted] Leonard are the children of Susan Lessels. [redacted]

[redacted] There is little or no parental contact by the fathers with all three children, who have been looked after and accommodated by the local authority for some time. Elizabeth Ross continued saying there have been three attempts of rehabilitation but all failed. [redacted]

[redacted] The children's background is poor and includes poor boundaries, physical abuse, serious neglect and a suspicion of sexual abuse. All three children have had movements in care. Stacey is currently in a foster placement with Mrs Irene Claffey, foster carer in Arbroath. [redacted]

[redacted]

On 12 June 1996 a review meeting was held when the plan was made to pursue permanency for all three children.

2 Health update

The medical adviser gave panel members a health update on all three children.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Stacey

Stacey's physical health is good. She wears glasses and attends the optician. She has had a mild hearing loss because of an ear infection since March 1997 and this will be followed up. It is noted by her carers that he has been indulging in sexualised play and she has a background of sexual abuse. She is emotionally vulnerable and it should be kept in mind that Child and Family Psychiatric help may be required in the future.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] children will be kept under surveillance.

Histories of their fathers are not known and there is not a lot of detail about their mother's health history. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3 Contact

Elizabeth Ross said there were concerns around the quality of contact by Susan Lessels, the children's mother. Susan had an inability to respond appropriately and the children sometimes have to parent. The workers have to manage contact and the situation.

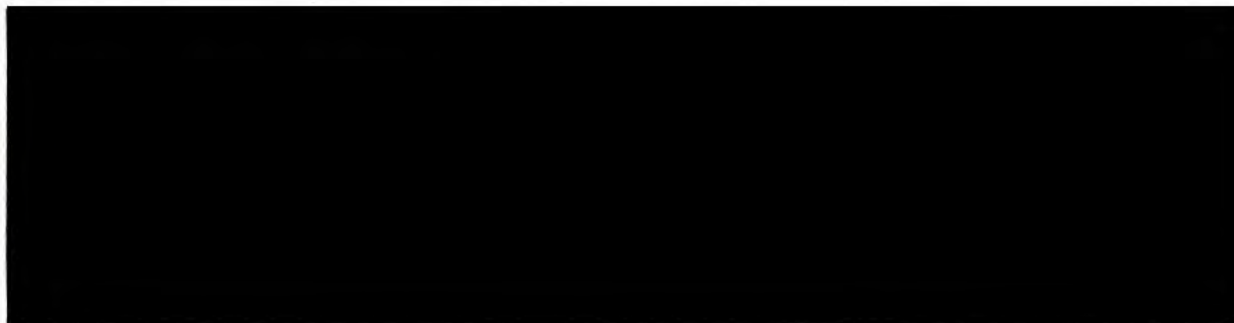
Contact is regularly every fortnight and Susan has kept to this commitment since December 1996.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4 Views of the fathers



5 Worker's recommendation

Elizabeth Ross said her recommendation was to place [redacted] children together and that they are all children who are in need of permanency. The legal advice is that this should be achieved through a parental responsibilities order.

Her reasons for recommending the children remain together is that the children are needy individually and although their views are variable, they have a commitment to be together. They also have concerns about each other's difficulties and their ability to live together.

Panel members queried how the children would settle as a family? Elizabeth Ross said although they have not lived together for some time, they have fortnightly contact with each other. Contact has been difficult to arrange as the children are placed in Monifieth, Arbroath and Brechin. The children and carers all have other commitments but [redacted] has said she will take all three children once a month. This will be facilitated by the workers involved, and work will be done with the children in terms of their relationship with each other.



The panel were informed that Susan Lessels is now in a steady relationship with David Lessels, whom she married in November 1995. Susan has legal custody of all three children. She is not pregnant.

Mrs Irene Claffey, foster carer for Stacey, [redacted]
[redacted] were welcomed to the meeting.

Introductions were made and the process of the panel made known.

Identified Issues

- 1 Update on all three children, including, health, education, how the placements are going, relationship with each other, with peers and family in general
- 2 Views and feelings about contact
- 3 Legal route
- 4 Alternatives to adoption

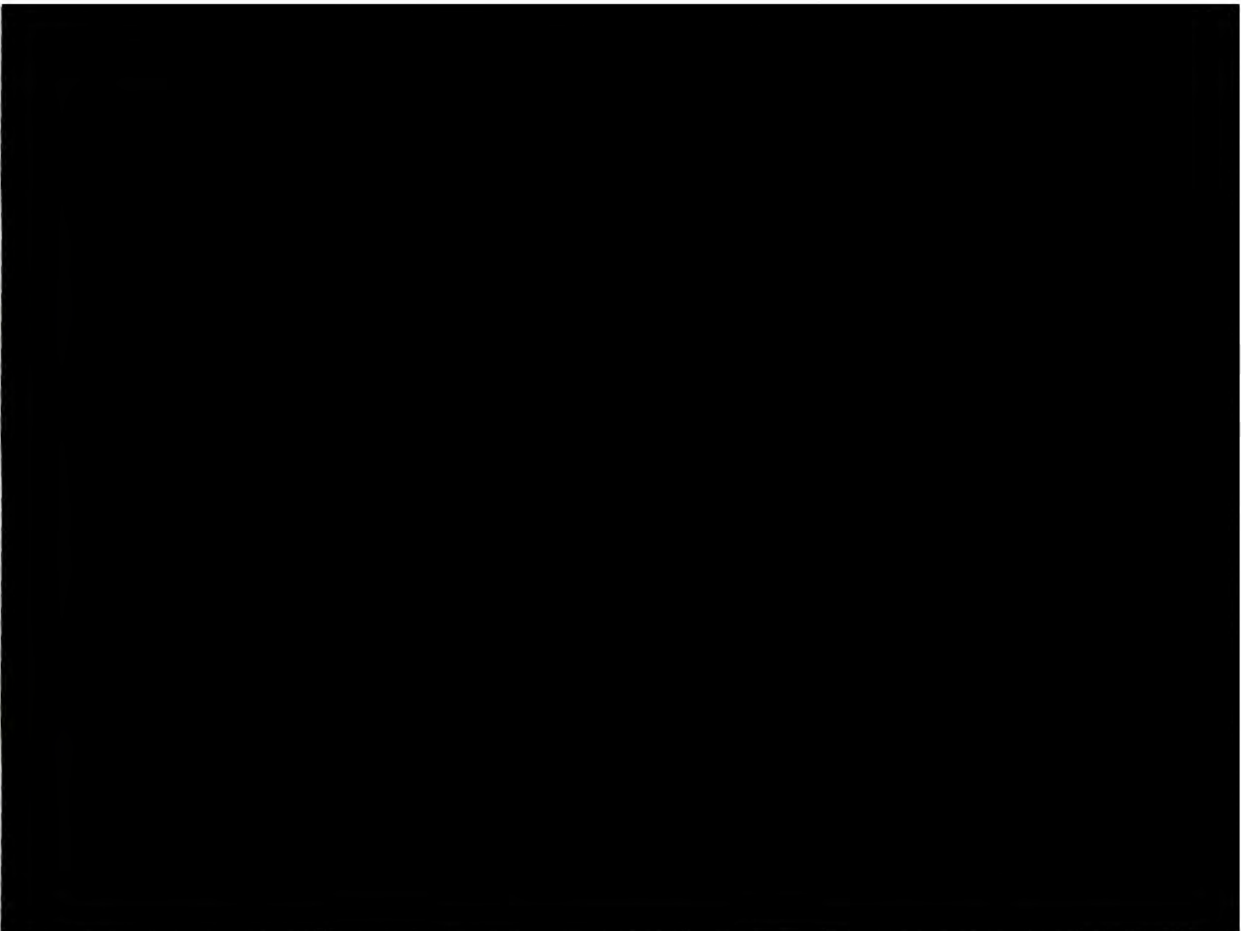
- 1 Update [REDACTED], including, health, education, how the placements are going, relationship with each other, with peers and family in general.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- 2 Views and feelings about contact

[REDACTED]



- 1 Update [REDACTED] including, health, education, how the placements are going, relationship with each other, with peers and family in general.

Stacey

Mrs Claffey said Stacey immediately settled into the home when she was placed. She has had some health problems recently but nothing major. She is prone to developing lumps on her neck and due to an infection she has had some lumps appearing recently. It is considered that this does not have any medical significance.

She is doing well at school and is a clever girl. Mrs Claffey felt because of the settled environment Stacey has progressed well at school and she is academically bright. There is some rivalry with Mrs Claffey's own child as Stacey can be manipulative when she likes. Stacey would like Mrs Claffey to herself but Mrs Claffey said this had been worked through and she is now more settled.

Mrs Claffey said there had been problems in the home with another child in placement in respect of sexualised behaviour, and at times they do not like one another. Mrs Claffey continued saying the children have to be monitored very closely because of this activity.

Mrs Claffey was asked if the sexualised behaviour was relating to the other child in placement and she said it was and that this behaviour at the moment was just the result of the circumstance of these two children both being at a vulnerable stage. There had been no other sexualised behaviour from Stacey. Stacey has not "played the game" outside and Mrs Claffey did have some concerns about this but it has not come up. Mrs Claffey said she has talked openly to Stacey about it, and Stacey has said she has played the game but does not want to play it anymore.

Stacey eats and sleeps well.

2 Views and feelings of contact

Mrs Claffey said Stacey was concerned about [REDACTED] and what their future will be, and whether they will be together. During contact with her mother she consoles her and takes the parental role. She feels responsible for her mother and was relieved when rehabilitation was over. There are phone calls between mother and daughter and after a recent disclosure Stacey was reassuring her mother and saying it was okay, however this should have been the type of thing Susan Lessels said to Stacey. In an ideal world Stacey makes no noises about rehabilitation although would have liked it all to have worked out with her mother. To live with her and David Lessels and her brother and sister. Stacey gets upset that her mother is trying for another baby and seeks reassurance that someone will help her mother.

Stacey would like to stay with Mrs Claffey but Mrs Claffey has told her she cannot take all three children. Stacey keeps coming up with ideas about how Mrs Claffey could manage the three children.

Stacey wants a new mother and father and for her brother and sister to stay with her but she wants to stay with Mrs Claffey until then.

Mrs Claffey said she is very close to Stacey and she will have great difficulty when the time comes for the break to be made. Mrs Claffey has reassured Stacey she will be around for her in the future.

Stacey has friends and gets on very well with them. She is a popular child in school.

Stacey felt that when they are all together [REDACTED] will need to change as Stacey is now more aware of the social graces. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Stacey has now experienced a normal life and she is afraid that it will all revert back. [REDACTED] can be quite rough and Stacey is not really like that, she is a little girl.

Stacey is worried but was given reassurance she will be able to cope. She has an idea of what a family should be, a fantasy of what should happen. Stacey took a lot of blame for things that happened in the past.

Mrs Claffey thought that Stacey would cope with the ordinary every day pressures of living together but if she felt it was slipping back to what it had been before, she would be upset. Stacey's fantasy family is an ordinary family.

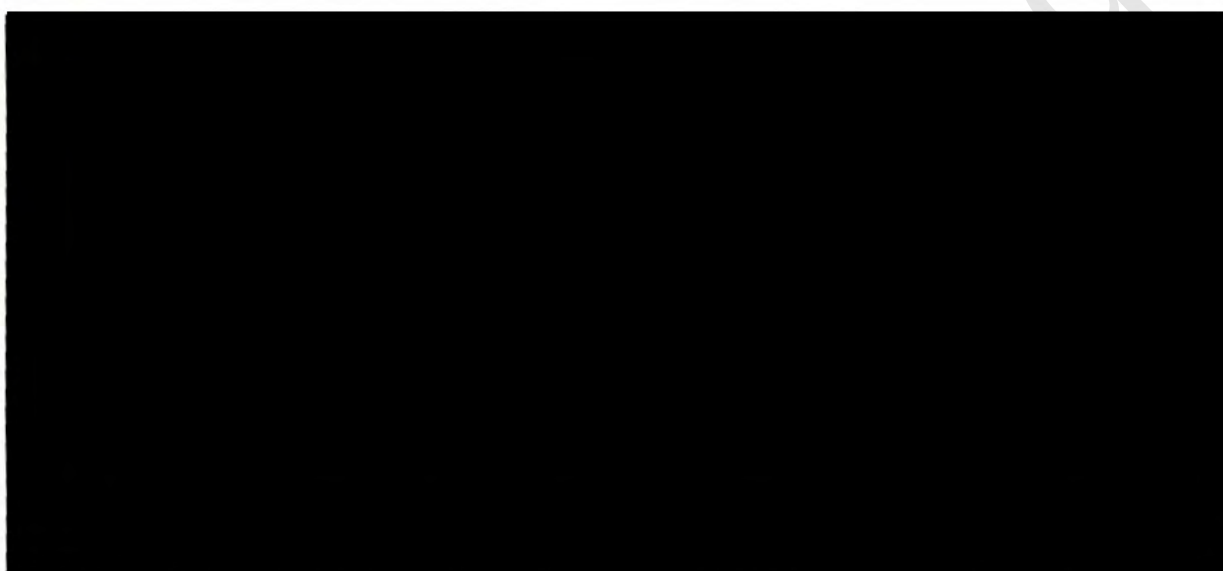
- 1 Update on [REDACTED] including, health, education, how the placements are going, relationship with each other, with peers and family in general.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



2 Views and feelings of contact



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] carers were thanked for attending and left the meeting.

Panel discussion and summary

Members asked the workers if they thought the carers would want to claim the children. Elizabeth Ross felt [REDACTED] Mrs Claffey did have a good relationship with Stacey and while she might consider keeping Stacey on as a foster placement, Elizabeth Ross was not sure whether Stacey would cope with the coming and going of other foster children. Mrs Claffey takes her responsibility as a foster carer very professionally and at the moment there is no sense of permanency with her. Stacey can make attachments but the situation is not the right one for her.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

There were practical difficulties to be taken into account such as the ages of the children, [REDACTED] Stacey 9, [REDACTED] and length of time it may take to identify a placement. They were also a sibling group of three and all three children were a handful.

[REDACTED]

attachments. There was also significant sibling rivalry. There is the possibility of sexualised activity by Stacey, and [REDACTED] experienced emotional, and physical neglect over the years. A placement together is hard to envisage. The children themselves are somewhat ambivalent about being together [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

It was noted the children have difficulty with foster children in placement at the same time.

Elizabeth Ross said she felt a family was required for all three children together.

A recommendation to place the children together was felt to best meet their needs, particularly as co-survivors of a difficult past. The reasons to keep them together outweigh the other options.

The members felt ideally the children should be placed together and conscious efforts including advertising for a family should be made. If carers for the children could be found for only 1 or 2 it may be worth while considering separate placements for the children, on the basis of realistic appraisal of the resources available.

There is evidence that two of the children in individual placements have made progress [REDACTED]

It is clear that the children want to be together as a family and Elizabeth Ross said she wanted them to experience the sense of them being a family and if placed individually, this would not facilitate significant contact with each other. It was noted contact between the children is minimal but positive at the moment.

Panel members felt the needs of the children would best be met by being placed in one family, however it was realised there may be a delay in finding an appropriate resource and in any case there will be a legal delay.

It was felt in the best interests of the children that contact with their mother should continue, however Elizabeth Ross said the plan would be to reduce this contact as a permanent placement grew nearer.

It was noted a referral to Child and Family Psychiatry may be made in the future.

Contact with their maternal grandmother was discussed but it was felt that the children have a fantasy idea about who their maternal grandmother, Mrs Cryer [REDACTED] is, and this is probably based on misinformation from their mother. They only have minimum contact with her. Mrs Cryer [REDACTED] has avoided the issue of the children and feels the children should be returned to her daughter. She is

opposed to the permanency plan. Elizabeth Ross felt now was not the time to introduce the children to her

Elizabeth Ross was thanked for the quality and volume of the report.

RECOMMENDATION

It was the unanimous recommendation of the Angus Adoption and Permanence Panel that [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] Leonard were children whose needs would best be met in a permanent placement and therefore recommended [REDACTED] children should be registered as children requiring permanency.

Alternatives to adoption

The legal route to permanency should be an application for a parental responsibilities order for the following reasons:-

Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation has been tried and failed and it is not in the children's interests to return to their mother's care.

Extended family

The children's fathers have had no recent contact with them and have expressed no interest.

Section 11 Residence Order

A Section 11, Residence Order would not be appropriate as no family member has expressed interest, nor is it considered they could offer appropriate care.

Adoption

Adoption is not appropriate because of the ongoing contact with their mother, and that this contact is significant for the children.

Parental Responsibilities Order

An application for a parental responsibilities order would provide the legal security for the children to be placed in a family on a permanent fostering basis, and would

also enable contact with their mother to continue.

The children should be placed with one family as a sibling group because this is what they have requested and despite the difficulties in their relationship, they have a strong sibling identity as a group.

Contact with their mother should continue as this is quite significant for the children, however this should gradually be reduced to an appropriate level as a permanent placement grows nearer.

PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Purpose of Panel PERMANENCY APPLICATION - FORM E

Date of Panel 15 May 1997

Name(s) STACEY LEONARD

Social Worker ELIZABETH ROSS, ARBROATH

CONTENTIOUS ISSUES/COMMENTS (if any)

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 1 The panel considered that [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] Leonard were children whose needs would best be met in a permanent placement and therefore recommended that [REDACTED] should be registered as children requiring permanency.
 - 2 The legal route to permanency should be an application for a parental responsibilities order for the following reasons:-
 - a Rehabilitation has been tried and failed and it is not in the children's interests to return to their mother's care.
 - b The children's fathers have had no recent contact with them and have expressed no interest.
 - c Section II, Residence Order would not be appropriate as no family member has expressed interest, nor is it considered they could offer appropriate care.
 - d Adoption is not appropriate because of the ongoing contact with their mother, and that this contact is significant for the children.
 - e An application for a parental responsibilities order would provide the legal security for the children to be placed in a family on a permanent fostering basis, and would also enable contact with their mother to continue.
 - 3 The children should be placed with one family as a sibling group because this is what they have requested and despite the difficulties in their relationship, they have a strong sibling identity as a group.
 - 4 Contact with their mother should continue as this is quite significant for the children, however this should gradually be reduced to an appropriate level as a permanent placement grows nearer.
-

RECOMMENDATIONS CONT'D

5

[REDACTED]

Signed:

[REDACTED]

Date: 15 May 1997

Mark Hodgkinson, Panel Chairperson

Subject Access Request

AGENCY DECISION

Angus Council Social Work Department having had regard to all the circumstances and being satisfied that the requirements of the Adoption Agencies (Scotland) Regulations 1996 and the Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1996, and The Adoption Allowance (Scotland) Regulations 1996, have been met, accepts the recommendations of the Adoption and Permanence Panel held on 15 May 1997

CHILD	DATE OF BIRTH	GENDER
STACEY LEONARD	28.04.88	FEMALE

Should be registered as a child/children requiring permanency/as a child/children requiring continuation of registration for permanency

- a Adoption ☐
- b Permanent Fostering ☒
- c Permanent fostering with a view to adoption ☐

AGREEMENT FOR:

- a Adoption allowances to be paid ☐
- b Legal fees to be paid ☐

Decision is based on a draft minute of the Panel/Discussion with the Panel Co-ordinator/Chairperson on 21/5/97

Signed
 Alan G Baird, Agency Decision Maker

Date 21 May 1997

AO16

Angus Council - Social Work Department

**CASE REVIEWS - CHILDREN IN CARE
SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT**Name Stacey LEONARDAddress c/o Irene CLAFFEY, 49 Millfield Road, ArbroathDOB 28/04/88 URN Date of Last Review or Case Conference December 1996Date of Last Medical Inspection 07/05/97Date of Last School Report May 1997Date of Last Financial Assessment (Form F8) November 1995

Please include comments under the following headings:-

Pen picture of the child (including interests as well as physical and emotional attributes):

Stacey has short, straight, light brown hair and brown eyes. She is of slim build and is petite. She has a squint in her left eye and wears glasses. She is always neat and tidy and is very particular about her appearance. She is fairly independent in terms of personal hygiene and self help skills and likes to help with chores, etc.

She presents as shy and serious but is sociable and more outgoing with those familiar to her. Stacey is emotionally very vulnerable and will complain of various physical ailments when worried or anxious. She requires lots of encouragement and reassurance when faced with new situations. Stacey is very loyal to her family and worries about her mother. She has been able to share some of her worries about adults and events which happened to her prior to her coming into care.

Stacey is popular with her peers and has a close circle of friends.

Summary of Work done since last Review (including frequency of visits):

Stacey [REDACTED] presented to the Adoption and Fostering Panel in May 1997. Their recommendation and the decision of the Agency is that Stacey [REDACTED] in need of permanency, that it would not be in their interest for a further attempt at rehabilitation to their mother's care and that their needs would be best met by the Department pursuing parental rights in respect of Stacey [REDACTED]. The Agency's decision is that the children should be placed together.

There is an ongoing Child Protection Investigation [REDACTED] following disclosures made [REDACTED] about [REDACTED] grandfather, Thomas Leonard. [REDACTED] have experienced a high degree of anxiety in relation to their disclosures and the investigation and have required ongoing support from [REDACTED] carers.

A discussion meeting has been arranged with Polepark Family Counselling Centre to consider them undertaken a piece of work with the children on issues relating to permanency.

I have continued to have regular contact with the children, members of their extended family, their carers and other professionals involved with the children.

Suitability of Placement (does it meet the child's needs? What are his views?):

Stacey was placed with Irene in May 1995. She settled fairly quickly and has not presented with the range of difficult behaviour which was apparent in her previous placement.

Stacey has grown very attached to Irene and it is evident that she feels safe and secure with her. Whilst Stacey doesn't require a high degree of physical care as she is fairly independent Irene notes that she can be emotionally very demanding. It is Irene that Stacey will seek out when she is worried or distressed and during such times she needs lots of reassurance and physical comfort.

Stacey will try to monopolise her carers attention and finds it difficult to share her carer. Stacey is able to acknowledge her feelings and her sometimes quite negative and hostile attitude towards the other girls in placement.

Whilst Stacey is keen to be reunited with her siblings, she would also like to remain with Irene. It is evident that Stacey wants to maintain some form of relationship with Irene.

Irene has a [REDACTED] daughter, [REDACTED] who lives at home. [REDACTED] is actively involved with Stacey and will look after her when Irene is working, will take the girls into town, etc. Also in placement is [REDACTED] who is the same age as Stacey. Stacey's relationship with [REDACTED] is problematic in that they have been playing games which involves touching each other inappropriate. This has been addressed with them, however despite close monitoring they have continued to involve themselves in this behaviour.

Stacey appears to be coping with the various changes in placement. [REDACTED] and Stacey appears to be getting on with [REDACTED] who has recently been placed with Irene.

School Report (facts about attainment and potential. Also any behavioural or relationship difficulties):

Stacey has attended Inverbrothock School since May 1995. The school are pleased with the progress Stacey is making and they believe that she has the potential to do fairly well at school. Stacey thoroughly enjoys school and puts a great deal of effort into her work. She loves to show off her achievements and responds to praise and encouragement.

Stacey has a close circle of friends at school and like all nine year olds, they fall in and out of friendships. Stacey has expressed concerns about being bullied at school, however this has been addressed and Stacey remains fairly settled at school.

Health (date of last medical and details of any treatment in addition to description of Health):

Stacey generally keeps in good physical health and had a full medical prior to being presented to the Adoption and Fostering Panel.

She wears glasses due to a squint in her left eye and attends for check ups on a regular basis.

Stacey has a lump on the side of her neck which swells from time to time and the carer has also noticed a swelling in her breast. She has been referred to Paediatric Outpatients for further investigation.

Stacey suffered from a perforated ear drum in December 1996, however this appears to have healed itself.

Contact with natural parents (current home situation/parent's views re future):

Stacey has fortnightly access with her mother and siblings at Arbroath Child and Family Centre. Access is supervised by two members of the Social Work Department. Susan has demonstrated more of a regular commitment to access since it was reduced to fortnightly contact. There are ongoing concerns about the quality of access and the workers need to offer Susan a high level of support to manage the children. Susan also has telephone contact with the children, although this is fairly adhoc.

Attempts to facilitate more frequent contact between the three children have proved difficult given the distance between placements and the commitments of the children's carers. All three carers and the children met up for an outing during the Easter Holidays and [REDACTED] has been able to give a monthly commitment to facilitating contact between the three children one day per month. These appear to have been positive experiences for them and we will continue to explore ways of facilitating further contact.

[REDACTED]

Susan Lessels Current Situation:

Susan continues to reside in Kennoway with her husband David and he remains in full time employment. Susan appears to spend a large part of her day with her mother.

[REDACTED]

Susan was acknowledging [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] however since the decision was made that permanency should be pursued for all three children, Susan has stated that she wants to resume the full time care of all three children. Susan has stated that she feels she is able to meet all three children's needs and that she has the support of her husband and her family to help her achieve this. Susan is unable to accept that permanent substitute care is in the children's best interests and plans to contest any action taken by the Social Work Department to secure the children's future with substitute carers.

Parental Contributions:

Social Worker's views re future action (indicating why any changes 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.

The Social Work plan is to secure Stacey [REDACTED] long term future by applying for a Parental Responsibilities Order [REDACTED]. The recommendation of the Adoption and Permanence Panel and the decision of the Agency is that all three children should be placed together and discussions will now take place with various parties to consider how best to achieve this.

Stacey [REDACTED] will remain in their current placements until either a bridging or permanent family has been identified for them. We will continue to facilitate contact between the children and their mother and look at ways of facilitating contact with each other.

It is acknowledged that this is a very testing time for the children in that there are many uncertainties for them. We will endeavour to work alongside the carers to try to manage these uncertainties.


ELIZABETH ROSS
Social Worker

ER/KGT-97
11 June 1997
leonarst.doc

CASE REVIEW**Summary of Review and Recommendations for the Future****Date of Review: 20 June 1997****Name****Present Address****DOB**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

STACEY LEONARD**c/o Mrs I Claffey
49 Millfield Road
ARBROATH****28.04.88****Participants:****Mike Briggs****Senior Social Worker**

[REDACTED]

Irene Claffey**Foster Carer for Stacey**

[REDACTED]

Ann Robertson**Family Placement Team Worker****Paula Mulford****Family Placement Team Worker****Isobel Swan-Naylor****Social Work Assistant****Sheena Webster****Head Teacher, Inverbrothock Primary School (which Stacey attends)****Peter Pope****Community Assessment and Review Officer, Chair and Minutetaker****Apologies:****Elizabeth Ross****Social Worker**

Susan Lessels (mother) was invited to the meeting, and was aware it was scheduled for today. She had missed her most recent contact with her children on 19 June 1997, and had also missed several meetings that had been organised for her to discuss the position re her children.

Very full reports were circulated prior to the meeting by Elizabeth Ross, they should be read in conjunction with this summary. Their contents will not be repeated in this review.

INTRODUCTION

It had previously been agreed that all three children's reviews should be held at the same time, partly for convenience for their mother, Susan, and partly because certain aspects of the children's interests overlapped/coincided.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SITUATION WITH STACEY

Stacey

Irene felt that Stacey was doing very well, she has expressed uncertainties about the future. She was upset when her mum did not turn up for access but following this enjoyed seeing her brother and sister.

Regarding the lumps referred to in Elizabeth's report, she now has a paediatrician's appointment.

In other areas, eg sport, Brownies, and dancing competitions she is doing well and getting medals, which she naturally loves to get.

Education

At school, Mrs Webster said that Stacey was actually "devastated" when she found out that her mum was not going to turn up for contact; Mrs Webster saw Stacey cry and be very upset indeed and need a lot of consoling.

Within the school generally, she is quite settled but is not quite sure about things and tends to attract attention to herself by having a problem and being withdrawn. Most of the time she was described as being "fine".

Stacey's View

Stacey at times oscillates between wishing to be with Irene forever, wishing to be with both her brother and sister, and wanting a special family for all three of them together.

Re contact with her mum, it was said that the telephone calls from Susan have decreased in frequency, when they did occur it often tended to be that her mum offloaded her problems onto Stacey, [REDACTED] it was said that Stacey tends to counsel her mum and feels concerned for her. Stacey has expressed reservations about her mum's wish to be pregnant again, given what has happened to her and her siblings.

CONTACT

As already noted, contact between Susan and her children has been erratic since the last review; there have been a possible fifteen sessions, of which Susan has only attended eight. It was noted that the situation improved around the time of the children's birthdays, when Susan attended more regularly, however, lately it has dropped off and she has missed the last two meetings. This was viewed by the adults present as thoroughly unsatisfactory and abusive to the children. It was felt all the children needed to know Susan was alright but beyond this it was questionable whose needs were being met by the present contact arrangements, it appeared really no-one's needs were being met.

It was agreed that Elizabeth would review the situation with her Senior over the next few weeks; there is a Children's Hearing Review scheduled in the fairly near future where recommendations will be put in connection with this. Whether or not contact should be terminated or substantially reduced will be considered. People recognise that the children do have links with their mum, and are concerned for her welfare. Against that, the present contact is thoroughly unsatisfactory, causing them significant upset and concern.

POLEPARK

A referral has been made to Polepark, they have agreed to do some work with all three children trying to assist them progress to being a family group.

The Police are presently investigating an allegation [REDACTED] made against their step-grandfather, a Mr Thomas Leonard. This investigation is not completed.

PERMANENT PLACEMENT

A permanent placement is being sought for all three children together; it has been acknowledged that this may not be available in the timescales that would be meaningful to the children. A six month deadline has been placed when other options will be seriously considered. Elizabeth is liaising with Chris Longmuir, and others as appropriate, in connection with taking this forward.

Re legal routes to permanency, it was said that the Social Work Department intends pursuing a Parental Responsibilities Order, a petition to the Court after the Children's Hearing will be taken forward by Elizabeth in due course.

ASSESSMENT OF TAMMY, STACEY AND BRIAN

All three children are in need of a family of their own, as their mother has been unable to offer them the care and consistency that they need.

CARE PLAN

That [REDACTED] Stacey remain in long term care while their future is secured with permanent carers. It is hoped all three children can be placed together.

TASKS IN SUPPORT OF CARE PLAN

- 1 All three children to remain with their present carers.
- 2 Elizabeth Ross, in conjunction with others to review the contact that there is between Susan and her children, she to do this before the next Children's Hearing and consider what would appear to be in the children's best interests.

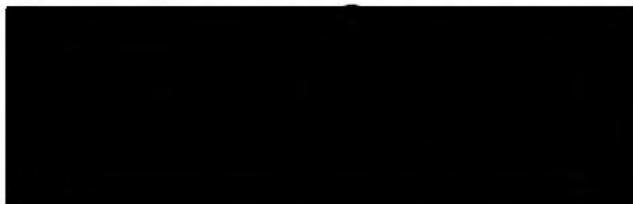
Susan is again asked to be consistent and regular in any contact arrangements that are made; she also is encouraged through these notes to attend other meetings that are arranged.

- 3 Susan to seek legal advice, should she wish.
- 4 Elizabeth Ross to take forward the issue of petitioning for a Parental Responsibilities Order, over the next six months.
- 5 Contact to occur between the children, without Susan being present.
- 6 Link Workers to support carers in the care task; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- 7 Permanent placement to be sought for all three children, Elizabeth to continue to pursue this.
- 8 Meetings between children and Polepark staff to occur, Elizabeth to oversee this.

It is clear that the children and their carers will need a great deal of support over this period of uncertainty, and the children will need support around the feelings of rejection and disappointment that they have in connection with their mother.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT REVIEW

Thursday 11 December 1997 at 11.30 am, at Catherine Street Resource Centre, Arbroath.



Peter Pope
Community Assessment and Review Officer
24 June 1997

Copies to:

All Present
Elizabeth Ross
Susan Lessels
Dougie Dunlop, Service Manager - Children and Families

swd\jill\peter\leondrev

SW.
fctd

Angus Council - Social Work Department

SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT TO CHILDREN'S REPORTER/HEARING

PART I - BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Report No: 199/97
Compiled by: Elizabeth Ross
Title: Social Worker
Address: Dewar House,
Academy Lane,
ARBROATH.

CHILD DETAILS

Surname: LEONARD **D.O.B:** 20/04/88
Forenames: Stacey Louise **Known as:**
Address: c/o Claffey, 49 Millfield Road current address if different
ARBROATH.

School/work: Inverbrothock Primary School
Legal statute: Section 70(1) Children (Scotland) Act 1995
Grounds of referral: Section 73(2) Children (Scotland) Act 1995 - Annual Review
Section 52(2)(a) Children (Scotland) Act 1995 - Alleged
Victim of Schedule 1 Offence.

Basis of report (state how the report was compiled):

Ongoing involvement as the children's Social Worker since November 1994.
Access to Social Work files.

PART II HISTORICAL SUMMARY (This provides merely a historical perspective to the case, this is not a full report).

A summary of the Social Work Department's involvement in the past (include why, when and for how long and outcome of involvement) and summary of the progress of the child's case to date (include personal history, relevant past events, health, development, school, social contacts and relationships).

Stacey was cared for by her mother and her family until she was received into care at six years old. [REDACTED] Stacey was subjected to poor and inconsistent parenting and was also subjected to many inappropriate experiences by her birth family.

It would appear that the family lived a fairly chaotic lifestyle in which the boundaries and routines were loose and inconsistent. The house was unkempt and the standards of care were low. Both the Police and Social Work Department received various complaints that the children were ill treated and neglected.

In June 1991 there were allegations that the children were dirty and neglected. The Police investigated, but took no further action [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] There was a further anonymous referral in December about the poor conditions within the house and in January and April of the following year, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Social Work Department undertook several Child Protection Investigations following allegations of neglect in April, May and August 1993 and March and April 1994.

In March 1994 Thomas Leonard was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment [REDACTED]

During Thomas Leonard's period of imprisonment, Susan and the three children remained at Lamely Terrace. [REDACTED]

Although Carol had daily contact with Susan and the children, she stayed in her own tenancy in [REDACTED]

At this time, the Social Work Department were involved with the family in relation [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Concerns emerged around the material standards in the house, the parenting of the children, and the level of Susan's emotional health. Susan's ability to cope with the family situation continued to deteriorate and in October 1994 she was admitted to Sunnyside Hospital [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Stacey and [REDACTED] were received into care.

Immediately prior to the children's reception into care, Carol Leonard made allegations that the children were being physically abused by a male adult who was living with the family. This adult and his associates who frequented the house were assaulting the children by way of martial arts practices and weapons. This adult was charged with numerous counts of assault against [REDACTED] Susan's children.

The children remained in care for some three weeks during Susan's admission to hospital and were returned to their mother's care at the beginning of November 1994. The children's names were placed on the Child Protection Register.

[REDACTED] The result was that her sister, Carol, turned her back on Susan and in conjunction with Thomas Leonard, [REDACTED] put pressure on Susan to leave the house. During the following weekend, the situation with the family came to a crisis and resulted in the three children coming into care on Place of Safety Orders, [REDACTED] The children were placed with Mr and Mrs McConnachie in Glen Clova with Susan having gone to live in Kennoway, to her mother's home.

Following their admission into care, Susan was reluctant to have contact with them. Contact was however re-established and her intention was to resume their care as soon as she found suitable accommodation. At this time, Susan's relationship with her step-father was unclear, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Stacey's placement with the McConnachie family stemmed some seven months. Ann and Roy McConnachie had many family as well as work commitments and they struggled to cope with their own circumstances and the demands of the Leonard children. Initially Stacey did not present with difficulties in placement, however as the situation deteriorated, Stacey's behaviour became more problematic. The carers attributed a large part of the difficulties, ie. stealing, lying, etc., to Stacey and they eventually requested that she was removed from placement. Stacey presented as a very troubled and sad little girl and she would attempt to get adult attention by complaining of various physical ailments. When her placement at the McConnachie's broke down in May 1995, she was transferred to Irene Claffey on an emergency basis. She has remained with Irene since that time.

At the beginning of 1995 and despite struggling with access, Susan continued to express a wish to be re-united with the children. There was extensive negotiation with Kirkcaldy District Council in a failed attempt to re-house Susan in Fife. Her application under the Mobility Scheme was rejected and Kirkcaldy District Council were unwilling to consider her under the Homeless Person's Act.

Eventually Angus Council agreed to house Susan in an unsecured tenancy at the Homeless Person's Unit in Forfar. From there, a plan was agreed with Susan to test out prospects of rehabilitation.

When Susan moved to Forfar, she re-established contact with [REDACTED] and some two weeks into the rehabilitation programme, she went to Cheltenham for a week to visit David Lessels. In light of her failure to comply with the Housing agreement - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - her tenancy was withdrawn in May. Throughout this period Susan was unable to demonstrate any commitment to working towards resuming the full time care of the children. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] there was various occasions when she was not at the tenancy when the children went for access and she was not attending for meetings with the Social Work Department. At a Child in Care Review Meeting which was held on 25/05/95, Susan requested that permanent carers be found for the children and [REDACTED]

Later that month, Susan decided that she wished to further pursue the rehabilitation of the children back to her care. Negotiations with Angus Council produced the offer of a temporary tenancy, however Susan refused to take this up, preferring instead to live either in Cheltenham or in Kennoway.

Susan continued to have access with the children and she managed to secure a tenancy through Fife District Council in September 1995, but did not move into the house until after her marriage to David Lessels in November 1995. A further attempt at rehabilitation commenced on in November 1995 and involved parenting sessions, life history work with Susan, family work with Susan and the children and a build up of contact in Kennoway.

[REDACTED]

In general, Susan was struggling with the efforts to return the children to her care. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Over the weeks of the assessment, the workers became increasingly concerned about Susan's ability to manage the children, her ability and commitment to protect them and keep them safe, and her lack of commitment to working with the Social Work Department.

In light of the ever increasing concerns, it was decided to suspend rehabilitation efforts and the decision was taken at a Child in Care Review on 12/06/96 not to make a further effort to return the children to their mother's care, but to follow a plan of permanency. The decision was also taken in light of discussion with the children, and the acknowledgement of their [REDACTED] wish to return to their mother, alongside their consistent experience of fears and anxieties about the result of such a return to their mother's care.

This matter was discussed at a Children's Hearing on 13/08/96 where the decision not to attempt further rehabilitation was endorsed. Susan lodged an appeal against this decision which was dismissed in September 1996. Susan has been offered regular contact with the children since that time.

PART III CURRENT SOCIAL WORK REPORT

1. Family composition, including significant others (factual information only):

Susan Lessels - Mother
David Lessels - Mother's Husband



Stacey Louise Leonard - Subject

*c/o 49 Millfield Road, Arbroath
Foster Carer*

[Redacted] - Sibling

[Redacted] Half-Sibling

[Redacted]



2. Attitude of the child or young person and the family to the referral:

N/A.

3. Assessment:

Stacey has short, straight, light brown hair and brown eyes. She is of slim build and is petite. She has a squint in her left eye and wears glasses. She is always neat and tidy and is very particular about her appearance. She is fairly independent in terms of personal hygiene and self help skills and likes to help with chores, etc.

She presents as shy and serious but is sociable and more outgoing with those familiar to her. Stacey is emotionally very vulnerable and will complain of various physical ailments when worried or anxious. She requires lots of encouragement and reassurance when faced with new situations. Stacey is very loyal to her family and worries about her mother. She has been able to share some of her worries about adults and events which happened to her prior to her coming into care.

Stacey was placed with Irene in May 1995. She settled fairly quickly and has not presented with the range of difficult behaviour which was apparent in her previous placement.

Stacey has grown very attached to Irene and it is evident that she feels safe and secure with her. Whilst Stacey doesn't require a high degree of physical care, Irene notes that she can be emotionally very demanding. It is Irene that Stacey will seek out when she is worried or distressed and during such times she needs lots of reassurance and physical comfort.

Stacey is popular with her peers and has a close circle of friends.

School:

Stacey has attended Inverbrothock School since May 1995. The school are pleased with the progress Stacey is making and they believe that she has the potential to do fairly well at school. Stacey thoroughly enjoys school and puts a great deal of effort into her work. She loves to show off her achievements and responds to praise and encouragement.

Stacey has a close circle of friends at school and like all nine year olds, they fall in and out of friendships. Stacey has expressed concerns about being bullied at school, however this has been addressed and Stacey remains fairly settled at school.

Health:

Stacey generally keeps in good physical health and had a full medical prior to being presented to the Adoption and Fostering Panel.

She wears glasses due to a squint in her left eye and attends for check ups on a regular basis.

Stacey has a lump on the side of her neck which swells from time to time and the carer has also noticed a swelling in her breast. She has been referred to Paediatric Outpatients for further investigation.

Stacey suffered from a perforated ear drum in December 1996, however this appears to have healed itself.

Contact with Birth Family:

Stacey has fortnightly access with her mother and siblings at Arbroath Child and Family Centre. Access is supervised by two members of the Social Work Department. Initially Susan demonstrated more of a regular commitment to access when it was reduced to fortnightly contact, but again this has tailed off and Susan has failed to attend for eight out of 15 sessions in the past six months. There are ongoing concerns about the quality of access and the workers need to offer Susan a high level of support to manage the children. Susan also has telephone contact with the children, although this is fairly adhoc.

Attempts to facilitate more frequent contact between the three children have proved difficult given the distance between placements and the commitments of the children's carers. All three carers and the children met up for an outing during the Easter Holidays and [REDACTED] has been able to give a monthly commitment to facilitating contact between the three children one day per month. These appear to have been a positive experience for them and we will continue to explore ways of facilitating contact between them.

[REDACTED]

Susan Lessels Current Situation:

Susan continues to reside in Kennoway with her husband David and he remains in full time employment. Susan appears to spend a large part of her day with her mother. [REDACTED]

Susan's Views about Permanency:

[REDACTED] However, since the decision was made that permanency should be pursued for all three children, Susan has stated that she wants to resume the full time care of all three children. Susan has stated that she feels she is able to meet all three children's needs and that she has the support of her husband and her family to help her achieve this. Susan is unable to accept that permanent substitute care is in the children's best interests and plans to contest any action taken by the Social Work Department to secure the children's future with substitute carers.

Stacey's Views about Permanency:

Stacey is of the opinion that her mother is unable to look after her and keep her safe. She has expressed the view that all three children should be placed with the same family, but is unsure if this will work out for them. Stacey thinks that [REDACTED] will have to change their behaviour if a family is to manage all three of them. Stacey has made a strong attachment to Irene Claffey and would like Irene to accommodate both herself and her siblings.

Stacey would like to maintain regular contact with her mother.

Social Work Involvement:

Stacey and her siblings were presented to the Adoption and Fostering Panel in May 1997. Their recommendation and the decision of the Agency is that Stacey and her siblings are children in need of permanency, that it would not be in their interest for a further attempt at rehabilitation to their mother's care and that their needs would be best met by the Department pursuing parental rights in respect of Stacey and her siblings. The Agency's decision is the children should be placed together. A discussion meeting has been arranged with Polepark Family Counselling Centre to consider them undertaking a piece of work with the children on issues relating to permanency.

I have continued to have regular contact with Stacey and her siblings, members of her extended family and carers and other professionals involved with her.

Grounds of Referral:

There is an ongoing Police investigation in respect of Stacey [REDACTED] following disclosures made [REDACTED] about [REDACTED] grandfather, Mr Thomas Leonard. Stacey has alleged that her grandfather touched her private parts and she has also made allegations about members of her family which would indicate that she may have witnessed inappropriate sexual activity.

[REDACTED] have experienced a high degree of anxiety in relation to their disclosures/investigation and have required ongoing support from their carers. Following her disclosure, Stacey was examined by a Forensic Physician and there is evidence that she has been sexually abused. We are awaiting the results of DNA testing in respect of Stacey.

Stacey has indicated that she has many unresolved issues relating to her past experiences, whilst being cared for by her mother and she is gradually beginning to talk about these experiences.

Stacey and her siblings will be given further opportunities to share their past experiences, and will be offered ongoing support in relation to the investigation and possible Court proceedings.

The children do not have contact with Thomas Leonard and this is a condition of their supervision order.

4. Recommendations:

Having made a number of attempts to rehabilitate the children with their birth mother, it is the Social Work Department's view that it is not in their best interests to make any further attempts. The reason for this view comprises evidence that Susan is not able to meet her children's needs, including their protection from further abuse.

The recommendation of the Adoption and Permanence Panel and the decision of the Agency is that Stacey [REDACTED] in need of permanency and that this should be achieved by the Department pursuing parental responsibilities orders [REDACTED]

It is the Agency's plan to pursue a placement for all three children together and discussions will now take place with various parties to consider how best to achieve this. Stacey will remain in her current placement until either a bridging or permanent family has been identified for her.

In the meantime, we will continue to facilitate contact between the children and their mother, as well as each other. We are becoming increasingly concerned about Susan's decreasing lack of commitment to maintaining contact with her children and we will continue to review the situation.

It is acknowledged that this is a very testing time for Stacey in that there are many uncertainties for her and we will continue to work alongside her carers and significant others to try to manage these uncertainties.

Stacey's future remains uncertain and she continues to require compulsory measures of care, I would recommend that the supervision order is continued with the existing conditions.

Report signed by: [REDACTED]

... Date: 4.7.97

NOTES:

- The contents of this report are subject to the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Amendment Rules 1996. A copy of this report will be provided to the parents of the child.
- The compiler of this report will be invited to attend any Hearing which may be arranged, and may, in certain circumstances, be required to give evidence in Court.
- In the event of an Appeal, the report will be lodged with the Court and the compiler may be cited to speak to the contents.
- The attention of those entitled to read this report is drawn to the copyright on the contents held by Angus Council Social Work Department.

ER/KGT-97
04 July 1997
leons199.doc

AC12b

CL/CR

25 July 1997

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mrs S Lessels
26 Seaton Terrace
KENNOWAY
Fife



SOCIAL WORK
Director: W B Robertson

Bruce House
Wellgate
Arbroath
DD11 3TS

DX 530678 Forfar

Tel 01307 461460
Fax 01241 435151

Dear Mrs Lessels

Your children, [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] were recently discussed at the Adoption and Permanence Panel to consider whether or not they should continue to be looked after by the local authority on a permanent basis.

After considering the Adoption and Permanence Panel's recommendations, the Agency Decision Maker decided that a permanent placement was in [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] best interests and that the local authority should make an application for a Parental Responsibilities Order.

Your social worker Elizabeth Ross will discuss this with you to ensure that you fully understand the implications this will have for you.

If you have not already consulted a solicitor I would advise you to do so, and you should show him or her this letter.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Chris Longmuir
Fostering and Adoption Co-ordinator

cc Head of Legal Services (Contractor)
Social Worker

Chief Executive
Alexander B. Watson

SCOTTISH CHILDREN'S REPORTER ADMINISTRATION

~~SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1968~~~~CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995~~

Notice about Child referred to the Children's Reporter

Surname LEONARD Christian Names STACEY
 Date of Birth 28.9.88 Age 9 School Inverbrock PS
 Home Address 26, Steton Terrace, Remoway, Fife
 Present Address c/o Claffay, 49, Milford Road, Aberdeen
 Social Work Area Aberdeen Social Worker Elizabeth Ross
 Reporter's Reference No A.194 Referral No 748

PLEASE QUOTE IN ALL COMMUNICATIONS

SWSGS NO 240990910 Dated 19/5/97

Reason for Referral 73(2) Annual Review
52(2)(d) Alleged Victim of Schedule I offence

☐ Thank you for your report/referral Dated

INFORMATION REQUESTED:

- ☐ Please give me more information as specified in the attached note.
☐ I would be grateful for a report to assist me and any Hearing which may be convened for this child.
☐ Please submit the report by :
☐ Note :

HEARING

- ☐ I will arrange a Hearing upon receipt of a social background report.
☐ I have arranged a Hearing on at am/pm.
☐ You are expected/invited to attend the Hearing.
☐ A representative who knows the child and can take part in the discussion at the Hearing is expected/invited to attend.
☐ Note :

RESULT

- ☐ I am taking no further action/and have asked the Police to warn the child.
☐ I am referring the case to the Social Work Department to offer advice, guidance and assistance on a voluntary basis.

THE HEARING DECIDED

- ☐ To Discharge the referral under Section 42(2) (c) or 43(2). . . . on
☐ To apply to the Sheriff for proof of the Grounds Section on
☐ To continue the case as arranged above, From
☐ To issue a Supervision Requirement under Section on
☒ To continue the existing Supervision Requirement under Section 73(2)(e) on 21/5/97
☐ To vary the Supervision Requirement from Section to Section on
☐ To terminate the Supervision Requirement on
☐ As a result of the Requirement/decision, the child will be living at

☐ Note :

☐ Enclosures

Signed

Dated 30/7/97

ADDRESS OF REPORTER

Kelvin House,
 50 East Abbey Street
 Aberdeen

CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995

CONTINUATION UNDER SECTION 73(9)(e) OF THE ACT OF SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT

On 21st July 1997 at Keith House, 50 East Abbey Street, Arbroath. DD11 1EW

A children's hearing for **Angus**, considering the case of STACEY LEONARD
home address 26, Seton Place, Kennoway, Fife
and the supervision requirement (a copy of which is attached), and in exercise of its powers
under section 73(9)(e) of the Act, continues the said requirement in force.

~~The children's hearing in varying/imposing a requirement order that the place where~~
~~is to reside shall not be disclosed to~~


Chairman of the Children's Hearing

SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT 1968

SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT VARYING
EXISTING SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT

13.8.96

Children's Hearing Centre
Keith House 50 East Abbey
ARBROATH DD11 1EW

A children's hearing for Angus, by way of variation of and in substitution for the supervision requirement dated...13.8.96... to which

.....STACEY LEONARD (28.4.88).....

..... is subject, hereby require him/her to be under the supervision of the Director of Social Work for Angus, subject to the conditions noted below; and the requirement dated..... is hereby revoked.

..... (Chairman)

CONDITIONS REFERRED TO IN THE FOREGOING SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT

- 1 The child shall comply with directions given by the supervising social worker.
- 2 The child shall reside in a named place, namely,
.....% MRS IRENE CLAFFEY, 49 MILLFIELD
ROAD, ARBROATH.....
- 3 The requirement to reside is subject to the direction of the Director of Social Work to grant leave of absence from time to time to enable the child to engage in approved activities.
- ~~4 Subject to the discretion of the Director of Social Work the child may receive respite care with.....~~

- 4 Subject to the discretion of the Director of Social Work and the agreement of the child/parent/guardian, the child may receive respite care with other carers approved by the Social Work Department in terms of the Boarding Out and Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1985.

- 5 The child's access to her mother shall be supervised by the Social Work Department.
..... (Chairman)

- 6 The child shall have no access to
Mr Thomas Leonard or Ms Carol Leonard.

F. REASONS FOR DECISION

CHILD'S NAME

STACEY LEONARD

DATE OF BIRTH

28 April 1988

The Children's Hearing made the decision(s) for the following reasons:

1. Social Work Dept. have real concerns re Mrs Lesseels ability to provide an appropriate and secure environment for Stacey.
2. Rehabilitation has been tried ^{often} and failed in the past.
3. Stacey is happy and feels safe & secure with Mrs Claffey.
4. Stacey is doing very well at school. Contact with mum should be supervised and at S.W.D. discretion because of the support Mrs Lesseels requires during contact.

There should be no contact with Carol or Thomas Leonard.

A safeguarded was considered but it was felt Stacey understood the situation and that her interests were being well served at present.

(Continue overleaf if necessary)

(Signed)

(Chairman)

(Date)

21/2/97

The children's reporter has arranged for Stacey Leonard, dob 28.04.88 of (home address - 26 Seton Terrace, Kennoway, Fife. Present Address - c/o Claffey, 49 Millfield Road, Arbroath), to attend a children's hearing for Angus Council.

The reason for this is:

d) that she is a child in respect of whom any of the offences mentioned in Schedule I to the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 (offences against children to which special provisions apply) has been committed

Statement of Facts

In support of the above it is stated:

- 1 Stacey Leonard was born on 28 April 1988 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] They are the daughters of Susan Lessels. [REDACTED] reside with foster parents under Supervision Requirements.
- 2 On numerous occasions between 1 January 1990 and 20 November 1994, exact dates unknown to the Reporter, at 9 Lamley Terrace, Arbroath, Thomas Leonard (dob 11.4.41), step-grandfather to Stacey [REDACTED] used lewd, indecent and libidinous practices and behaviour towards Stacey [REDACTED] by touching their naked private parts with his hands and assaulted or ill-treated them by hitting them with a belt and with his fists.
- 3 It is therefore submitted that Stacey [REDACTED] have been the victims of Schedule I offences, namely under Paragraph 2 of the said schedule, that they have been assaulted or ill-treated by Thomas Leonard who then had custody, charge or care of them and under Paragraph 4 of the said schedule, that they were the victim of lewd, indecent and libidinous practices and behaviour by Thomas Leonard.

Accepted by child & mother 28/7/97

Date 6 June 1997

Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
Keith House
50 East Abbey Street
ARBROATH DD11 1EW

[REDACTED]
Ms J Richards, Reporter

Notes

The children's hearing will ask the child and relevant persons if they accept the reasons for arranging the hearing. If the reasons are accepted the children's hearing will discuss with the child and relevant persons what is best for the child. If any of the reasons are not accepted, the hearing may either discharge them or tell the reporter to apply to the sheriff who will decide if any of the reasons are proved.

If the sheriff decides that any of the reasons are proved, the children's hearing will then discuss what is best for the child, as if these reasons had been accepted. If the sheriff decides that no reasons are proved the case will be discharged.

PART III CURRENT SOCIAL WORK REPORT

1. Family composition, including significant others (factual information only):

[REDACTED]
 Stacey Leonard - Subject 28/04/88 c/o Claffey, 49 Millfield Road,
 Arbroath

[REDACTED]
 Susan Lessels - Mother 26 Seton Terrace, Kennoway
 David Lessels - Mother's Husband 26 Seton Terrace, Kennoway

2. Attitude of the child or young person and the family to the referral:

See assessment.

3. Assessment:

Previous Attempts at Rehabilitation

There have been three attempts to rehabilitate the children to their mother's care. The first took place in April 1995 when Susan was given temporary accommodation in Forfar. Some two weeks into rehabilitation Susan went to Cheltenham for a week to visit David Lessels. Susan did not stay in the house in Forfar throughout the rehabilitation period and in light of her failure to comply with the housing agreement, her tenancy was withdrawn in May. Throughout this period she was unable to demonstrate any commitment to working toward resuming the full time care of the children. She failed to attend for meetings with the workers and was not available for access with the children. The rehabilitation programme was terminated and Susan was in agreement with this decision, furthermore she requested that alternative permanent carers be identified for the children [REDACTED]

In June 1995, Susan decided that she wanted to pursue rehabilitation for a second time. [REDACTED]

The Social Work Department liaised with Angus District Council who were willing to provide temporary accommodation in Angus in order that rehabilitation could be attempted for the second time. A plan rehabilitation was presented to Susan, however, she refused to accept housing in Angus and therefore rehabilitation could not be tested out. Her stated intention at the time was to either pursue accommodation in Cheltenham [REDACTED] or attempt to secure [REDACTED] tenancy [REDACTED] in Kennoway, Fife.

Susan managed to secure accommodation through Fife District Council in September 1995, however she did not move into this accommodation until after her marriage to David Lessels in November. Rehabilitation commenced on 20 November 1995.

Rehabilitation in Fife

An intensive programme of rehabilitation was undertaken with the family which involved the following pieces of work.

- (1) Parenting sessions with Susan which also included David when he was available.
- (2) Life history work with Susan.
- (3) Family sessions.
- (4) Partially supervised access sessions at Susan's home in Kennoway.
- (5) Weekly feedback sessions and monthly Review Meetings to monitor progress.
- (6) Weekly access sessions in Arbroath for Susan and the three children.

Parenting Sessions

The purpose of these meetings was to identify areas in which Susan was experiencing difficulty and consider ways of addressing them. Parenting issues were identified by Susan and the workers, and advice and guidance offered about various parenting issues, eg. establishing routines and rules, methods of punishment and control, recognising and responding to the children's emotional needs, safety and protection.

Life History Work with Susan

[REDACTED] Such experiences have not equipped her to be an effective parent to her own children.

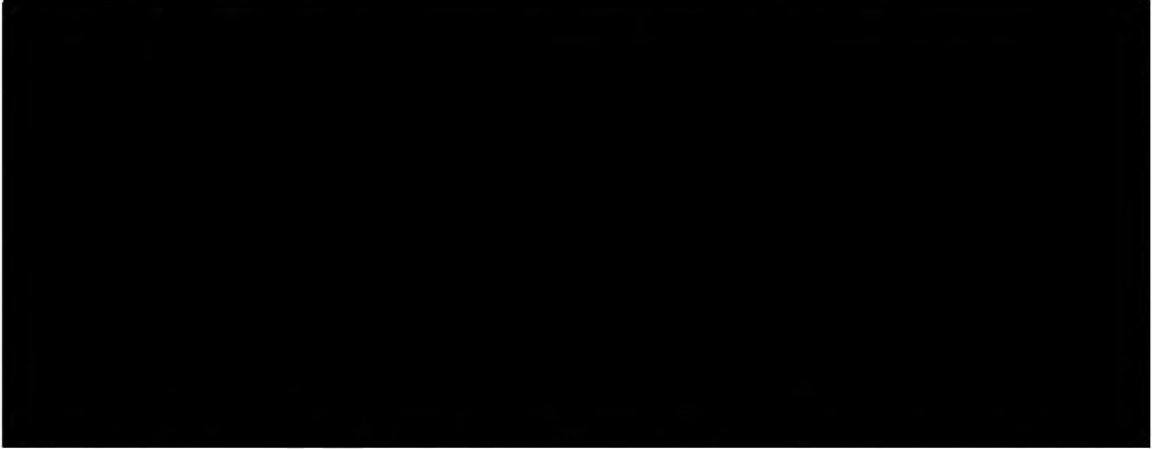
[REDACTED]

Family Work

The children had been subjected to many inappropriate experiences whilst being cared for by their mother and they have many unresolved fears and anxieties about their past and their future. These sessions provided Susan and the children with an opportunity to try to make some sense out of the confusion they have about individuals and events in their past.

Access in Kennoway

The purpose of these sessions was to allow Susan the opportunity to test out her ability to parent the children in her own home. The first stage involved [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] spending two days per week at home with their mother. Contact was initially fully supervised and gradually increased to include periods of unsupervised contact. Although all three children were quite excited about visiting their mother in her new house, they were also expressing fears and anxieties about their future.



Rehabilitation continued for the two girls and contact with their mother increased to include periods of unsupervised access and overnights. The two girls were spending four overnights at home before rehabilitation was suspended.

Regular Meetings with Susan

Workers met with Susan on a regular basis throughout the rehabilitation period in order to review progress, identify and plan future areas of work. Rehabilitation was made up of a series of stages in which moving to the next stage was dependant on progress being made in the previous stage. At the end of each stage meetings involving all those involved in the children's care (carers, schools, parent and Social Workers) were held and a decision reached as to whether to progress to the next stage.

Access in Angus

Susan has had weekly access with the children in Angus throughout their time in care. Access has always been supervised by a member of the Social Work Department due to Susan's inability to manage all three children.

[REDACTED]

Susan's commitment to maintaining regular contact with the children has at times been variable. The quality of access is also variable [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Assessment of Rehabilitation

Over the weeks of the assessment, the workers became increasingly concerned about Susan's ability to manage the children, her ability and commitment to protect them and keep them safe, and her lack of commitment to working with the Social Work Department

Throughout the period of rehabilitation she was unable to alter and change her way of parenting to any significant degree. Although she managed to meet the children's basic physical needs - albeit with a high level of support from the Social Work Department, she did not make progress in relation to meeting their emotional needs.

As rehabilitation progressed it became increasingly evident that she could not take on board the children's fears and worries and was therefore unable to gain their confidence and trust. This was evidenced in the children's behaviour, ie. their reluctance to go to access and an increase in anxiety related behaviours.

[REDACTED]

There was an incident whereby the two girls were smacked by one of the young males who frequented the home. This showed that Susan was unable to ensure that the children were not subjected to experiences which they found frightening or upsetting. Susan's ability to protect and ensure the children's continued well-being was highly questionable.

In light of the ever increasing concerns, it was decided to suspend rehabilitation efforts and the decision was taken at a Child in Care Review on 12/06/96 not to make a further attempt to return the children to their mother's care but to follow a plan of permanence. The decision was also taken in light of discussion with the children, and the acknowledgement of their [REDACTED] wish to return to their mother, alongside their consistent experience of fears and anxieties about the result of such a return to their mother's care.

This matter was discussed at a Children's Hearing on 13/08/96 where the decision not to attempt further rehabilitation was endorsed. Susan lodged an appeal against this decision which was dismissed in September 1996.

Social Work Plans for Permanence.

[REDACTED] presented to the Adoption and Fostering Panel in May 1997. Their recommendation and the decision of the Agency was that the children are in need of permanence, that it would not be in their interest for a further attempt at rehabilitation to their mother's care and that their needs would be best met by the Department pursuing parental rights.

Mrs Lessels' Views about Permanency

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] However, since the decision was made that permanency should be pursued for all three children, Susan has stated that she wants to resume the full time care of all three children. Susan has stated that she feels she is able to meet all three children's needs and that she has the support of her husband and their respective families to help her achieve this. It is the Social Work Department's view that it has been established that Susan cannot provide the care and protection which would safeguard the interests of the children.

If the children are not returned to her care, Susan has stated that consideration should be given to placing them with a member of her extended family. However, she has not been able to identify a family member who will be able to accommodate any of the children.

[REDACTED]
If the children are to remain in long term care, Susan would like a placement to be sought for them in Fife and her reason for this is that she could maintain more frequent contact with them.

[REDACTED]
Susan is unable to accept that substitute care is in her children's best interests and intends to contest any action by the Social Work Department
[REDACTED]

Access

Susan has stated that she wants to maintain contact with the children and that the children should also have contact with members of their extended birth families.

The quality of contact between Susan and the children is poor, and in light of this and Susan's variable attendance (approximately 50% non-attendance) the decision was taken in December 1996 to reduce access to fortnightly contact. Contact between Susan and the children is for two hours per session and is supervised and facilitated by Social Work staff.

The Social Work Department have attempted to sustain positive contact between Susan and the children in the face of difficult and often very negative access sessions. The Department is committed to continuing to facilitate the children's contact with their mother, where it is in their best interests and to manage the situation in a way that promotes good quality contact if possible.

Considerable work has been undertaken with Susan as regards her parenting skills, [REDACTED], she has been unable to utilise the sessions in a way that makes for significant progress in her parenting skills.

All three children are beginning to question their mother's commitment to them as a result of her non-attendance and they have expressed to her their feelings of disappointment and hurt.

The Children's Views about Permanency

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Stacey

Stacey is also of the opinion that her mother is unable to look after her and keep her safe. She has expressed the view that all three children should be placed with the same family, but is unsure if this will work out for them. Stacey thinks that [REDACTED] will have to change their behaviour if a family is to manage all three of them. Stacey has made a strong attachment to Irene Claffey and would like Irene to accommodate both herself and her siblings.

Stacey would like to maintain regular contact with her mother and have contact with her extended family on special occasions, eg. birthdays.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Children's Current Situation

There have been no significant changes in the children's situation and recent Panel Reports document the children's circumstances. Stacey [REDACTED] were the subjects of an Annual Review in July 1997 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mrs Lessels' Current Situation

There has been no significant change in Susan's situation. She continues to reside in Kennoway with her husband David and he remains in full time employment. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4. Recommendations:

Having made a number of attempts to rehabilitate the children with their birth mother, it is the Social Work Department's view that it is not in their best interests to make any further attempts. The reason for this view comprises evidence that Susan is not able to meet her children's needs, including their protection from further abuse.

The recommendation of the Adoption and Permanency Panel and the decision of the Agency is that [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] are in need of permanency and that this should be achieved by the Department pursuing Parental Responsibilities Orders [REDACTED]. It is the Agency's view that a Parental Responsibilities Order would be the best way to meet the children's needs and safeguard and promote their long term welfare.

In the meantime, the children will remain in their current placements until either a bridging or permanent family has been identified for them. We will continue to facilitate contact between the children and their mother and look at ways of facilitating contact with each other. It is acknowledged that this is a very testing time for the children in that there are many uncertainties for them. We will endeavour to work alongside the carers to try to manage these uncertainties.

I would ask the Hearing to support the Agency's plan to pursue Parental Responsibilities Orders in respect of all three children.

Report signed by: [REDACTED]

..... Date: 9-10-97

NOTES:

- The contents of this report are subject to the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Amendment Rules 1996. A copy of this report will be provided to the parents of the child.
- The compiler of this report will be invited to attend any Hearing which may be arranged, and may, in certain circumstances, be required to give evidence in Court.
- In the event of an Appeal, the report will be lodged with the Court and the compiler may be cited to speak to the contents.
- The attention of those entitled to read this report is drawn to the copyright on the contents held by Angus Council Social Work Department.

ER/KGT-97
09 October 1997
ieon344.doc

MAENE CLAFFEY, FOSTER CAREER 14+ yrs EXPERIENCE

ARBROATH,

ANGUS,

2ND DEC '97

RE. STACEY LOUISE LEONARD

D.O.B. 28-4-88

DATE PLACED 5-6-95

All Panel members,

Please consider this my formal application for Stacey to remain with me on a permanent basis. I have previously verbalised this request.

I base this application on a number of important issues.

I consider it to be in Stacey's best interests given the length of time in placement. This is evident in her progress, emotionally, physically and academically. Settled in placement and school.

Stacey has expressed a desire to remain here on numerous occasions to myself and family. Elizabeth Ross S/W, Mrs Shona Webster headteacher and various other people. She has an established group of friends from school and her dancing and Brownie groups.

Since being placed here Stacey has lived independently of her siblings, [REDACTED] her continued development suggests, not to her detriment. Her progression has enabled her to feel safe and confident enough to make the decisions and assist in the current ongoing procedures by the police and Procurator Fiscal.

We have supported Stacey through all these

through the outcome of said proceedings.

Stacey has her own bedroom there, and in view of her previous sexualised behaviour and history this is one of the recognised N.E.C. ways to provide "safe caring" for her and other placed.

The main reason for Stacey remaining here is that we as a family love and care for her unconditionally. We can continue to offer her loving and emotional support she needs now and for the longer term. Finally, at my last meeting with the panel for my review in August I quoted what I regarded as a relevant saying. I again give you this quote.

"If it aint broke why mend it"

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Foster Worker

Subject Access Request

CHILDCARE REVIEW/REVIEW OF CARE PLAN

held at CATHERINE STREET RESOURCE CENTRE on 15.01.98

on

STACEY LEONARD dob 28.04.88

Home Address: Arbroath

Placement Address: c/o Mrs I Claffey
49 Millfield Road
ARBROATH

Date of Reception into
Accommodation: 11 October 1994

Date and Type of Placement: 5 June 1995 - Foster Care

Legal Statute: Section 70

Social Worker's Name
and Address: Elizabeth Ross
c/o Social Work Department, Academy Lane, Arbroath

Participants:

Elizabeth Ross	Social Worker
Susan Lessels	Mother
Irene Claffey	Foster Carer
Sheena Webster	Head Teacher, Inverbrothock Primary School
Peter Pope	Community Assessment and Review Officer, Chair and Minutetaker

A written report was presented to the meeting from Elizabeth Ross, it should be read in conjunction with this summary.

Mrs Webster queried the term used in Elizabeth's report on Page 3: "she was the victim of school bullying ...", Mrs Webster felt this overstated it, it was an incident that was dealt with. Elizabeth said that Stacey had described the incident to her as "bullying", and that it sounded to her that Stacey perceived it as her being bullied.

CARE PLAN AGREED AT MEETING HELD ON 20.06.97

"That Stacey remain in long term care while her future is secured with permanent carers. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PROGRESS WITH TASKS IN SUPPORT OF ABOVE CARE PLAN

1 "Stacey to remain with her present carer".

This has occurred. Irene felt Stacey was making very good progress, she does not present her with any management problems.

Re her health, she has been bothered quite a lot with ear aches and infections, she has been on antibiotics but has missed some schooling as a result.

In addition, Stacey had a lump on her neck, the Paediatrician was not too concerned about this, however, Stacey also has a lump on her breast and the Paediatrician has requested a second opinion. Stacey has also been troubled by vaginal discharge, again she is being treated for this by application of antibiotics, which Irene assists with.

Irene felt Stacey had had a good Christmas holidays, she is well settled in placement. Irene felt Stacey was better able to talk about her concerns, eg about her future or possibility of any Court actions re Police investigations of previous alleged abuse. Stacey has not had nightmares as she used to have in the past, she has had an occasional sore tummy. She responds to attention and overall seems to be prospering.

Re school, Stacey generally enjoys going there, Mrs Webster felt Stacey had coped well with the change of teachers recently. She generally appears happy, but does tell the school when something is bothering her. She is making progress academically.

2 "Elizabeth Ross, in conjunction with others to review the contact that there is between Susan and her children ...".

This has occurred, Susan sees Stacey and her brother and sister fortnightly. Susan has stuck to the fortnightly arrangement better than she did when contact was arranged more frequently. When Susan misses contact appointments Stacey finds this difficult, and staff have to manage things regarding this as best they can.

In addition to meeting with her mum, she meets with her siblings on a regular basis and seems to quite enjoy this.

3 "Susan to seek legal advice, should she wish".

Susan said she had sought legal advice.

4 "Elizabeth Ross to take forward the issue of petitioning for a Parental Responsibilities Order, over the next six months".

This is in the pipeline, [REDACTED]

5 "Contact to occur between the children, without Susan being present".

As already noted, this occurs.

PROGRESS WITH TASKS contd

6 "Link Workers to support carers ...".

This has occurred.

7 "Permanent placement to be sought for all three children ...".

This has occurred, two such placements have been identified; each will be assessed and Elizabeth will report back to the Adoption and Fostering Panel in April 1998.

It was acknowledged that this time of uncertainty can be worrying both for the children and their carers, and people would need to try to support each other as best they can.

8 "Meetings between children and Polepark staff to occur, Elizabeth to oversee this".

This has not occurred, because Polepark could only offer appointments within school hours. It was felt that Stacey [REDACTED] should not miss school to this degree and, as a result, the referral was put on hold. However, Elizabeth and Isabel have been supporting and encouraging the children when they have met on their own during contact.

DISCUSSION

As already noted, there has been a Police investigation into alleged abuse of Stacey by a member of her extended family. It is anticipated there will be a Court date in March 1998. This will clearly be stressful for Stacey, and others.

Stacey had written a report for the meeting, in it she had said she was happy and wanted to remain where she is.

Re Susan's views, Susan said she was unsure what these were at the moment.

CARE PLAN (with aimed for timescales)

Immediate

For Stacey to remain with Irene Claffey while a permanent placement is located for her and her siblings.

Long Term

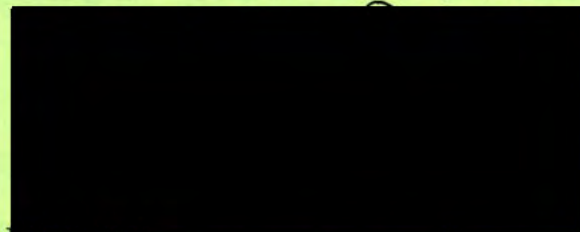
For Stacey to remain in long term care, hopefully with her brother and sister.

TASKS IN SUPPORT OF CARE PLAN

- 1 Stacey to stay with Irene, she to care for her.
- 2 Stacey to continue to attend school, and be encouraged and supported there by school staff and her carer.
- 3 Stacey to continue to have regular contact with her mum, and on alternate weeks with her brother and sister.
- 4 Irene to continue to ensure that the appropriate medical attention is sought and given for Stacey as needed. She to keep Elizabeth informed re this.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 25 June 1998 at 1.30 pm, at Catherine Street Resource Centre.



Peter Pope
Community Assessment and Review Officer
26 January 1998

Copies to:

All Present
Dougie Dunlop, Service Manager - Children and Families

swd\jill\peter\leonrev

ANGUS COUNCIL - SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

CASE REVIEW - CHILD'S REPORT

Name Stacey Leonard dob 28/06/88Address 19 Millfield RdDate of Review 15th January Place Catherine Street
(Complete before giving to the child)

We will soon be having a review, which is a meeting where we will be hearing about how you are getting on.

We need to know what you are thinking and feeling about things.

Can you write down what you think? If you wish, you can ask someone to help you (key worker, foster carer, Social Worker, friend, someone from your family).

Can you say something about you?

I like watching my
Soaps.

My favourite thing to do is Play

My favourite TV programme is Home and away

Other things I would like to do Win the lottery

My friends are

I get sad when mum doesn't turn up

I am happy when la' staying with Rene

How do you like staying where you are?
 Staying where I am is (please circle)

GREAT

FINE

OK

NOT BAD

DON'T LIKE IT

Can you say why? Because I got on with Irene.

The best thing about living here is Irene is loving and caring.

The worst thing about living here is when Irene asks me to set the table when I'm washing home and away.

Who do you find it easier to get on with? Irene

Is there anybody you don't get on with? No

When you are unwell, who do you tell? The teacher, Mrs Ray, + Mr Irene, + sometimes Mrs Webster

What was the matter last time you were unwell? I had a sore ear.

Can you say something about your family?

Who is in your family

(mum/dad/brothers/sisters/gran/grandad/aunts/uncles/cousins/anyone else?)

They are clever.

Mum, Dad, David, [redacted] [redacted] No

Do you see any of your family?

yes

Say who and how often you see them

Mum

once a

Fortnight

Where do you see them?

child

and

family

centre.

If you want to speak to them, how do you contact them?

by

phone

Who would you like to see more often?

David

Dad,

Mum, +

[redacted]

Who would you like to see less often?

None

Can you say something about school?

it's a very good school

I go to

Inverbrothack

Primary

School

My school is:

GREAT

FINE

OK

NOT BAD

DON'T LIKE IT

Because

I

get

on

with

the

teachers.

How long have you been at school? 2 and a half years

How do you get on with your social worker? FINE

My social worker is Elizabeth Ross

GREAT

FINE

OK

NOT BAD

DON'T LIKE HIM/HER

Because

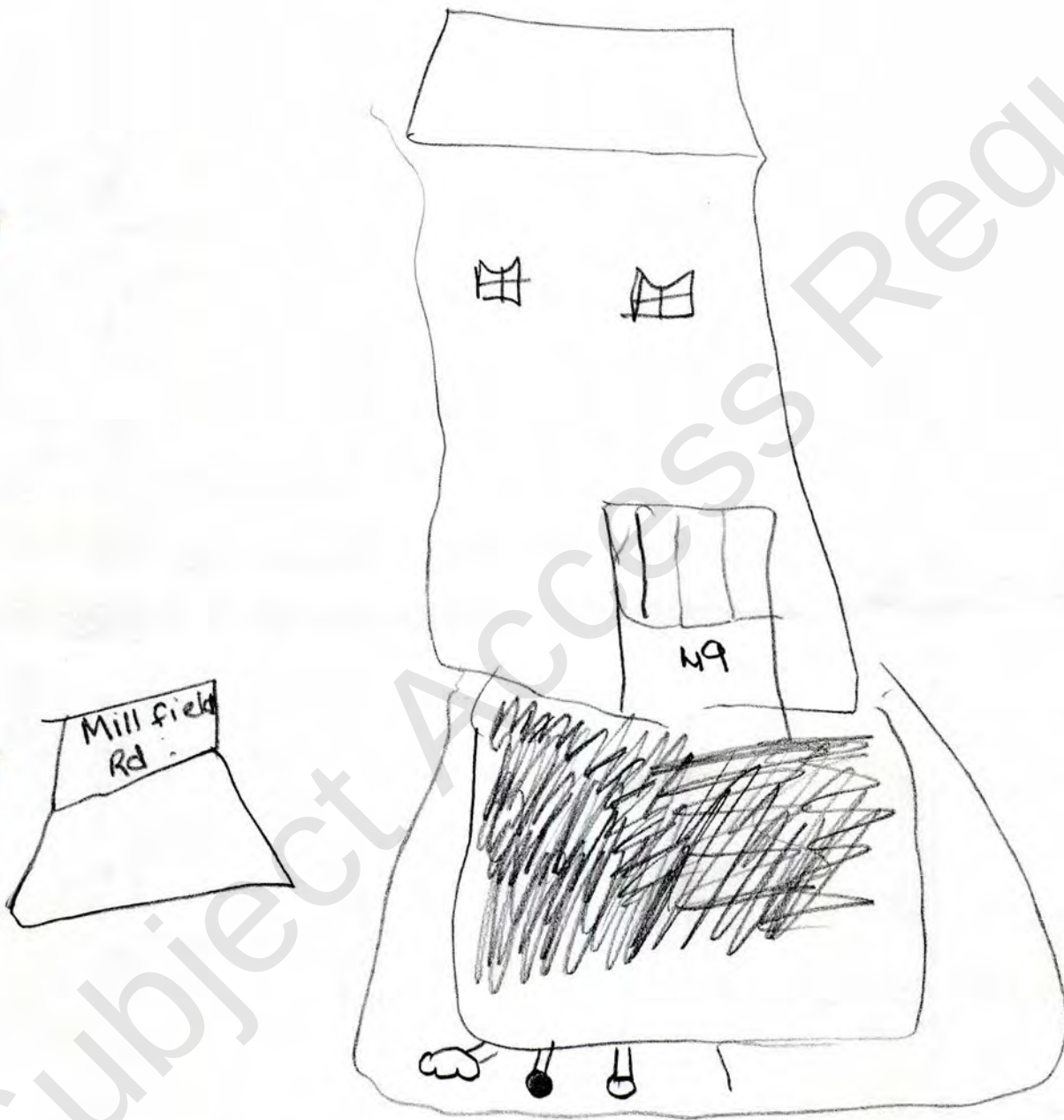
Is there anything in particular you would like the Review to talk about?

Say what I would like to stay with
Irene forever

If you had three wishes, what would you like to wish?

- 1 To stay with Irene for ever.
- 2 Go to Florida
- 3 Win the lottery

Is there anything you want to write or draw. If so please do it in the space below.



Signature Stacey Louise Leonard Date 6/10/198

CHILDCARE REVIEW/6 MONTH REVIEW OF CARE PLAN

held at CATHERINE STREET RESOURCE CENTRE on 25.06.98

on

STACEY LEONARD dob 28.04.88

Home Address: Arbroath

Placement Address: c/o Mrs I Claffey
49 Millfield Road
ARBROATH

Date of Reception into
Accommodation: 11 October 1994

Date and Type of Placement: 5 June 1995 - Foster Care

Legal Statute: Section 70 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995

Social Worker's Name
and Address: Elizabeth Ross
c/o Social Work Office, Academy Lane, Arbroath

Participants:

Elizabeth Ross	Social Worker
Susan Lessels	Mother
Irene Claffey	Foster Carer
David Lessels	Husband of Susan
Paula Mulford	Link Worker, Family Placement Team
Kate Mearns	Senior Social Worker
Mr and Mrs Ellis	Future Permanent Carers for Stacey
Isobel Swan-Naylor	Social Work Assistant
Peter Pope	Community Assessment and Review Officer, Chair and Minutetaker

Apologies:

Mrs Webster Inverbrothock Primary School

A written report was presented to the meeting from Elizabeth, it should be read in conjunction with this summary.

CARE PLAN AGREED AT MEETING HELD ON 15.01.98

Immediate

"For Stacey to remain with Irene Claffey while a permanent placement is located [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]"

Longer Term

"For Stacey to remain in long term care, [REDACTED]"

PROGRESS WITH TASKS IN SUPPORT OF CARE PLAN

1 "Stacey to stay with Irene, she to care for her".

Irene said Stacey was basically fine, and continuing to prosper. She has been settled in her placement with Irene, and is now coping with the introductions to Mr and Mrs Ellis. It was acknowledged that it had been anxious for all the children, thinking about permanent carers who would look after them all, and it seemed that Stacey had told different things to different adults that were contradictory ... there was a feeling that she may have manipulated situations somewhat, for her own reasons. However, she is aware that the adults have been talking to each other, and are agreed that the way forward for her is towards moving to Mr and Mrs Ellis, [REDACTED]

2 "Stacey to continue to attend school ...".

Irene said she had received a positive school report, Stacey has continued to make progress in her academic subjects. Her teachers feel that once she has a completely settled environment she could make even more progress. There had been some incidents of her falling out with other children, and vice versa, however, this had been dealt with. Stacey does have friends within the school.

When Stacey moves to stay with Mr and Mrs Ellis, she will transfer to Luthermuir Primary School ... she has had an introductory visit there and following this she spoke positively of it. She had wondered about what transport arrangements would be made for her to get to and from the carers' home and school; she did not wish to be responsible for Tammy. People could understand this, Mr and Mrs Ellis are aware of Stacey's wish and will sort out appropriate arrangements for her in the new term.

People could understand Stacey being anxious about starting not only a new placement, but a new school, however, with support from adults whom she can trust people feel she will be able to move forward positively.

PROGRESS WITH TASKS contd

- 3 "Stacey to continue to have regular contact with her mum, and on alternate weeks with her brother and sister".**

As will be seen from Elizabeth's report, this has happened, but the contact was reduced to once every three weeks, and relocated to Polepark. As a result of this change Susan has managed to attend more regularly, the contact is supervised by two Social Work staff, to assist in setting the boundaries which Susan struggles to maintain. The contact usually occurs after school hours, or in holiday periods of an afternoon. Both Susan, David and Stacey enjoy the contact and look forward to it.

- 4 "Irene to continue to ensure that the appropriate medical attention is sought ...".**

This has occurred. Stacey basically enjoys good health. She recently had another eye test and it was found the glasses she has prescribed, are appropriate. She is going to get an orthodontist appointment as treatment may be needed.

LEGAL SITUATION

At the moment Stacey remains on a Supervision Requirement to the Children's Panel. The Social Work plan is that a Parental Responsibilities Order be sought, as it is felt this is a permanent, long term placement when review by the Hearing system is not helpful, creating anxiety for Stacey and others. It is felt that a Parental Responsibilities Order would allow the carers to deal with the day-to-day caring issues more spontaneously and naturally than under the present arrangements, when the adults involved with Stacey and her siblings often get conflicting messages from their mum and other parties.

Susan's view with regard to the Parental Responsibilities Order is that she proposes to contest it when it comes to Court.

CONTACT WITH MR AND MRS ELLIS

Mr and Mrs Ellis have met with Stacey, Susan and David, and Irene. They said they had found Stacey a nice child to meet and look forward to caring for her in the longer term. A first "overnight" is planned in the near future, Stacey has already had both individual and joint visits to the Ellis household.

CARE PLAN (with aimed for timescales)

Immediate

For Stacey to remain with Irene Claffey, prior to moving, on a permanent basis to Mr and Mrs Ellis, in mid July 1998.

Long Term

For Stacey to remain in long term care, with Mr and Mrs Ellis, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

TASKS IN SUPPORT OF CARE PLAN

- 1 Stacey to stay with Irene in the meantime, she to support her re her anxieties about moving to a new home with her brother and sister, and a new school.
- 2 Stacey to transfer to Luthermuir Primary School for the new year, beginning mid August 1998. Her carers and others involved with her to support her during this time of transition and anxiety.
- 3 Stacey to continue to have regular contact with her mum, approximately once every three weeks.
- 4 Stacey to continue to have some contact with Irene after her move.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 3 December 1998 at 3.00 pm, ... location to be decided nearer the time. The Chair suggested that one of the coordinating meetings scheduled shortly after the move could double up as a "transfer in accommodation meeting" ... Elizabeth to discuss this with Tim Armstrong and liaise with Peter Pope as appropriate.

[REDACTED]

Peter Pope
Community Assessment and Review Officer
29 June 1998

Copies to:

All Present
Head Teacher, Luthermuir Primary School
Dougie Dunlop, Service Manager - Children and Families

Angus Council - Social Work Department

CASE REVIEWS - CHILDREN IN CARE

SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT

Name Stacey Leonard

Address c/o Irene Claffey, 49 Millfield Road, Arbroath

DOB 28.04.88 URN _____

Date of Last Review or Case Conference 15.01.98

Date of Last Medical Inspection May 1998

Date of Last School Report May 1998

Date of Last Financial Assessment (Form F8) Nov 1995

Please include comments under the following headings:-

Pen. picture of the child (including interests as well as physical and emotional attributes):

Stacey has short straight light brown hair and brown eyes. She is of slim build and is petite. She has a squint in her left eye and wears glasses. She is always neat and tidy and is very particular about her appearance. She is fairly independent in terms of personal hygiene and self help skills and likes to help with chores etc.

She presents as shy and serious but is sociable and more outgoing with those familiar to her. She is always neat and tidy and is very particular about her appearance. Stacey is emotionally very vulnerable and will complain of various physical ailments when worried or anxious.

Summary of Work done since last Review (including frequency of visits):

_____ were precognosed and cited to appear in Dundee High Court to give evidence in the case of their maternal step grandfather Thomas Leonard. The sitting was held in Dundee on 9 March, 1998. _____ were cited to appear on 12th, 17th and then 19th March however the case was continued and a new sitting was arranged for 6th April at Edinburgh High Court.

Mr Leonard committed suicide on 6th April prior to his Court appearance. [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] children have required a high level of support throughout this period. They are aware that their step-grandfather is dead and all three children have displayed a range of emotions in relation to this. [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED]

The children were presented to the Adoption and Fostering Panel in May and November, 1997, the recommendation being that the children were in need of permanence and that they should be placed together as a sibling group. The children were matched with the Elliss family in May, 1998 and introductions have begun. Tim Armstong has been appointed Coordinator.

Parental Responsibilities Report have now been lodged at Arbroath Sheriff Court and Mrs Sandra Sutherland has been appointed as Curator ad Litem for the children. The case was called on 16th June and a further date has been set for 17th July. Mrs Lessels is to oppose the Petitions.

Regular meetings have taken place with the children and discussions have focused on past, present and future placements. Issues such as their grandfather's death has also been discussed with them.

A review of the children's supervision requirement has been requested.

Suitability of Placement (does it meet the child's needs? What are his views?):

Stacey has established relationships Irene and her extended family as well as in the local community. She remains fairly settled in placement and is not presenting with any behaviour difficulties. There are times when she seeks out a high level of emotional support from her carer which includes lots of physical contact.

Irene has had several short-term placements over the past few months and overall Stacey has coped well with this. Irene was also due to be hospitalised in April and arrangements were made for Stacey to stay with the [REDACTED] family for a week. Although this was not required, again Stacey coped well with the uncertainties which were around.

Stacey attends Highland Dancing and the Brownies. She is enthusiastic about both activities but is doing particularly well in her dancing. She recently won a Gold medal at Forfar Highland Games.

Irene notes that Stacey has consistently told her and members of the teaching staff that she wants to remain in Irene's care and ideally Stacey would like her siblings to be placed with her in her current placement. Stacey has been made aware that Irene would not be able to accommodate either sibling or both on a permanent basis. Irene has requested that she be considered as a permanent carer in respect of Stacey however whilst it is acknowledged that

Stacey has strong attachments with Irene and her family the department's view is that attempts should be made to place Stacey with her siblings in a permanent placement.

Stacey has expressed the view to social workers that all three children should be placed with the same family but is unsure if this will work out for them. However she has been able to express these concerns without ruling out the possibility of them being placed together.

Stacey has told Irene that she feels 'bullied' by workers and that workers are not listening to her. Stacey has also shared these feelings with members of the school staff. Workers on the other hand feel that Stacey has been able to make her opinions and feelings known and that she is an eager participant in discussions. The children's hopes, fears and anxieties have been recorded as was the agreement reached with them.

Stacey requested a meeting with the Children's Right's Office and I am led to believe that she has had several meetings with Monica Hodgkinson.

Stacey has been very positive about the introduction to the Elliss family. She has been eager to get information about them, see pictures of them and visit them. She has spent individual time with Rod and Sue Elliss and their family as well as joint visits with her siblings. Stacey is very positive about the prospect of moving to this family. Irene has supported Stacey through the introductions.

School Report (facts about attainment and potential. Also any behavioural or relationship difficulties

Stacey attends Inverbrothock Primary School and is in her fifth year of primary education. She is very positive and enthusiastic about school and is making good progress. She has a network of support with both adults and peers. It is envisaged that Stacey will transfer to Luthermuir Primary in August and an introductory visit has been arranged for her to meet teachers and pupils prior to the end of term.

Health (date of last medical and details of any treatment in addition to description of Health):

Stacey has attended outpatients for a vaginal discharge and lumps on her neck and breast and has had recurrent ear infections. Doctors have no concerns about either the discharge or lumps. There have been various occasions where her complaints of being unwell are thought to be attention seeking in nature.

Contact with natural parents (current home situation/parent's views re future):

Prior to Christmas 1997 contact between mother and children took place fortnightly and was held at Arbroath Child and Family Centre. This was reduced to every third week and the venue changed to Polepark Family Counselling Centre in Dundee. There were various reasons for this change, most notably Mrs Lessels' poor attendance. Mrs Lessels would contact the Department stating that she was unable to attend because of illness and as the Court case in respect of Thomas Leonard approached, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mrs Lessels was in agreement with the decision to change contact and her commitment to maintaining contact with the children has improved considerably since the Christmas holidays. Mr Lessels [REDACTED] attends for most of the contact sessions.

Contact continues to be supervised as Mrs Lessels needs assistance to manage all three children. There are times when Mrs Lessels is unable to respond to the children's needs eg setting rules and boundaries, offering appropriate explanations.

The children are keen to maintain contact with their mother and look forward to seeing her and spending time together. Members of their extended family have been invited to attend contact on special occasion eg. birthdays teas.

Prior to the Easter holidays all three children were having contact with each other every second weekend and this was facilitated by the children's carers. The purpose of this contact is to give the children opportunities to develop their relationships with each other.

Carers note that the children looked forward to and enjoyed the contact they have with one another. The children are fairly positive about contact and have expressed the view that they would like to see each other more often.

[REDACTED]
Stacey has occasionally presented with attention-seeking behaviour during contact eg she has sought adult attention by claiming to be unwell. Attempts by carers to try to cajole her out of this has met with limited success.

Parental Contributions:**Work Undertaken****Conclusion**

The children have been faced with a level of uncertainty about their future for some considerable time. They have all been fairly settled in their current placements and have expressed various anxieties about moving on from the security of these placements. Given the children's uncertainties, the introduction process has been carefully planned to take account of the various issues which are around for them. The children have now been introduced to the Elliss family and have had several visits to their home both individually and as a sibling group. All three children have been fairly excited and positive about moving on and their fears and anxieties have lessened as the introductions have progressed.

There is no doubt that all three children have a degree of uncertainty about their future however they are all committed to and looking forward to moving together to live with the Elliss family.

The process of introductions will continue and will involve providing opportunities for the children to build up their relationships with members of the Elliss family as well as each other. During the school holidays the children will spend increasing periods of time with the Elliss family in preparation for them moving on. The plan would be to work towards the children transferring placements the week beginning the 20th July.

The children's legal future remains uncertain and they will remain in the Hearing System until the Petitions in respect of the Parental Responsibilities Order have been considered by the Court.

The Social Work Department will continue to facilitate contact between the children and their birth family.



Elizabeth Ross
Social Worker

25 June 1998
ER/ZD

Angus Council - Social Work Department

SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT TO CHILDREN'S REPORTER/HEARING

PART I - BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Report No: 250/98
Compiled by: Elizabeth Ross
Title: Social Worker
Address: Dewar House,
Academy Lane,
ARBROATH.

CHILD DETAILS

Surname: LEONARD **D.O.B:** 20.04.88
Forenames: Stacey **Known as:**
Address: c/o Irene Claffey, 49 Millfield **current address if different**
Road, Arbroath

School/work: Maisondieu Primary School, Brechin
Legal statute: Section 70(1) Children (Scotland) Act 1995
Grounds of referral: 73(4)(a) Children (Scotland) Act 1995 - Review requested
by Social Worker

Basis of report (state how the report was compiled):

Ongoing involvement as the children's Social Worker since November 1994.
Access to Social Work files.

PART II HISTORICAL SUMMARY (This provides merely a historical perspective to the case, this is not a full report).

A summary of the Social Work Department's involvement in the past (include why, when and for how long and outcome of involvement) and summary of the progress of the child's case to date (include personal history, relevant past events, health, development, school, social contacts and relationships).

[REDACTED]

It would appear that the family lived a fairly chaotic lifestyle in which the boundaries and routines were loose and inconsistent. The house was unkempt and the standards of care were low. Both the Police and Social Work Department received various complaints that the children were ill treated and neglected.

In June 1991 there were allegations that the children were dirty and neglected. The Police investigated, but took no further action and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] There was a further anonymous referral in December about the poor conditions within the house and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Social Work Department undertook several Child Protection Investigations following allegations of neglect in April, May and August 1993 and March and April 1994.

In March 1994 Thomas Leonard was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment [REDACTED]

During Thomas Leonard's period of imprisonment, Susan and the three children remained at Lamely Terrace. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Concerns emerged around the material standards in the house, the parenting of the children, and the level of Susan's emotional health. Susan's ability to cope with the family situation continued to deteriorate and in October 1994 she was admitted to Sunnyside Hospital [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] were received into care.

Immediately prior to the children's reception into care, Carol Leonard made allegations that the children were being physically abused by a male adult who was living with the family. This adult and his associates who frequented the house were assaulting the children by way of martial arts practices and weapons. This adult was charged with numerous counts of assault against [REDACTED] Susan's children.

The children remained in care for some three weeks during Susan's admission to hospital and were returned to their mother's care at the beginning of November 1994. The children's names were placed on the Child Protection Register.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The result [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] put pressure on Susan to leave the house. During the following weekend, the situation with the family came to a crisis and resulted in the three children coming into care on Place of Safety Orders, Susan having been considered to have abandoned the children. The children were placed with Mr and Mrs McConnachie in Glen Clova with Susan having gone to live in Kennoway, to her mother's home.

Following their admission into care, Susan was reluctant to have contact with them. Contact was however re-established and her intention was to resume their care as soon as she found suitable accommodation. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

At the beginning of 1995 and despite struggling with access, Susan continued to express a wish to be re-united with the children. There was extensive negotiation with Kirkcaldy District Council in a failed attempt to re-house Susan in Fife. Her application under the Mobility Scheme was rejected and Kirkcaldy District Council were unwilling to consider her under the Homeless Person's Act. Eventually Angus Council agreed to house Susan in an unsecured tenancy at the Homeless Person's Unit in Forfar. From there, a plan was agreed with Susan to test out prospects of rehabilitation.

When Susan moved to Forfar, she re-established contact with [REDACTED] and some two weeks into the rehabilitation programme, she went to Cheltenham for a week to visit David Lessels. In light of her failure to comply with the Housing agreement - [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - her tenancy was withdrawn in May.

Throughout this period Susan was unable to demonstrate any commitment to working towards resuming the full time care of the children. She did not stay in the house in Forfar during the agreed time, there was various occasions when she was not at the tenancy when the children went for access and she was not attending for meetings with the Social Work Department. At a Child in Care Review Meeting which was held on 25/05/94, Susan requested that permanent carers be found for the children [REDACTED]

Later that month, Susan decided that she wished to further pursue the rehabilitation of the children back to her care. Negotiations with Angus Council produced the offer of a temporary tenancy, however Susan refused to take this up, preferring instead to live either in Cheltenham or in Kennoway.

Susan continued to have access with the children and she managed to secure a tenancy through Fife District Council in September 1995, but did not move into the house until after her marriage to David Lessels in November 1995. A further attempt at rehabilitation commenced on in November 1995 and involved parenting sessions, life history work with Susan, family work with Susan and the children and a build up of contact in Kennoway.

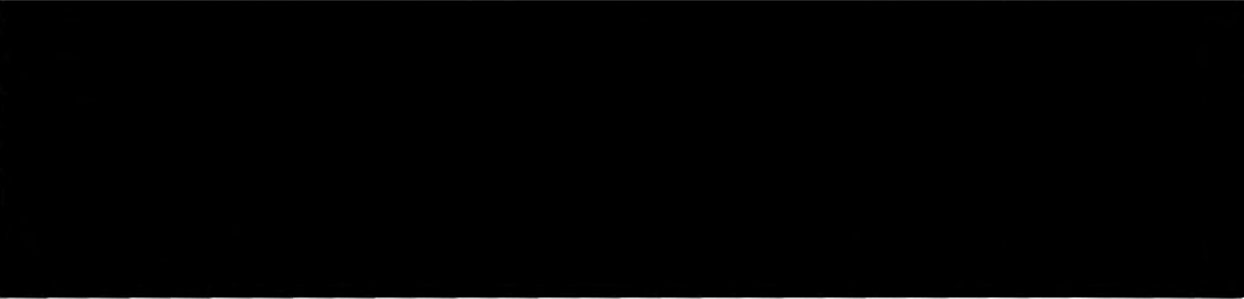
[REDACTED]

In general, Susan was struggling with the efforts to return the children to her care. Whilst she was able to meet the children's basic needs, she had difficulty in recognising and responding to their emotional needs. Over the weeks of the assessment, the workers became increasingly concerned about Susan's ability to manage the children, her ability and commitment to protect them and keep them safe, and her lack of commitment to working with the Social Work Department.

In light of the ever increasing concerns, it was decided to suspend rehabilitation efforts and the decision was taken at a Child in Care Review on 12/06/96 not to make a further effort to return the children to their mother's care, but to follow a plan of permanency. The decision was also taken in light of discussion with the children, and the acknowledgement of their [REDACTED] wish to return to their mother, alongside their consistent experience of fears and anxieties about the result of such a return to their mother's care.

This matter was discussed at a Children's Hearing on 13/08/96 where the decision not to attempt further rehabilitation was endorsed. Susan lodged an appeal against this decision which was dismissed in September 1996. Susan has been offered regular contact with the children since that time.

[REDACTED]



siblings were presented to the Council's Adoption and Fostering Panel in May 1997. Their recommendation and the decision of the Council's Agency Decision Maker is that the children are in need of permanent care, that it would not be in their interest for a further attempt at rehabilitation to their mother's care and that their needs would be best met by the Council pursuing Parental Responsibilities Orders in respect of them.

A Children's Hearing to give advice to the Court in respect of this application was held in October 1997 and the Hearing endorsed the Social Work Department's recommendation.

PART III CURRENT SOCIAL WORK REPORT

1. Family composition, including significant others (factual information only):

Susan Lessels - Mother	26 Seton Terrace, Kennoway, Fife
David Lessels - Mother's Husband	26 Seton Terrace, Kennoway, Fife

[REDACTED]

Stacey Louise Leonard - Subject	c/o Irene Claffey, 49 Millfield Rd, Arbroath
--	---

[REDACTED]

2. Assessment

Stacey

Stacey was placed with Mrs Claffey in June, 1995 and she has established relationships with the foster family and in the local community.

Stacey remains fairly settled in placement and is not presenting with any behaviour difficulties. There are times when she seeks out a high level of emotional support from her carer which includes lots of physical contact. Stacey attends Highland Dancing and the Brownies. She is enthusiastic about both activities, but is doing particularly well in her dancing. She recently won a Gold medal at Forfar Highland Games. Stacey has attended outpatients for a vaginal discharge and lumps on her neck and breast and has had recurrent ear infections. Doctors have no concerns about either the discharge or lumps. Stacey appears to be fairly preoccupied with her health and complains of various illnesses. There have been various occasions where her complaints of being unwell are thought to be attention-seeking in nature.

School

Stacey attends Inverbrothock Primary School and is in her fifth year of primary education. She is very positive and enthusiastic about school and is making good progress. She has a network of support with both adults and peers. It is envisaged that Stacey will transfer to Luthermuir Primary in August and an introductory visit has been arranged for her to meet teachers and pupils prior to the end of term.

Contact

Prior to Christmas, 1997 contact between mother and children took place fortnightly and was held at Arbroath Child and Family Centre. This was reduced to every third week and the venue changed to Polepark Family Counselling Centre in Dundee. There were various reasons for this change, most notably Mrs Lessel's poor attendance. Mrs Lessels would contact the Department stating that she was unable to attend because of illness and as the Court case in respect of Thomas Leonard approached, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mrs Lessels was in agreement with the decision to change contact and her commitment to maintaining contact with the children has improved considerably since the Christmas holidays. Mr Lessels [REDACTED] and attends for most of the contact sessions.

Contact continues to be supervised as Mrs Lessels needs assistance to manage all three children. There are times when Mr Lessels is unable to respond to the children's needs eg setting rules and boundaries, offering appropriate explanations.

The children are keen to maintain contact with their mother and look forward to seeing her and spending time together. Members of their extended family have been invited to attend contact on special occasions eg birthdays, teas.

Prior to the Easter holidays all three children were having contact with each other every second weekend and this was facilitated by the children's carers. The purpose of this contact is to give the children opportunities to develop their relationships with each other.

Carers note that the children looked forward to and enjoyed the contact they have with one another. The children are fairly positive about contact and have expressed the view that they would like to see each other more often.

[REDACTED]

Stacey has occasionally presented with attention seeking behaviour during contact eg. She has sought adult attention by claiming to be unwell. Attempts by carers to try to cajole her out of this has met with limited success.

[REDACTED]



Court

The three children were precognosed and cited to appear in Dundee High Court to give evidence in the case of their maternal step grandfather Thomas Leonard. The sitting was held in Dundee on 9 March, 1998 and the children were cited to appear on 12th, 17th and then 19th March however the case was continued and a new sitting was arranged for 6th April at Edinburgh High Court.

Mr Leonard committed suicide on 6th April prior to his Court appearance. All three children have required a high level of support throughout this period. They are aware that their step grandfather is dead and all three children have displayed a range of emotions in relation to this.

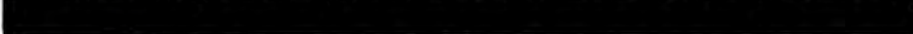


Plans for permanence in respect to the children

The children were presented to the Adoption and Fostering Panel in May, 1997 the recommendation being that the children were in need of permanence and that they should be placed together as a sibling group.

A further review in November, 1997 recommended that the children remain on the permanence register and that efforts should be made to place them together as a family group. Two families expressed an interest in being assessed as permanent carers for the three children and both underwent a full assessment and were presented to the Adoption and Fostering Panel in May, 1998. The children were matched with the Elliss family at the following Panel.

Parental Responsibilities Orders are being sought in terms of Section 86(2)(b)(iii) of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 in relation to Susan Lessels 

 Whilst Mrs Lessels has previously stated her intention was to oppose this, as it was her belief that it would be in the children's best interests to return to her care. She has recently stated that she is in agreement with the Social Work Department's plan to secure the children's future with permanent substitute carers and that she would not oppose the Council's application for Parental Responsibilities Orders in respect of the children. It would seem however that Mrs Lessels has reconsidered her position and I am led to believe that she intends on opposing the petition. I am unclear about the nature of her opposition at this time.

In respect to the permanent family, Mrs Lessels has said that she is happy that a placement has been identified which can accommodate all three children. The children have also made their feelings known to their mother in respect of moving to this family.

Parental Responsibilities Order Report have now been lodged at Arbroath Sheriff Court and Mrs Sandra Sutherland has been appointed as Curator ad Litem for the children. The case was called on 16th June and a further date has been set for 17th July.

The children's views in relation to future placements

Discussion with the children in relation to permanent placements have been ongoing. The children have taken the opportunity to discuss their thoughts and feelings with their carers as well as social workers.

Stacey has stated that she believes her mother is unable to look after her and keep her safe. She has expressed the view to social workers that all three children should be placed with the same family but is unsure if this will work out for them. However she has been able to express these concerns without ruling out the possibility of them being placed together.

Mrs Irene Claffey notes that Stacey has consistently told her that she wants to remain in her care and ideally Stacey would like her siblings to be placed with her in her current placement. Stacey has been made aware that Irene would not be able to accommodate either sibling or both on a permanent basis. Irene has requested that she be considered as a permanent carer in respect of Stacey. Whilst it is acknowledged that Stacey has made attachments with her current carer and family the Department's view was that attempts should be made to place Stacey with her siblings in a permanent placement.

Stacey has been very positive about the introduction to the Elliss family. She has been eager to get information about them, see pictures of them and visit them. She has spent individual time with the carers and their family as well as joint visits with his siblings. Stacey is very positive about the prospect of moving to this family with her siblings although she has some anxieties about this.

Stacey has had individual periods of time with her carers and their family as well as joint visits with her siblings. As well as her current carers offering a high level of support, social workers involved with the children are also meeting with them on a regular basis to address issues in relation to their past, present and future placements.

The timetable of introductions in respect of the permanent family has included:

08.06.98

Co-ordination meeting including senior social work management, social workers and carers.

09.06.98

Social workers met with children to talk about permanent family, (ie, Elliss family) look at photographs, share hopes, fears and anxieties, question and answer session.

Feedback meeting between workers, children and their current carers.

10.06.98

Meeting with Susan and David Lessels to discuss permanent family.

11.06.98

Children visit Rod and Sue Elliss with their current carers and workers.

12.06.98

15.06.98

Susan and David Lessels visit Rod and Sue at their home. Rod and Sue visit Stacey and carer in current placement.

17.06.98

Three children have tea with the Elliss family

18.06.98

Coordination meeting involving workers and carers.

Workers meet with children to discuss issues relating to moving on.

Meeting with Luthermuir Primary School re Stacey

20.06.98

Stacey spends the day with the Elliss family.

21.06.98

22.06.98

24.06.98

Stacey visit Luthermuir Primary School and spend the day with the Elliss family.

25.06.98

Three children have tea with the Elliss family.

27 - 28.06.98

Stacey spend overnight with the Elliss family.

29.06.98

Workers meet with children to discuss issues relating to moving on.

01.07.98

Coordination meeting involving workers and carers.

The next stages will involve continuing to provide opportunities for the children to build up their relationships with members of the Elliss family as well as each other. During the school holidays the children will spend increasing periods of time with the Elliss family in preparation for them moving on. The plan would be to work towards the children transferring placements the week beginning the 20th July.

Conclusion

The children were initially received into care in October, 1994 and following three attempts to return them to their mother's care, the decision was taken to secure their future with permanent substitute carers. The Children's Hearing have endorsed the plan for permanence in respect of the children. Over the past six months two families have been assessed as permanent carers for the children and at the Adoption and Fostering Panel held in May, 1998, the Ellis family were identified as the family most able to meet the needs of the children both individually and as a sibling group.

The children have been faced with a level of uncertainty about their future for some considerable time. They have all been fairly settled in their current placements and have expressed various anxieties about moving on from the security of these placements. Given the children's uncertainties, the introduction process has been carefully planned and has taken account of the various issues which are around for the children.

The children have now been introduced to the Ellis family and have had several visits to their home both individually and as a sibling group. All three children have been very excited and positive about moving on and their fears and anxieties have lessened as the introductions have progressed. There is no doubt that all three children have a degree of uncertainty about their future however they are all committed to and looking forward to moving together to live with the Ellis family.

Recommendation

The children's legal future remains uncertain at this time and they continue to require compulsory measures of care. However I would request that a Hearing is called to review the current Supervision Order in order that consideration can be given to placing [REDACTED] siblings with the Ellis family.

Report signed by: [REDACTED]
ELIZABETH ROSS - SOCIAL WORKER

Date:
26 June 1998

NOTES:

- The contents of this report are subject to the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Amendment Rules 1996. A copy of this report will be provided to the parents of the child.
- The compiler of this report will be invited to attend any Hearing which may be arranged, and may, in certain circumstances, be required to give evidence in Court.
- In the event of an Appeal, the report will be lodged with the Court and the compiler may be cited to speak to the contents.
- The attention of those entitled to read this report is drawn to the copyright on the contents held by Angus Council Social Work Department.

ER/ZD
24 June 1998



SCOTTISH
CHILDREN'S REPORTER
ADMINISTRATION

CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995

FORM 1A

Notice about Child referred to the Children's Reporter to: ELIZABETH ROSS, SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT, ARBROATH

SURNAME LEONARD FORENAME(S) STACEY
DATE OF BIRTH 20.04.88 AGE 10 SCHOOL INVERBROTHOCK PRIMARY
HOME ADDRESS _____
PRESENT ADDRESS c/o CLAFFEY, 49 MILLFIELD ROAD, ARBROATH
SOCIAL WORK AREA ARBROATH SOCIAL WORKER ELIZABETH ROSS

REPORTER'S REFERENCE NO -
(PLEASE QUOTE IN ALL
COMMUNICATIONS)

A.194

REFERRAL NO:

10

P.I. NO.:

/

DATED 30.06.98

STATS I NO: 940990910

REASON FOR REFERRAL: Section 73(4) - Review requested by Social Worker

☐ Thank you for your report/referral _____ dated _____

INFORMATION REQUESTED:

☐ Please give more information as specified in the attached note.
☐ I would be grateful for a report to assist me and any Hearing which may be convened for this child.
☐ Please submit the report by: _____
☐ NOTE: _____

HEARING:

☒ Please supply a report as necessary to assist the Hearing by 8 July 1998
☒ I have arranged a Hearing on Thursday 16 July 1998 at 10.00 am
at Keith House, 50 East Abbey Street, Arbroath
☒ You or a representative who knows the child are expected to attend the Hearing
☐ Please supply appropriate information about the placement and/or consider whether or not you wish to invite foster carers to attend
Please note that the relevant persons in the child's case are entitled to receive copies of reports sent to panel members.

RESULT

☐ I am taking no further action/and have asked the Police to warn the child.
☐ I am referring the case to the Local Authority to offer advice, guidance and assistance on a voluntary basis

THE HEARING DECIDED

☐ To Discharge the referral on _____
☐ To apply to the Sheriff for proof of the Grounds under Section _____ on _____
☐ To continue the case arranged above, from _____
☐ To issue a Supervision Requirement under Section _____ on _____
☐ To continue the existing Supervision Requirement under Section _____ on _____
☐ To vary the Supervision Requirement from Section _____ to Section _____ on _____
☐ To terminate the Supervision Requirement on _____
☐ As a result of the Requirement/decision, the child is required to live at: _____

☐ NOTE: _____
☐ Enclosures: _____

Signed: _____ ADDRESS OF REPORTER: Children's Reporter for Angus
Keith House, 50 East Abbey Street,
ARBROATH DD11 1EW
Telephone (01241) 873194
Dated: 1 July 1998

AP

SCOTTISH CHILDREN'S REPORTER ADMINISTRATION

CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995

REG
REP

Notice about Child referred to the Children's Reporter to: SCWSurname LEONARD Forename(s) STACEYDate of Birth 20.04.88 Age 10 School INVERBROTHOCK PRIMARY

Home Address

Present Address 10 CLAFFEY, 49 MILLFIELD ROAD, ARBROATHSocial Work Area ARBROATH Social Worker ELIZABETH ROSSReporter's Reference No. A.194 Referral No. 10 P.I. No. /
(PLEASE QUOTE IN ALL COMMUNICATIONS)Dated 30.06.98 STATS I NO: 940990910Reason for Referral SECTION 73(4) - REVIEW REQUESTED BY SOCIAL WORKER☐ Thank you for your report/referral Dated

INFORMATION REQUESTED:

- ☐ Please give more information as specified in the attached note.
- ☐ I would be grateful for a report to assist me and any Hearing which may be convened for this child.
- ☐ Please submit the report by
- ☐ NOTE:

HEARING

- ☐ Please supply a report to assist the Hearing by
- ☐ I have arranged a Hearing on at am/pm
- ☐ You or a representative who knows the child is invited to attend the Hearing
- ☐ Please supply appropriate information about the placement and/or consider whether or not you wish to invite foster carers to attend
- Please note that the relevant persons in the child's case are entitled to receive copies of reports sent to panel members.

RESULT

- ☐ I am taking no further action/and have asked the Police to warn the child.
- ☐ I am referring the case to the Local Authority to offer advice, guidance and assistance on a voluntary basis.

THE HEARING DECIDED

- ☐ To Discharge the referral on
- ☐ To apply to the Sheriff for proof of the Grounds Section on
- ☐ To continue the case arranged above, from
- ☐ To issue a Supervision Requirement under Section on
- ☐ To continue the existing Supervision Requirement under Section on
- ☒ To vary the Supervision Requirement from Section 73(4)(e) to Section 73(4)(e) on 16/7/98
NEW PLACE WITH CONDITIONS
- ☒ To terminate the Supervision Requirement on
- ☒ As a result of the Requirement decision, the child is required to live at: % ELISS, MEARNS VIEW
CHURCH ROAD, LUTHERMURE (From 20/07/98)
- ☐ Enclosures

Signed: [Signature]

ADDRESS OF REPORTER:

Dated: 16 July 1998

Keith House,
East Abbey Street
Arbroath. DD11 1EW

CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

CONTINUATION UNDER SECTION 73(9)(e) OF THE ACT OF SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT

16.7.98

Children's Hearing Centre
Keith House
50 East Abbey Street
ARBROATH DD11 1EW

A children's hearing for Angus, considering the case of STACEY LEONARD (28.4.88)
of c/o Ellis, Mearns View, Church Road, Luthermuir
and the supervision requirement (a copy of which is attached), and in exercise of its powers
under section 73(9)(e) of the Act, continues the said requirement (~~in force~~)(subject to the
variations of that requirement noted below)(~~with the insertions in the requirement noted~~
~~below~~)

~~(The children's hearing in varying/imposing a requirement order that the place where~~
~~is to reside shall not be disclosed to~~

VARIATIONS/INSERTIONS REFERRED TO:

1. The child shall comply with directions given by the Supervising Social Worker.
2. The child shall reside in a named place, namely: c/o Ellis, Mearns View, Church Road, Luthermuir.
3. The requirement to reside is subject to the discretion of the supervising Social Worker to grant leave of absence from time to time to enable the child to take part in approved activities.
4. ~~At the discretion of the supervising Social Worker, the child may have overnight contact with~~
- 5.4 The child's contact with her mother, Mrs Lessels,
~~may be/shall be supervised by the Social Work Department or its agents (at the discretion of the supervising Social Worker.~~
- 5.5 The child shall have no contact with Mr. Carol Leonard (aunt)
- 6 Subject to the discretion of the supervising Social Worker and with the agreement of the child/relevant person, the child may have respite care with other carers approved by the Social Work Department in terms of the Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1996.
7. This requirement comes into effect on the 20th July, 1998.

J. Weir

Chairman of the Children's Hearing

The Children's Hearing made the decision(s) for the following reasons:

The hearing made a unanimous decision to vary the children's supervision requirement, naming Mr + Mrs Ellis. The reasons being:

- 1) There is an intensive programme in place for the children regarding re-introduction to each other. Each child has been dealt with on an individual basis by their present carers which allowed a positive move to occur.
- 2) Contact will remain between all children and their present carers during the settling period.
- 3) All children have fears as it has been a long time since they lived as a family although they have maintained regular contact during this time. The main fear being the placement breaking down - although all are cautious they want to try living together.
- 4) Schools have been identified.
- 5) Mr + Mrs Ellis are aware of all previous difficulties and are committed towards the children's future life together. Mr + Mrs Ellis are fully aware of who to contact for support should the need arise.
- 6) It was strongly felt by all that the children although having had stability in their present placements, need/deserve the chance to be a family unit, which Mr + Mrs Ellis can provide, ensuring love, care + consistency and security whilst maintaining + developing family relationships.

A safeguarder was considered not required as there is a high level of support in the children's lives and all made their views known.

Condition - Respite at Social Work discretion for each child.

No contact - Miss Leonard (aunt) as previous hearing.

Supervised contact, Mrs Lessels (mum) at SW discretion.

Dispensed with Mrs Lessels as she was on holiday, happy for hearing to go on.

(Continue overleaf if necessary)

(Signed)

(Chairman)

(Date)

16/7/95.

Angus Council - Social Work Department

CASE REVIEWS - CHILDREN IN CARE

SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT

Name Stacey Leonard

Address Mearnsview, Church Road, Luthermuir, Aberdeenshire

DOB 28.04.88

URN

Date of Last Review or Case Conference 25.06.98

Date of Last Medical Inspection May 1998

Date of Last School Report May 1998

Date of Last Financial Assessment (Form F8) Nov 1995

Please include comments under the following headings:-

Pen picture of the child (including interests as well as physical and emotional attributes):

Stacey has short straight light brown hair and brown eyes. She is of slim build and is petite. She has a squint in her left eye and wears glasses. She presents as neat and tidy and is particular about her appearance. Stacey is fairly independent in terms of personal hygiene and self help skills.

She presents as anxious and shy but is more open and sociable with those familiar to her. She can be physically affectionate and seeks out adult contact.

Stacey is emotionally very vulnerable and will sulk, huff and complain of various physical ailments when worried or anxious. Stacey struggles to take responsibility for her behaviour and there are times when she will try to minimise or blame others for misdemeanours. She likes to please and does not present with any significant management difficulties in placement. She requires lots of encouragement and reassurance when faced with new situations.

Stacey is planning to join the Montrose School of Dancing having left her previous dancing school when she left Arbroath.

Summary of Work done since last Review (including frequency of visits):

Introductions to the Ellis family continued throughout June and July. The Children's Hearing reviewed their supervision order on 16 July and the children moved to live with the Ellis family on 20 July. The children had introductory visits to their new schools in preparation for the new term in August.

The Council are pursuing Parental Responsibilities Orders in respect of the three children. The case was heard on 16 June, 17 June and a further date set for 12 November. [REDACTED]

The children continue to have supervised contact with their mother. David Lessels attends occasionally and extended family members are invited on special occasions, eg, birthdays.

I have maintained regular contact with the children which has included visits to the placement as well as supervising contact. Group sessions have also been undertaken with the children.

Suitability of Placement (does it meet the child's needs? What are his views?):

Stacey had a long standing relationship with her previous carer and was uncertain about leaving the stability and security of this placement. There was some concern about whether or not she would make attachments to this new family. Once introductions to the Ellis family began Stacey was very enthusiastic and committed to the placement. She has settled in well and is making positive attachments with her carers.

With regards to the other children in placement, she gets on well with the older children [REDACTED]

Stacey is given a greater degree of independence in this placement, eg, more opportunities for unsupervised contact with her peers. With more freedom comes choices and consequences and she is testing out boundaries. The carers are very supportive and encouraging in helping Stacey become more independent but within age appropriate limits.

School Report (facts about attainment and potential. Also any behavioural or relationship difficulties):

Stacey started at Luthermuir School in August. She appears to be taking some time to settle in school however she maintains a fairly positive attitude toward her schooling. She has been experiencing some difficulties with other girls in the village who are also at school. Stacey is aware of supports available to help her manage this.

Health (date of last medical and details of any treatment in addition to description of Health):

Stacey has kept in good health and there have been no health related issues since transferring placements. She was taken to casualty for a check up following an incident where she fell off her bike, however there were no significant injuries.

Contact with natural parents (current home situation/parent's views re future):

Mrs Lessels moved to Luton, England in August and this appears to be a permanent move for both herself and Mr Lessels. Contact has taken place every three weeks and continues to be supervised by two members of staff. During school term contact is for two hours duration and is extended during holiday periods. Mrs Lessels has attended for all contact sessions since the last review meeting.

All three children display a range of difficult and challenging behaviours during contact and there are times when this is a very stressful experience for all concerned. Regular discussions have taken place with Mrs Lessels and the children to try to identify ways of improving contact however this has met with limited success.

All three children have stated that they want to continue to have contact with Mrs Lessels and although they state that they enjoy this experience their behaviour during contact clearly suggests that this is not the case. Mrs Lessels is aware of the difficulties but like the children she is keen for the present arrangement to continue.

Whilst I believe that it is in the children's interest to continue to have contact with their mother and significant others, I do not believe that the present arrangement is providing a positive experience for the children or Mrs Lessels.

Parental Contributions:

Social Worker's views re future action (indicating why any changes 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.

The plan is for the three children to remain with Mr and Mrs Ellis on a permanent basis. All three children appear to have settled in placement and I believe that their needs are being met by this family.

This placement is still fairly new and the children and family are still in the process of getting to know one another, and establishing routines and structures. The renovations to the house have now been started and there is a level of upheaval within the house.

The main priority over the next few months is for the children to continue the process of establishing themselves within the family. Given the many difficult experiences the children have been subjected to during their early childhood, it may be that individually or as a group they may need some form of counselling to address unresolved issues. I would suggest that consideration is given about how best to tackle such issues as and when they arise.

The children will remain in the Children's Hearing system until a decision in respect of the Parental Responsibilities Order has been made.

We will continue to facilitate contact between the children and Mrs Lessels however I believe that we need to review the current arrangements and work towards contact being a more positive experience for the individuals involved.

Name of Social Worker:

Date: 22 October 1998

MINUTES OF MEETING TO CONSIDER PROGRESS OF PERMANENT
PLACEMENT OF [REDACTED] STACEY [REDACTED] LEONARD HELD ON
MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER AT 11.30am AT ACADEMY LANE, ARBROATH

PRESENT

Tim Armstrong	Assistant Principal Officer - Placement Co-ordinator
Paula Mulford	Resource Worker
Elizabeth Ross	Social Worker
Sue Ellis	Carer
Rod Ellis	Carer

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the meeting was to review the permanent placement of [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] Leonard with Mr and Mrs Ellis with a view to determining the stability of the placement prior to [REDACTED]

Tim Armstrong opened the meeting by reviewing the circumstances which lead to the children's placement and the matching process that had been undertaken. As part of the co-ordinating process five meetings had taken place on 8 June, 18 June, 1 July, 14 July and 23 July. [REDACTED] Stacey moved to live with Mr & Mrs Ellis on Monday 20 July.

CHILDREN'S PROGRESS IN PLACEMENT

Mr & Mrs Ellis summarised their view of the children's progress in placement to date. It was stated that the children had settled better than they had initially expected although they did note that the honeymoon period was certainly over and that they now felt they were dealing with situations that represented what everyday life with the children would be like.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Stacey

Mr and Mrs Ellis noted that Stacey had settled into the household fairly well although out of the three children has found it most difficult. She has found it strange living with a new family and living with her siblings again and has missed her previous carer.

Stacey can present as an emotionally vulnerable child and will sulk, huff and complain of various physical ailments when worried or anxious. She can be physically affectionate and seeks out adult contact. She appears to have settled in well and is making positive attachments with her carers.

Stacey is being given a greater degree of independence in this current placement. With more freedom comes choices and consequence where she is testing her boundaries. Her carers are very supportive and are encouraging Stacey to become more independent but within appropriate limits.

Stacey does have some difficulties at times relating to her siblings whom she tries to take a controlling and protective attitude towards. This can result in a degree of conflict and squabbles.

No issues are noted in respect of Stacey's education or health.

THE CHILDREN'S CONTACT WITH MOTHER

The children currently have contact with their birth mother on a 3 weekly basis. From a workers point of view contact can be difficult for the children who become very aggressive, non compliant etc. However the children see it as good and wish it to continue. It is noted that previously the children had an investment in contact in that they also saw each other as a sibling group where as now all three of the children tend to fight for their mothers attention.

CONTACT WITH PREVIOUS CARERS

All three of the children have contact with their previous carers. This contact appears on the whole to be positive and beneficial for the children.

THE CHILDREN'S VIEWS

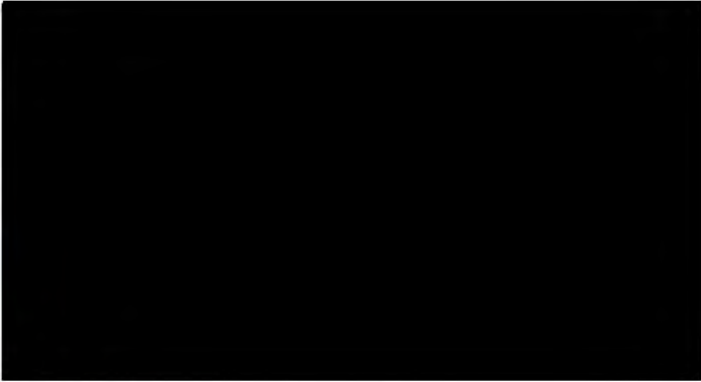
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Stacey has on one occasion threatened that she would wish to be back living with her previous carer. Mr and Mrs Ellis attribute this to Stacey being upset at being told off. In general Stacey appears happy and content in placement.

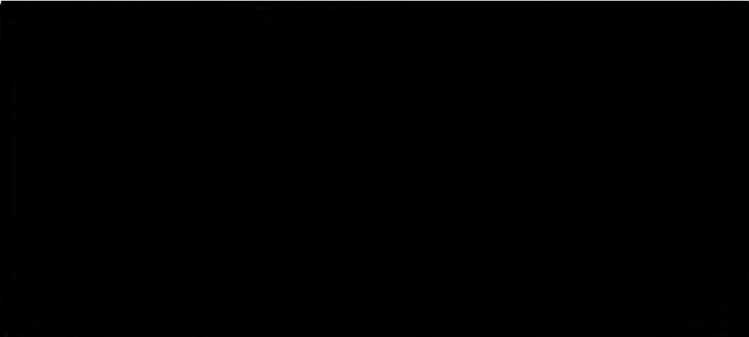
ONGOING WORK WITH THE CHILDREN

The fact that the three children are now placed together in placements is viewed as very positive. It has allowed the development of a shared view between the carers, social worker, carers link worker as to the needs of each individual child and of the children as a sibling group.



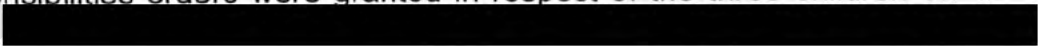
Stacey

Issues identified in respect of Stacey are:

- 1 Stacey's growing independence
 - 2 Previous history of sexual abuse
 - 3 Ongoing life story work
 - 4 Helping Stacey accept consequences of her actions
 - 5 Stacey's presentation/enjoyment in the victim role
 - 6 Stacey's manipulation
- 

Some of the above issues are shared between all three of the children and some are individual. The fact that the children are placed together in a singleton placement means that this work can be taken forward on a much more planned and organised way.

LEGAL SITUATION

Parental responsibilities orders were granted in respect of the three children on 12 November. 


CONCLUSIONS

It was noted that the children have settled remarkably well into placement and are forming positive attachments with each other and with the Ellis' and their family.

Indications that the placement is likely to succeed in the longer term are based on

- 1 The fact that the children are settled and are forming attachments with each other and with Mr and Mrs Ellis and their family.
- 2 The improved identification of each of the individual children's needs and the shared understanding between the professionals involved.
- 3 The children's birth mother's support for the care plan and for the children's placements
- 4 Mr & Mrs Ellis' commitment to the children
- 5 Mr & Mrs Ellis' insight into the children's needs
- 6 The children beginning to view Mr & Mrs Ellis as a permanent family
- 7 The settled Legal Situation.

It was noted that the current social worker is due to leave on maternity leave in January and that the need to ensure continuity in terms of care planning and support for the children and their carers is essential.



Angus Council - Social Work

COMMENTS BY THE CHILD/YOUNG PERSON

(POST PLACEMENT)

NAME OF CHILD/YOUNG PERSON Stacey Leonard

NAME OF CARER/S Irene Claffey

DATE OF PLACEMENT From June 1995 To July 1998

NAME OF SOCIAL WORKER Elizabeth Ross

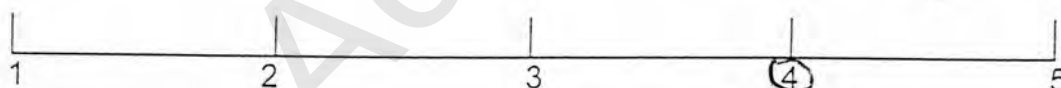
All children over the age of 7 and others depending on their age and understanding should be offered an opportunity to comment on their Foster and Mainstay placement.

It is the responsibility of the child's social worker to ensure that the child's views are heard and recorded on this form.

Separate forms should be completed by each child in case of a family group of children.

- 1 What did you think about your foster/mainstay home? Circle a number on the scale to say how much or how little you liked it.

Not at All Very Rarely Sometimes Most of the Time All the Time



- 2 The best thing about the foster/mainstay home was:

I was looked after very well.

- 3 The worst thing about it was:

I never got to go on to the Park on my own.

- 4 Did you get on with:

- a foster mum/foster carer
- b foster dad/foster carer
- c their children
- d their relatives (gran, etc.)
- e other children in the foster home

YES/ ~~NO~~

YES/ ~~NO~~

YES/ ~~NO~~

YES/ ~~NO~~

YES/ ~~NO~~

Anything else you want to say:

- 10 Say something about why you moved from the foster/mainstay home?

Because I wanted to be with my
Brother and sister.

- 11 Who, if anyone, in the foster/mainstay home would you like to keep in touch with?

Irene Elaine [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Irene's mum relatives.

- 12 Is there anything else you would like to say about your stay with the foster/mainstay family?

- 13 Do you think this form is helpful

YES/ ~~NO~~

Why?

I don't know.

- 14 If you cannot or do not want to write anything, draw a picture or a diagram here about you in your foster/mainstay family.



Trene



Bruno (dog)



Signed by Child/Young Person S. L. Leonard

Date 29.9.98

CHILDCARE REVIEW/REVIEW OF CARE PLAN

held at Luthermuir on 26 May 1999

on STACEY LEONARD dob 20/04/88

Placement Address:

Mr & Mrs Ellis
Mearns View
Church Road
Luthermuir

Date of Reception into
Accommodation:

20 November 1994

Date and Type of Placement:

16 July 1998 - permanence

Legal Statute:

Section 86 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, a
Parental Responsibilities Order and Section 70
of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, ie a
supervision requirement

Social Worker's Name
and Address:

Margo Croal
Social Work Office, Academy Lane, Arbroath

Participants:

Mr & Mrs Ellis
Susan Lessels
Margo Croal
Kate Mearns
Paula Mulford
Hilda Yeoman

Mr McGlip

Graeme Simpson

Permanent Carers for the children
Mother

Social Worker

Senior Social Worker

Family Placement Team

Guidance Teacher, Mearns Academy (present for
Brian's part of the meeting)

Head Teacher, Luthermuir Primary School
(present for Tammy and Stacey's part of the
meeting)

Community Assessment & Review Officer (Acting),
Chair and Minute Taker

Apologies:

Moirra Deans

Educational Psychologist

Care Plan Agreed At Meeting Held On 29 October 1998

Immediate, medium and long Term

For all 3 children to remain in the care of Mr & Mrs Ellis on a permanent basis.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Stacey

Situation at Ellis'

Mr & Mrs Ellis felt that Stacey was doing well and was settled and comfortable in their care. She relates well to Rod and Sue and their daughter. As noted above her relationship with [REDACTED] can be strained at times and while she has her fall-outs with [REDACTED] these are seen as being generally typical of brothers and sisters and not of significant concern.

It was noted that Stacey likes to have her own way and can be quite huffy if she does not get this. It has also been apparent that Stacey does not like getting a telling off and can become quite rude on those occasions. Mr & Mrs Ellis felt that this was, however, becoming less of a feature and she was increasingly accepting of their discipline. Mr & Mrs Ellis described Stacey as being an affectionate child who will seek out and give affection readily. They felt there was a real genuineness to this and was an indication of the warmth of the relationship that exists. Mrs Ellis noted that Stacey is a helpful youngster around the house and enjoys participating in household tasks.

Socially she continues to attend her dancing classes which she enjoys and is very good at.

Margo noted that from her contact with Stacey she appears to be confident and settled within the home and relates well to Rod and Sue. She felt that Stacey had a number of friends within the community which helped her settle. The one big issue for her at present is the fact that she cannot have overnights with her friends, although her friends do come to Rod and Sue's for the occasional overnight. It is, however, hoped that this can be addressed in the fullness of time.

Education

Mr McGlip advised that Stacey was doing well at school and was performing to an average ability. That said, he noted that there are occasions when Stacey becomes insecure if she gets something wrong. These insecurities are at times apparent by her moodiness within the class when she can present as being sullen. Mr McGlip noted, however, that these tend not to last long and she is quickly cajoled out of them. It was clear, however, that Stacey enjoys school and looks forward to her time there.

Stacey - education contd

It was noted that Stacey can have difficulties with her peers which are usually short-lived. Mr & Mrs Ellis echoed this and noted that Stacey tries to manipulate her friends into getting her own way. They have increasingly encouraged Stacey to sort these disputes out on her own and have left her to do so and noted that the disputes have been resolved. It was, however, recognised that it was common for girls Stacey's age to fall in and out of friendships on a regular basis.

Health

Mr & Mrs Ellis noted that Stacey's health is very good, she has in the past complained of ear problems which have been investigated by the doctor and found unsubstantiated. They noted that these ear complaints have occurred at the times when Stacey is having disputes with her friends. It was, however, noted that Stacey can be very convincing when she complains of being unwell and Mr & Mrs Ellis noted they tend to err on the side of caution. This was seen as being an appropriate and necessary both to challenge Stacey and to ensure her well-being.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Contact - this applies to [REDACTED] Stacey and [REDACTED]

Contact occurs between Susan and the children once every 3 weeks. As was agreed at the last review Susan initially has a period of time with all the children and then time with one child on their own. Difficulties continue to be apparent in the contact and Susan noted she finds difficulty in controlling all 3 children. This contact continues to be supervised and Mr & Mrs Ellis understood there is a lot of "refereeing" during the contact to maintain things. Susan noted that whilst there continued to be difficulties this arrangement was far better than that which existed previously and she was happy to persist with this. It was recognised that she needed to take quite a firm stance in relation to the children at times, but she noted she found this difficult to do.

Mr & Mrs Ellis noted that all the children look forward to the time with their mum but do not ask or speak about her a lot in-between. Overall it was recognised that the current level of contact was about right, although it was agreed that should things deteriorate then it may be more suitable to reduce the level of contact to a monthly basis. It was stressed to Susan that it was clearly important for the children not to be overly disrupted by their contact with her whilst still important for them to maintain their relationship. It was agreed that Margo would monitor contact over the coming months and liaise with Susan and Rod and Sue in relation to this.

Child and Family Psychiatry

As noted previously all 3 children see Dr Bonnar on a regular basis, who is undertaking an assessment of the 3 children and how best Child and Family Psychiatry can support them and the carers. Mr & Mrs Ellis noted that it was Dr Bonnar's view that the carers were doing well and the children likewise were settled and happy in their placement. It was recognised that continuing to care for the 3 children would have its ups and downs and Dr Bonnar saw part of her role as trying to smooth off some of the "rough edges". The recent contact with Dr Bonnar on Monday of this week had proved quite distressing for all the children and it's ramifications were still being felt within the house. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mr & Mrs Ellis noted that whilst this may have served a useful purpose they are clear that they were not prepared to endure the ramifications of this in the future and would speak to Dr Bonnar in relation to this. It was clear Dr Bonnar's role was going to be long term and her input in relation to the children's schooling may be of benefit. As noted previously Margo would liaise with Moira Deans and Dr Bonnar in this matter.

Legal situation

Margo advised that the children have a panel on 21 June 1999 which is an annual review of their supervision requirement. It is the recommendation of the Social Work Department that all 3 children be discharged from their supervision requirements with there being the Parental Responsibilities Order already in place.

Conclusion

All 3 children were invited to the end of the meeting and were given a brief resume of the discussions that had taken place. It was apparent that all 3 children related well to both Rod and Sue and appeared comfortable in their company. It was clear from the meeting that their placements were going well and that each of the children had settled well, although as would be expected there are some ups and downs. It was recognised that in many ways the placement was still relatively new and that through time each of the children would come to feel a greater sense of belonging and feeling of being truly settled.

There are some concerns/difficulties in relation to the children's schooling but there are plans in place for these to be considered and addressed. Mr & Mrs Ellis' concern in relation to this matter was primarily on the impact this was having on the children's placement.

CARE PLAN for Stacey, [REDACTED]**Immediate, medium and long Term**

For all 3 children to remain in the care of Mr & Mrs Ellis on a permanent basis.

Tasks In Support Of Care Plan

- 1 All 3 children to stay with Mr & Mrs Ellis, they to care for them. They to be supported in this task by Paula Mulford.
- 2 All 3 children to continue to be supported and encouraged at their respective schools.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Carers and schools to liaise as appropriate.

Margo to maintain regular contact with Mr & Mrs Ellis and the children to oversee their progress.

- 3 Margo Croal to contact Dr Bonnar and Moira Deans and liaise with them in relation to the concerns that exist in relation to the children's schooling.
- 4 The children to continue to attend Child and Family Psychiatry.
- 5 Susan to continue to have contact with the children on an approximately 3 weekly basis. Margo to maintain an overview of this to ensure that the frequency of contact is appropriate and not proving disruptive to the children.

Date And Place Of Next Meeting

Monday 29 November 1999 at 2.00 pm at Mearns View, Church Road, Luthermuir.

[REDACTED]

Graeme Simpson
Community Assessment and Review Officer
04 June 1999

Copies to:

All present, all apologies
George Bowie, Service Manager - Children and Families

File
copy

REFERAL TO CHILDREN 1st

DATE OF REFERRAL 11.01.02

REFERRED BY

NAME MARGO CROAL SOCIAL WORKER

AGENCY AND ADDRESS

**ANGUS COUNCIL, SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT, ACADEMY LANE,
ARBROATH**

TEL 01241 878585

DETAILS OF PERSON(S) REFERRED

SURNAME	FIRST NAME	RELATIONSHIP	AGE DOB	ADDRESS
LEONARD	STACEY	CLIENT	28.04.88	MEARNS VIEW, CHURCH STREET LUTHERMUIR ABERDEENSHIRE

DETAILS OF OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS

SURNAME	FIRST NAME	RELATIONSHIP	AGE DOB	ADDRESS
[REDACTED]				
ELLIS	ROD	CARERS		U 77 U 77 U 77 U 77
ELLIS	SUE	CARERS		U 77 U 77 U 77 U 77
LESSELS	SUSAN	MOTHER		83 CONOUGHT ROAD, LUTON

STATUTORY AND OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

21st June 1999: Supervision Order Terminated at Annual Review {Sec 73 .(2)}

Permanent placement for three siblings [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] Leonard with carers Sue and Rod Ellis since August 1998.

BRIEF FAMILY HISTORY

Stacey [REDACTED] sexually abused and neglected by their mother. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] abused by their grandfather [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Stacey often states that she can remember 'everything' that happened. Stacey has a very low opinion of her mother and she 'blames' her mother for most of the things that have happened to herself and her siblings.

We had hoped that Life Story work would help sort out some of the confusion for Stacey however it was generally felt by Dr Bonnar that perhaps this may become very stressful [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] therefore Life Story work has not yet started.

Recently Stacey has expressed her need to discuss her past abuse and Stacey has asked for help, as she has stated that she keeps getting 'angry at her mother and what happened to her [REDACTED] There are times when Stacey has informed me that she can "remember everything" and she gets really very distressed about it and Stacey basically is very critical of her mother. Stacey has also discussed 'flashbacks' of what had happened to her and she often appears angry at her mother as that she did not appear to stop any of the abuse.

Stacey has supervised contact with her mother every 6-7 weeks and she has informed me that she 'hates' her mother and she does not want to see her again. Stacey clearly has very angry feelings about her mother and blames her mother for everything that has happened. Stacey has indicated that she wants to meet with her mother and tell her she does not want to see her again. I am unsure if Stacey will actually do this but it highlights the anger she feels about the abuse and the effect that this has had on her [REDACTED]

Stacey has reached a stage where she appears to be confused about herself, her past abuse and her own adolescent feelings. Stacey is showing signs of becoming much more challenging towards her teachers at school and yet at other times she can present as being quite mature and very settled. Stacey also often seeks attention by –not eating, or by saying she hasn't eaten.

Stacey is aware of this referral and she wishes to be referred for help to 'sort out' her feelings and anxieties about her family history.

EXPECTATIONS OF REFERRER

Support and advice for Stacey to help her try and sort out what happened to her and discuss issues relating to her confused feelings, her anger and frustration. Possibly look at ways to start Life Story work although the main priority for Stacey is to have counselling and support about all the issues of the abuse.

SCOTTISH CHILDREN'S REPORTER ADMINISTRATION

CHILDREN (SCOTLAND) ACT 1995

	REG
	REP

Notice about Child referred to the Children's Reporter to: SWDSurname LEONARD Forename(s) StaceyDate of Birth 28-4-88 Age 10 School LUTHERBUR Primary

Home Address.....

Present Address c/o Ellis, Albans View, Church Road, LuthermuirSocial Work Area Arbroath Social Worker MARGO GORALReporter's Reference No. A194 Referral No. 11 P.I. No.
(PLEASE QUOTE IN ALL COMMUNICATIONS)Dated 21-4-99 STATS I NO: 940990910Reason for Referral See 73(2) Annual Review
☐ Thank you for your report/referral Dated

INFORMATION REQUESTED:

- ☐ Please give more information as specified in the attached note.
- ☐ I would be grateful for a report to assist me and any Hearing which may be convened for this child.
- ☐ Please submit the report by.....
- ☐ NOTE:.....

HEARING

- ☐ Please supply a report to assist the Hearing by.....
- ☐ I have arranged a Hearing on.....at.....am/pm
- ☐ You or a representative who knows the child is invited to attend the Hearing
- ☐ Please supply appropriate information about the placement and/or consider whether or not you wish to invite foster carers to attend
- Please note that the relevant persons in the child's case are entitled to receive copies of reports sent to panel members.

RESULT

- ☐ I am taking no further action/and have asked the Police to warn the child.
- ☐ I am referring the case to the Local Authority to offer advice, guidance and assistance on a voluntary basis.

THE HEARING DECIDED

- ☐ To Discharge the referral on.....
- ☐ To apply to the Sheriff for proof of the Grounds Section.....on.....
- ☐ To continue the case arranged above, from.....
- ☐ To issue a Supervision Requirement under Section.....on.....
- ☐ To continue the existing Supervision Requirement under Section.....on.....
- ☐ To vary the Supervision Requirement from Section.....to Section.....on.....
- ☒ To terminate the Supervision Requirement on 21-6-99
- As a result of the Requirement/decision, the child is required to live at:.....

NOTE:.....

Enclosures.....

Signed: [Signature]Dated: 23-6-99

ADDRESS OF REPORTER:

KEITH HOUSE
50 EAST ABBEY STREET
ARBROATH
DD11 1EN

F. REASONS FOR DECISION

CHILD'S NAME

DATE OF BIRTH

Stacey

Leonard

28.4.92

The Children's Hearing made the decision(s) for the following reasons:

The decision of the hearing was to terminate the Supervision Order.

The reasons being

- (1) The children have settled well with Mr + Mrs Ellis (carers) and things are working well.
- (2) The children all want to be with Mr + Mrs Ellis and Mr + Mrs Ellis are happy for the children to be with them.
- (3) ~~Mr + Mrs~~ Ellis
- (3) Mrs Ellis is happy for the supervision order to be terminated and is quite willing to ask for help ~~for~~ or advice from the appropriate people.
- (4) There is now a Parental Responsibilities Order in place.
- (5) There is no need for a Supervision Order to be in place i.e. minimum intervention.

Safeguarder was considered but deemed unnecessary.

(Continue overleaf if necessary)

(Signed)

(Chairman)

(Date)

21/6/99

CHILDCARE REVIEW/REVIEW OF CARE PLAN

held at Mearns View, Luthermuir on 29 November 1999

on STACEY LEONARD dob 20/04/88

Placement Address: Mr & Mrs Ellis
Mearns View
Church Road
Luthermuir

Date of Reception into
Accommodation: 20 November 1994

Date and Type of Placement: 16 July 1998 - permanence

Legal Statute: Section 86 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, a
Parental Responsibilities Order

Social Worker's Name
and Address: Margo Croal
Social Work Office, Academy Lane, Arbroath

Participants:

Mr & Mrs Ellis	Permanent Carers for the children
Susan Lessels	Mother
Margo Croal	Social Worker
Paula Mulford	Family Placement Team
Marjory Smith	Head Teacher, Luthermuir Primary School
Eileen Jack	Link Teacher
Lorna Black	Community Assessment & Review Officer, Chair and Minute Taker

Apologies:

Kate Mearns Senior Social Worker

A report from Margo Croal was distributed at the start of the meeting and should be read in conjunction with this minute.

Care Plan Agreed At Meeting Held On 26 May 1999

For all 3 children to remain in the care of Mr & Mrs Ellis on a permanent basis.

Progress since last review

Placement issues

Mr & Mrs Ellis stated that Stacey had settled very well into placement and generally had a very good relationship with them. They had noted that Stacey quite often will tell tales on [REDACTED] and this can wind [REDACTED] up. Generally there are no difficulties with Stacey in the home although she can go into a huff now and again.

School issues

Mrs Smith stated that Stacey was working very well in school and the school had very good contact with home. Stacey clearly responds to praise and her teacher does give very positive feed-back. Mrs Smith noted that the school had experienced Stacey having one tantrum which was over a reading book. However, Mrs Smith spoke to Stacey about this and Stacey was able to say that it was a problem with the print that she could not see. Stacey had also had some difficulties in school when she fell out with her friend. However, they have now resolved their difficulties and are now friends again.

It was noted that Stacey will move into Mearns Academy next year and it was felt important that Stacey be in some classes with her friend as she continues to need this support. There will be meetings between the primary school staff and the guidance staff at Mearns Academy prior to Stacey moving and these issues can be discussed.

Health issues

Stacey had her eyes tested at the opticians who referred her back to the hospital. An appointment is due on 14 December 1999. Mr & Mrs Ellis will ensure that Stacey will attend for all appointments so that she can receive any new glasses needed or any appropriate treatment. Stacey has also had some difficulties with her ears. Her hearing was tested and it was felt that she was hearing a bit better than she was saying she was hearing. However she was advised that she needs to keep clearing her nose so that the pressure on her tubes in her ear can be reduced. By not blowing her nose she is encouraging infections in the inner ear. Mr & Mrs Ellis continue to make all appropriate medical and dental appointments for Stacey.

Contact issues

Contact for all 3 children occurs for a short time every 3 weeks. Mrs Lessels then takes one of the children out for a longer period of time, this being supported by a member of staff. Mrs Lessels stated that she enjoyed her contact with Stacey but she did find that Stacey tended to tell tales [REDACTED]. The Chair suggested that she tell Stacey that she wants to hear about Stacey and how Stacey is doing in school etc in the hope that Stacey will discuss this rather than what her brother and sister are doing.

Leisure activities

Stacey is a keen highland dancer and attends the school in Laurencekirk. Stacey had competed at highland dancing in the past but at the moment is content to attend classes.

Child and Family Psychiatry

The whole family were referred to Child and Family Psychiatry in May of this year and 2 appointments took place. Mr & Mrs Ellis felt that the children took some calming down from these appointments. It is anticipated that another appointment will be offered at the beginning of the year. Margo Croal stated that the reports from Child and Family Psychiatry indicated that Mr & Mrs Ellis were doing a very good job parenting the children generally. It was felt that prior to the next appointment taking place it would be useful for Mr & Mrs Ellis and Margo to have a discussion with Dr Bonnar about the intervention of Child and Family Psychiatry and the resultant impact on the children.

Social work contact

Margo stated that she had been off for some time therefore contact had not been as regular as she would have wished. However, she is back in work now and her usual contact is on a monthly basis where she will try to see each individual child as well as the carers. Outwith these times Mr & Mrs Ellis feel free to contact her.

Other Significant Issues

Life-story work

Life-story work has not been completed with the children and there were mixed feelings about starting this. On the one hand all agreed that the children needed to have a sense of their past and where they were going. However, it was also recognised that this had the potential to open a can of worms and upset the children generally. It was agreed that Margo should look at resources for perhaps carrying out this work, ie extra staff and speak to the children to clarify whether they were ready to participate in this or not.

CARE PLAN (with aimed for timescales)

Stacey to remain in the care of Mr & Mrs Ellis on a permanent basis.

Tasks In Support Of Care Plan

- 1 Stacey to remain with Mr & Mrs Ellis, they continue to care for her and be supported in this task by Paula Mulford.
- 2 Stacey to continue to be supported within Luthermuir Primary School. Meetings to take place between Luthermuir Primary School and Mearns Academy staff prior to Stacey moving to Mearns Academy so that any appropriate arrangements can be made.
- 3 Margo to maintain regular contact with Stacey and Mr & Mrs Ellis to oversee her progress.
- 4 Prior to the next appointment with Dr Bonnar, Mr & Mrs Ellis and Margo to discuss the benefits of this work.
- 5 Mrs Lessels to co [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- 6 Margo to consider how best to introduce life-story work with all 3 children.

Date And Place Of Next Meeting

Tuesday 30 May 2000 at 2.30 pm at Mearns View, Luthermuir.

[REDACTED]

Lorna Black
Community Assessment and Review Officer
29 December 1999

Copies to:

All present
All apologies
George Bowie, Service Manager - Children and Families