

TAYSIDE REGIONAL COUNCIL
SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

AREA

CHILDREN'S HEARING
INFORMATION SHEET

Name of child William Tarkett

Address 72 Bonnet Hill Court
..... Dundee

Date of Hearing 30.06.74

Time of Hearing 11.30 to

Reason for Hearing Review: S. 48(2)

Name of Reporter Margaret Spalding

Names of Panel Members

..... Mrs Patchard Chairman

..... Mrs Wainwright Member

..... Mrs Beckett Member

State grounds of referral accepted:

Comments: Mr Tarkett appears to be a good child
Sent to (S) & Mr home under supervision of
Prepwork

Disposal: Continued for 6 weeks for supervision report
Said to attempt to enjoy Mr Tarkett

.....
Social Worker



Tayside
Regional Council

McNair
X of species
phase
Wabeni

**Social Work
Department**

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Young People's Services
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MS/ES

29 June 1994

Prepared by
Social Worker Marion Selfridge

Tel ext 210

**SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT
CHILDREN'S HEARING**

The following child:-

Surname	Tarbett	Dates of Birth	(2) [REDACTED] (3) 09.07.91
Christian Names or Forenames	(1) [REDACTED] (2) [REDACTED] (3) William	Religion	
School	Rosebank Primary School Lilybank Child and Family Centre		
Address	7D Bonnethill Court Dundee	Occupation	

is to appear on 30.06.94 at Dundee Children's Hearing

in connection with

CHRONOLOGICAL UPDATE - AREAS OF CONCERN SINCE 19 MAY 1994

10.05.94 S Review, CC, see minutes.

25.05.94 Mr Tarbett in Kirkcaldy at Women's Aid hostels looking for Ms Archer.
Michael present with sister and Lisa.

Director
Peter James Bates

Tarbett Family

25.05.94 Lilybank informed Social Worker that children will not return to Family Centre as Mr Tarbett been advised by his solicitor to have no more contact with Social Work Department and to wait and see what their next move is.

26.05.94 Continuous threats from Mr Tarbett about what he and his sons will do to Ms Archer.

31.05.94 Mr Tarbett had discovered Ms Archer's phone number. Had continuously phoned, putting children on the phone saying they hated Ms Archer. He had also discussed allegation [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mr Tarbett has made [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

01.06.94 Contact with Accident and Emergency DRI. [REDACTED] had been knocked down on Hilltown on 28 April 1994. No serious injury. Information not passed to Social Work Department.

02.06.94 Meeting at Polepark Family Counselling Centre with workers from Polepark, Lilybank Family Centre, Rosebank Primary School, Social Work Department, Mr Tarbett and his solicitor Jim Caird.

Further sessions at Polepark to be arranged.

08.06.94 Family Centre staff concerned. GP had contacted them to ask if [REDACTED] required further medical examination. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

16.06.94 Mr Tarbett angry that Family Centre had reported him to police for threats towards [REDACTED]. He stated on the telephone that he had assaulted [REDACTED] while the children watched from the car. When concerns were expressed that this may have frightened the children he said that they had laughed and found it funny.

28.06.94 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Discussed with Dr Ramsay confirmation that Mr Tarbett did attend Accident and Emergency with [REDACTED]

Dr Ramsay has concerns that [REDACTED] continues to have [REDACTED] while in Mr Tarbett's care. He also has serious concerns

Tarbett Family

that Mr Tarbett continues to discuss [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mr Tarbett continues to refuse to have contact with Social Work Department. Last home visit to children on 10 May 1994, but [REDACTED] and William continue to attend Lilybank Child and Family Centre.

Mr Tarbett continues to refuse access to the children and Ms Archer unless it is in his presence. Serious concerns exist regarding the children's part in the continuing acrimony between Mr Tarbett, Ms Archer and [REDACTED]

Concerns from GP and Social Work Department regarding [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has continued with behavioural programme set up by Mrs Anderson (behavioural support Rosebank Primary) and Mr Gavine (educational psychologist). [REDACTED] behaviour has improved although he is still supervised by Mrs Anderson at break times.

William's behaviour/progress at Lilybank has caused no reasons for concern.

[REDACTED] behaviour/progress at Lilybank Family Centre is on the main good but she can have her off days.

Mr Tarbett has refused to co-operate with assessment programme at Polepark Family Counselling Centre.

Mr Tarbett has refused to allow the children to attend therapeutic sessions at Polepark Family Counselling Centre.

Mr Tarbett has reguse to allow Social Worker access to [REDACTED] and William.

Mr Tarbett has refused to allow the children access to their mother supervised by Social Work Department.

With the above points under consideration and the continuing concerns for the well being of [REDACTED] and William, the writer would recommend that the Hearing be continued for a period of four weeks to allow Mr Tarbett the opportunity to co-operate with programme of assessment and Child Protection Plan.

WITH CONDITIONS

Tha [REDACTED] and William continue to attend Lilybank Family Centre on a full time basis for this period.

Tha [REDACTED] attend Lilybank Family Centre on a part time basis for this period.

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Tarbett Family

That Social Worker be given regular access to the children on a regular basis as per Child Protection Plan.

That [REDACTED] are given the opportunity to attend therapeutic sessions at Polepark Family Counselling Centre or other suitable resource.

That [REDACTED] and William have regular monthly access to Ms Archer, supervised by Social Work Department.

If Mr Tarbett fails to comply with supervision order and conditions attached, serious consideration must be given to implementing a Place of Safety order on [REDACTED] and William Tarbett.

Marion Selfridge
Social Worker
Children & Families

29.06.94
MS/ES
teams/ch1/marion/tarbett

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POLEPARK FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRE

Sessions attempted to be set up with D Tarbett
Workers - D Law & S Smillie

D Law, Social Worker, wrote to D Tarbett on 24 March inviting him
to a meeting at Polepark on 31 March - DID NOT ATTEND.

Paid a home visit on 31 March - NO REPLY.

D Law wrote to D Tarbett on 1 April stating we would call on 7
April. NOT AT HOME - spoke to Mr Tarbett's sister.

D Law wrote to D Tarbett on 11 April suggesting a home visit on
14 April.

D Law visited 14 April - NOT AT HOME.

D Law wrote on 28 April asking him to get in touch to discuss -
no reply.

Sessions set up for [REDACTED] at Polepark
with workers S Smillie and Marion Selfridge.

First session

6 April - Both children came to Polepark - session taken by S
Smillie.

Second session

13 April - both children at Polepark - session taken by M
Selfridge.

No more sessions took place as D Tarbett would not allow children
to come back.

Sandra Smillie

Sandra Smillie
Family Counsellor

29 June 1994

POLEPARK FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRE

TO THE REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL IN TAYSIDE

FAMILY

Father: David Tarbett

Mother: Linda Archer

Children: [REDACTED]

William Tarbett dob 09.07.91
[REDACTED]

The following is a report detailing Polepark's involvement with above family since June 1993. Work carried out has been:

Individual work carried out with [REDACTED] Tarbett (July to September 1993).

Individual work carried out with [REDACTED] (September 1993 to March 1994).

Linda Archer was involved in some family work in regard to the children's individual sessions between July and December 1993.

BACKGROUND OF SOCIAL WORK CONCERNS RE SITUATION IN FAMILY/AFFECT ON CHILDREN

Long term relationship difficulties between David Tarbett and Linda Archer. History of Linda Archer leaving home for periods with or without children. History of David Tarbett making life difficult for Linda Archer when on her own in an attempt to get her to return to the family home.

Continued acrimony between the parents during separation which involves the children.

History of allegations and counter-allegations by each parent about the other relating to standards of care/abuse of the children.

[REDACTED]

The children's aggression to each other and other children.

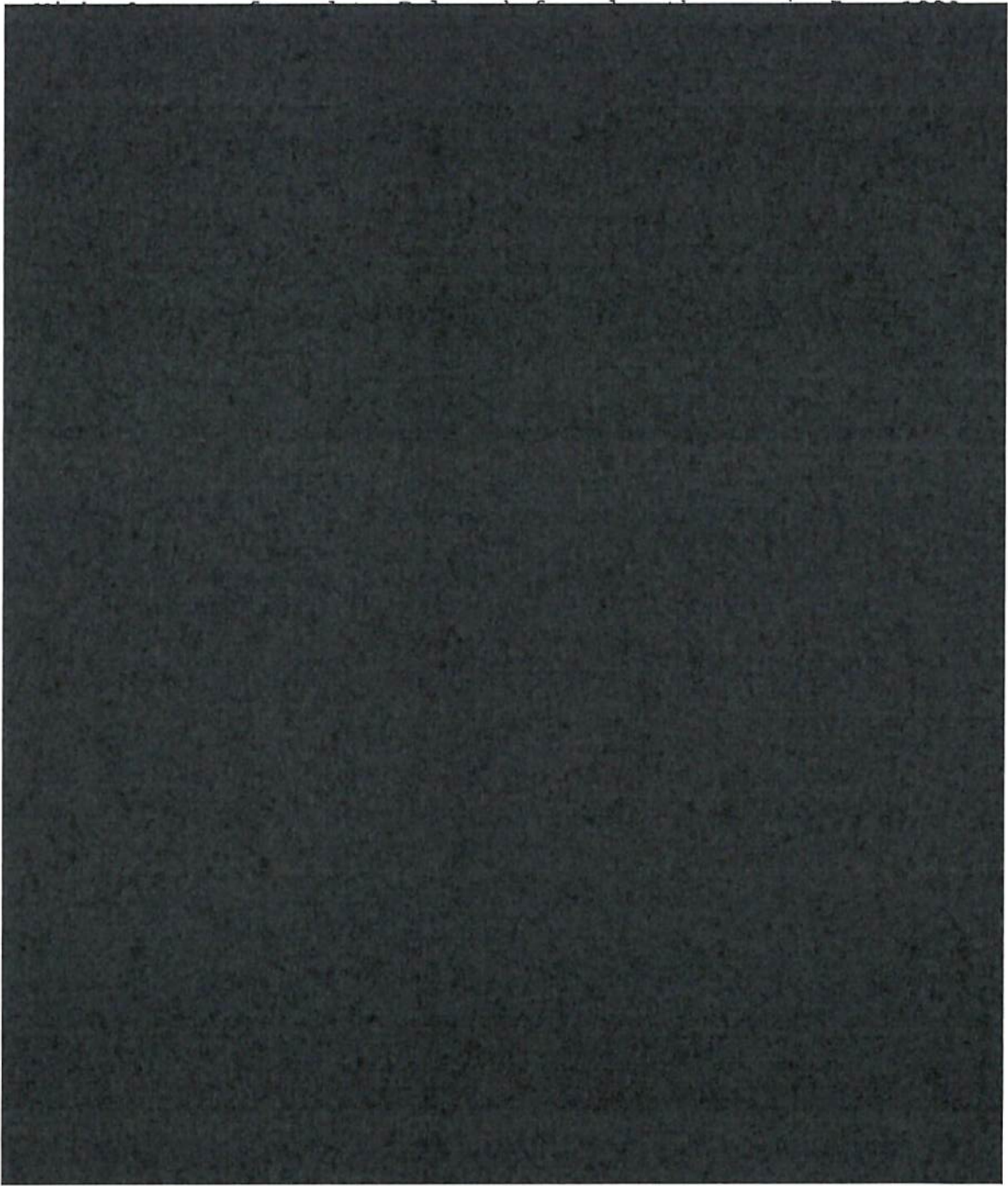
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Recent concerns regarding the safety of [REDACTED]
Tarbett.

[REDACTED]



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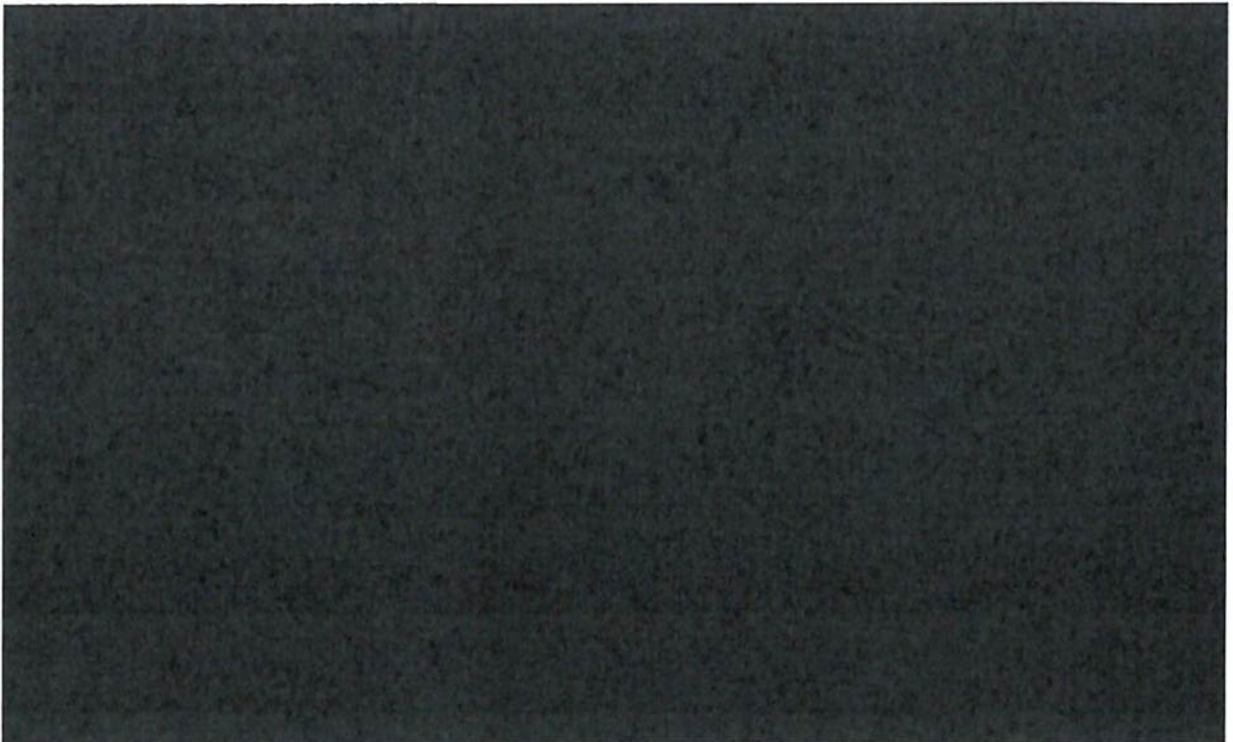
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Linda Archer agreed to come to Polepark for feedback about [REDACTED] sessions and to look at his concerns. David Tarbett was also asked but refused, saying he did not see the point.

Linda Archer felt many of the concerns regarding the children were difficult to address and change due to the ongoing difficulties in the couple's relationship. She acknowledged that she did want a more settled life for the children ('a better life than I had') but was not sure how to achieve this. She felt in a Catch 22 situation - she could not see a future for herself with David Tarbett and she could not see them agreeing around the children/where they should live if they separated again. She was aware that [REDACTED] was affected by the situation - said he had seen too much. Worried about his aggression, said Mr Tarbett, however, saw this as normal boy behaviour.



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SUMMARY OF RECENT SITUATION

After the latest departure of Ms Archer and [REDACTED] from the family home in January, Mr Tarbett said he felt unable to cope on his own with [REDACTED] and William and they were received into care for a short period then returned home (at his request). The longer-term and cumulative effect on the children of this on/off relationship worries those involved with them.

It is reflected in the children's behaviour, particularly in respect of [REDACTED] at school and [REDACTED] in the family centre. Behaviour has been seeking attention, biting, fighting, unable to get on with other children. There is concern around as to why [REDACTED] continues to display sexualized behaviour/language and as to what is behind the recent comment of a sexual nature made by [REDACTED] to a worker in the family centre. There is also concern that the children have been denied any contact with their mother which they emotionally need. In recent months there has been safety issues regarding [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] has had two minor bumps with cars and [REDACTED] has been seen on a busy road unattended by an adult.

Mr Tarbett continues to provide the children with a home, making sure [REDACTED] attends school and [REDACTED] and William, the family centre. While it is positive he attends to these needs, it is worrying that he will not acknowledge wider issues regarding the children and work at resolving these.

At a workers' meeting in March it was felt there was a need to carry out a comprehensive assessment towards decision-making, ie a decision as to whether the children required reception into care or whether it is safe enough for them to remain at home, continuing work.

A structured assessment would allow workers to:

- 1 Assess the individual needs of the children.
- 2 Give the opportunity to listen to each parent's wishes regarding the children and assess their ability to care and provide for the needs of their children (individually or together).

Social Work and Polepark drew up the following plan which provided two social workers (one male and one female) and one Polepark worker to co-work together with the family.

Two workers (one male and one female) to meet with D Tarbett and children at Polepark once per fortnight, to listen to his

wishes and explore his ability to work on issues relating to the children.

Two workers (two females) to give [REDACTED] Tarbett time at Polepark to explore how life is for them - the good bits/the hard or worrying bits.

Two workers (two females) to meet fortnightly for access with Ms Archer and children to listen to her wishes and explore her ability to work around the children's needs.

Workers have been thwarted from the undertaking of the assessment.

- 1 Mr Tarbett has consistently refused to take part himself.
- 2 After two sessions with workers seeing [REDACTED] together at Polepark, Mr Tarbett refused to allow them to attend further.
- 3 As Mr Tarbett has refused to comply with access for the children to their mother, assessment of Ms Archer during access was not possible.

CONCLUSION

In view of on-going concerns regarding this family, workers involved in this case over the last year have spent much time and energy setting up a joint support system (social work, Polepark, Lilybank Family Centre and school) to help the family care for their children. The programme of work with social work and Polepark offered individual members the opportunity to express feelings and voice concerns or worries they had living in the family, in order to then work towards more positive change.

It is my experience that Mr Tarbett (and Ms Archer when she was at home) happily accepted the supportive element within the system, ie family centre for the children, but found difficulty taking on issues (re care/safety) which have arisen from the work and which need to be addressed in the family. It would seem that the more worrying issues (detailed in report) mainly affect the two older children, [REDACTED]. Mr Tarbett, when pressed on these issues, will mainly deny, minimise or not accept rather than address and work to change. This leaves [REDACTED] in a very vulnerable position.

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As regards a recommendation, it is Polepark's view that serious consideration be given to [REDACTED] Tarbett's reception into care, placing both children together. This would allow an assessment where we would form a better understanding of the children's emotional needs and of both the nature of the sexualised behaviour and what underlies it. It would also allow some assessment of what both parents could offer the two children in the future. This has proved impossible to obtain in the present circumstances. We are aware the social work team who hold the case are also considering this as an option.

Sandra Smillie

Sandra Smillie
Family Counsellor

10 June 1994

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POLEPARK FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRE

MINUTE OF MEETING HELD AT POLEPARK FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRE ON
2 JUNE 1994 REGARDING THE TARBETT FAMILY

Present

Marion Selfridge	Social Worker, Douglas, Dundee
Steve Murray	Senior Social Worker, Douglas, Dundee
Sandra Smillie	Family Counsellor, Polepark FCC
Jean Dorward	Centre Manager, Lilybank FC
Diane Cochrane	Centre Worker, Lilybank FC
Helen Anderson	Behavioural Support Teacher, Rosebank P5
David Tarbett	Parent to William, Linda and Michael Tarbett
James Caird	Legal representative for Mr Tarbett

The purpose of calling today's meeting was as a consequence of the case conference on 19 May 1994 and to discuss proposals for continuing the work set up at Polepark FCC and the social work department.

Before the meeting began it was agreed that there were no conflicting opinions within the staff group and that all staff had a similar end goal for meeting the needs of the children.

Main Points re Discussion

- 1 As regards Davy's contact with the social work department - Davy has now sought legal representation and his solicitor has advised him against any contact with the social work department.
 - Davy is refusing to allow the children access to Polepark FCC and is not attending the organised sessions himself;
 - Access between Linda Archer and the children is being denied by Davy;
 - Marion stated that home visits are difficult due to non-co-operation by Davy;
 - [REDACTED] and William are continuing to attend at Lilybank FC.
- 2 Marion is continuing her contact with Linda and felt Linda had a good relationship with [REDACTED] Linda still wants to see the children but wants no contact with Davy.
- 3 Linda is at present awaiting emergency re-housing.
- 4 Concerns were expressed over Linda Archer's drinking.
- 5 Linda is continuing her 1:1 work with Diane at Lilybank FC concentrating on behaviour modification and school preparation work.

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6 Jean advised that there are no concerns re William at the centre at the moment.

7 Helen Anderson, working with [REDACTED] on his behaviour at Rosebank PS, explained the behaviour modification programme developed by herself and David Gavine (Educational Psychologist). She stated this programme was working and [REDACTED] was showing improvement. There was, however, an incident on 1 June 1994 in which [REDACTED] had "exposed" himself to other children in the playground. Academically, she stated [REDACTED] is keeping up with normal classwork.

8 General concerns about the children were made clear to Mr Caird (Legal Representative) and the conditions of the supervision order were specified:

- Children attend organised sessions at Polepark FCC;
- Children attend Lilybank FC daily;
- Children have access to their mother, Linda Archer.

9 Steve Murray stated that an anticipated date for a Children's Hearing would be in about 4 - 5 weeks and reports would be sent to the reporter to the panel for [REDACTED] before this date.

It is hoped that the panel may defer decision and a plan of organised work and assessment will be presented to Davy at this time.

Proposals for Continuing Work

- Steve Murray stated that the department were willing to offer every help they could to Davy in order to meet the needs of the children.
- The work originally planned with Dougie, Marion and Sandra will continue and Davy will be sent a programme of events with hope that he may co-operate.
- Steve Murray stated that Child and Family Psychiatry were to be involved in the assessment programme. Davy is to contact them for a general chat before any programme is developed.

Diane Cochrane
Centre Worker, Children's Services Lilybank FC

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