

Hello? Hi there. Is it possible to speak to mister Thompson? Yeah. Speaking. Hi, mister Thompson. It's Leah calling from MMA Legal with regards to your Scottish redress application. Yeah. How are you doing? I'm good. Thank you. How are you? Yeah. Not too bad. Not too Yeah. Is now still a good time to conduct a workday for you? Yeah. I'll be staying with you. Amazing. So what I'm gonna do before we start is I'm just gonna let you know that the call is recorded for training and monitoring purposes. Mhmm. And for data of protection, can you confirm for me your date of birth and your postcode, please? Yep. It's 04V06V1984. My postcode is G459DeltaSierra. Amazing. Thank you very much. So as I said before, my name's Leah, and I'm gonna be the one conducting your witness statement with you today. Okay. Good. Good. Before we do get into everything, I just wanna let you know that you are in complete control of this witness statement. Uh-huh. That means you can take a break, skip a question, ask me to reword anything at any given point. You just say the word, and we can we can pause. Okay. Obviously, some questions might be upsetting for for you because they concern your time and care and the impact it's had. Yeah. So if you do obviously need a break or you wanna just take five minutes, we could run more than you know, we're not in any rush. Yeah. No. It's a deal. Okay. I'm just gonna ask a couple of questions before I go through your chronology of care. Okay. So have you previously made any civil claim, criminal injuries claim, redress application, complaint, police report, inquiry statement, or claim to another scheme about any abuse? No. Okay. And have you ever received any payment, apology, settlement, or decision? No. Perfect. So as I said, I have created a bit of a chronology of care. So I'm just gonna go with that through I'm gonna go through that with yourself to check that I'm not missing anything. Yep. So I've got that the First Care Institute was and you'll have to excuse my pronunciation. I've got Springboig. Yeah. Yeah. That's that was my first up here in Scotland. Yeah. But I was also my my care setting started down south, but we I spoke to somebody else before, and they said it was kind of too different. You can't you couldn't cross England over to Scotland. They would need to do another claim kind of thing after Yeah. Are hoping to eventually pull through the church of England as well. So we can absolutely do that for you as well. Like, it's just this one has to be No. But, yeah, that was right. It was Saint John's Saint John's residential school in Springboi Yeah. Yeah. I've then got Oakbank School in Aberdeen. Hey. I was there briefly. I forgot about that for one second. From the records that we've received, it looks like it was just a one less than a month emergency placement. Forgot all about that. That's that's a fair I mean, I remember that. That's mad. Bless you. I've got Saint Mary's, Kenmure, and Bishop Briggs. That's what I spent most of the time. Yeah. Yes. It looks like you spent about just over a year in there. I hang up a bit longer in the open unit as well. Oh, okay. Yeah. Yeah. Okay. And then I've got Hillhead House. Yes. That was kind of the hospital that I was released to. I I was kind of sick. Yes. So are they the only care settings in Scotland that you were in? Yes. Amazing. So now that we've cleared that up, are you comfortable and happy to continue with your statement today? Yes, sir. Do you need anyone with you or any other adjustments? No. No. No. And do you understand the purpose of the statement? I do. Yeah. And do you agree that we can use this statement for your redress application and any of the support and evidence we've received from your subject access requests? Yeah. Amazing. Okay. So I'm now gonna start with asking you a little bit about your personal background and, you know, your entry into care. Yep. I like to kind of conduct these as a bit of a question and answer. I think sometimes it helps people remember things more. Yep. I'm gonna do that for the time being, but if that doesn't work for you, you just let me know, and we can change that. Okay? No Amazing. So where did you grow up, and who did you live with before care? So I was with my mother and stepfather. The way my kind of life went is I

was in Scotland until I was five. I was actually in Greece the first couple of years. My real father's Greek. Okay. And then we left the Scotland for a couple of years, and my mother met my stepfather who was English when we moved down to England. Not obviously a 100% sure that the dates are moving down, but you'll be pretty much bang on with the dates. I mean, moving back up because I came from here down to London, the until Springboig, St John. I can see from here, you were in Springboig from the 08/14/1998? Yes. That should've been when I actually came back up to Glasgow then. Yeah. Okay. And then so you moved to England after your. If I do go quiet, it's just me typing up no. Yeah. No problem. Moved to England after your mom met your stepfather. I would say around '89, '90, maybe something like that. Okay. And I lived there I lived there for a while, and that's what really kind of stuff kind of started to go wrong for me and and get gonna need care and stuff like that. So I looking ultimately. Yeah. Okay. Can I just grab the name of your stepfather? Yeah. His name is Ian Thompson. Thompson. Ian Thompson. And your real father's name, if possible? It's Dimitri Savakis. Can spell Davakis. Sorry if you need to. I need that for you, please. I think I've got it. Should we see s e v No. No. It's s a it's Maxi. It's Max, and it'll be Max. Don't worry. No problem. A for alpha v a t l s. Right. Got it. I thought I smashed that there. You know? Oh, you were close. You were close. And was he involved in any of your life or just when the first couple years? He was. I don't remember the first couple years, obviously. But Yeah. I've recently met on he was phoned through the social work department in my tail end of Saint Mary's, and I went to visit him in France. He was living in at the time, but it was a couple of years, and I clearly locked out. Okay. No problem. And where did you live before care just, like, just before going into care? You said you lived in England. Was that in in London? Well, I was in I came from I was actually on the run-in the streets of London, and I was they were struggling to to get ahold of me. My mother and and stepfather had moved back up to Scotland, but I was on the run kind of thing because I've already been put in a foster care firstly down south, and then I've been put in a residential and secure unit just in Crystal Palace called Orchard Lodge. So I think it was either from Orchard Lodge or I was on the run, and I didn't have anywhere, and I was caught and brought back up. Okay. Let me just make notes of that. So can't remember if on the run. Yeah. Is it it was either that or a place called Orchard Lodge in Crystal Palace. As I say, it was the best part of thirty years ago. Yeah. Absolutely. You're not gonna remember everything, but what you can remember is good. Yeah. Yeah. So we can't quite remember if it was either on the run or and was it Oxford Lodge, did you say? No. Orchard was on the at the Woodland. Yeah. Okay. And that was a place in Crystal Park. I don't actually know if it's still there or not, but it was a I had an open unit kind of like Saint Mary's. It was like an open unit and a secured unit. Which one were you in? Vaguely think the residential that I would say, but I don't think I was in the. You know? Okay. So you think maybe said they're, like, an open residential? Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Okay. I'm gonna note that down. And can you remember at all the day that you were taken into care in Scotland? It was I was brought from England to Scotland and took to St John's. I've been caught by the police on the run again, and that's what what was happening. The social up was coming get me, and I was just kind run away till I'm getting the thing again. So, eventually, I was just brought up at a place, I think. Okay. Because, obviously, my mother and father had moved back up to Scotland, and and they'd ordered the social worker had already organized a place for me in St. John's. I think they just didn't want to go. And, eventually, got brought up. I can't remember how, but it was just it was quick. I got caught. I remember I got caught and pretty much brought up all the night, so to speak. Yeah. So what was your home life like before, Kesel? It sounds silly, but did you live in a house? Did you live in a flat? I lived in a house, but my mother was an alcoholic. All my me

and all my brothers were in care. I'll ask about that in just one second because I do need to know about siblings. So I've got that your mother was an alcoholic. What about her your stepfather was how did you get along with him? He was just a a an ice guy, to be fair. He was I I it was me or my my mom was a drinker. He was he was I still talked to my stepfather. Obviously, my brother's love for her now, and he's like, yeah. He was a certain guy. Maybe a bit too sore was his problem there. Bless you. So your mother was an alcoholic? Yeah. And is this what led to going into care? I think it was about both. I don't know if I was a problem child, but I probably all stemmed from my mother's alcohol. Yeah. But I would obviously take some blame for myself. But I obviously definitely just want to be in the household. I wouldn't be running away from my. You what blame for yourself. You're only a child at the end of the day. Yeah. I know. I wasn't. Who is? No. Of course. Of course. But you'll be able to see you. Was like, actually, for my social report. I think I can. And can you will you I know it sounds tough, but were you told why you were going into care when you first went in? I think it was just buildup of me running away. My mother obviously been an alcoholic. And But you were never explicitly told this is why you're going into care? If I was, I don't remember. If I if I was, I didn't remember. Okay. But I would going back and with my memory thing, I think it was just a a a both. I was obviously running away from home because I want to be there. There was police getting involved and stuff like that. My mother was in alcohol, so the house wasn't in the bed. My mother's still on alcohol. She has been on her way, if you know what I mean. And she because it caused a lot of problems. So social worker ended up involved, and I think it was just a a bust thing that was, like, a respite. It started to respite, and then it was it a gradual thing that moved to me. Yeah. And when you say that the house wasn't the best, in what terms? It was just my I've been drunk all the time just causing fucking absolute chaos all the time. I used to get all some weather, but, obviously, it's kids. I used to get it with the spoon. You know what I mean? But but as as all kids, dad, it's not something that I look back on and think it was anything. You know what I mean? It was just different either back then. You know what I mean? Yeah. Yeah. But I it was just more of the alcohol. You know what I Yeah. Alcohol in the household can do it. My my father wasn't a drinker, but my uncle was staying in London at the time. He was an alcoholic as well. My grandmother was an alcoholic, so I came for fucking alcoholic, but I grew up in. Yeah. Yes. So you're you mentioned your brothers. Yes. How many siblings do you have? I I I had four. One just passed away a couple of years ago, but I had four. I'm sorry. So that's three. Yeah. No. It's okay. Okay. Were they all brothers? Yes. Yes. All brothers. And are you, like, the youngest, oldest, or the oldest, and there's no two youngest two younger, but there was three. Okay. And were you all separated when you went into care? The I was between me and the the second down. It was ten years before. So I've been in the care system beforehand, and then my mother had obviously had kept me in ten years later. And when they got, like, kinda my age, they kind of went in the same road as me, and social up involved in their life, and they were in secured units and residential. Were you ever in the in the same unit? No. But my brother James was in Saint Mary's, what, ten years after me, obviously, because he was ten years behind me. So he was in Saint Mary. Submitted, but knocked down and rebuilt, and he was a new the new one. So never in care together. But No. No. My other brother might have been together because they were obviously came from the same house. When I was when I was 13, they were on weight, and they're they're young years one and two. You know what mean? So I would be coming out from Saint Louis security, you know, or whatever to go for home visits maybe after now and then, and that's the only time I would see them. And then once they were going through the care system, I was in my early twenties. You know what I mean? I just left the care system then. Yeah. So, yes, so they might have been, but you

weren't in care with any of your siblings. That's fine. How old were you when you first entered into the care system? Yeah, maybe 10 or 11, something like that, maybe. Maybe 11. I would say between 10 and 12 to give up. I've got other thing. I can't remember. We'll just need an approximation. That's all. It was early in my tenth and twelfth, something like that. And can you remember how old you were at the time you were taken into Springboig for Saint John's? I would guess. I mean, I've been 13, 14 maybe. Yeah. 14 A record show for us. Uh-huh. 14. Yeah. Something like that. Was mhm. Okay. And can you remember how you felt the first time you went into care? Scaled, obviously. Well, it's hard to be fair. It was forced appearance, which is a bit different. I came back up to Scotland, it was different. I've moved it from Scotland to England, and I've picked up an English accent. So then I've come back up to Scotland, and that was obviously one of the driving factors. All I carry on hard and stuff like that. Go to British thinking. I look cold English as my nickname and stuff like that. So I could catch that accent pretty quickly. I'll go back to my my my normal accent. My bomb accent. I know. Well, I've moved for uni. So now my accent's really soft compared to what it used to be. Yeah. And I go home and everyone goes, oh, you sound, you know, you sound really scouse. And then I'm I'm here and everyone like, no. You sound really Geordie, and it's like, I can't I can't please anyone. Alright. Alright. It's not bad. Is there anything important about your childhood health or any learning needs or vulnerabilities that should be recorded? Find cause more. Okay. No problem. Just the alcohol in the household and stuff like that. Yes. I've got that. Don't worry. So what I'm gonna do now is I'm gonna ask you about all of your Scottish Care settings one at a time so I can really make sure I've got a chronological focus of each one. Yes. So I'm going to start with Springboig, which was Saint John's Residential School. Yes. I have that you were there from the 08/14/1998, and it looks like you were there for about seven months. Yep. So you're about 14 years old, and this was a residential school? Yes. Okay. Perfect. So did you have your own room in Saint John's? Yes. Yes. From what I remember, it was there was three units, and I was in I can't remember the name of the unit to be fair, but I was in the the bottom unit. And, yeah, we had our own room, and it was, like, call me, you 11 area, and I pulled games for that. Yeah. Games room. Nice. And what about the showering facilities? Were they shared? Don't remember to be fair. So I'm they they maybe had a cubicle that maybe half the room, but half the one side of the stairs that may be used. We definitely don't have them in our rooms. So at that point, no. No. Okay. No problem. So I'm just gonna put shared facilities, if I can spell properly. Mhm. Okay. So was there any routine in this institute? So what I mean by that is, was there a dedicated daily routine that you were expected to follow? Well, I had there was a year, but I obviously asked schools. So you were supposed to go to school every day, had classes set out and stuff like that. How many people were in a classroom? Would not estimate? Between five and ten. Maybe it wasn't my classes. It obviously just one with a small number of people. Okay. And what about the food there? Was the food okay? Was there much choice? I don't remember. I don't That's okay. It stings. The food is not really stings. I remember. If can't give you a feel. You know what I mean? It's just Yeah. No. Don't worry. I just have to ask them just to make sure. Of course. I get it. I get it. Yeah. What about clothing wise? So we can you remember if you were given fresh clothing, any new clothing? That wasn't done by the the place. That was done by your local footwear department. So you would have been given you would apply for clothing and stuff like that. And were you given one while you were in St. John's? I would have I imagine I would have bought one, yeah, when I came up to to Scotland. Yeah. I'd imagine I would have got one. Okay. And what about hygiene wise? Were you given toiletries, toothbrush, shower gel? I think so. Yeah. I don't remember. I think I didn't have anything like that back then. No. I imagine I had watch for some of these. Yeah?

Yeah? Okay. But it's not you can't fully remember? No. I don't remember. The disease of this. So it's just that it's And did you maintain contact with your family while you were in here? It was on and off. Like I said, it was I would I would I'd be going through time to time, but I would correct my mom. I'm on quite a lot as a husband. That's okay. And I know it sounds silly, but can you remember if the unit was clean? Was it, you know, was it clean or dirty? Or I can't remember, to be honest. I don't remember. I don't my I've I've always been I clean myself, so any of my places would have been clean anyway, but I don't remember it being edibly dark or something or anything like that. You know what I mean? Yeah. Okay. What about the staff? Well, how did the staff treat you? Like, what did they treat you well on that day? I was pretty bad, obviously, because I was you know what I mean? It was it was a lot of it was bad. All those ones that were worse than others and stuff like that, but I did get the credit back because was English officer. You know? Okay. It would be done in front of other people. You know what I mean? Other residents that were supposed to be there. You know what I mean? Yeah. Absolutely. I'll get right into that. I just wanna take some other bits first. What about the other children? How did they generally treat you? I I was afraid of them as well. I it's it's fucking. I remember getting the upgrade a lot. You know what I mean? Just because I was English, and I would maybe say something back. And I was I was scared then, but I thought I had to say something, but I never really thought back because I was just I thought I was always outnumbered. You know what I mean? Yeah. And were there any rules here? Any, you know, make your bed, do this, do that. Were there any particular rules that you can really remember? If there was, it would have been something I would have done anyway. As I say, I've the one thing I got from my mother, she was a clean sheet and shit about OCD. So I'm kind of at that. So I would have done that myself anyway, but banks and guns was pretty you had to do things like that. And because it came, I'm sure, before no long before I can for years, tens of years before. It used to be months I had that, and it used to be pretty much like that. And they did still keep a few of the things that wasn't as military as it used to be, obviously, but there was a few things that we had to the way you had to walk or go to places. I vaguely remember things like that, but it's just vague memories. You know what I mean? Yes. Yeah. Okay. And can you remember any of the punishments that were set for breaking any rules? You would just get beat up. They had a phone call. You would get restrained when things went on, and that's when you would really get that's when the punishment would be dealt if it's stuff. You know what I mean? You would get restrained, and that's when they would deal with it. Okay. To be. Yeah. I get that. If there had been an allocation in a classroom, you would get brought back back in a unit. They would entice you and get in an argument or you would wait till you go irate, and then they would turn you to the floor, and your arms would be up your back, your leg crossed. I remember I'm pushing that much because I push the blood there, boom, busted in my face, and he it it looked horrendous after that. You know what I mean? And that's something that went on in here for the next place, which will obviously go on as well, but the restraining the restraining thing was probably bad back then. No. I'm not. You mention it. Yeah. It seems to be like a recurring thing. Yeah. That's what you would get. If somebody don't like you, that's what they would I guess they would get no chance. Yep. Okay. So did anything happen that as an adult you now look back and consider to be abuse, neglect, or harmful? Now that includes sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, and neglect. Yes. Well, there was a night staff that came on with an older man. Can't remember his name. Something tells me maybe Tom. I could be wrong. So there was an older man, and this was a man that I could see a friend before, friend started talking to me, but he was coming and trying to talk to at the bottom of the head and try and put his hand under the cover and put his hand up. I would have my

boxers on up your leg, and I would just pull away, pull away, pull away. And, luckily, it never really went much further than me apart. I'm touching I've heard other things. I don't know exactly what was going on, but I heard other things, but I only ever got touched. I don't know why. I don't know. But I that's and the abuse would just be mental abuse would be just because I was English. The way they used to speak to me, fucking I've get called. As I say, my nickname when I went in there was English, David English. Okay. So I know you've just mentioned emotional abuse. Scottish Redress see emotional abuse in the form of threats, humiliation, blame, name calling, isolation, different treatment, being made to feel powerless or unwanted, or being forced to witness the abuse or humiliation of others, would you say that you identify with being emotionally abused in St. John's? Yeah. 100%. Yeah. Okay. I just wanted to clarify that. I would say that's a few of the points and I can I would I would say they apply it? My situation will certainly. Yeah. So I've got the night shift man. Yeah. And I've got that the emotional abuse was literally be it was it stemmed from you having an an English accent and being English even though It wasn't just that. I I wouldn't say it was just that. I wasn't a great child as you'll probably read be able to read. You know what I mean? But Nobody's a great child, though, are they? When I'm a 100% a 100%, and that's the reason I was in the kind of places. You know what I mean? Because I was I have to deal with child, but it was a way that they would deal with things, and they would it was as if they would try and to see things to get arise with you so they could then restrain you and do whatever they want to you, or they could publicly fucking just rather kill you for being English and then make you have to say something because you feel that small. You know what I mean? And then they could refrain you after that, and then you would get put to your room or other people would be going on the outcomes and you would get left then. So when you were restrained, how many times would you say that this happened? Would you say it was a regular occurrence, a daily occurrence, weekly? I can remember it happening a lot. I I don't know if it was daily or weekly. I would guess it was at least happened weekly, but the memories are bothering. Yeah. It was more of that happened more so in Saint Mary's. That's how they dealt with them because it was a secure unit. They had a pinpoint system, an alarm system, and stuff like that. And that's but definitely in Saint John's, it was you would definitely get restrained, 100%. Yeah. And irregular. What would happen when you were restrained? So Mhmm. Can you give me kind of a bit of a not necessarily in detail, in-depth, but I need just a brief explanation of kind of Between three to six people, you would have one on each arm, between one and two in legs, one holding your head, maybe one with a knee on you somewhere, and your arms would be getting absolutely folded up your back the same with your legs. Your wrists would be you wouldn't be able to move your wrists once they stop doing the double doing here. You know what I mean? They would do a lump from just being bent for that long, and they had a tactic of how they would carry you after that and then lock it. And it's involved your head being pushed down with your arms and you would it was over. It's hard to explain. You got carried into your room, did you say? Effectively. Yeah. Sometimes dragged with just your feet in the floor, but sometimes carried as well. They just gotta hold on to your legs. Into your room. Were you locked in your room? It would be. I'd locked in your room. Yeah. Until And how long for? It would differentiate until they thought that you thought that they'd calm down enough that you could do that back out and why like that. Now that you would need to go through a report and to sign up after that, I'm sure. Mhmm. Would you have marks after this? 100%. Yeah. So that's the a frequent thing would happen because you would push that much because what's happening, the blood vessels would pop in my face. So it would look something like a horror movie, which is tunnels. I'll be red. That's all lined all over my face. And as I say, once you are finished, you if they let you,

which sometimes the die duty when you would come down, you couldn't push yourself up off the floor of your breast or that dead, but how much they bent your wrist back. You know what mean? The pressure and the the Yeah. How much the bent, and it was just you would it's like a dead leg, isn't it? A 100%. I understand it. And it's like that for 10, you said, you're say, actually, you need to move your wrist to try and get it back on. But yeah. And that's where you would get the the punches and the caps and the knees and the rubs and that. You don't see it as because you've got our staff member holding both sides of your face so as you can't move while your face is burning on the floor. You know what I mean? So they would punch and kick you? Yeah. You would get it all the time with a knee with a rubber knee in the back or because somebody's put you're getting held by your two arms, they would put knees on your back. Mhmm. And you couldn't see who it was? No. No. No. Sometimes sometimes it could because they they didn't always have the number to hold all four points until I'm talking about most St. Mary's here. I know where it's St. John's, but I've been talking about it was a bit different in St. Mary's because they had a pinpoint system. Was an alarm system. You know what I mean? Yeah. So they could pull this thing on the the keys, and it would have an alarm, and the staff would know they would would run, but it would take time sometimes for for a minute to get there. Do you know what I mean? Yeah. It was kinda different in St. John's. It was just so many staff on a shift for a unit. You know what I mean? Yeah. And I know you said that it happened a lot, and from your recollection, it happened probably on on a weekly basis. Yeah. Did it ever get worse, or did it ever change? Towards the end of my time in Saint Mary's, that got left because I was on my way out the door. Kind of thing, I went to the open unit. The open unit was different in Saint Mary's. You know what I mean? This is just Saint John's. Did it ever No. It was quite it was pretty much the same all the the the whole thing through there, and then all the time it was gone. Okay. Okay. My recollection is of John's is is is the same thing I got there till I left. I just found out my memories over. They're good. You know what I mean? That's alright. I don't remember any good pains after, to be fair. So Yeah. So it was the staff who restrained you. Can I ask any were any children that you can particularly remember involved in any of the abuse you received? Yeah. I would get beat up a lot. I couldn't tell you any of the kids' names and anything like that. I can just I can see some faces back in the day and stuff like that, but I I would get a lot of flack just because of my English accent, obviously. Yeah. Yeah. So what immediate effects did you experience such as pain or injury, fear, shame, sleeping problems, bedwetting, running away, or behavior changes? I was fearful every day when I my eve for my first few years in Scotland. I was like that. I thought I got a lot a lot of flat flat for being English, and I tried to change my my accent back. But but there's other things you said there. Sorry. So pain or injury, fear, shame, sleep problems, bedwetting, or running away. I definitely had sleep problems when there's the stuff that went on, stuff that I have would be on edge. Every noise, I'm still with that to this day. I don't if somebody opens the door in my house, I wake up. You know I mean? It's been something that I've I've carried on to my Yeah. Later years. I've definitely lived in fear when I was in St. John's Edge constantly. Okay. Bed wet, no. The other one, sorry. I'm sorry. No. Don't apologize. It is pain or injury. I definitely had pain and injury. Yes, ma'am. But I've restrained, and it was they're doing I would take well-being restrained. Yeah. Yeah. Absolutely. I can only imagine. And did you ever try and run away? I thought that was that's what I always done. You know, you'll be able to see that from my reports. But when I first came to Scotland, obviously, it was harder for me. I didn't know Emdey. But once I started the invasion, there was obviously a few people that I've gone with. And Yeah. The it's in John's place, and we were going away together in one day. Bad things. You know what I mean? And what was happening when you ran away, when you

were caught? What would happen? I would be arrested, and I would be brought back to St. John. The staff would come and pick you up, or you would be put back with the police to St. John. Okay. Okay. Did you ever experience any shame? They made me feel ashamed of English. Yeah. 100%. Yeah. And I felt I I came to myself that I didn't see or be anything when the last old smelly guy was fucking trying to put his hands up. My boss, so do know what I mean? Yeah. I look back at noon. I just think he was fucking an old man. He should have just fucking baffled him. You know what I mean? Yeah. But as I say, I was 13 or 14 at that time. He was the main night shift guy. I mean, you're scared especially because, you know, the staff run these places, and I wasn't even waiting for the kids let alone the staff. So You're just alone. Yeah. Good then. Yeah. That's that's the perfect log for for my payments and joins. Yeah. Yeah. And I can understand why, and, it's gotta be such a lonely feeling. Mhmm. Yeah. A 100%. Yeah. Mhmm. Absolutely. I can I can only picture it? That's And I'm I'm sorry that you went through that. No. No. I appreciate it. Thank you. Thank you. Did anyone witness this happening to you, or did you anyone else experience anything similar? So I'm only asking, you know, were you aware that children saw what was happening? 100. Yes. People knew what was going on. The other staff knew what was going on. The way they would do it is no other staff is like that. There was that's just the only a handful of staff, but they would be on the same shifts, and then they would know what we're doing. You know what I mean? They know the payment of things and stuff like that. There was good staff in there as well, a 100%. I've got good memories of some staff in that place. Like Mhmm. Of them weren't all bad. The same as St. Mary's. It was a couple of good staff in there. There would never be any of the things that I'm telling you, but, again, it's a workplace. Even if they did see the thing, back then, I don't think as much they would do or see anyway. You know what I mean? Yeah. Did you ever try and tell anyone what was happening? No. No. I don't think anything. Was lessened. Again, I was I problem child, an extreme problem child. I looked back and think to myself, fucking hell. Must have been a right hand, Phil. But I just don't think anybody would believe me. It was that simple. You know what I mean? Yeah. I I can understand again. And what was different about this placement to any of the others in Scotland? So what was one thing that really sticks out about this placement that you can differentiate it? The sexual abuse when I was at my bed at night. Yeah. Okay. I'm now gonna move on to Oakbank. Now I know this was only a a really short emergency placement. Yes. Can you remember much of what happened here? I only remember going there for between me going from Saint John's to secure. I I forgot all about that. I couldn't even I would have never remembered that if you had never lost the heart. Okay. Would you believe me if I told you that you were there from the May 11 to the April 1? So how long is that? A month? Just just under? Three weeks, full, give or take? It could be right. Yeah. I just don't remember. I don't You're not gonna remember everywhere. I I don't remember that my time there. I remember now looking back. I can remember it as I go one from one place to another, but I don't remember. I couldn't tell you what happened there, any of the staff, what the police, what the building looked like. It's completely gone. I'll just block that one out. If anything does come back, just give me a shout, and we can go back to it. But this happens. I've had people who were in care from the day they were born, and I have to ask them about the first care, and they're like, well, I don't know. No. I've got your job to ask for every for every time, like, for everything I do. Remember. You can't remember. Well, that was she until you said that. It was just like I don't when you said that it came back to me when there was somewhere in between. So it joins it completely broke down, I think. And I was I was in the process of getting put to secure. Shall I have a look would you like me to have a little look and see what I've got? Yeah. If you want. Yeah. Okay. Let me just have a look. So, yeah, so you were in

the London Borough Of Greenwich with a foster placement, then you were moved to So okay. So I can see here Orchid Lodge. Yeah. That was an assessment center. So you were planned to be there for three months. Uh-huh. But the placement broke down, and it was due to abscondent. So it was due to run the running away. Yep. I can then see Oakbank was an emergency placement under a safety order. Yeah. I can see that there. And then Saint Mary's, it looks like you were in Colombo unit. Uh-huh. So that sounds oh, right. That was the open one, I think. The yeah. The secure unit. I was in the yellow unit with all color colors in the in the secure unit. Yeah. But the the open unit was Columbia, I think. Yeah. That's the end of my time you're reading back because I was in the secure unit. Yeah. Well, I can actually also see here. So about midway through no. It was in 2000. You then left Saint Mary's to go into planned respite with your father in France. Yep. That was for two months. Right. Yep. And then it was Hillhead House. That's when I just met my father for the first or second time. Think it was one of the times that I went over to see him. Wow. Yeah. And then I came back to, and it was basically, like, the hospital. It was there was an office for staff there, but you had your own kind of, like, bedroom, living room, kitchen kind of area. Yeah. So, basically, I think I was 16 at the time, and it's basically just putting you in the back of the road, I think. Yes. Yeah. Okay. And, like, I think the reason that still shows up, obviously, I shouldn't have still been under supervision at 16. That should have stopped my hours. But I think my supervision supervision all done maybe around to seventeen, eighteen, maybe longer. I'm not sure. Like, I couldn't put a time on it. But I think it looks here about the 09V05V2000 Mhmm. That you left the care system. Right. Okay. Or twenty seven years ago. Yeah. So I'm 42, so much better than that. Oh god. Hang on. I'll get a calculator. That's what I'm doing. Math not my good my good phone. Right. How old did you say you were? I'm 42. 42. And how many years ago was how many years ago was 2,000? Why can't I remember? That. 26. That was it. I it's bad that I didn't remember that. It looks about 16, but you were when were you bought you were born in June, and this was September, you would have been about 17. 17. Yeah. Okay. Mhmm. Cool. Let's crack on. So I'm gonna go through Saint Mary's. Okay. If you like I said, if you do remember anything about Oakbank, just give me a shout, but it's fine. If not, you're not gonna remember every placement. Yeah. No problem. So Saint Mary's Kenmure was Bishop Briggs from the 04V01V1999, and you were there for about fifteen months. Right. Mhmm. So what type of care setting was Saint Mary's? Did you say it was a secure unit? Yeah. Secure. Yeah. Complete lock down. Yeah. And you said it was yellow unit? I was in the yellow unit. Yeah. Okay. It's good to have these little it sounds silly, but when I ask, you know, whether it's a house or a flat, it's to add that level of truthfulness into the statement as well. Uh-huh. Does that make sense? Yeah. You know, because anyone can say, oh, I I was in Saint Mary's, but when you start saying, well, actually, was in the secure yellow unit. They're like, oh, okay. Yeah. So I asking unit yellow, blue, and green, three units, I suppose. I've had a green unit from someone. I've never had a blue. Mhmm. But I have had green. Yeah. I'm trying to think where I've had green from. That's gonna play on my mind now. Okay. Saint Mary's. What was it like? Did you have your own bedroom? It was just a walk through me. It's like a cell effectively. It's it was like a cell effect? It was like a cell effectively. Yeah. It was it was a locked room. It was just like a cell. You would get in jail effectively. It's locked door. You got locked in at night and went out in the morning and had a bed and a small desk and nothing. Plastic window. I remember the plastic window. They knocked out. Okay. Did you have your own bathroom? There was a there must have been a toilet, and there must have been I don't remember, but there must have been between you a lot then at night. Okay. Okay. Was it clean? Was it a clean place? It seems clean enough. Yeah. Okay. Okay. Was there a specific routine that you were

expected to follow? Yep. It was. It was go up in the morning at the same time. It was obviously security in it, so it was not a much like a present or type you know what I mean? So you were up at the same time every day. I'm sure it was the same routine for mom and for walk and breakfast and stuff like that. And then you would have your set classes for the day if you were going to school, if you've been good enough to go to school, if you are locked away. And I and then it would be finished school, and I'm sure he would get put back to a room for a small time while staff may be changed over. That's my memory tells me that, and then he would get brought out for dinner. And as I say, each unit would on each night, each unit would have the central area. So each unit faced into the central area, which is common area, and a unit would have the long, you know, area each night. So for a Monday, the yellow, you would have covered the Tuesday, the blue, the Wednesday, the green. And that's what the car and after you had just done and stuff like that, and then you would get put off your room at the same time at night. I would completely routine. Okay. God, it sounds like a like a young offenders. That's exactly what it was. Yeah. A completely different of these places for care care settings? No. It was most certainly. No. I it was Yeah. Three days to get into it. You know what I mean? It was and they eventually had to upgrade because people are getting out there. That's why I'm stuck. I was an old building. Yeah. No. We'll absolutely get into this because I need it for the statement, but I'm also, I think, curious myself from how it sounds. It's yeah. Astonishing. I was effectively like, was a person. You know what I mean? For a kid. Mhmm. I've heard a lot of people say, like, it was like a boot camp. It was like a prison. They're quite often the way that you get it told to you. Yep. A 100%. Yeah. What about the food here? Can you remember anything about the food? I just remember it was set times. I don't remember if it was good or bad or Can you remember if you ate in a canteen, found a table? I'm not sure how the food process worked out. I remember in the units, there was a catching and part of being in there. Bear in mind that we secure units had murderers and fucking rapists, and I've written on it where there was I remember there was a latte and it held her sister strangled her with a bathrobe. There was another she was just the the rest of the people you love to me back then. You know what I mean? I I remember her name, and that's the age of Oscar. She was for a place called you know, how Paisley wanted her to appear, and she strangled her sister to death with the the road map of house court of. There was people that had murdered people. You know what I mean? It was effectively because these kids couldn't go to jail, so they had to go to that's what they would wanna save their time until they're old enough to go to prison or get out. You know what I mean? Jesus. So then court would put people in here. Yeah. So it was because they would they would get sentenced. Yeah. A young age, obviously, they would get tried as an adult, but they couldn't go to adult prison. So either there was a boy, Joe McGregor, that had stopped the boy. I don't know if you remember back in the day. What is it? But it was used to be glass. Yeah. Yeah. Well, he stopped the boy, and then they hit with one of them. Either there was some serious people on it. It was a guy with one arm that had murdered somebody. It was called Wangie. Jesus. I it was it was that's what it was, but then you've also got people that just ran away. Yeah. You know what I mean? And maybe maybe I've had a problem child, and we're just there because they need they need it locked up for their own safety. They're called in in the social work. You know what I mean? Yeah. Which are submitted as a turning point from the island, how it dates so much more when I was in submitted. So that's what pumped me in in the the person I've grew in in my teens and until I had my children. You know what I mean? Yeah. Okay. I know we can't remember the food. I know you said there was there was a kitchen in the unit. What about clothing wise? Can you remember if you had a clothing grant here? That would be the exact same in Scotland. It was never the the the care

sentenced placed in for my stuff. Your social work department would always do that for you. Okay. But you would need to speak to your social worker if you needed something for your room or for anything like that, a radio or anything like that or clothes, box, or soft. You would need to contact your social worker or ask your key worker in the secured unit to contact your social worker. Okay. And what about hygiene wise? We provided with you know, if you said there might have been a bathroom in the in your in your room, was there toilet roll, toothbrush, toothpaste? Yeah. I don't remember. I'm not having any of that. Vaguely, I remember maybe in one of these places. I don't know what In Saint Mary's, what would happen is all your stuff would get to copy. And if you'd been restrained and put into your room and they seemed that you were gonna smash up your room, said they would just take as written out your room. You know what mean? It would just shut outside your door until they thought you'd come down. You would just go left for your your blue mattress thing, and that was that. You know what I mean? Yeah. But I know I don't remember not having access to giving stuff and stuff like that. Yeah. Again, those those things of maybe I think I think that could well have harmed, and I just don't remember it because there's other things in my head that I remember. A lot of stuff I tried to block out. We're cool. I've I've only tried to revisit when I revisit when I've spoke to people about that kind of stuff. You know what I mean? Yeah. Yeah. Absolutely. I wouldn't I think it's one of these things where I'd be more shocked if you were like, yeah, we have this and we have that. I think because your brain automatically blocks out traumatic events anyways. That's what I've done my whole life. My my whole life, I've just put things the one I weigh in, and I think that's that's if it's only where you survive on it. Yeah. There's a year of my life, my when I was younger that I I literally can't remember anything about. Yeah. Like, it just happens. It's it's just the thing. You've you know, you kind of sit there and you're like, did that happen? It's like these I I got a talk when you mentioned mentioned that place in between Saint John's and Saint Mary's. I was like, wow. Because I vaguely remember getting to to somebody else before I went to the security. But I I forgot that's what I really said, you know, memory. You know what I mean? It's just that I forgot about it and just came back and didn't mention it. Yeah. And it happens. I've had I mean, I had one client who didn't even know what age he was in care from, and it's like, oh god. Like, I have to I have to tell him, obviously, but it's even the fact of, like, he he had no idea what how old he was because his brain had just been like, nope. Not thinking about that. And it happens. Delete it out your life. It's the only way you can cope with cope with sometimes. Mhmm. I have to agree. I think even even you know, this is a huge thing, but even smaller things, you just tend to block out as well. It's it's Mhmm. I just go to make another one. Think the brain is a very interesting thing. I'm quite I'm one of these people who I'm like, I wonder what else my brain could do. Yeah. I'm totally I have those what we pay those those parts of the brain that people have needed access yet. They can do a lot more of it. Mhmm. Know, find out soon enough for you. Am sure. Oh, I hope so. Yeah. How did the staff treat you in Saint Mary's? Again, there was good ones and bad ones. The ones that liked you, again, I I remember a couple of right good stuff, and they were always good to me, but it would be the same kind of thing. They ran in parks, so you would have certain shots that would have certain staff members on it that was in the assholes. And the day, I think they just put you in a player, and that's what the restraining was really played by. That's why I got restrained a lot, wasn't it, matey's. You know what I mean? Because I started to really rebel against the staff and the way they spoke to me for being English and the other kids, and I just so I find myself on the floor quite a lot, and they were extremely heavy handed. And I guess they might be needed to be a bit more heavy handed. They'll deal with my mother and stuff like that, but we still wasn't. Right? No. They called it. It was called TCI. I'm

sure they called the method of restraining back then. It was I kinda remember the the what that stands for, but it was called TCI restraining. If it's around, was was banned. I forgot about that. TCI. What's that? I'm gonna Google it. You've got me. I'm gonna Google it as well, actually. Therapeutic crisis intervention. Is that what that means? Apparently. Alright. Yeah. Emergency intervention. I can imagine it's not. No. I wouldn't picture it to be. Would you classify this restraining in Saint Mary's as a form of abuse? 100%. Okay. 1000000%. It's like, it's one of the worst pains I've ever had. It's not the worst. I've had a lot of worst pains, but it's in the top 10 worst pains I've ever had in my life. The way it's caused it's dragged out over time. You're held in a floor for so long where they're bending your wrists, and they cross your legs, then push your legs towards your bum. Oh. You know what I mean? So you're you're when you're caught in a trap and it has agony, and you'll you finally push to get them off. It's all you can do. You kinda just sit there and let them and and because I would push that hard, obviously, the blood vessels would pop off my feet. And that's again when the staff would have might be that, so they would deal with the damage. But, again, there were some good ones, but there was some also some sort right assholes. You know what I mean? Yeah. Absolutely. Okay. What about the other children? Did they treat you well? Did they not? Again, it was I've started to kind of try and lose my accent. I've got I'd have more friends in there, but I still got flat for having a twine. I never really lost my accent until really left. I think maybe even I was maybe 17, 18, 19. I started to really lose it when I was speaking to more people, obviously, when I was on the outside world. Yeah. You know I mean? But I I got a lot of flaxed off of being English, and I that's that's basically what it was for. Okay. Did anything besides the physical abuse with restraints, did anything else happen that as an adult you now consider to be abuse, neglect, or harmful in a form of sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, or neglect? There was no sexual abuse since it made it. Now it was just in Saint John's, but the fact that the physical abuse would obviously be the strayment and the emotional abuse would be just be the English stuff that I'd obviously, I used to get it quite a lot. And the way they've done it is they know that they would do the they would do it in front of people, and then after they would go away with the the other children, it would carry on, which would then end up in either me getting battled or being in a fight, which would end up being me being restrained. So there was a domino effect with what they were doing. You know what I mean? But there was no no sexual abuse that Okay. To Mary's. Again, not that I'm empty of it anyway. I'm always blocked out. Okay. And who was involved in the physical and emotional abuse? It would have been the staff members and the kids. Okay. And can you give me one clear example of what happened, where it happened, and when did it occur? So any you know, one of them memories that's really stuck with you from I couldn't remember that. So that's lose fact of very we can take it to the girl that I just told you about Stephanie Jablauska had kept off, and that had been they kept one of the windows. So the way you go and to secure unit, there was a door. It took you on here, but where people would leave the stuff if they were going to visit somebody, and then there was two gates and then another door to get into where the units were. And Stephanie kept out one of the windows, and I jumped through the window and stole one of the set of keys. And I got restrained that time, and that was one of the times that really, really, really popped my ribs by I've been getting restrained at the time when I was getting lead in the ribs, and that was right outside my unit door. Can I can remember that happening? I can see the unit. I can I can remember that with all you know what I mean? That was right outside. So the way exactly what I'm telling you, she kicked the window out. When you came to my unit, my unit was the first unit on the right hand side, and then you would go straight up to the school, and then you would turn left onto the communal area. Mhmm. Just across in my unit, and that's

where the pool table, the blue unit, the green unit would be. And then visits would happen, I think that it just came back to me while we called the fishbowl, and it was a glass. It was just in front it was in the middle of the communal area. And that's where you would go for your visit. So it was like a room that has glass window on it, and that's where you'd have your visits, and it was we called it the fishbowl or the staff called it the fishbowl. But one of the abuse things was definitely other kinds of club abuse things was definitely that time when I took the keys, and I've started opening doors, and they got me outside of the unit. And I got restrained there, and I that was one of them. Mhmm. And how many staff restrained you? Can you remember at all or a rough estimate? I I would guess at 45. It was again, it varied the returns, and you don't get to see every member. Again, somebody sometimes got your head, so you would only see the top three, the people that were on your arms and your your head. You would never see who was Okay. Through your shoulders. And when you said you were in need, where were you in need? In the rubs. That's a memory I've got because my brother was telling me till weeks after. Yeah. And can you explain any of the injuries you received from this? You know, did you have bruises, cuts, scrapes? I would constantly have bruises. Yeah. Definitely. Because of the strain, and, obviously, you would be getting flung to the floor, actually, and then people would be all over the top of you. You know what I mean? Trying to keep you on the floor. You would be trying to get up as you naturally would. You know what I mean? So you would constantly have bruises, scratches, sore wrists, rubs felt broke at times of fracture. Do you know what I mean? Okay. But it would be ex do know what? I ended up in prison in my later years, and the way they restrained and moved you is the exact same way they were moved in prison. The exact same. They've done the exact same methods. The arrests, the way they move you with your neck and your head, it's the exact same. They were restraining on the floor. I I've held in through the great thing that the the restraining methods totally changed for the late nineties, early two thousands. I'm not allowed to do it that way anymore. And secure units and their care settings, obviously, I don't I'd imagine we would have to have changed. You know what I mean? It's just insane that this happens. Like I know. I know. I look back, and I know again See until you start speaking to somebody else about it, you don't really be I've never really realized the gravity. You know what I mean? It was just my life. It was just outside. It's you know, you're just that's the cause you were dealt and yeah. Yeah. And how often did the restraining happen in Saint Mary? So, again There's a lot more because I was again, they they were on a shorter fuse there because it was clearly appealing me. It wasn't just people on supervision or bills that had been running away and might be stealing cars or Mhmm. There was people that had actually done serious damage, so the fuses were all short of the the reason and for restrain. Somebody will take somebody or want to put them in the garden was less than it was in Saint John's. That was more in the open place. You know what I mean? Yeah. Absolutely. So I it happens frequently for me because, again, I rebelled massively in Saint Mary's. You know what mean? I've tried to get out and run away as much as I could. I didn't wanna be there. Yeah. Any opportunity I go, any home visit I go, I would I would scorn. You know? That's just the way my life go. I I would always run away. I just wanna be away on my own. Yeah. Okay. Did it ever get worse or change? No. It was as I say, towards the end when I got I need to do open unit. There was still some antisense in the open unit, but started to get a bit older, and I realized that I couldn't prevail as much, and I would have to try and count and if I ever wanted to go to that place. You know what I mean? Yeah. And that's when I started to actually speak to my dad, and I don't know if my visits maybe got a bit more than my mother at that time. But I I definitely know getting out to see my father and go to France at that time was a big fucking appeal. I mean, I'm doing about this giving an opportunity to me to get

over here. You know what I mean? Absolutely. I think just going to France itself would be a massive thing for me. Oh, it's a massive disappointment when I called out there. I know I went to Paris, I didn't really love it. I went to Strasbourg, and it wasn't that great. It was it was nice. The the the highlight for me at that age, I was only 16, 16. I can't even remember. It was just driving on the Autobahn. Strasbourg kind of right on the corner. I really wanna experience the Autobahn. It was great. Was really young, obviously. You know? And I loved cars at that point. So Yeah. Oh my god. I would love to do that. And you could see Germany from my dad's flat at that point. That's how close it was to the border. Wow. I slut slut most pretty close. But Might have to go up there one time just for the weekend. I it's Sure. I don't know. Didn't know those nice places, but I was dead young. You know what I mean? I didn't know when they couldn't speak much of their language, and my relationship broke down with my father again because I was probably an asshole win. And so the thing was is my dad tried to come back in my life and try to dictate what I was gonna do, and I just more than having that. What You I mean? Yeah. And it broke down, and I speak to him every now and then at least, but think he's back in Greece now, but we don't have no really had a relationship with him either. Did you experience any immediate effects because of the abuse or pain or injury? Yeah. You couldn't really see things, and it really hurt. You know, you would probably rather in the face. That's what I look back and think of a problem. I'd rather wedge it patters in the face because when you've got sore rubs or back or legs, it's aggravating. You know what I mean? Yeah. Okay. And what about any fear? I'm alright. Obviously, I was Yeah. I just have to the same as yeah. Of course, it was pretty much the same as the George when I got out into the open unit, and I I start I just yeah. Started to lose my English accent, and I was getting over to France. It got a bit better towards the end in the opening unit, pretty much through the security unit. It was pretty much the same. I was always on edge. You know what I mean? Because you you're always thinking something's gonna happen, or you they're gonna say something. You're my behavior could have sometimes caused the dramas. You know what I mean? And Yeah. So you were always on edge. And what about any shame? No doubt. But it's just been the same again for the for being English. You know what I mean? I'm embarrassed by getting fucking held on the flare, and there's that much that your blood vessels are popping in your face. You know what I mean? Yeah. Absolutely. Any sleep problems in Saint Mary's? Again, that's something I don't remember if I had problems sleeping. If you can't remember, we'll just leave it out. That's no problem. No problem. Bed wetting? No. No? Okay. Any obviously, you said you tried to run away a few times, and you tried to abscond as much as you could. Yeah. Did you see any behavior changes in yourself? I definitely got lost when I went to Saint Mary's alone. As I say, you're on the obvious and real criminals at that age. You know I mean? Whether we're 13, 14, 15, they were in times I've never seen before. So I went to I ended up that's when I started stealing cars and stuff like that. I would run away with another boy from the old unit, and we would steal cars and stuff like that. Or I would try and as I say, when I go out to a home visit to my mother's, I would just run away We get reported missing, and so I I definitely got worse. Mhmm. Okay. But it's because of what you what was around you? Of course. I've never if you I I don't ever know how to steal a car or how it there was loads of things I learned. Know. I suppose, but there was loads of different times I learned how to do it when I was on to. You know what I mean? Yeah. Yeah. Obviously, did anyone witness any of the abuse happening or experience something similar? Again, it was well, the other time would be maybe you're getting to the floor, but then once you were getting restrained, people would get the other cat would get moved away. So it would only be the other staff members that will be up at the time. So it's the like, others would see you being pushed to the floor. I was the

so way it would happen is if they deemed that you were being aggressive or you needed to be restrained, it would just be two staff members who do rugby tackle you the floor. And then but before that, they would pull a pinpoint, so they would have a set of keys to open the doors. It was a wee black device. If you pull it out, it would set off an alarm, and it obviously let the staff members know that something was going on and they needed to be there. And then most staff are doing copy. You know what I mean? You could sometimes have a chance for the first couple of for the first ten, fifteen seconds. You know what I mean? Okay. Did you ever tell anyone or try to get help for what was happening? I don't remember. I probably I'd speak to my somebody about the restraining and stuff like that. I don't remember who, when, or outside that. You know what I mean? But I'd imagine because it's a massive member, and my heart is straining. I thought it was atrocious, so I probably I'd speak about speak out about it to my social worker or Okay. Somebody else. You know what I mean? But Yeah. I couldn't pinpoint a time or a No. That's alright. Don't worry. I I was going to ask what was different at this placement compared with the others. I have actually put in this box, you know, other children were locked up here for murder rate because they couldn't go to prison. I know you said Joe McGregor because he stopped someone in the neck with a glass bottle of Lipozade. And Stephanie did you say she was from Paisley? She was from think it was Paisley. Believe Stephanie Jovoska was her name, and she modeled her sister. And she murdered her sister using a dress and gown robe? Yeah. Is there anything else that you'd like me to add into this box for what was different about Saint Mary's? It was a secure setting. That was that. It was you were cut off from the bottles. You know what mean? That was effectively a prison for 10. Yeah. I like the way that you've said cut off from the world. I think that's very well put for what it was. Alright. I've just googled that. Stephanie Jovoska is a Scottish woman who was convicted in 1988 of a mother of her 18 year old sister, Gerri Jovoska in Musselburgh. That's where she was from, Musselburgh. She was 15 years old when she rang with her sister, then 16 when she was ordered to be detained for life in September 1998. Wow. Jesus. Like, how you remember things like that? It is. Yeah. But this is the thing. This is what I mean when I say, like, the amount of people I had, another client doing his, and then he was in a young offenders with the two kids who kill killed Jamie Bulger. Fuck it. And you sit there, and I was like I think, though, because of what, like, the, you know, the point of work that I'm in, I was a little bit more on the edge. I was like, I can't ask, but I was like, and what would they like? So I'm you've still got things like that. Than that? Yeah. So everybody's already got an interest in that case. So you do something to spend time with. And then you find out, and I was like, I need a new phone call with this guy just to find out what they were like. Okay. So that's everything for Saint Mary's. Now I'm just gonna ask a couple questions about Hillhead House. Yep. What was Hillhead House? Again, it was more of an adult's place. That's just for you getting basically, learning to be an adult. You had more of a flat traditional house? Yeah. So you had an office with staff that was staffed there that could help you, but you had your own kind of flat within that big house, so to speak. It was a big house in the West End Of Glasgow. You know what I mean? Okay. And I had, like, maybe but I remember there was two units. So there was a and the unit that I was in, I had staff, but they also had the corner of the the side that have blocked the flats, and you had people that left the other on their own. They had people that had progressed from being on with the staff to going to live in their own kind of flat, so to speak. Okay. So it was like a progression thing of, like, moving on from care and learning how to move out of your own house, so to speak. Yep. And did you ever experience any abuse here? No. Because it was more like, it was, like, normal life. It was a it just walked with my own door. There was nobody telling you you couldn't come or go. It was it wasn't like freedom to it.

Yeah. There was no staff to tell you you that's you. You're grounded tonight. You can't do it. You know what I mean? It was more a it was your own. And what was it about like there? That was about more about the stuff like that, but it wasn't like it wasn't terrible. It was unlivable, but it was it wasn't a a clean place. You know what I mean? But it wasn't it was, again, I don't remember how long it was there. In my head, I don't remember it'd been long. I think when I'd moved on to place to place to place, and Social Work was still paying for my accommodation at this point. I think I'd moved it. See on here let me just get it up to have a little check because I think I know that there was something else about where you went. Yeah. So after Hillhead, you were there 07V31V2000 into the September 5. You went with bank's done? Yeah. You went with your mother, then you went to your stepfather's, and then Glasgow homeless accommodation, it says. Right. Okay. And that was I don't remember that. The back end of 2000. So it looks like you were there till you were about 17. Right. Okay. Yeah. It looks it looks like. Obviously, I don't know the ins and outs. But from the Can I ask, see how the the documents that you've requested? Will I be able to get copies of it? Of course. You can. So Yeah. You have full like, you you can have them as soon as we're finished with them and, you know, we've Right. Landed everything to reach us. I'll pop that in your notes Uh-huh. Just that you would like. I don't know if that's a weird request, but I was just trying to go over it because it's gonna be about to see I'm gonna be about to see a wife that you probably don't remember. You know what I mean? Well, you didn't remember about Oakbank, and you know it. I know. Exactly. Yeah. Mhmm. I'll pop that in your notes just that you would like your records when we're done. Okay. Thank you very much. No. That's okay. I know you said it wasn't a very clean place in Hill House, but it wasn't necessarily unlivable. Yeah. I would I would ask normally, you know, about your routine and stuff, but I know you said it was very individual. It was come and go. You kinda had to it was, like, you were think you had to burn for night or you would lose your placement. You couldn't stay out, but you could come and go when you please and stuff like that. You know what I mean? Yeah. So But you had more independence. That's the problem with for you. Were given more independence to kinda see if you were to be able to go to the next house, which I'll remember. I forgot to that one. You know what mean? But that was the kind of progression. So if you've been well on this one, we kind of staff about you would do for the next one, and then I'm sure you would move on here on Yeah. And say after that. And there was no abuse in this care setting? No. Problem. Again, I just I just thought I had a friend talk over there, and I could come and go on the police and stuff like that. So my life really started to change about then, and I was kinda into the mall. No. Not I've done any better. I ended up losing a year away also. Yeah. Did you experience any fear, shame, or sleep problems here? No. Okay. And what was different about Hill House compared to everywhere else? Oh, I had my freedom. It felt like it was it wasn't the greatest place again. It wasn't the cleanliness, but I felt like I had my own freedom. It all the come which I hadn't had for years previously. I've been in places getting told what to do from, I don't know, maybe 11, 12, whenever it was. Take foster care back in London. So it was effectively just, like, getting released from the cage, so to speak. You know what I mean? Yeah. Yeah. Okay. So that's all the care settings. So what I'm now gonna do is what I'm gonna ask you is questions about all of the care settings as a whole. Right. So instead of saying all of the care settings, it's just about your experience in care. Yep. So across all of the placements, who were the main people responsible for the abuse that you received? So any names, nicknames, specific job roles, any descriptions of people? The only name I remember vaguely is Tom, and I didn't give you descriptions. It's just too vague in my head. You know what I mean? The could be wrong about that. My shift member isn't it isn't even might not have been tough. That might I could be completely

wrong, but there's something in my head telling me. If you know what I mean? Mhmm. But, again, I I even the good stuff, I couldn't even tell you their names so back in the day. I think it's just been put to a place and forgot about it. Okay. Were any other children affected, and did you witness abuse or harm to anyone else? I have. As I say, in Saint John's, I could hear stuff going on at night. I don't know whether it was sexual abuse or they were getting battled. It was just sounded like I got kids. Well, I'm having a good time. You know what I mean? What kind of thing did you hear? Like screaming or it sounded like there were maybe a gain. Sometimes it was different. You know what I mean? Yeah. Okay. And did you witness any abuse happening to anyone else or anything of the physical abuse? We would remember seeing some kids get I do and, you know what I mean, get beat up. But I would see again, it would be pretty much the same. Once you get restrained, the when the staff get there, any kids that are about would be moved away from the situation, and it would just be the staff. So, yeah, they would see the start a lot of these situations until there was enough staff to kinda move them on. Okay. Why do you believe that the local authority should have known what was happening in these care institutes? Because it's a job too. Yeah. Don't know if that's a good answer or not. But It's a great one, to be honest. I think it's it's the perfect summary. Mhmm. Okay. Were complaints ever discouraged, ignored, or punished? Definitely. I would get punished. Definitely. I am. Okay. Were you ever moved, threatened, or disbelieved if you had a complaint? Yeah. I couldn't put my finger on it, but I was definitely disbelieved a lot back in the day. Yeah. Definitely. A lot of things you said, and and I've got moved about quite a lot. As you can see, my my younger days, went to foster care, and I came from Scotland London to Scotland, and then Scotland had moved about quite a bit. So I know I've been moved as well. Yeah. Yeah. And have you ever reported the abuse to police, an inquiry, or a professional? Never. No. I've just supposed spoke to anybody about that. Okay. Why did you move between the different placements? Can you remember at all any of the reasoning? It wasn't my decision. It was made these decisions were made to my back. I never got a choice anywhere I wanted to go at that age Okay. Until until I moved out and I was basically. And were the reasons you were moved ever explained to you? They might have been. I don't remember them. They could have been. I'd imagine somebody would have came and said to me why I was getting moved. Yeah. I don't remember that. Okay. And when you did, did you ever run away, refuse to return, or ask to be moved because of what was going on? Yes. All the time. That was my my MO was running away. That's why I was insecure, you know, apparently, because I'm on the way too much. Okay. And what age did you leave care? I think it was maybe around 17 as we've just Yeah. I couldn't have told you. Would have maybe a wee bit older, but it sounds just after the last which was supposed to be 17 or so. Yeah. What were your circumstances after care? Homeless accommodation, present. And then I got out of present. Was in a homeless accommodation. I met my ex partner, and I had kids, and that's kinda where it got to. Okay. I'm gonna ask you some questions now about the impact of the whole experience. Yep. How did your experience in care affect you at the time in ways of safety, trust, confidence, sleep behavior, education, relationships, or the ability to speak up? Quite a lot there. So Yeah. You gave me me the the two points at a time with Yes. So in terms of safety and trust? I didn't feel safe all the time, and I didn't trust everybody. There was staff, but I didn't trust them. And as I said, see, there was some good ones that were good with you. You know I mean? That will be for right reasons, but I don't feel safe for the payment. I don't trust everybody. No. Okay. What about your confidence or your sleep? Sleep, I don't remember. Again, it's something I don't remember about, but I definitely got to to cut my confidence massively. Yeah. It was something I had a issues with growing up, lose my confidence because I always

get slapped up in English. You know what I mean? I'm obviously Greek, so I've got a big nose. So I got it for that quite a lot as well. You know what I mean? So that obviously, potential confidence growing up. Yeah. Till you get older and you don't give a shit. Yeah. Okay. What about behavior and education? I will definitely be in these places affected my behavior and my education. Yeah. Again, I remember from Saint Mary's, I had a couple of good classes. I loved maths. I got on really well with a teacher, and it was a class I've arrived at at St. Mary's, but there wasn't a lot of them in St. Mary's. And it was just more about the relationship, if you know what I mean, and the way the staff treated you. Yeah. Okay. Did you get GCSEs? No. We didn't. So in Scotland, it's not called GCSEs. It's called standard grades, but you don't get them when you run-in. They usually were just educated standard grade level. So I came out with zero qualification. For you. Okay. I just wanna note that down. Okay. Relationships or your ability to speak up? It's definitely affected relationships growing up even till I stayed with my own kids. I find that hard. I'm more I'm pretty so what I would do is I'm pretty cold, so to speak, because the way I'm out, and it's hard because, obviously, you would probably kinda deal with that, so it's affected me, and it's so I've no got it perfect, neither of any parent, but it's definitely affected my relationships going upwards. Aye. And what was the other one? Your ability to speak up. No. Because I think from that, it's actually something the opposite way is I've got older. I don't have an issue speaking up now. Okay. Because you can. Yeah. Well, exactly. I I I got that balance sheet. You know? Yeah. Okay. How has it affected your mental health? So do you suffer from any anxiety? See, I said I think that I I don't know. Okay. I I couldn't tell you with that. I I I definitely have not been right. But it's affected from what happened to me in care that it the the the adult, I was gonna be and I'm moving as good as I thought it was gonna be because of them. But didn't there any I only see around that because I don't know what they are. I don't know. I have both. I don't know. You know what I mean? And Yeah. I don't know. I just have to explain. Okay. What about any depression? I was definitely went through. I have a bunch of depression. Yeah. A 100% for my life. What about trauma symptoms? So do you suffer from any panic attacks? No. Flashbacks? I get flashbacks. Yeah. I always got flashbacks. I see out in situations, the the nature of person in St. John's. I've I've dealt with through my early twenties and close to my thirties until I think I blocked that out and just tried to put it somewhere, but I never thought about it as much. Yeah. What about any nightmares? I've definitely had nightmares because I was always. I definitely always I've definitely had nightmares, but yeah. So that's it. And I've got things happening because of that. Yeah. Have you ever self harmed or had suicidal thoughts? I tried it when I was in care, I'm sure. I'm trying to well, I tried to, But at four times, I was in care. Okay. Do you still suffer from suicidal thoughts? I've had a rough couple of years, the last years, and I've had me and my one of my brother's friends, my other brother dead. So I I I don't know about I've had thoughts. I don't wanna be here. I don't know if it's suicidal, but I it's been a rough couple of years. So Okay. No. Not from after my time in it's a. As I say, I went on to go with and stuff like that. So I I it was pretty much from child there and see an adult setting of that. And then once I got to my, I kinda settled down a bit. It And changed then, but I was put mmmm. Yeah. No. I understand. I'm now gonna ask you some questions about your physical health. So has it affected your sleep still to this day? No. Okay. Do you suffer with any pain because of what you went through? No. Not to this day. Have you turned to alcohol use? Don't I'm not a big drinker now. I was in my teens. I was took ecchie, ecstasy. I took cocaine, everything when I was young from early teens from Saint Mary's effectively to always the big drink of smoke cannabis. I still smoke cannabis. Okay. I my through my teens and my my early twenties, I would that's how I blocked the water. I I would imagine. Would you say that in your teenage

years, it was alcohol dependency, or would you just say that it was something you turned to? It was definitely something I used to block it all out. Yeah. So I wasn't I wasn't dependent on it. Okay. Cannabis. Yeah. I'm I'm dependent on cannabis. Yeah. I've been I've sort of sales smoke cannabis, you know, 11 or 12, I think. So Okay. Okay. Has your experience in care obviously, I know I asked earlier about your relationships, and you mentioned parenting. How would you, in a in a short sentence, describe how it's affected your parenting? Oh, I've got to my mother, so I never really I never got brought up knowing how or any help whatsoever. Not sure what I've learned is you learn is love behavior for your mother and father. I never had that, so I was kind to just learn on a go, and I wasn't always making the right decision. And I know parents don't always do it, but there was decisions that I probably could have got right if I thought maybe I had a better upbringing or I would have been Yeah. I'd have been around my own family, so to speak, and no one care. You know what I mean? Yeah. What about any friendships? I've I've always had a very small circle of friends because of my care. I trust I don't trust many people. Okay. How about the same few friends, so that's my late teen. What about your ability to be intimate with someone? Has it affected intimacy? That's when I was younger. Yeah. Mhmm. Not so much now. Okay. And your trust or I and isolation. So do you ever find yourself isolating yourself because of what you went through? I don't know if how well was it, but because I went through this one of the thing I do quite a lot. That's how I do it. I just shut myself off everybody, and that's something I've always done. And, yeah, that would stem from then, I suppose. Yeah. Yeah. Okay. How has your time and care affected your education? So I know you said you still I have zero. Zero qualification. Okay. Nothing. And what about work? I never worked until my thirties or something like that. I've never had any jobs or anything like that. Never. Do you currently have a job now? I'm not working just now. No. But I have I have been in and out of work, obviously, for the last ten, fifteen years. Different jobs, done ventilation, done and stuff like that. Okay. It wasn't until it wasn't until my late twenties, early thirties. Okay. Has it affected opportunities for you? I would say so. Yeah. I wouldn't have a criminal record. If I don't think if I wasn't in care, I probably wouldn't have a criminal record. You know what mean? If I have a different a different that's what I'm looking for. A different start in life. You know what mean? I could have maybe maybe, mhmm, never been in a different place in life. So Okay. It's definitely affected my ability for jobs. And it was just it made me a very late start up, which was a disadvantage. You know what I mean? I was thinking out and getting into work, and I've missed apprenticeships and college and stuff. Well, I know you can go back and and you're over the years, but it's I think you really need to do these things in your Yeah. For your number. You mean? To get full advantage from them. Has it affected your housing? Yeah. I've been homeless. I've been almost most of my days. You know what I mean? Like, until I've settled down in this house I'm in just now. When I got my son back, I'm in my life. My my brother passed away. My son now lives with me. I've been to. I've stayed with my son's mom. Obviously, we had our own house, but I stayed with brothers. I've been in and out of hostels. You know what I mean? So I it's definitely affected my Yeah. My life and life and circumstances going forward. Okay. And what about your day to day stability? Not so much now. As I say, it's something I put away many years ago, but it would've gone through my teens and twenties for sure. Okay. Are there any triggers, places, smells, authority figures, or situations that you avoid? I try and stay away from Saint John's. It's not there anywhere, but the places that it was, I'll stand. It's still got a wall around it. You know what I mean? But it's somewhere I just start going. We know very good memories of the place, so just somewhere I've never really tried to go back near. And is it near where you live? It's on the other side of Glasgow, but Glasgow is not a very big place. It's pretty small. I can get to about as in twenty

minutes to my house, and I'm on the other side of Glasgow. Okay. And in a few words, I know it's quite difficult, what impact has it had on your life overall? That's all. It's a hard one. I know. I need to have another couple of seconds for that one. Yeah. Of course. Take your time. Ask me the question again. What impact has being in care had on your life overall? It's gave me the worst possible start in life, Totally. I've been in and out of security units mentally scarred from years of mental and physical abuse. I don't know these establishments, so it gave me the worst start in life. And, again, I've only just started to get my shot together in my late twenties. Was 30. Okay. Which I'm still know a 100%. I still know where I would want to be in life, but right. Which is a spot. Yeah. Absolutely. And this one's a bit of a difficult one. How what do you think might have been different if you had not been in care? Oh, again, I think I would have had a a better head start in life. I wouldn't have been in foster parents, security units, residential schools, hostels, homeless units If I hadn't been in care for the start, again, I might have dealt with in the same path, but who knows if you know what I mean? I I don't think I would have been if as I came from a a better start in life. But, again, there's a lot of that stuff from my mother. So Yeah. Okay. Have you ever received counseling, therapy, mental health addiction, GP, hospital, or other professional support? No. Okay. Have you ever been diagnosed with any mental health conditions? No. And have you ever been taken any medication for mental health problems? No. Okay. Are you receiving any help at the moment? None. I've always been just boxed off, deal with, move on. No. I can't. Can't understand. Left it now, and I kinda changed that. Just try and move on. That's the good mentality I've had for the last ten to twenty year for it. You know what mean? Yeah. And is there any siblings, relatives, friends, partners, anyone that you would like to provide a supporting statement for you? No. Okay. And I I think my brother is actually wanna do his own claim because, again, he's been proved pretty much the the same as me, but just ten years later. In fact, I don't know if he'll fall on the time in, by way. It had to be before 2004. No. He'll know. He was only born in 1994, so he won't actually he won't be able to. I know. Mhmm. Bless him. I don't know why they've put that as the To be fair, I think it was a lot worse Yeah. 03V03V2000. You know what I mean? I think you were things started to get seen, and it was made more people there was more eyes on these places, so things started to change again. There was new units bowed. There was different systems put in place for restraining people. More people would have come out about it as well? Yeah. Yeah. That's that more. Okay. I'm gonna ask you the last couple of questions now, so we are really close to the end. Yep. Why are you applying to the Scottish Redress Scheme, and what would you like to come from telling them your story? Justice for the mistreatment I think I had when I was in the care set. Yeah. And for them, maybe take some response about it. Absolutely. What would acknowledgment mean to you? So what would the Scottish government acknowledge and what happened to you mean to you? The back closure of something, maybe. I don't know if it will give closure, but, like, the full stop or something at least to at least they've admitted that they were in the wrong. If they are, and I I don't know how they do that. I don't know if payment is actually an admission. Is it? You know what I mean? But it's something I don't know. You know what I mean? It's Not enough. You as if you felt wrong. Applying that is probably the best answer I could give. You feel as if you felt wrong. Yeah. Okay. Is there anything else that you want Scottish Redress to understand about what happened to you or the harm that you lived through? No. I think that's enough. Do you think that's enough? Enough? I can't give you that answer, unfortunately. Okay. Okay. Sorry. I think No. It's okay. It's just it's your statement. If you feel that it's good enough, that's absolutely fine. Oh, I think that's enough. Yeah. Absolutely. Okay. Is there anything that we haven't covered today? No. Can I just ask one question? What's obviously, it's been gone

forever. What's the turnaround time for redress to let us know what's happened? So at the minute, there is no set timeline, but we are hoping that we will have a decision and a payout by Christmas this year. Right. Okay. Perfect. I just No guarantee, but we're we're really hoping that that is gonna happen. Yep. No problem at all. That's perfect. We'll you keep as updated as we can as well. You know, if we hear anything back from them, we'll always give an update. Yep. No. That's alright. Brilliant. Thank you very much. No problem. Is there any wording that you would like to be handled carefully? No. Not bad. No. Okay. And how are you feeling after discussing everything today? I've actually feel as if it's gonna be good, getting out about it. I've never really probably smoking as much debt as I have to use. So Yeah. Alright. It feels I don't know. It's a like a weight off your shoulders in a way. I don't know. It feels weird. I feel weird. Yeah. Mhmm. Do you would you feel safe to end the phone call, though? Oh, no. A 100%. Yeah. I don't I don't I don't feel bad. I I don't know. It's a weird feeling. I don't know. I can't I can't explain that. It's I can understand. I don't I don't don't feel bad, but I'm okay. Yeah. Okay. And if you did need support, is there someone that you can contact? Yeah. Yeah. I've got my my brother and stuff just up the road, so he should go. Perfect. So I'm now gonna give you a quick explanation about the next steps. Yep. So what'll happen is I'll go away, and what I've made notes from, I'll write out into a full statement. Uh-huh. I'm then gonna use all of your care records and your GP records to create kind of an exhibit index, so just bits of proof that can be added alongside it. Yep. Once that is done, you'll receive your statement and a payment authority letter from us. Right. So the statement is just for you to sign and say that you're happy with it and that you believe it's it's as true as can be. Yep. The payment authority letter, when you sign that, it just means that when Scottish Redress do pay out, it comes to us. We'll then take our 16 plus 16% plus VAT cut, and then the rest will be passed over to you. Yep. Once that is all signed, before we send it off to Redress, we do something called an identification verification call. So that is literally a, like, a twenty second WhatsApp video call with our head solicitor and my manager. It'll just be for you to hold your ID next to your face for them to say, yep. That's you. Yep. No problem. Dead quick. And then once that's done, it will be sent off straight to redress for a decision. Okay? Perfect. If you have any questions or any queries or want anything cleared up in the meantime, you can just give us a call as well. No problem at all. Are you happy with how the next steps have been explained? Yep. That's perfect. Thank you very much. Amazing. So that is the full statement done. Perfect. So I've got everything written down there. So like I said, I'll go away, and I'll type it all up, and we'll be in touch when we can send it to you for signature. Perfect. That's brilliant. Thank you very much for your time today. Thank you for your time, and thank you for being so brave and being able to be so honest with me. No. I appreciate it. Thank you very much. Of course. Thanks very much, David. Take care. You too. Bye bye. Bye.