

Hello? Hi. Is that mister Sanders? Yeah. Speaking. How are you calling? It's just Leah again from MMA Legal. Hi there. Are you alright to continue? Yeah. Yes. Just checking. So it's in the garden, so just swapping batteries over here. Bless you. And, obviously, because this is a new phone call, I do have to let you know the call is recorded for training and monitoring purposes. Yes. I understand. And for data protection, can you confirm your date of birth and your postcode for me? 1131972. IV3HIZed Thank you. I Sure. Perfect. That's brilliant. Thank you, Colin. I have just gone sat and gone through all of your records. We've got over 400 pages. Uh-huh. I have nothing about any other foster carer. Okay. Did you was there any abuse in that other foster placement? No. Just regimental. That was all. Okay. Just regimental. It was just what was the hardest thing about that was really school, moving school again. Okay. I can understand that. That caused a lot of problems for me. Yeah. Understandably, of course. Right. Do okay? What I'm gonna do now, Colin, is I'm just gonna ask you. So I'm gonna go through each individual care placement you were in. And I know it sounds harsh, but I want you to just focus on the one that we're talking about just so I know that when I come to write your complete statement, I've got everything in complete chronological order. Okay? Sure. Perfect. So I'm gonna start with Rose Dean. So, Dean, I've got you there for four months in 1982. Okay. So Rose Dean Do have an sorry. Do you have an agent? I've been with Rose Dean twice. I don't. I'm so sorry. So we actually had I'm just gonna double check that one because just bear with me. Yeah. No. I haven't got twice, but what I'll do is I'll pop in there that you were in there twice. Yeah. Even if we don't have the records, we still got records that you were in there. Okay? Yeah. So Rose Dean Children's Home, can you tell me about the house itself? So was it a big house? How many floors did it have? It was a really big house. Like, a spider building and two staircase. One one, two, There's floors that I can remember. Maybe a third. And back steps coming down at the back, the steps to go up at the front. Okay. The the beds and the toilets. Were the toilets shared? Yeah. Well, so you had to depending on the the staff is on, I'd make you do the toilet. Okay. And was it a clean house? It was very, very strict. Yeah. Clean. Okay. And did you have your own bedroom, or did you share a room? Think I've got both because it's sharing room and I'm the one. Okay. What about school? Did you still go to school while you were in Rose Dean? Yes. I went to maybe a little cardinal family school, I think. Okay. Perfect. And what was the food like? Yeah. Meals and breakfast and lunch and dinner. Just like the place in Glasgow where I live, I sort of used to go for a few hours a day to make some tomatoes. The the they've done the same was deemed just blue cheese. Then made me think I didn't like it, and I was sick. I I I mean, I vomited, and it made me just try to make me eat my own vomit and still eat the cheese, and I couldn't do it. So I got really punished for it. Okay. Did you get options when it came to mealtime, or was it, you know, whatever was given was given? Sometimes it was a you know, given what you're given. And other times, depending on the staff that we're on and what everybody would do together. Sometimes you would have to help in the kitchen putting stuff over here. But food was food and stuff was used against you. Okay. I'm gonna ask more about that in a minute. I just wanna quickly get through, this little bit because I would like to know more about that. So I will I promise you I will come back to that. Can I ask, were you provided any fresh clothing? I can't remember. Okay. That's okay. Would it be if anything, would it be in secondhand clothes? Okay. If ever you can't remember, you just say the word can't remember, and we'll just leave it there. Okay? Because I don't want you stressing yourself out. And I know it can be frustrating when you can't remember sometimes, so I do understand that. Worries. There's something now that I'm gonna forget to remember later on. If you remember it later on, you can always just tell me really quick, can we go back to this? And I absolutely will do that. Okay? That's more

than okay to do. Like I said, you're you're in complete control. Okay? Yes. What about hygiene wise? So were you provided with toiletries such as your own shower gel, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste? Not that I remember. No. But I I just remember using the soap and stuff like that and the stuff coming in and making you scrubbing you. But, like, I don't know the stuff you can use for scrubbing your nails. I I wouldn't I wouldn't, like, the stuff in the bath and scrubbing your nails, stuff in the bath in my neck and my arms just that. Because I've got about a ton. I've always been a guy when I was younger, and people would call me parky and stuff like that. But I'm not. I just have a You just got olive skin? Yeah. I worked in my favor when I got older when I met my wife. Okay. Okay. So did anything happen to you that you would now consider as an adult to be abuse, neglect, or harmful? So these conform in terms of, under redress, sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, or neglect. Everything. Everything? Okay. Absolutely. What I'm gonna do now is I'm gonna ask you about each individual type of abuse. Okay? So I'm gonna start with this the sexual abuse first. So can you tell me a bit about what happened with the sexual abuse? People's touching you when you didn't have any baths. Okay. So it it's when you were having a bath? Having a bath or and pajamas in the bedroom. Having a what? Sorry. Lining your bed. How in the bathroom. Lining the bath, touching you in the bathroom. Okay. So when when in the bathroom or in your bedroom? Or in the bedroom when they come. When she's been sent to bed, it's getting still darker. Staff would come in the room. It tell you to do things for them and not for on on me. So they would tell you to do things to them. Can I ask what things they would tell you to do in your own words? Pull penises. Okay. Is there anything else that they would tell you to do to them? It's just it's just mess with your it's just mess with your hair and stuff. Just it makes me feel sick because I just didn't think about it. I know. I completely understand. Just just very forceful on you. They were very forceful? Yeah. They hurt you. They hurt us. Okay. Okay. Is that this is that everything for the sexual abuse, or is there more that you'd like to add? I don't know if you how you you're call promising you different things. They would promise you different things? They'd promise you things. Okay. So you didn't really talk about it in front of anybody. So everybody knew what was going on at this. Everybody was the staff, there were maybe one or two members of staff that were alright, and they would just say, find out and get to let them get to you. But they did. You you couldn't go and tell a member of staff and get support from anybody. He if you said to somebody, there was to see the makeup we're making up stories. Okay. So you were kind of just told was this by the staff? Yes. Okay. And this is if you tried to tell them what was happening, they would say you were making up stories. Yes. Okay. Okay. Can I ask and I know it is hard to think about and to discuss? I do I've completely understand that. Besides from the staff coming into your room and telling you to do things to them, was there anything else that happened that you would consider to be sexual abuse? Just to really, like, touching, you know, sitting around and touching, squeeze your backside, and stuff like that. But Okay. That was, like, kinda normal for every child. Okay. I'm now gonna move on to the physical abuse. So I want you to tell me what happened with the physical abuse and what what occurred. Dragged in the bedroom, thrown at the bed. Okay. Fortunately, taken in the the whole the the area where you the Rec Rec room, as you call it, I think. It's really regimental. It was still still hasn't shared yet. You're just young, and you you didn't know if you what you were doing wrong. Or if you maybe said something cheeky or do it any normal. I've got children on my own now to see things, and I say I stop it, and I laughed with my wife about it. But if I say that like that and I was younger in these places, I would get hit for it. So you would get hit? Yeah. I would get hit. Yes. Okay. And when you say hit, would it be a Swap in the back the head, the belt on the hand. And is this this is in Rose Dean. Yes? Yes. Yeah. Okay. So

you've got a we had swapped to the back of the head. You would get a belt on the hand. Was there anything else that you would consider physical abuse? It was just always the same. You know, there's you know, the you have butterflies and nerves. Because if we swore that the kids would kids would be kids. You know, we we would try not to put children with other children. If a member of staff heard you or or they were having a hard day, they took it out and all of us. So if the staff had a hard day? Yes. If the staff had a hard day, if they didn't meet their quote or whatever whatever whatever it was that they They would take it out of the They they would have staff meetings, and after staff meetings, they were some of them have been nice with you or decent decent enough with you. And after the staff meetings, things are totally different. Right. Okay. I understand. The reason is that is you're not pretty sure. Yeah. Most of my life until I I got a little bit older, I didn't know. I thought I was doing wrong all the time. And the way I spoke, I don't I'm not as broad anymore as I used to be. But the way the way I spoke when I was younger, I had I received no eye, but I I had a Glasgow accent. Right. Okay. And I would get absolutely seriously reprimanded for for the way I spoke. Wow. Said I they just they grab you threw your finger against pin you or just grab your hands and squeeze. Others were the one that I'm the worst for. Is grabbing your fingers and pulling your fingers back in in yourself and see it's not fucking sorry for screaming. No. You're allowed to swear. Say what you need to say. Want to I don't want to know. Okay. That's okay. The the they would say it's not f in I. It's yes. It's not fuck it. It's not f in no. It's not no. It's no and stuff like that. Yeah. I understand. I'm a Geordie myself, so the I is a a big one that I've had to try and leave behind. Alright. Yeah. You've gotta have to try and leave that behind because nobody really understood me when I first moved to Liverpool. No. It was the same when I moved up here. Yeah. And if I if I if I go to pass for now, I just need to spend two days in Glasgow on my accent for the park again. Yes. That's exactly it. I'm I'm going home on the weekend, and I know fine well when I come back. My accent's just gonna go right right up. So it's just even, like, when I would be I'm at school and stuff like that. There's some places. I would go to school and get a hell in school, get a get a bailout in school for speaking the wrong way and then go home and then go home and speak the wrong way. And if I said yes instead of I, they said, do you speak? Like, oh, that's for and get letters for that. So you get letters. You gotta be out in school, and then you get letters at home for for saying that that so you couldn't win either way. Yeah. No. I I understand. Actually the way it was. It wasn't like it was like a garbage today. Everybody that I know. Yeah. Was there any more physical abuse that you can that you can remember from Rosine? Physical. Yes. Just just the way the man handled you and stuff like that. There's just no child should have had to go through that in a scary a big, big, scary building like that. Okay. It was quite rough. Yeah. They were they were bedded up because and we don't know if it's true or not, but, similarly, there was a there was two children years before I was in there, not long before I was in there. They're in a shade outside outside in the garden, and they set it on fire, and they both died. So ever since then, they were that's why they were so strict with everybody. Whether that was true, I don't know. But there was a shade. You should see that, like, the where the big shed used to be. Like I said, I've never seen any of that. There's just stories that it would tell us. Yeah. And every time anytime they force you to do something sexually or physically, if it's always in the next day when you see them around other members of staff or social workers, they'd be so nice to you, giving you treats and stuff like that. Try and give soon as soon as soon as they're gone, the two colors come back here again. Right. Okay. I'm gonna move on now to the emotional abuse. So can you tell me about the emotional abuse that you endured? Just the staff was telling me that about how bad my my family was, the same as every other place I was in. If it wasn't for people like me,

the their job would be so easy and stuff like that. It's Just be little then. Be little then, but I I can't also be make you make you feel as much like shit. Like powerless? I'm very powerless. Okay. I tell I tell you what, and I I know I can tell that you kind of try struggling to try and find the right words for it. If I give you a couple of, you know, types of emotional abuse, and you can go from there. Would that help? Yes. Okay. So there's threats, humiliation Threats. Yes. Yes. Blame. Yes. Name calling. Yes. Isolation? Not so much isolation. Okay. Disappointment. A little bit of isolation. And not not so much. Not so much there. No. Later on in life. Yeah. Okay. Different treatment? Every child is treated different. Yeah. Denial of family contact? Yeah. I wasn't allowed to see my father. Being made to feel powerless or unwanted. All the time. Being forced All my life all my life to that. Yeah. Being forced to witness the abuse or humiliation of others. Yes. Okay. So they're what redress identifies as the types of emotional abuse, and you've just identified all of them. So I'm gonna actually copy and just put that into the into the box of notes because I think it's important to note that you experienced all of that. Now I know you I think you said before, when I said the word threats, did you say death threats? The staff has said if I kill you if you do this again or do that if you don't do that. But but we don't know how much. When you're that age, you're fighting just just the fact of getting shouted at and blamed for something. Yeah. He didn't do it or or if it was something that wasn't worth. The one with somebody who scared me shit out of you. So I make just because they had power. Yeah. That was that that was that was a big thing to to most of my childhood. Okay. I completely understand. I know you said that you also experienced neglect, so I'm now gonna just list off what's identified as neglect. So inadequate or withheld food. And not made made to eat milk. No. That's food stuff that we didn't like and stuff. So And that was blue cheese for you in Rose Dean, wasn't it? Yeah. Blue cheese in Rose Dean, and the place in was always plum tomatoes. So with the blue cheese, I did write that down earlier. Stilton Stilton blue cheese. Right. This second, This member staff telling me to I have to eat my own vomit. And did they make you do that, or were you told to do that? So did it actually happen? You were told to do it? It'd be great. It was a female and a male. Were were sexually I don't know if they lived with their partners, but I now know I'm not asking anymore that they were sexually together. And then the really one person that I can't remember just remember this woman. She was dressed up and we called aunt Sally because we shouldn't our makeup she wore. I can't name the name will come to me. And the the one of the the guys that there's just that smell of them. If you could hold your arm and grab the back of your head and tell you to I can lick it. Right. Okay. And then they suck with it just to taste of it, and they're trying to eat more of it. Yeah. Understand. If you didn't eat it, you wouldn't get your dinner. Okay. There there was an there was a female member of staff kitchen who was who knew that this was happening and couldn't do much about it. But what she did do is note it was about you. Give us jam, pieces of jam, bread and jam, like strawberry jam and stuff like that, biscuits. She would give us that when when she could. Okay. Yeah. Okay. Was there anything else that you would classify as the neglect? Can't really think at the moment. Just in the past, the stuff that is is is just it's it's overwhelming to to go for to to think of it all one time. I've never been asked about this in my life to go over all this stuff. Yeah. I completely understand. I've never I've told my wife things that's happened. And over the years, I've broke down, seen my life breaking down. My daughter overheard some things one day that that put me in a really bad place for a long time. She's only she's only 19 years old now. That was a few years ago. I didn't I'm not jumping about yet. I'm sorry. No. No. No. No. I'm I'm I'm I'm making a promise. I've never had to go into details about things. There's probably there's probably things little things that I'm missing that I'm just these people should never been some of these people should never been allowed new

children ever. Yeah. Never. I don't think they would ever outbound checks. They shouldn't have done that because there was well, it wasn't just me that happened to. There was other people the same thing happened to. Yeah. Okay. You know, if you had bruises in your arms or your legs or and kicked and punched, you you say, you've got no more careful when you're playing outside in that trees and stuff like that. You know? Were you kicked in Rose Dean? Oh, yeah. Was kicked in Rose Dean and slapped in Rose Dean in the back of my head. And any bruises you had, it wouldn't it's safe for a policy to sit in my pair of shorts on, and somebody would like, what happened to your legs? And he said, the bloody boy can't even climb a tree truffle without falling. And he would look and he couldn't say anything because he knew if you said anything when you went to bed or toilet or on your own away from everybody else. You knew you would get you knew that it would be hard hard upon you. Okay. And that stuff sticks with you. You know, I'll talk about that later on after Yeah. Absolutely. We'll absolutely get into that. I absolutely promise, because I I want to get everything down. I know you said obviously so I'm now you know, was there any names that you can remember of people responsible? So I've actually written down I know you said there was an aunt Sally and the female kitchen staff who would give you biscuits and jam when she cooks. Yeah. Was there anyone else who you can remember? No. I can't remember the names. It doesn't have to be names. It can be roles, descriptions, what they look like, you know, with a male, female, brown hair, blonde hair. There is male and female. Male and female. A big woman. It's it's to me, now when you see men back then with beards, mustaches. Mhmm. You think that that old man. Now I'm 54 years old now. I look at a 19 year old boy with a mustache and a beard, and I wish to save my life. How old are these people? Yeah. Because to me, that looks like an adult when I was when I was a wee boy. You know? So you don't you don't understand that. To understand what age they were. Yeah. It's yeah. It's like as I got older, especially when the when the all all of it, the worst of it's time to get in touch and what happened. The worst of it happened before I I went into home as well, and the worst that got happened was. And we will get to that. Okay? Yeah. Yeah. I understand that. Yeah. Of course. Thank you. Can you give me and now I know this is difficult, but I would like you to give me one absolutely clear example where it's just clear as day in your head of the abuse you went through. It can be anything small. It can be anything big. I just need one absolute. I remember this like it was yesterday. Been touched been touched and having a hold. Where did that happen? In the toilet. And was this a male staff, a female? Male staff. A female member of staff at Aunt Sally, she knew what was going on, but she didn't do anything about it. Okay. I've added that. She knew, and she did nothing about it. So in the toilet So so to me, most staff members and staff knew what was going on. Right. But there's nothing they could do about it to help you. There's nothing they could do. Because I found out later on in life the same things that happened, and I would do I was older to to question that, answer back, type back. You know? So we'll we'll get to that anyways. Absolutely. So you said that this instance was in the toilet with a male of staff, and you said he touched you. Can I ask where he touched you? That's between my legs. Okay. And am am I right in saying your your genitals? Yes. You told me it's I'm not I'm not wrong. It's not I'm not doing anything wrong. It's for me to go hard. It's a good thing. And was this did did he touch you, or did you touch him? Both. So you were were you you were also forced to touch him? Yes. And he did you say he encouraged you to to go hard? He yes. He was saving me. But I I didn't want to to for that to happen. And I did yeah. I did go hard. I didn't know how to communicate or anything like that, but I remember I remember because that's when I first ever started remembering that happening to me. I didn't know it was I didn't get through that before, really. Okay. Have heartiness. And it wasn't because I liked it. I

wasn't enjoying it. With. Yeah. But you can see see I'm not see, I'm doing good to you. I'm not hurting you. It's nice, isn't it? That day, I'll never forget that. It's nice. The and and new one isn't nice. I knew it was horrible. Yeah. And can I ask what happened afterwards? So they've been an AC or tell you that if you ever if in my word against those words, basically, or their word. Okay. Okay. How often did the abuse happen? Was it a regular occurrence, like daily, weekly, monthly? Just every every time. So so all the time I was there, I see everything every every week. I just never I just wanted to get away from the place. Yeah.

Understandably. You go frightened when it was time for to get washed and stuff like that and to put in your jammies. You go frightened when it was bedtime. You know? Okay. And did it ever get worse, the abuse? Was that did it ever, like, get worse or change, or was it kinda just the same thing each and every time? It was much such the same. It doesn't it doesn't spiral. Okay. Obviously, I was gonna ask what immediate ex effects did you experience, but I've noted down that earlier you said you would get butterflies and nerves. You would be scared. Any bruises you had, they would say you fell. You couldn't say anything. You'd get punished. You would be frightened at wash time and bedtime. Did you ever have any issues with wetting the bed? Yeah. I wet the bed. And what would happen if you wet the bed? Will the staff help? Get my get my nose, my face, as I've done to the blanket there. There was, like, a the thing with the lady in the bed, it was, like, a itchy blanket. I'll never forget them. So there's the blankets and the blankets and stuff. But it's in the feed the bed. He would treat it like a a fucking dog. Right. That was just one man. Can you remember anything about him? Just the smell. The smell of him? The smell and and the fingernails. The long fingernails. And there's a a female member of staff. I think she was in charge of all, and she was maybe the their house boss or has or maybe she was I can't think of the right word yet. She was House manager? The head the head head of this department Okay. And turned up blind eye to all of this. Okay. Did she ever witness it happening? Other stuff other stuff that if you start to see that such and such hit me, it was just the it was brushed off? It was it was like, it didn't happen. It says, no one no one will believe you, or you probably fucking deserve it. Sorry. I couldn't say No. You're okay. Probably des you probably deserved it. Okay. Okay. What was different about Rose Dean compared to everywhere else? So I'm not asking, you know, literally just in a brief a brief sentence, you know, what was the thing that stood out to you that was different about Rose Dean. From from what I've seen beforehand, very regimental. Mhmm. Scary place to be. Not knowing one day or the next, but it's gonna happen. So much there's so many mixed emotions about the place. Okay. Okay. Is there anything else that you'd like to add about Rose Dean before we move on? There's just no place for a child to be. Just just I don't think it should've had better stuff. So for for all the children and through any anything like that. It should've had better stuff. And it's just the smell to this day, I can still when I think about it, I can still get the smell of it. It's the same as when it happened to me, everything's in mouth. I still get that smell. The smell things like that never leave you. What did it smell like? The furniture polish in. So this is a and it was deemed, like, furniture polish. It was all wooden. You know? It was just, like, they got furniture, like, the leaky. Yeah. No. It's a It just smells very light. Never smell at home. You know, it's the smell of it's a smell you never forget. See, like, in the autumn, in the leaves before you get that smell. Well, in there, it's like when you walk walk out of the building, as soon as you get to the front door and walk out of the building, you just smell that. Remember the staff are meant to smoke back then. Right. Okay. I'm now gonna move on to your foster placement with missus Geddes. Okay? Yes. Yeah. Are you okay to continue, or would you like to take a break? No. It's okay. Okay. If you wanna take a break, you just say the word. Okay? Yeah. I I found the answer from Okay. That's what it called me anyway. So Okay. Missus Geddes, what was her house like? Was it

a a house? Was it a flat, an apartment? It was a it was a downstairs and one, two downstairs, three bedroom flat. Did you have your own bedroom? No. I shared with another boy. Okay. Can you remember his name? Richard Stuttick. What was that last name? Stuttick. Okay. I think that's her name. Yeah. It was. Okay. And what was the house light? Was it clean? Was it a clean flat? Yes. Okay. And what about school? Did you still go to school? Yeah. I still went to school. Did you get any help with your homework at home? No. Okay. And sorry to have misspelled the word there. What about the food? What was the food like? Different meal. Proper meal made every day. Yeah. Just She she was so I I would go fishing a lot, and she would get my fish and make make a fish for me to eat. Whatever she made, if you've done it, you didn't get a choice. You just got what you were given. And if you didn't like it, you just went with you had to eat it or went without it. Okay. And what about clothing? I don't know if she got money for clothing, garment for this or not. But I remember the other boy stayed with us when he would be away. I would put his clothes on under my school clothes. Okay. Because the school clothes that I had before I was in there. I think it was the same clothes I had. It was, like, wear I wore well well well welly boots in the summer with trousers. Okay. And what about toiletries again? You know, any hygiene? Were you given shots? Soap, shampoo, toothbrushes today? What was in the just to use what was in the bathroom. Were you given your own toothbrush? Yes. Okay. What about contact with family? Were you allowed to have contact with family here? I was allowed to see my dad was I'd like to see my dad now again. Yeah. Okay. And and if I remember rightly, when I stayed with missus Geddes, however brief it was, I remember it was nearly Christmas time. She went away for Christmas period, and she made me stay with her daughter. I just lived at the other end of the street, but stayed with her daughter and her children. And my mother came to see me, gave me a pencil case. Stay sit stayed for five, ten minutes and just left. There was a I I remember that. Okay. Your memory is very good. There's lots of things I can't remember. There's things I can't forget. Yeah. Yeah. Did anything happen at miss Geddes that you would now, as an adult, consider abuse, neglect, or harmful in the form of sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, or neglect? Not not sexual. Okay. Not not sexual. She used to rent out rooms privately. She had a a room that two guys were staying in it, and they were just, like, straight at you and stuff like that, but not in front of it. No. But there there there's no sexual abuse or or any anything like that. Okay. There was there was no abuse in the household? No. Not not it was I was just did not like being away from from my father. I just didn't like it. Okay. So I'll ask you a different question instead. So I'm gonna say how did missus Geddes? Was it just missus Geddes, or was there a husband? No. It was just missus Geddes and her daughter, Christine. So how did was did Christine the daughter? It was her daughter. Yes. What was missus Geddes' first name? I can't remember. Okay. That's okay. Were you were you able to call her by her first name, or was that just you calling missus Geddes? I had to call her missus Geddes. Okay. So how did missus Geddes treat you? Fair. Strict but fair. Strict but fair. Okay. What about her daughter? She was a bit off. She kinda loved herself. She had she always obviously, for the not for our benefit, but she would get all dressed up to go out with her her different boyfriends. I mean, we'd we'd always been to our feet myself. The other boy lived there. Didn't I didn't have much to do with her. She she she made me she worked for for Burton's clothes shop, and she she made me missus Geddes and her daughter Christine her cost Christine made me go and do clothes modeling, And he's saying that I didn't want to do it. I I didn't I really didn't wanna do it, but it's Robert and Ford. So that was that was one of the worst things that I ever experienced with them. Okay. I had to do that. I was I was embarrassed. I didn't I didn't like it. There was no there there was nothing, like, being hurt, but the shouting and being told this is what you have to do. Okay.

But then like I said, there was nothing I I I was if I had the choice, I wouldn't I wouldn't have wanted to stay there. As I've always been with my father. Yeah. But Okay. I didn't understand. I always didn't understand why my mom to this I still don't to this day, understand why my mother wouldn't take this time they gave me. Okay. No problem. So there was no abuse, but was there any punishments for that? Punishments. Yeah. Do you wanna tell me about the punishments? The punishments, it's it's about to get pulled dirty from school. You have to put your bedroom. You went out of the bedroom. Okay. If your dinner was made, sometimes you wouldn't get it. Then that time, you get it later on, but you won't let it be called. It didn't matter what it was. It'd called. And this is later. Sorry? What was this a punishment for? Just just general. Just for misbehaving? Misbehaving. Been late coming home from school. It's it's just if you've done something wrong, if you didn't if you were leaking in the house or something like that, so she heard us any of us swear or anything like that. It doesn't matter if there was there's always a bunch of people waiting there. I think I've been I've been myself. We're all guilty of swearing. Yeah. You know, we're just young children. You know? So Yeah. We just say things. Kids just say things as well because you hear us. And She would always, like, point her finger in your face and shout and go, bully her. But she never harmed me. She never hurt me. I didn't like getting shouted at that. And then told she's just saying that bring my mother down, and she's to bring my mom down and tell me that my dad was no use because of his his his he's drinking, and I didn't like that. Okay. So she would bring your mother? She was sitting with the mother didn't care about me and stuff like that. And my dad, but he's drinking. And he's he's he's his alcohol or whatever it was. There's a problem. Okay. Yeah. Okay. Did you still wet the bed at miss Geddes? No. I used to tear my pants a lot. I used to flush them down the toilet. Your pants? Yeah. Okay. And was missus Geddes, did she ever have, like, witnessed this happening? I go out once. Yeah. But that has happened since I was younger. Okay. I just remembered that I used to pull up pants. And because of I've been letting it previous to have turnip some dirt in the pants, I was flushing down the toilet or take them and try and throw them away, discard them. That's asking what underwear was. They said I don't know. I don't know where it's gone. Mhmm. So that was but I suppose that was the thing I didn't like. Yeah. Yeah. And so the bed wetting stopped? The bed wetting stopped there. I didn't wet my bed at missus house. Okay. Did you ever try and run away from missus Gooders? There was times I I would go to my father's, and I wasn't allowed to. Okay. Did you ever have any sleep problems at missus Gerda's house? Sleep problems? Yeah. Did you ever have any nightmares, trouble falling asleep, All or my life to this day, I I have serious problems with sleep. Okay. I will get into that. I promise. Because that is further down, one of the questions. Okay. So, missus Geddes, did you ever tell anyone about I know nothing. There was no abuse, but did you ever tell anyone about being forced to do the modeling or cold dinner, sitting in your room, you know, shouting at you? Did you ever tell anyone about that? Yeah. My daughter that was just a just back then, that was just the way things were, and then you just had to accept it and get on with it. Okay. We we didn't know any different. Okay. And what was different about missus Geddes compared to everywhere else? You know, like I asked before. So just just about missus Geddes, what was different about that placement? Very just a very strict, older woman. Okay. Very, very strict woman as well. I suppose that there have to be some kind of discipline in all lives, all walks of life. But as a father, myself, and four children, I've never lifted my hands to my children or give them a ride for something they can't do. And then break down the tears afterwards and save my life. I can't believe I used to get either a letter for that or what have you for doing something so innocent. And to this day and I'm I'm gonna talk a little bit here. To this day, if I see, like, my kids doing

something wrong and my wife's dealing with it in a way that this where it should have been dealt with, I can end up ripping away and shut myself in the bedroom because I break down in tears. To this day, I still do that. I used to do it at missus Gerrit's house. Used to climb my eyes there at nighttime. Yeah. I had them in the blanket and tie because I couldn't get the street. There's always some things that that although they happened, kinda scared you. Yeah. Okay. Yeah. Understandably, of course. I'm gonna move on now to Dalnay. Am I pronouncing that right? Dalnay? Dalnay. Yeah. Dalnay. Yeah. So can I ask, Dalnay, was that a was it a children's home? Was it a a unit, a barfata? A a children's home. Okay. And okay. Okay. So was it you know, like I asked before, was it a big house? How many floors? There's two two two floors that had little window window. You couldn't open your window. Couldn't open your window maybe an inch or so. There's a lot of metal brackets in the outside to stop you opening them to get so you couldn't you couldn't open your window, go jump out the window, like, and it only open a wee bit. Okay. And was it clean? Yes. It was clean because we had we had to deal with cleaning ourselves. Okay. So you had, like, chores? Yes. Hoover and every child in there had a rota of what they had to do, bend the sugar and dishes, stuff like that. Okay. Did you have your own bedroom? I had I had my own bedroom. I was in down there a couple of times. Yeah. There's a hard one bedroom. What was in it? You know? Not down there. Was the first place in my life I ever got new clothes, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, jacket, and shoes, trainers. I've never in my life had anything like that before Yeah. Ever. And this is the first people because there's so much that happened out with the with my father and his girlfriend and his children. It's it's one of reasons why I had to why I wanted to leave my father and put back in care again. But Yeah. Sorry. What was the last question? I'm I'm I'm I'm running out It's of okay. It's okay. So when you say you had your own bedroom, what was in the bedroom? So were it a bed, a chest of drawers, a bed? A a It's a redrawer beside me, a cupboard for my clothes. Okay. A quote radio. No televisions or anything like that. Okay. What about the bathrooms? Were they shared? Shared bathrooms. Yes. Shared bathrooms. And were they shared by gender? Or, you know, did the boys have their own shared bathroom? The girls had their own? What kind of what the I can be honestly, we all we I can't remember remember because if it was girls toys and boys toys, it doesn't matter. We were just shoes and anyway. Okay. What about contact with your family? Were you still able to see your dad? Yes. I know. Okay. Can you explain to me? They said that there's I was always asked for my mom and my dad. They would always say that my dad wasn't set to come and see me at the moment, or they couldn't contact my mom. Okay. Okay. Right. Did anything happen in Dalmaty that you would now, as an adult, consider to be abuse, neglect, or harmful in the terms of sexual, physical, emotional, or neglect? Just made made to feel feel little. Okay. So I'm I'm like, emotional abuse. Yeah. There's a male member of staff, because there was a there was other there was a cook in there. And then I think her name was she's just a wee wee small woman, and she was amazing. And there was a couple of members stuff that were really good. They would give you things that there are other known as well. But there's also ones one or two that are far more structured that would, like, take their jackets off you and choose away from you so you couldn't leave with all of them. Did you say they'd take your jackets and shoes? Yes. So you couldn't leave. Okay. But like I said, I've never experienced getting hair gel, deodorant, toothpaste, denims, jacket, shoes, trainers. I was given a lot, and I've never been in in my life had anything like that, Not even from my father and my mother. Mhmm. Okay. Was there anything else that was emotional abuse? So I've got the, you know, belittlement. Was there anything particular that you can remember? Just they said that my attitude was always wrong. Okay. Okay. Down the down neighbors and I look back at it now, and there's an an

easier place to be than other places. Okay. Did you feel safe in Dal Nay? Yes and no. You don't always feel safe in places because it's just when you when you live a life like that, I would you know, I always look over your shoulder always. Like, walking on eggshells? A lot of damage was done by then. So when I lived with my father, I contacted the social work department because I couldn't take the beat. My dad didn't didn't used to hit me. And then when I joined McNally, we're done with my dad and her her children, I wouldn't be, dinner and stuff like that. So would eat toothpaste for Abia, And I would I would witness I know this has nothing to do with the homes, but this is one of the reasons why I phoned social department. Tell me everything. I want to know everything. Okay? Tell me as much as you can. I can't remember what so it was sent. I I was in those team before that. I I might have been at 13 years old, I think. I think it was the 13. June June McNally. Her now I know more. Her brothers and her sisters have all and and and and bread in a way. Okay. I used to watch her sons sing with each other, and the the the the big sister, Anne, like, flashing her her breasts and her private parts to our brothers and myself. I didn't think it was right. My dad had epilepsy. My my dad had epilepsy, and he was on tablets. And I don't know if he stopped drinking at that time, but then I used to get buttered with a cane Right. Starve no dinner at all for a couple of days. That's when I deep toothpaste. And some days, we'd only have porridge for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. But it got to a point where I couldn't take the beatings anymore from June. It wasn't even my mother. I I a in the head with a high heeled shoe, knocked out my dad, and he left some serious marks in my legs from the cane and the belt, like, hard plastic slipper shoe at the back sides. I couldn't take it anymore. And I phoned the social department to say that I was scared. I didn't want to live with my dad and June anymore. As June was left for the children, I would just stay with my dad. But because of heavy all of a sudden, he started going along with his plans. I I couldn't I couldn't cope with that anymore. So I wanted to leave, but I didn't know what I was gonna leave and end up in. Yeah. Okay. I I my father died in my arms when I was 20 years old. I sat in the hospital three days with him. I I I love my father even though what he's done to me because I blame the drink for it. I've always loved my father. I'm sorry that happened. Thank you. Yeah. Yeah. When I was 17 years old, I was told I had a fight. I doubt myself. And for the first time ever, he said he said he kept hitting me. I punched him in. I I turned around and pushed him back. I punched him and said, leave me alone, and he had a foot. I couldn't get him out of his foot. And I went with the neighbor next door who was a nurse. I phoned an ambulance, and then I told the doctor exactly what happened. And he says, Colin, if you hadn't done that, you'd find your dad dead. He's got a brain tumor, a massive brain tumor in his brain. So they only gave him three months to live. He lived for three years, and he was put in a nursing home down down in Blantyre. That's just I know my dad had a heart from what I believe. I remember my mother leaving. And was it yourself you spoke to when you told me about my mother moving down to yes, to Wales. Yeah. Yeah. She she left the house empty. She took everything out of the house, all the, all the white goods, carpets, everything. Left my dad with us. Nothing. I have all these different memories. They they affect me later on in life as well. You know? Yeah. For Jim McNally's children, the boys, what they do to each other is disgusting. And I I was a little partner, and I would go downstairs and see that's that. And June would slap me in the face. I'd help her with anything she could help. She'd help me with it to try to say that. And then I I I just got to a point where it was bad. And then now, years later, Billy and Steven have both been incarcerated for sex and assaulting children and their own children. Wow. That's why I know it was wrong. Yeah. Absolutely. I had to get away from it because of what I witnessed from my uncle and what I witnessed in Roseanne and things like that. Yeah. I just knew what is wrong, what they were doing. Thought it was disgusting.

How could people actually do that? And that and there there aren't any violent. I just remember her name Violet. She she was under her house, she was sitting at a dress and got a lady on and set a flash through the line and saw and barely looked. I'll look at that. I've looked and see between her legs. I was like, it was disgusting. Four of us are we're we're only young. Yeah. But David David said and do things with her, and she would allow them to do it. But And I I just didn't want to be there. I just wanted to leave. Yeah. I tried to tell my dad, but my dad to this day, I can still remember my dad on butter peanut butter and f and utensil in Tamazipam. I I never leaves my brain. And she was taking these tablets, and you had to have a sleep in the afternoon. So Jim would be more involved about having to behave herself. We're allowed out at certain times, school clothes, or really good school and stuff like that. Went nice and sent food. So that's what I I thought if I went to the social work department, they would stop it for me. It it did stop and down there, but then it then it got out of control. Okay. Okay. Let's, okay, let's finish off. I've I've written all of that down for, like, the the parts of, you know, before entering care and what your life was like before going into care. Let's finish off getting everything about down there. Okay. And then we can really you know, once we get all of these care settings done, we can really get into, like, the impact it's had and stuff. Okay. Is that okay? Yes. Now we have been on the phone for an hour now. Would you like to take a break before we continue? No. I'd like to say I've taken the. You're happy to continue? I'm actually sitting in my car with the air conditioning on, having a cup of green tea talking to you. Okay. I live I live I live in the banks of Loch Ness overlooking a back garden overlooks the whole of the loch. Wow. So it's very peaceful. That sounds gorgeous. It is. You only see places against the postcard. You don't think that that I wanted them to see getting this place for my wife and my children. Yeah. It reminds me of because of every time I drive home, I always stop off at a service station called Killington Lake, and it is Yeah. It's absolutely gorgeous and especially in the summer. But a lot of the time, I drive home after work, so I'll be driving home a little bit later on. And I absolutely love it because when it gets dark, there's loads of fairy lights around the lake. Yeah. Yeah. And it's just the most peaceful. You just sit there, and I don't even wanna get back in my car because it's just so peaceful and quiet. It's lovely. It's it's it's unbelievable. There's certain things that can bring you peace, harmony Absolutely. When you're on your own in certain places. I think when you could find that place of of peace as well, it's nice. Nighttime, when I, you know, when I got to the point, should run away. I felt safe in a graveyard lying behind a tomb covered in in a leaf. I felt safe there. The people were too scared to walk in a graveyard, but I felt it was safe as a place to be. You know? But I'll come come to that later. Yeah. Absolutely. We will absolutely will. Can you remember any names of people who worked at Dalnay? So I have got, I believe, you said Annette who was the cook. Annette, she was a cook. Yeah. She was a small I don't remember her name. There was another there was another woman there. I can't remember her name. The the cooks were obviously really good because they they they they come in, but done the done the cooking and left. I think the staff done breakfast, but the the dinner ladies come in Yeah. And made lunch, and and they they didn't stay there. So they would help us out, either give us cigarettes for smoke people that smoke. Okay. Or if a member of staff has got very, like, vocal, swearing and shouting, they would stand up for you and say, there's no need for you to speak to a child like that. And then you would hear that I remember what the one male male staff saying, just send your fucking sorry. I keep going. I said, just send your business. You do what you're supposed to do too. You don't look after these kids. You just look. You don't know you got caught up at night times. Remember the staff arguing over the road or said it was gonna stay in the in the home overnight. But that was just part and parcel with with the home itself, but it was a it was a place that I I did feel

safe sometimes with there. I did. Yeah. But I just didn't understand. I still back then, to this day, I I I can't find them why my mother and my father would leave me and and and not want to take me away from all this. Yeah. I can understand that. Especially when other children, when their birthdays and Christmases, their parents would come and take them out for the day. And when I came, my I had nobody would come to me. And I hated it. And then staff would say things to you and other children that make your life difficult for you. Yeah. That's that was, like, that was one of the hard things in the home. The kids pecking on you because they've got skinned and call call you, like, the the new fucking orphan boy and stuff like that because parents wouldn't come to to visits. And is that what the staff would call you, or is that what other children would call you? Both. Both? Okay. One of the staff would give the boys flags. I can't remember his name, it is better dressed than the people wearing those jeans. It didn't act like that. It just talked to different around different people. Right. So kind of perverts other than the girls. They give the girls more flags and stuff like that. Right. I never I'm not saying that they didn't with the girls, but you could just tell even now I know now they're just flirting with it. Because these girls were teenagers, like, 13. Some of them are 14. Some of them are 15, and they were having sex. Not with I don't don't think I don't know if they did with this stuff or not. I don't I could never, but I couldn't guarantee that knowing that. But, however, you could see that the girls got treated a lot better than the boys did. Yeah. They got it. It's getting stuff a bit longer. Allowed to the the the upstairs part of Dahlia's home was a bit more unrestricted. You can make your own meals. You can stay up a bit later, stream your TV, and it always seemed to be the girls that got that rather than the boys. Were and was this the male staff, or was it all staff? Male staff. The female staff the female staff, they they were they were good. There was one one lady. I think her name was was Dorothy. Dorothy? Her nickname was Dorothy. She used to come in to my room and sit and talk to me and try and try and make me feel better than I had. She knew I had a hard hard hard I'm saying a hard life. She knew that and she was always trying to comfort me. It's the only only member of staff that had ever done that. She treated you like a human. Yeah. She she would take she took me swimming with her own daughter. And one of the things she did see me when I was swimming, if anybody asks, yeah, you know, my sister's children, she she doesn't want to think she doesn't want to think people people thinking that somebody had issues have children at my age. Yeah. I cannot know what she's done. I know what she was trying to do, but she was she she was fantastic. She would sit in my room and, like, just lie in the bed beside me and talk to me And I stroke my face and stroke my head and tell me it wasn't always trying to tell me it wasn't my fault. And I was trying. And she said, it's not your fault if you cuddle me, like, says, over my finger touching my face. And and then I started rebelling against the staff. I started to rebel against the staff in Dalmaty because of how they they treated different people. You know? Privilege is taken away, and I and I would act up on it. So that's why I ended up with. Okay. Can you give me one clear example of a time that like, a a clear, you know, story almost of the emotional abuse from Dalnet? Emotional abuse from Dalnet. Just if you have an attitude, if you're told to do something by a certain member of staff and you're tired done something, then it can dent hard on you. That's easiest way to put it as far as it's kinda hard way to put it. Yeah. If you tell me how hard good memory is there and not so good memories there. Okay. It's the first first place that ever, like I said, that that was ever given a toothbrush in my own. Yep. Sorry. No. For you. Sorry? No. That's okay. Continue. I've never I've I've never been to save food. I was always was always having food. I always grew up not having the food and not getting food Yeah. Or making stuff that I didn't like. And so when I got to a place that if you didn't like it, you had to have something else. That was the first time I've experienced that. Was there any bed wetting in Dalney? Yeah. I

did wet the bed at Dalney. And did you were you pooing yourself still in Dalney? Yeah. The first couple of times, I tried to pretend that there's water that I spilled. And then you're supposed every every week, we would change to get a dirty laundry and take it to the laundry and put it put the laundry, and then you'd be giving clean sheets and stuff like that for your bed. Okay. And I would just try and get away with it and put my in the laundry, put newspaper. I remember putting newspaper on my bed to soak up the the mattress and keep turning the motors around and also mark it my my funds mark it up. Mhmm. I I would yeah. I still done that. Okay. When they found out you were you know, this was happening, were they comforting? Were they what? Sorry? Were they comforting? So did the staff comfort you if if they were aware of the bed wetting or the or the the pooing? One one one one in the morning and other ones, I feel like, I can't believe a boy your age is doing this. Okay. Just call a child, an infant, but the the one lady, she would say it's not my fault and stuff like that. Okay. It's not your fault. It's nothing to be ashamed of. And then, also, if there's any problems not to go to my my key worker or members of staff, but to go to her or trying to look at the router and wait. She wasn't there for a couple of days. She's off for a couple of days. She said, oh, we're looking at rotor, and then hold it. You have to stay calm until I get in, and then tell me what happens, and we'll try and sort her out from there. No. That was lovely. The first time. Her That's lovely. She was. She was. She was I'd never had experienced that before in my life. Was it hard to trust her at first? Of course. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Okay. So it's not when anybody touches you, you you pull back. You tense up, you know, but Yeah. This lady. You just tell. Wasn't it wasn't long. I just could tell I got that that pressure from her. She doesn't wanna harm me in any way. Yeah. She want to help me. Okay. She tell me what to do and what not to do. And if anything had gone wrong, she would make sure that certain members of staff never find out about it. And if you ever try to say about the emotional abuse that happened or, you know, when you would have an accident and they would say, you know, I can't believe a child your age is doing this. Like, if you ever tried to tell anyone, what would happen? It was slandered in front of as a child. Okay. Okay. And I've obviously put, you know, how it said how I normally ask what was different about this place. I know earlier you said that it was an easier place to be in, so I have written that in that box. It was an easier place to be in, but I wasn't home. It was and some some members have stopped trying to make it home. There was also another there was a male there was a male one male guy in there as well. I I I became a professional drummer. My dad was a drummer, my mother was a singer. Mhmm. And I I I became I can't remember his name now. Became the head of the social work department in Inverness. But he was a member of staff in in there, and he he was he was probably the only male member male person that I would ever feel comfortable around. He used to always take me to his house, to his two daughters. I I still speak to his two daughters on Facebook now and again. If you've seen me playing the band, they'll say, hi, Colin. How are you doing? And he was a really nice guy. He took me back to his own house. That's when I knew that he says, see, it's not you. Don't think you should. I wouldn't bring you back from the house from my daughters or my wife if you were a bad kid going. You're a good kid. You just need a little bit more guidance and help. And he would he he played bass guitar. He would teach me, try to teach me stuff, and there was a piano and and down there. And I would always get the I I would spend most of my time if I could in the piano room even though it was drums I wanted to play. He was just a really, really nice guy. Where there's a nice guy, there's always somebody who's not so nice. Yeah. There was never, like, sexual. It was just degrading. Made you feel like take your shoes off you, tie your jackets, Not allowed to you couldn't get your window, and I got you couldn't get away. Yeah. You said you couldn't leave the building without a member of staff escorting you out of the

building. Okay. Is there anything else you'd like me to note down about down there? No. No. I'm not sure. Thanks for the moment. No. Okay. If you think if you if you can sorry. I kinda got my words If you think of anything else, you just let me know. Alright? I will do. It's later on tonight when I go up in my bed. This is what I'm not looking forward to. Just now will be okay. When my kids come home, I'll be okay because I've still got a I've got a big garlic gardening glass here. Yeah. I'll be as long as I'm doing that, I'll be fine. See my kids later on, I'll be fine. It's when I go to bed, I'm not fine. I'll I'll forget until I'll later on. Yeah. Absolutely. Right. I'm gonna move on now to the short term foster home with missus Park. How long was it there for? You were there bear with me. Looks like you were there from '19 at Christmas time. Yeah. About September 1986 to November 1987. So just over one year. Yeah. I I knew it was a a better time. Yeah. Looks like one year, two months. Okay. With missus Park, did she live in a house or a flat? No. It was a a semi detached cottage. Okay. And two floors? Pardon me? Two floors? Yeah. Two floors. Yeah. Did you have your own bedroom? I had one bedroom. Yes. And was the how was the cottage sorry. Was it clean? Yes. It was it was cluttered cluttered, but it was it was how you respect it to be. Quite cluttered, said, but it was it was a nice it was a nice place nice environment. Okay. And what about the food there? They would ask me what I would like for dinner. She would she would allow me to make scones and stuff like that. If I if I say, can I make scones or something? Because in school, they started started to learn how to cook different things. And I made scones in school, and I thought they were lovely. Yeah. Because of because of I've always had problems with food. I I I would always want to eat all the time. I always have lots of food around me because I spent years not having any. Yeah. So I would I would ask if I could make scones. If I wanted to make scones around like that, it had a big rebound in the kitchen. I was allowed to make scones or anything I wanted to. You know? And I had my bedroom looked over down vacant here. Sorry. Pay they pay at Van Vagen. Okay. What about the clothing? Were you provided new clothing? Yes. I had clothing. I then we got a clothing grab. Okay. And with that grant, were you able to kind of pick your clothes out, or were they picked for you? I can't actually remember. Okay. Okay. Did you like the clothing you had? No. Because it was life in the islands is so different to life in the mainland. Okay. I mean, so different. I don't here, I'll explain shortly. Okay. No problem. What about hygiene wise, the toiletries, toothbrush, toothpaste, shower gel, shampoo? That was all that was all good for me, but they made sure that that was all taken care of. And would they top up if you needed? So if you ran out of shampoo, would she get you a new shampoo? Yes. Definitely. Okay. Okay. And contact with your family. Were you still able to have contact and see your father? No. I'd maybe get weekend visits to go and see my mom, I think. Okay. I would sneak up to see my father. I'd always sneak up to see my dad, especially when I found out June McNally and my kids had left. You know? Yeah. Felt a bit more at ease going to see him. Yeah. Okay. How did missus Park treat you? She treated me very nice. She's very nice to me. Okay. Good. Okay. And was there any punishments while with missus Park? No. Not really punishment. But tell I tell enough that I would believe that it'd be within the rights. I I I'm not I wouldn't say that I was ever scared of missus Park at all. Okay. She had a husband called Roland and a wee daughter called Christine, I think. Christine, I can't remember now. She's a wee girl or daughter. A young girl. Okay. And was there ever any did anything happen at missus Parks that you would now, as an adult, consider to be abuse, neglect, or harmful in the terms of sexual, physical, emotional, or neglect? Not sexual in any way. Not so much neglect in any way. The role under husband, there was an old broken down shed at the bottom of the garden beside the bee beside the bee, and he gave me wood, hammers, and saws and told me to to go and make my own den for me to sit on them. You know? However, at Christmas

time, to go they're they're very religious family. Okay. So I had to go to church, like, in Christmas Eve and stuff like that. Okay. Prayers, I didn't believe in any of this stuff. But in Ireland, they speak garlic over there. Yes. And if you don't do well with garlic, you you you get serious trouble. Serious, serious trouble. Okay. So I couldn't speak garlic. I couldn't I couldn't couldn't go outside in school. So I start that's that's when I started to rebel. Okay. But was there anything, you know, of any physical abuse? Not physical abuse. No. Any emotional abuse? Just the only the only thing I I find hard there is the the the church, the the the religion tries to trying to make the the the religion upon you. If you didn't believe in it, they weren't really happy with it. Right. Okay. That went that went from from missus Geddes mister Geddes sorry. Mister Park wrote missus Park, the the neighbors, the school, the shops, anything. If you walk in the shop and they say, and they're like, I can't remember what the answer to say. I can't remember how to say the right thing back. Then there was phone. The shop would phone missus missus Park and tell him that I didn't answer them properly in Gaelic. So I wasn't allowed to I wasn't allowed to go fishing or selling the things I got. Right. But but I didn't get her harmed in any way. I just just tried to make me speak a a language that I didn't understand. And are you Protestant, Colin? I'm Protestant. Yeah. And were they a Catholic family? I don't know if they were Catholic, but they would put me like I said, they went to church, like, every Sunday. Sounds like maybe Christian. I remember I got around because I I thought in church when you pray, you sat down to pray and stand up to sing, and it was the other way around. You know, I remember seeing let's sing now, and I stood up. I'm the only person who stood up, and I go absolutely from the the the person who was doing the service gave me a load, and all I was frowned upon by everybody else. I think I'm I'm embarrassed I'm embarrassed, mister mister Park, by because I had no I had no I was never made to do that before. Yeah. Yes. In the children's home in Glasgow, I was in a big boy, like, the Tom Tomatoes. I remember them sitting down and have to pray and stuff like that. I didn't I didn't know the prayers of the sea. I would get around for it. That's another thing. I forgot about that. Religion. I was just I just knew I was a Protestant. You know? And then over in the sky, storm away, Lewis, Harris, Orkney, Shetland. All these all these places are really strict. They're not allowed to you know, on Sunday, they don't cook on a Sunday. They don't use electricity on a Sunday, but they're not allowed to, like, have a TV on a Sunday and stuff like that. Okay. You're not allowed to wash your clothes on a Sunday. Yeah. It's a day of rest, isn't it? That they say. For for them, it's a day of rest. So you're not used to that. It's like I'm I'm laughing, but I'm laughing. I don't know. Maybe we're in there because I just didn't understand how I had to I was in I was in the wrong because I didn't know how to pray how how to pray. Right. Yeah. Even the prayer we used to say in, thank you, God. I still can't remember all of it. Lord, my shepherd. I still can't remember all of Well, that's all. I've I've never pushed I've got married in a church in Scotland for my wife because it needs to be my wife wanted. You know, and it was to make out the way it didn't right, but I wasn't anybody forever going to church. Yeah. Made to go to church. Yeah. Yeah. Colin, were you still wetting the bed at the missus Parks' house? I'm still marking my pants. Yeah. I still yeah. I did wet the bed. And what was it like there, the treatment, if that happened? I just put my washing in the washbasket. So I I I think she called up and said, did you have an accident problem? I've been, like I'd always try and make excuses up of spelling spelling and stuff like that. But in a lot of places, I wasn't allowed cups of juice and I got upstairs. And it's everything that in children's home and foster parents home, everything that had to be consumed at kitchen table. Right. Right. But was she comforting? You know? Would she help you change the sheets? No. She would just she would put sheets in my bed. The worst time she my my my bed not really made for me, I come back from school. And when I when I

go away for the weekend getting the bus in Portree to Downwell Inverness, I come back, and my room would be changed around and stuff like that. Okay. Yes. There there's a rubber sheet. That's it. There there was a rubber sheet on the bed. And was that in case of an accident? Yeah. And did you experience any sleeping problems while at missus Park's house? Always. Okay. And they would be in in the case of, you know, what kind of sleeping problems? Nighttime. Scared in the dark. I'm shaking full boards. Just so frightened. Okay. And you it was just because you were frightened at night? Frightened because I thought if you fall asleep, wake up, have a dream, and you think you're barking somewhere else, you didn't you wish you weren't in. Okay. Yeah. I get Oh, yeah. You're always always weary. Doesn't matter how nice a man is to me. Always weary. And sometimes nine nowadays, nine times out of 10, I can make eye contact with somebody I'm talking to. And within a minute, I'll get a vibe. I'll know. Yeah. And I just I'll say, I need to leave right now, or I'll I'll talk. I I've just got that that it's running into my head. But the the the sleep thing Yeah. As we go on further, my doctor actually, you've got reports from my doctor. So I'll I'll probably be on my doctor's report. I do. Yeah. I will have a look into we'll we'll go through that in a minute. Did you ever try and tell anyone about what was happening in missus Park's house or not? I wanted my my mom to know about the church thing, And I told she I was mom I don't know why. I don't know what I ever done wrong to my mom. I think she just didn't really want a child. But I said to my mom about the religion thing. She said, just be thankful these people wanna look after you. And I was, why can't you look after me then? And then I I was, yeah, I know. My dad wasn't happy about it. My dad was very unhappy about any religion trying get pushed forced upon me. But I do remember my dad. My dad did what he might have not have done it, but he always had best interest from me. It's so June McNally because June helped him in the beginning to help me. But then as time went on, my dad was a better person away from June. Yeah. And he was also with a a woman called Jenny. He was with a woman called Shona. But I was just a young boy. Yeah. And I I think I I do think with, like, Jenny, and she had two boys, Michael Kevin. And I think it became too hard for her, for me, the way I was just to be able to throw up. I was just a different child. I wasn't like a normal child should be because of the things that I've seen, how I was brought up, color at post. Yeah. That that that's that's my that's my reckoning of now why I was like that. And what was different about being with the the parks to anywhere else? They they they tried to they tried to help me, but they also wanted me to to believe in their beliefs, which I didn't like a lot. Other than other than that, they were nice people. Okay. But like like I said, come on Sunday. Sunday was a whole whole different kettle of fish. Had to go to church twice twice in a Sunday, the morning service and the evening service. So when I started going away to Dingwall or visit people in Marnest on the weekends, I'd be so delighted that I wouldn't get back home. I get picked up at the bus station in two four three, and then stay home and then go then go to church. I was just happy that I missed the morning service. Yeah. You missed one and only had to suffer through one. Yeah. And then Okay. Try try to teach a language so you can understand and get short-tempered with you because you can't pick it up. You know? But it's different for them. They they start off in primary school learning a language, garlic and English. Yeah. So it's it's so much easier to pick that up when when you're a young child. Nope. And that's how it is. Yeah. Yeah. But if you go over there and you're a teenager and you try to learn especially in our I was region. My accent was a lot stronger about them. I just couldn't I just couldn't understand the words they were saying. I couldn't pronounce them properly, and I suppose it didn't go down well. That that was that was the worst thing could ever see that happened there. So like I said, there was a school, there was just people in the shops, there was people in the church that frowned frowned upon it, and I couldn't do it. So I I I started to

rebel in school and stuff like that. I used to get I never I would I would never hurt anybody back. I would always stand and take the beating from all my life, all the homes I was in. It was when I went to Portree, I had enough. I snapped. The first time I I I was beaten up over I was in my hands back to somebody Yeah. Prison prison for three. Okay. I've got everything written down for being at the Missus Parks. Should I've got two more placements left. So I've got Ferrentosh, and then I've got Dunvegan. Dunvegan and The sky? Yes. Is that the same place as Missus Parks? Yeah. Missus Park, Dunvegan Right. Okay. And the sky. Okay. We've just got Ferrentosh left then. Okay? Okay. Once we've done Ferrantosh, we can then move on to, you know, questions which include all of the placements that you were in. So let's get through Ferrantosh, and then you can tell me a bit more about kind of afterwards. Okay? Yeah. So Ferintosh, was that a house? Was it a children's home? I think it was a secure unit. Okay. Secure unit. And can you describe it to me? There's two floors that you walk in the section. You walk in the stairs to the upstairs, but there's locked doors. Can't get through the doors and stuff like that. You go in front door is two reception doors, and then to the right, there was a a deck room, a pool table, and then and then a kitchen, a big open place where people had that had their dinners. For bedrooms upstairs, boys in the on the first London, and then girls through the through the FedEx door on the right hand side. The girls were they were in that place. It's same floor, but you you couldn't get into the girls' rooms. The girls couldn't get in your rooms during the day. You could during the day, but you couldn't at nighttime. Okay. And what about you had your own did you have your own bedroom? Was it shared? It was I had my own bedroom. And what did you have in that bedroom? You know, in a sense of I know you would have had a bed, but did you have a desk, chest, a drawers, wardrobe? I had a bed a bed and a wardrobe. Okay. What about the bathrooms? Bathroom is shared bathroom. Okay. There was a toilet you could use in your room for for a two, but there was open showers and toilets. Okay. And what about schooling? Were you still doing school? Yeah. The school is part of the home. Okay. How many people to a class? I can't remember. There's maybe there's people that come during the day for school and go back to their parents at night. But there were some shady kids there and that. Yeah. It was only you you there's there's two parts of. There was a place called the lodge, but it was a bit more I never ever got to stay in there where you got a little bit more freedom Right. To get all food and stuff like that. And then then you had the security unit where you couldn't park the windows. You couldn't break the windows or any of that. And there were stoppers in the windows. You couldn't get your windows. You had school every morning, and then plus it would come and drop kids off from different parts, a lot of villages in surrounding area and bring them to Mount Vernon, Dunwall, and the garden team, and bring them to school. So they spend the day there, have lunch and stuff like that in the secure unit, and then end of the day, they would go home with their parents. Right. Okay. And the ones the rest of us who lived in the secure in were just the street end of the building, carried on their lives Yeah. Living there. Okay. And what about the food provided to you? I've never seen a place where there is much food you could ever get. We all had to sit down together and have a breakfast, lunch, and dinner. You just have whatever you wanted Yeah. For your breakfast and free lunch and dinner. Okay. Hi, Sam. It won't be long. Won't be long, Sam. Good boy. Did you ever pardon? Sorry. I was just saying, hi. My my son is looking to lie. Was sitting in the car. I'd just say, like, in a minute. Oh, bless. Yeah. Hopefully, it won't be too much longer. I promise. Because, okay, my wife knows what I'm doing. My granddaughter is here as well. Okay. I've I've got kinship with my granddaughter. Right. Okay. Yeah. So she they've just been home from school Okay. In the taxi. Okay. We did you eat around a table together in a canteen? Was there, like, a dining hall? Big kitchen. And the

kitchen and dining hall, break room, so area at lunchtime when the kids all the kids came from other places. Right. Okay. They weren't they weren't allowed to do with a TV room and stuff like that. Or it was you could smoke if you got consent of your parents. If you're you have to be at 14 and the consent of your of a parent to allow you to smoke in there. The staff the the kids that came during the day, they weren't allowed in that part. They were only allowed in for the pool table was on the TV room at at the front part of the building. Okay. And what about hygiene? You know, toiletries, were these provided? Yes. Okay. And what about clothing? Did you get new clothing? You got a clothing brand. You were taking it in the shops to touch the clothes you wanted. Okay. Sometimes it was it was the case. You were just told last week again, But I said I remember stuff last week ever again. Okay. And what about contact with your family? I never seen my dad. I mean, it was not when I'd run away from Fairmontage. Okay. And what other members all his children are away. I've been going to see my dad. Okay. Okay. Sorry? So I and I was No. It's okay. Yeah. Did anything happen in Ferintosh that as an adult you would now consider to be abuse, neglect, or harmful in the terms of sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, or neglect? Every single one of them. Okay. Again? I older I was older, and I hadn't knew what was happening. Okay. So what I'm gonna do now is I'm gonna ask you about each individual one. Okay? And I know it's hard, but I need to get all of this down. So sexual abuse, can you talk me through what happened in that sense? Having a masturbate caller, somebody said that this man is married children of his own. His name is Duncan. Okay. Call Duncan. So when you say you have to masturbate, was it masturbating on him or over him? No. No. No. Never near him. Never on him. Right. Okay. And can you want you to touch him. He wanted so he wanted you to masturbate him? Yes. Okay. And was there anything else? Yeah. Push me on the bed and lie on top of me and not penetrate the trip between between the the cheeks and the bum. Okay. That happens all the time. Okay. And where would this happen? Would this happen in your bedroom? Bedroom, toilet, shower, anywhere I was ever alone with them. Okay. Would anything else happen? They tried to get me to to get on a road job. Okay. Okay. And then tell me that I was I was in the wrong. Okay. Did anything else happen that was sexual abuse? Kevin, he came out in my room occasionally all the time and in the pornographic magazine and told me to relieve myself to to this stuff. He said, make sure you do it when you when you ejaculate. You've got ejaculate at the top of the coin. So I know you're you're a man. You're turning a man. Okay. And then he'd do that, and then he would ask to see the magazine. And he would or did you have rolled up his back pocket or initially pictures of young children and babies and say, you are doing that to the children. And if you don't do this, if you tell any members of staff, I'm gonna make sure you get done for this. And did you? I did. I I no. I didn't. I Okay. No. I would never do that. My legs are just clean. I I would never No. No. I'm not. I just need urgent details. No. I know you don't. I don't. I know you don't. I feel sick, disgusted Yeah. Even how you do that. He was a sick, twisted man. Duncan Sollery. Sollaby? Sollaby. He was a ex army. He was a really hard man. Like, So just to look at us as a scary man, and he reduces members of staff have said to me through the years I met a member of staff a few years ago. Mhmm. The duck pond and my wife and the kids. And they said to me, Carl, I'm so sorry for what happened. Said that there's nothing we could have done. It's just the way it was. There's nothing we could have done. Something was so so wrong for what he'd done to you. I said, you tell the police that he went. There's nothing I can do for him. He said, but I'm sorry for what happened to you. My wife is there, and she heard it. And with two foster kids, and the wee foster kids held my hand. I said and he said, see, kids can tell. I said, I know kids can tell. I said that the kids feel comfortable. I've never met him before. Mhmm. And he held my hand. I was one of the other members of staff that

was there. But there there there was so many things that went wrong in that place. Yeah. So I have written all of that down, and I've put the the story of the the magazines. I have actually put Magazines. Would you say that that was one of the worst things that happened in that institute? No. No. No. Okay. Okay. I'm now gonna ask you about physical abuse. Can you tell me a bit about that? I was thrown about, checked about, punched about, I mean, to the highest level from from bank and salary. The very first time that I went to Fair and Tosh, the very first time I met him, he took a pencil and he stabbed it in his own hand. It didn't come through his hand. The the split of skin between your thumb and your your index finger. He cut stabbed the pencil on his hand and cut himself and threw the pencil at me and says, you've fucking done that. You're gonna done that. Well, you're you're fucked now, weren't you? Because you just done that to me. And then that's just such a fright. Yeah. And then he started kicking me. That was the very first day I met him. Yeah. I've put all that down. Can you tell me some more about the physical abuse? He was just just a abusive person, and he would try and make make make himself look better in front of other members of staff. If I went to my mother's my mother was always had some I don't know what it was. I tried to tell mom, but it she's just brushed it off. She's just so she's calling out stories again, sort of thing. I beg her to believe me, but she didn't she didn't I I I would get weekend visits from my mother on a Friday, that that Sunday. Yeah. But I would have to I would have to go from to her husband, Duncan, not Duncan Sullivan. Her uncle Phillips. Mhmm. I would I would go and sit in his barbershop all Friday afternoon to Friday evening till he finished, go back to my mother's house. And on Saturday, I would have to go to bed and go to Duncan's work. So he was a barber and sit in his barbershop all day. And then Saturday night, I would go back to my mother's house, and they would go in the band and play. And then Sunday, they would come home, and I've done anything wrong. I had to find out I've been smoking or had a drink and all that. There was always there was only a contact to tell Duncan solemnly about it because he was my key worker. Okay. And I would tell him, I said, look. Do do you know what you're gonna do to me? And my mother said, you fucking deserve it. No kid deserves that that constant constant Everything every decision had to be made, had to be with Andrew because he was my key worker. And I would ask this lady called Chris. She was a big, big, big woman. I would say, like, she wouldn't fit in a car. She wouldn't fit in the car. She was so big. Just we're trying to tell her what was going on, and she wasn't interested at all. Yeah. He didn't he wanted he would he get more pleasure of me doing things to him than him doing things to me. The power was in his hands. Yeah. Okay. Was there anything else that was physical abuse? Like I said, just I mean, punched in the stomach, punched in the light of the head, checked, drugged, restrained as in him and other members of staff all set in the top of me to stop me from trying to run away. Yeah. So I used to run away now and again. Okay. Can we talk now about the emotional abuse? So can you talk me through what happened with the emotional abuse? He was always telling me that I was worthless. My mom didn't scare for me because I was I was tired. My dad my dad was always the space. He would go on. It may make me feel really bad because at Christmas times and birthday times, when other kids got to go home to their parents, I was the only one that didn't get to go home. And I would get it would make me feel scared because I have to take the fucking my my holiday from my wife and my children. I've got to come out of there to fucking look after. No. You're okay. To look after you. But really aggressive. Like, spitting your face aggressive. Face up your nose. Your face aggressive. Shout and make you scared and grabbing your throat. You couldn't breathe. And his days off, but he couldn't enjoy his days some days off because he had to come to work because I wasn't going away with my mother's and my father's. Yeah. Okay. Happened the whole time I was in 7th Floor. And

there was days that he wouldn't hurt me, but that has been days when there was kids around. There was a time when there was a few boys there, and he said, to tell you what, boys, this weekend, let's see who's the best man out of all of you. See who can go and get your whole and bring back I wanna see the sexiest messes you can bring back. I said to the boys that we just came, I said, listen. Don't don't do it because something bad will happen about it. And then we went and got stuff out of the laundry laundry room, And then he said, there you go. I was the only one. I didn't do it because I knew there was something bad when it happened. And then he he found it. He said, like, did any of get your whole weekend last night? And I said, yep. I did. I know this. The boy said they did. And then he just turned and said, like, give me the give me the undergarments now. He says, I'm gonna phone the police, and they're all getting charged for for rape because you shouldn't have been you're 16 and stuff like that or whatever it was. And he would put a fear of death in his I always said he was gonna get the police to do this practice, or he was gonna sneak in a room or get in another room when he got the chance. Yeah. He just woke up at a stupid o'clock in the morning over and over and over just to make him happy. And what about the neglect that was going on there? It was just it was just a a horrible place to be in. But, Jack Goodfellow, he think he was the main think he was ahead of it. He he managed to get me to go to, a sailing a sail an a sailing boat around from scarf from from oven to tail in the car or something like that. They tried to put me on different things. I I went to work. I went to work. Like, I went out of my own bag asking people to get a part time job. I told them I was in a home, and some of them were couldn't believe that a boy my age was trying to get some work. And if we go above, Duncan saw his head. It would have to go straight to Jack Goodfellow, and he would deliver it. And what did you say Jack's surname was? Sorry. Goodfellow. I think Jack Goodfellow. Okay. He was he overseen everything. Okay. And you you if you ever brought it up to members of staff, they would just walk away. Point block walk away. Yeah. Okay. Can you give me one clear example like before of out of any of the abuse? I'd normally say the worst the worst one. Sex assault. Absolutely. Okay. It has advantage. And was that I wasn't allowed to, yeah, I wasn't allowed to look at them. Was there penetration? Yeah. I wasn't allowed to look at them. Where was this? In my bedroom, in a shower room, and and they I'm not outdoors in a yellow minibus. And was this the sexual assault within the penetration happened multiple times? Penetration happened multiple times, but mostly hand jobs. But he was always making me out to be a sick sick man because he was married and he had children. And I couldn't I couldn't work that out. And I I wanted I wanted to kill him. I've saved myself. I wanna over and over. I never did anything wrong with him. Yeah. I never did. I suppose if I ever seen a guy again I've seen him when I was in my twenties, I'd have I would have I would have I would have done I've been in jail Mhmm. If I got a hold of him when he was in my twenties, thirties now. Yeah. You know, I I wouldn't be able to control myself longer. You know? Because of because of that Yeah. For starting off as a young child and going through the worst experiences you could ever imagine in. There's lots of details I'm leaving out, but it's not all coming out properly. But how it treated me, me washing the dishes, I see that twelve, thirteen children with me about that and all the staff. And I I was on dishes, washing dishes. I'd wash them. He came back. He would come in, take through the the bins and throw all of the clean dishes and see, they're not fucking clean. Get them cleaned. And that was happened time after time again. Yeah. Clean the bathrooms, and he would come in and scuff the floors or spitting floors and see they weren't done right. And that would go on a report against us. Yeah. And cigarettes burning like, put a flag to his finger and saying, see, you you got you you've done that to me. All I've got to say is phone the police and say you've done that to me. Now it would the the

house way of not for me to not do anything or say anything for me touching him. Yeah. And he never ever he never ever wanted to look at me. Okay. Ever. I was never been so petrified as a man in my life. I know you said you ran away a few times to go and see your dad. Were you wet in the bed and have an accident in Barentosh? Yes. There's blood in my van. Okay. Did you tell anyone? Did I tell anybody? Yeah. No. Okay. And I tried to I tried to I tried to talk to my mom about his abuse of his abuse of and she said he probably deserved it. That's awful. You didn't deserve any of that. Did you have sleep problems in Ferrentosh? Yes. Okay. I've them all my life. Yeah. Did anyone witness the abuse that you received? Lots of other children got the same as well from. Okay. But you don't you don't get to see what what happened, and you just look at because we just look at each other and just try to head down and not say anything to each other. We couldn't. Everybody was even the girls with other guys, you're kinda positive because kinda positive for the girls were having sex for a couple of some of the stuff stuff there. Yeah. I'm positive about that. I'm not the only person that would say that. It it didn't happen within the males and the females. Yeah. I didn't like that. Okay. There was one there was a yeah. Another and it had to be another what do you call it? Cook. I can't remember her name. She she said she took she got me out of for the day and evening. We took her out to her house in Bewley with her husband. I went to the she made made my dinner, raised his dinner, took us to the pictures, and they both run me back home again. And so I tried to tell me she knows what's going on, and she just wanted to get me out of there and just to keep fighting and not let me get to me. But after that, Duncan put a stop to me going anywhere with any member of staff. All of his his reasons. Okay. So what that man done to me and the kicks to the door, walking the room has ruined my life Yeah. To this day. I I thought years ago, people say, if you can talk about this and get it off your chest, you can move forward and let go on. And I'm trying to speak to It doesn't work that way, unfortunately. I tried I to talk to people about it, and they said, before I would get into too much details, they would say this is your acting on your animal instincts going to do these things. And I would say, I'm I would just walk out with some of them. Yeah. I just couldn't couldn't yeah. They even sat down and looked at a man one day, and he's like he just looked at me and smiled. And I just got the most horrible feeling immediately. I said, Michelle, let's go to my wife. And she said, okay. Let's go. She said, happened there? I goes, he's a pedophile. Yeah. I said that and she goes, how do you know Colin? I said, there's just no I just feel it. I said, maybe he's not Michelle, but I get I get that feeling off of him. Yeah. And then I was started going back to see other people. I I started talking to one psychiatric I tell you what. I know. I wanna get into that. I just need to finish Ferintosh. No. You're okay. Because I want I wanna ask you some questions about that. I just wanna quickly finish off Ferintosh, and then I can we can really go into that. Is that okay? Yeah. Well, so and another thing with Ferrentosh is if we put this in a if we try to run away, I know why I ran away. The the first time I got on away was it was mostly I've never done it before, and the kids in there had all done it. They received pneumonia checking. This school is this school is one. And I would I was too scared to because I knew I would get it. But then it got to a point, and one member started saying, you'll be fucked. Something's back on back in tomorrow, and see how smart you are then calling. And I'd like, what do you what do you send out for? They said, no. I I thing is frightening me that something is coming back on. So I did I was just running away, and we pretend I was doing something, and the staff had opened the door, and I was really set. They couldn't catch me. I was I was off. I've been jumping a river, swim across the river, walk walk from Conan Bridge to Inverness through the fields and run across the Kissip Ledge. I'll go around the around the old way, walk along the railway track, Inverness, and we would hide in a place that we all called the summer house, which we

would stay in there all day during the day Right. And sleep. And nighttime, this is for fair and flush at nighttime, we would go to the the baker's bins and get food at the baker's bins. And if we phone boxes, we could get a bed and breakfast, we would take that to try and get money to load rather than come back to Okay. What was different about Ferintosh? Like, I've asked before, you know, what was different about Ferintosh compared to the others? The it's a it's a most scariest environment I've ever been in in my life. Okay. Okay. Let's go into across so these are questions now from all of your placements. Okay? So everywhere you've been, who would you say were the main people responsible for your abuse? People in Roseanne and And Duncan. The most of it from Duncan Duncan Solovy. Okay. And you said other children were affected and witnessed abuse, and you witnessed abuse yourself. Yeah? Yes. And why do you believe and this is a bit of a difficult question. Why do you believe that the local authority so this was under Highland Council. Why do you believe that Highland Council knew what was happening? Because it that was a normal thing in the seventies and eighties. Okay. I spoke you speak been I didn't meet him before. I spoke to people, and and they just said, the system is fucked. Doesn't matter what you do. There's nothing you can do about it. Okay. And were complaints ever discouraged, ignored, or punished? Complaints. If you complained, then you'd be you couldn't complain. And and down there, you should complain. And and that was that. If you complain to or or even worse, if you complain, I've got I got back to them, your key worker. I got back to to something. Everybody had a key worker that was sick, but that is it's there's lots of members of staff. Only one member of the staff is my main key worker. Everything I've got to do has to go through him. Right. Yeah. So if I say talk can I talk to you? There was, like, couple of decent people, and I would say to them, and they would just say there's nothing we can do about it. So it's just the way he is. Yeah. And then that's they was just talking about the the the mental physical abuse. They have no idea. He's trying to he's trying to talk about them to dismiss it. Okay. And were you ever sorry. Were you ever moved, threatened, or disbelieved because of these complaints? The complaints. It's just I just have to live I get to live with. Okay. Right. And were you ever told why you were moved between these different homes? My mom used to always say to me because I don't know how that my my grandmother is in my mom. But she she just said there was an an a home for a bad boys. Okay. But you were never physically told, you know, when you were moving from Dulnay or anywhere. You were never told why you were being moved. I I Dulnay, I was told that I was I was getting put to sabotage because my behavior was getting a little bit too much for them because darnly, it's the softest place you get anybody to go. Right. Okay. Yeah. But I'm starting to rebel not getting to see my father, not getting to see my mother, and not being told the truth. Okay. I was to rebel a little bit, but I've never done anything serious, serious wrong, which you'll know And my my records have no any worse than any child. I've not done anything really bad. Yes. Okay. So what's sweet is that a shop or something like that? And Even even at that, I'd be scared. You know? There's nothing bad at my records at all. Eating food, getting food and stuff like that from passing caries and stuff like that Or the baker's bins with cakes and pies to throw out at nighttime. Getting out their bins is taking a lot. That's things like that is totally done wrong. When you go to different schools, I couldn't I couldn't cope with the different schools. Because every time I went to one school, they were learning about something I didn't understand. Yeah. I go to another school, and they learn something totally different. So I I couldn't catch up with what I was doing. I used to get a lot of hard times with teachers, especially in Sky. The teachers in Sky, they were really hard hard on you. Yeah. Because you didn't speak Cali. You know? Okay. And what age were you when you left care, Collins? 17. And what were the circumstances after leaving care? Where were you left to? I was booked at Connolly

Street to k and James Wallace at Connolly Street in Vernice, and they were classed as communicators. So they would there was a bedroom I had on my own and then my kitchen my kitchen my own take my meals if I wanted to, and I could have people stay overnight if I wanted to. Okay. So you were kind of left to your own devices in a way? Yeah. Okay. They tried to put me to a park, so I was going to work in the farm, but I couldn't I couldn't I couldn't cope with that. It was the same with the religious Yeah. Same with the religion. Okay. I'm now gonna ask you we're gonna really go in now to the questions about the impact it's had on you. So the first question is, how did the experience affect you at the time? So not after, but at the time. So in a sense of your safety, your trust, confidence, sleep, behavior, education, relationships, or your ability to speak up. I have to, like, just ask me one at a time because So how did the experience affect you at the time? So how did it affect your safety? I was petrified as I, going to bed. Okay. And what about your trust? I didn't trust anybody. I still have that problem. Okay. And what about your confidence? Confidence is absolutely shattered until, I could I I started asking to get, jobs and stuff like that. Okay. I have no confidence because my my skin, dark hair, skin and stuff like that. I didn't realize it was gonna be a a bonus for me when I got older. I didn't know that. Okay. It's fine. So my confidence was really bad. Okay. Soon as I started getting involved with playing drums and stuff, my confidence started to grow. Yeah. Okay. My but my my night terrors didn't Okay. I will get into that. I promise. That is the next session. Okay. Sorry. No. No. Don't apologize. Actually, I'll write that down. Okay. Your education? Education is very poor. I've learned more in the last I've been I met my wife in 1997. I've been getting married in 2004, and we've been together ever since. We have four children and and three grandchildren. Aw. We're we're still together strong strong people as ever. If if you need somebody to tell you anymore about what what it's done to me and what it's like Well, yeah. I was gonna ask you, actually. Would you like your wife to do a supporting statement for you? Yeah. Okay. Can I take your wife's phone number? Oh, I'm just. 26. Okay. My wife sent me she's just she's here just now. Okay. Speak to Yeah. Hi. Hi there. So Colin would like for you to do a supporting statement on his behalf. Now we will have to do that another day. I'm just wanting to take your name. Pardon? My wife is in. Have respiratory problems, And I just walked outside after a few minutes, but he's been, and he's just checking over the car. So I've not quite caught my breath yet. That is all. Oh, no. You're okay. Can I just take your name? Yeah. It's Michelle Sanders. And, Michelle, can I just grab your phone number? It's it's the same as Colin. It's the same phone number? Yeah. We share a mobile Okay. No problem. Yeah. Would you be able to do a supporting statement, say, I can do tomorrow? Monday tomorrow. Tuesday. Tuesday. Tuesday. I don't think we're going to do it. Yeah. That should be fine. Don't I I don't as of the note, as as of yet, don't think we've got anything on. There's nothing that comes to mind. Okay. What sort of time are you thinking? I'm thinking maybe it's around we can do in the morning if you'd like. 11:00 in the morning. Yeah. That's perfect. Yeah. That's perfect. Okay. I can give you the house number, and you can phone on the house number. Sometimes you get, like, the mobile number there. The and if you move about the house, sometimes you can lose connection. It can come and go over the the house line. It'll be it'll be a lot clearer. If you want to give me a a ring on that. Yeah. Yeah. If you can give me that one. Yes. 01463 Yeah. 861 Yeah. 384. Perfect. Okay. I'll do that tomorrow at about 11AM. I'll give you a call, and we can we can do that together. Okay? Yeah. Yeah. That's great. No problem at all. Really? Forward to speaking to you. Okay? Okay. Thank you very much, and I'll speak to you tomorrow. Okay. No problem. I'll speak to you tomorrow. Okay? Yeah. I said I'll be in a short issue. No. That's alright. Thank you for that call, and it's gonna be great to be able to get a supporting statement. She's very lucky to have her. She she went in that coma last

year. Oh, bless her. She cut she's struggling. It's really warm just now here. It's at 29 degrees. Oh. And when she's walking about, she's and she was in a coma. She had a thing called strep pneumococcal. Yes. So both of her lungs both her lungs filled up. Wow. There was another girl next to her, younger than her, who died. And she was in a coma for eleven days, and they told us after the first the fifth day, it wasn't looking good. You know? But she she came out of it, and she she's been admitted to hospital eleven eleven times this year and stayed in to eleven days to fortnight or slightly more. Last year, it's a lying bed. I've our our oldest kids are in their 26, 25, 20. They'll get wee boy. He's not he's nine, and I used to lie in bed with him last year. I think I thought I was gonna lose my wife, and she was the only person that knows I spoke to her things and understand me. Yeah. And I I couldn't cope with it. The the hardest thing is looks at my my boy, a wee voice, and how am I gonna tell this boy about his mom? Because she pulled through it. So she just gets a lot of breath. Oh, bless her. Well, that's okay. She's just sitting chill while we do our phone call. Bless her. Okay. She's a she's a she's diamond. Oh, I'm so glad you've got her, Colin. Yes. So my wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for her. She's a she's a civil servant. She's a executive officer for DWP. Right. Yes. She's a if if somebody asks for a loan or something and they get it, then they're not allowed to they disapproved, and they if they I forgot the right word. I'm looking for it. If they if they refused it and they appealed against it, the appeal goes to my wife, and she will find out reasons and why that appeal should be overturned. Right. Okay. Yeah. I get you. So so she for that reasons as in somebody phoning and saying her brother died in an ambulance, and she was phoned in the hospital and phoned the ambulance department and asked them and said, nope. No. They've been in here. And she phoned them back and said, I'm sorry. We just there's no record of your husband or your boyfriend, whatever, dying in an ambulance. Yeah. So that that was her as what she done. But she she comes from a strong family. Yeah. My mom died, grand, and grandpa. She's polar opposite from me. You know? So it took me so many years to tell Michelle things. But when I started telling her things, she's statement, this makes sense, Colin, to me now. Yeah. So I will get her a full account tomorrow, and that'll be really supportive for your, application. I'm just gonna ask you a couple more questions, Colin. Is that alright? Yes. Perfect. So what I wanna know is, have you got any mental health conditions such as anxiety, depression, trauma, panic, flashbacks, nightmares? I have p s PTSD. Is that diagnosed by a doctor? The doctor just said to me, call. This is PTSD. Okay. I have a medication. I've seen the. My doctor know I've asked for sleeping tablets for so long and two years, and they're asking why. Because I I had a serious accident, my back, and I was working. Right. But my spine collapsed on a lot of oxycodone medication. I'm off of all that now, but my back's still done, and the results wouldn't give it to me. So I had to start telling doctors a little bit at a time, and I couldn't couldn't get in any further. And just saying that I've been through sexual assaults and stuff like that. Yeah. I couldn't put it's not impossible to go into in any way, shape, or form. Like, today is the only time apart from my wife. A little bit is to a psychologist. Little just a little bit is trying to talk to them, but not getting anywhere. Okay. To this day, I I I can't sleep at nighttime even if I take tablets. I I can't sleep. Soon as my wife is sleeping and my kids are sleeping, I am on edge every single night of my life. And it's because of my past, and I know it is. I I know what I feel. I suffer night after night after night. I had to drink bad for a long time. Okay. Nighttime because the drink would put me to sleep, and I would just fall asleep and wake up and forget about it. But then the drink would rob me of it over the next day. Make me so tired and stuff. So I don't drink. I don't smoke. I don't do anything like that. I'm not no. None of his wife doesn't because of her respiratory problems. Okay. Just the kids kids smoke, but they're not allowed to smoke at the house or anything like that. You know? So Colin, do you see any

any physical pain because of what you went through? Pain? Any physical pain? Every time every time I fight, like, I get pain, I get piles a lot all the time. Okay. I get piles lot of pain there. Piles. It's a as I don't know I don't know how to put this, but that's that's the pain. It's not I'm not I'm not nothing's happened to me now. It just when that happens there, I've gotta touch myself there. I can't. I just it puts me all wrong. Okay. I'll go to my bed. I can't get my bed. I won't eat. Because even my wife is she's like she's like during the day, if everybody's up and doing something, I fall asleep like a baby in a in a cradle. And somebody was cuddling me and shaking up on me. I just fall out cold because of I'm in a safe place. Yeah. I'm in a safe place. My wife's there. She's out doing doing things. The kids are about. I feel safe. But as soon as nighttime comes or I'm on my own, Things go don't work out so good for me. Yeah. I understand. So being being alone is something that you'll try and avoid? Yes. And I mean, before before I met my wife, there was many times I thought of end ending my life. And so is there any any other triggers? So is there any anything else that you avoid? Any places, any smell, situation? Smells smells can trigger things off to me. What kind of smell? The furniture polish, chlorine, certain brew aftershave. Okay. Through aftershave. And, like, the any advert on TV that anything that comes on the TV that's sexual assault, my wife will quickly grab the controls and turn it away quickly. It could just seem what's happened to me. I walk out the room and don't see anything to anybody and just walk away. So if something comes on I was trying to do little test in YouTube about what do you what's the first thing you hear when you hear this noise or you hear this word? What word do you hear? What picture? What do you see since you've seen the picture? I've I've done that. By the time we got the end of that, I was what I mess up is in. And they said you have to pay for it to get your results. I was like, I'll never do it like that again. No. You know, everyone wasn't asking me what I've been through. They were just asking, what do you hear? And like, stop it. You you you ship it, and I would hear you ship it, and I like to see her. Stop it. It's just a way it came across a picture. Did you see a skull or do you see a lady? I would see a skull and stuff. Just stuff like that. I I tried that for 12, but I think that there should be coming a massive warning sign to people like myself. Is there anything else, Colin, that that triggers you? Just just, like, some it just came to my mind. It just comes out of my mind. Seeing a certain car's Programs is on Neighbors is on program Neighbors. I see that. I get upset because that was on the phone all the time. My my son my it's on the police record. My oldest son, Colin Sanders Junior. A man grabbed him in '26. I saw him, and he was only seven years old. And when his homeowner told me, I tried to get to the house, the time I got there, the police and CID were there the rest of the month. And that's why we managed to get a house where we are now. Uh-huh. Because we had to get out of the house and stick with it in. There's a registered pedophile for my son, but that I couldn't handle seeing what it was doing to my boy. But then it was also making me think of what happened myself. I decided to sit down with my son when he was older and explain it to him in a way. How does it bother him now? And it still affects him. So I tried to tell him a little bit about myself, and it ended up in tears. Jim, my cousin, said, if you ever need to talk talk about it again, let's talk about it. But he has ADHD, so he deals with things in his own way. Yeah. But just shouting shouting in it, like, people shouting. So, like, just shouting in general? Shouting in general. I'll turn I'll get I'll turn my head instantly. My wife will she'll paint a picture of it. I feel sorry for them because they're the ones that have to put up with me when all this all all the triggers, know, all those things that I've been through my through I've experienced in my life. When I'm not good, it's my wife's children that suffer for it. I'm not never hurt my children. I've never left my hands with my wife. I've never done anything like that. Yeah. I couldn't I couldn't because it was hurting myself. However, I've shouted at them. Trying to understand,

and my wife's crying saying I do understand. And then I have to take medication sometimes. I'm on, like, stuff called tetiapine. Okay. Just now. Guitidine. Just stop stop. My my mind gets a certain way. I can't control it anymore. The thoughts just went through my head. I'm crying. I'm I'm really bad. I take a good time frame, and it just what it does is it levels my head out. Okay. And can I ask, do you work, Colin? I've worked all my life, but I had a serious accident at work. I've worked. What did you work as? I've worked on the building site on roofs building sites and for the gas British gas. Okay. And you said you had an accident. What year was that? I think I it's been the time the streetscape nineteen, twenty years ago, over three years ago. Should we go with, like, 2006? It was a long time ago. Yeah. We'll go with I'll just put around '2, like, approximately 2006. And then has that made it so you can't work? Yeah. I have to get deep denervation jugs every year. It's with the foot. Are they the needles in the in the spine? On the spine and the the burning nerves. Yeah. My god. It's painful. Yeah. It's sore. It's not nice at all. No. I get that. I've had that done every year. Jesus. And it's with the pain management clinic, they have they have people who talk to for for mental issues. I tried to help talk to them. So have you had counseling? Yeah. They can't they can't cope with it. It's it's too much. One one of the ladies started trying to rise out. The same concern is hard enough for a lot of people that she deals with. She goes who went through a lot of abuse from the same person for many years, but not as many people as I have Yeah. Different people through my life. She said, I don't know. How how do you still cope with that and understand why it's what it's taking on life in the past. How my children. I've thought about it. Yeah. Okay. Have you ever self harmed? No. Okay. Can I ask really quickly? I know I want you to continue, but I just wanna ask, how has it affected your intimacy with your wife? In the beginning, I had a lot more confidence when I when I met my wife. I'm I'm about, you know, a few years older than my wife. Okay. We've had sex and stuff like that. But then I would go all quiet at times afterwards, and she didn't understand why. But it took me a while to explain. It's something we've worked hard as a as a couple. Mhmm. Okay. And what about has it affected your parenting? Now I know you said you've never laid a hand or would never, but you have shouted. Would you say that what you went through affected your parenting in a positive or negative way? A positive way. And why is that? Because I would never ever put my children through violence ever. Okay. They even start talking about it now. I'm I'm I'm putting in tears. I know. My wee boy is just right now, he's about 20 meters away from me. He's nine years old. He's playing his friend. And I thought if anybody even just slapping his bum, his hand, I I thought I couldn't cope with that. Mhmm. And I thought that's when I get that's the triggers thing to me. I sit and look at my children growing up. I said, how the hell can anybody do that to somebody that age? It's not right. Yeah. It's actually not. It's not I she she had he says in TV program to watch. My wife watches these sort of things. I should turn it off. That's why I'm in the room. I've sat and spoke a bit of things together over and over and over. But I told you when my son, oldest boy, Collin Junior, when he was sexually assault, the police never involved social. He was a he was a registered felony from North Scotland. Okay. And, also, it was not bad. My mother worked worked it was a it was do you call it? There's a all these guys have just lived in this all all these different houses. There's, like, shelter and stuff if you want to see them. And my mother was my mother was going to move into one of them. I said, you're gonna move into a place where that man happens to be now, but I'm not your grandson. It's been they couldn't do it, sis. And it's just for me. I said, mom, you can't do this. I said, if you go anywhere near there, you'll never get to see us or your grandkids again. Yeah. But it doesn't doesn't it turn up my down. And now my mom's the husband, and she doesn't know what isn't even who I am anymore. But I've always when things went wrong as much as it did in different places and growing up my life. There's many

things that I just don't know. It's where I lived with many my aunties, my uncles. I lived in a farm in Whitebridge. My uncle George, he was a head shepherd there. He used to put me in dog kennels. He'd make me dog food. He would hang me up when they slaughter the deer, and they hide there. He just put me in there. And his wife, and she was fighting the cow with no doubt. I was took to White Bush Primary School. I've been so many more primary schools, and there's no Yeah. You know? So there's there's so much emotional damage done. So my dad couldn't help me, and my auntie's not gonna try to help me. But I I found out, was it yourself? Yeah. My grand tried to my my grand tried to come and get it. I didn't know him I didn't know him the last four. Yeah. Okay. I've written all this down. Don't worry. Can I ask and this is this can be quite a difficult question, but what do you think would have been different had none of this have happened? I would I'd had a better life. Yeah. I would've had a better life. I wasn't maybe trust people a little bit more. Yeah. It's it's had a serious impact, and I still it's I said to my wife twenty years ago, I need help for this. I need help. I need to talk around people. And then I I couldn't talk to certain males. I felt so uncomfortable in certain males. I didn't talk to females. Yeah. I talked to She just said, I don't know. It looked like I could walk past you in the street tomorrow somewhere and not even know who you are. But they you know where you know all this about me. And that will affect me tonight and tomorrow and for for a long time. That'll affect me because I I I have no idea who you are. But I feel comfortable talking to a female than I do a male because there's been more males that is is really hurt me. My mom has hurt me and hurt when I was a child, but nothing like like I've been through. And and those feelings getting tossed. You know? Yeah. The the sex assault that I experienced since first time ever and as a wee boy, my mom and brother, and stuff like that. All that there, and the worst of it is getting harsh. Like, using some baby pictures and saying, I'm gonna see that you you must have been to that. That there doesn't that doesn't that stuff like that doesn't leave you. So when well, like I said, when I go in the house, I walk past people and look and see, that could have been that lady I was talking to the other day. I know it's not. You know what mean? But that's that's how I it's from that. I'll always I don't know what happened. They've come on and stuff. We I have no idea. But maybe once I get rid of my records, I'll get it. Because I know what happened to me. I don't know why it happened to me. I don't know why it was me I had to get through that, but I wasn't the only one. There's thousands of children that children have gone through this all over Yeah. Everywhere all over the world. Okay. But you don't think of other people. You just think to yourself. Well, we're now on the last couple of questions before we finish. So I've got three questions for your application, and then I've got three questions after that. K. So why are you applying to the Scottish Redress Scheme, and what would you like to come from telling your story? It was my wife that phoned up one day, and she said that she thought that I would take closure from it. Okay. And what do you wanna come from telling your story? What do I want? Yeah. I I want peace. Like I said, I'm I'm 54 years old. I've I've spoke to people, survivor, other survivors who seem to get on better in their life now. And they they say it because of what I'm doing now. Some of them have done it, and it's made up a better life for them. Yeah. So everybody's just everybody's different. Yeah. So I I like, all everything that happened to me, if my parents didn't pick up or if they didn't put me in these places like, took me with a bit of false appearance, none none of this would have happened. Yeah. And I didn't ask for that. Nobody would ask for that. And maybe maybe I I don't want to be an old man who sits and flies his eyes out at adverts or things like that. Soldums. There's a film called called Sleepers. I watched that, and it took me all wrong for days. Yeah. And then I watched I watched it on my own I'm trying to calm my head in a little bit. It's just maybe I'll understand why my parents didn't want to be around around me. Yeah. You know, I don't I

don't want to be like I said, when I was 40 years old, I don't want to be a 40 year old man, 50 year old man still like this. I'm 54 years old, and I'm still the same. I I have no closure. I have nothing for it. Yeah. Okay. And what would acknowledgement mean to you? So what would the Scottish government understand and what you went through mean to you? Forgot an apology of some kind. It would help me a lot. I don't know if it I don't know. I just don't know until something happens how you how you it's a hard one to answer. But I would like to close you. I would I wish I could get an apology from some people. It's not much to ask, but you know? Okay. And is there anything else that you want Redress Scotland to understand about what happened to you? I don't know what you mean by that. So is there, like, is there anything else that we haven't spoken about that you want Redress Scotland to know? Anything like that? Just the the the stuff that I've seen told you what I've seen going on with my dad's girlfriend's kids doing that to themselves. I can give you their name so you can check it out, and you'll know you can go to the courts, and you'll find out exactly what happened. I had to live in the same room. I I just starved and watched them sex assault each other. I told you Yeah. Both both of that boys when I I wanted to leave and get out that house, I phoned the social department to help me. Because they always said it's the other TV. If there's any abuse going on in my life, phoned the social workers for help, and I did. And I I got help, but it's not the help I wanted. I ended up getting abused even more. But the two boys that my dad just engaged to their moms my dad just engaged to their moms. The two boys, Steven and Billy McNally, June McNally's two sons, they both got both been jailed or have sex assault on their own children. Okay. I'll definitely look into that. Okay. Billy's a year older than me. Steven's he's younger than me, and Anne is a couple years older than me. Okay. They've gone to the name of she's under the name of McNally or Philly. She's under the name of Philly McNally or Philly McDonald's. Okay. It's it's over in court. It was on the TV. It was it was all over the place. But as a young child of 12 or 13 years old, knowing how wrong that was and having to get out of that environment, I got out of that environment by phoning the social department to help to help me get away from abuse of getting beat ups, starved, and watching watching insists go on. And then because of the the switchboard department took me in places that I ended up getting abused even more. So this child line helped didn't help me as much as it could have. Okay. That's not as to do what I've got to say. Okay. Is there anything important that we haven't covered or any wording that you would like to be handled carefully? Right now, my head's, like, in overdrive at the moment. I'm I'm numb. I feel numb. It's just my head is getting in the circle just now. So I'm there's nothing else that I've been probably I'll try and speak to a wife tonight about this, and she might say to me something that I've not said to you. Okay. I tried to write everything down and then set it fire and put it away. That that doesn't work. This thing is that people I go on YouTube and type in how to deal with trauma, and you try these things, it doesn't work for me. So I don't know if there is such a thing as a support group out there because everybody is different. I don't know if that make me worse or make me better. Okay. I'm gonna explain the next step to you. Okay. So now that I've got your witness statement, I'll be getting your wife's support statement tomorrow. Once I've got that, I'll write them both up into fully written out statements. Okay. I'll then create a cover letter, put the statement in, and add all of the evidence that we have into that, what we call a bundle. It gets sent to you for a signature just to say that you're happy with, you know, everything inside is is true to your knowledge, you know, and then there'll be a payment authority letter as well. That letter just means pardon? I I just I have to go through all this again. No. No. No. No. So I'll write it up into a completely written out statement because I've just been taking notes, I've got a recording of the call. So I'll write it in to your statement. That's why I was saying I was gonna say you've got a

recording of the do not need to do this again. Don't worry. I I don't want to do this again because No. That's okay. It just it would be sent to you. You don't even have to read it. You just need to sign it for us to say that you you know, it's everything that we've discussed. You're happy that it's true to your knowledge, and then send it. It'll be sent back to us. Okay? Yeah. Is there can you tell me and you did this 11. There's so many people like us you've been through many cases of what I've been through. Yeah. There's quite a few. Is is and what what is there anybody that's that you've asked? Is there anything they can do to make it better? Is there anything they've done? I don't know who they are. Lot of done. A lot of them say the same as you, that it's it's a struggle. But definitely speaking about it, a few of them have said helps and getting it all out to someone that you absolutely don't know like myself. You you don't know me. And so a lot of them found talking to me helped a lot. See see if, anything can off good from this. Did I ever be able to see you for a a video call? To see me? Yes. Just to talk to so I with my wife so I can see you, and you can see me so I know that's all my story to. Yeah. I can arrange that. Yeah. I was with my wife. I'm not meaning a right now. We have really No. No. No. Of course. If it helps you, it helps. It's it's just that it's it's not if I get closure out of all this, what what I was told, anything if there's any anything money that comes out of this, it's it's not I'm not gonna take that money. It's gonna do something for that. That money will get spent on my children Yeah. If I ever play like that. But it's not it's not just that. It's it's finding out things that my mom and dad have lied about to me. The social work department, I've I've never been in a position to tell me to to tell me these things because they're being too young to understand it. Yeah. So I've I've never known, and I suppose I'm gonna read some of this stuff and be a bit disappointed about it. So I'm gonna have to try and re rebuild myself again from that. Yeah. But I think you have to now see, this is easier said than done. Sometimes you have to hit rock bottom before you can build yourself back up again. Definitely. Just it's about you know, you've got you start have to start from somewhere. It seems to be for me, I hit rock bottom, and I get to a certain plateau, and then that's it. I go 10 steps forward and 30 steps back. I know. Well, Colin, have are you happy with how the next steps have been explained to you? Yes. And do you would you feel safe to end the phone call? I don't feel safe to say what? Would you feel safe ending the phone call? You don't feel like you're gonna harm yourself? I'm not gonna harm myself. Okay. I will cry. I will, like, go in my room. I'm gonna cut my grass just now. Finish off, cut my grass. I've got my room. Not a problem with me for the rest of the night. And have you got someone who can support you? My wife. Okay. My wee boy. My wee boy. My young boy. Okay. And he's he's he's done. Yeah. If he says something, it's it's really great. If if he says to me, dad, can we go fishing? I'll I'll I'll go fishing with him, and I'll deal with this later on. So, no, I'm not gonna I'm not I'm not gonna harm myself. Okay. Good. I'm not gonna do that. If I was gonna do it, I would have done it a long, long time ago. Well, Colin, that's the statement done. Okay. I wanna thank you for your your bravery for being able to open up to me about that because I know that that was really hard for you. And I do I do appreciate that you were able to do that with myself. I do appreciate that a lot, and I think you're very brave. Yeah. So it wasn't easy, but I you made it whatever happened, you made it comfortable to try and explain it. That's not make sense. Yeah. I'm glad that that's the case. Alright, Colin. Well, what I'm gonna do is, like I said, I'll do the statement with your wife tomorrow, and then I will contact you when I've got everything prepared. Okay? Okay. Alright. Thank you very much, Colin. If you need anything else in the meantime, just give us a callback. Okay? Okay. I will do. Thank thank you for your call. Thanks very much for your time, Colin. Take care. Okay. Thank you. Cheers. Bye