

APPROVED MINUTE OF DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL ADOPTION AND FOSTERING PANEL HELD ON THURSDAY 29 AUGUST 1996 AT POLEPARK FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRE, DUNDEE

6 Permanence Plan

6.1 [REDACTED] & William Tarbett, c/o [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Present at Discussion:

Phillip McGill	Social Worker	Kirkton Road SW office
Margaret Leslie	Social Worker	Kirkton Road SW office
Marion Selfridge	Social Worker	Whitfield SW office
Anne Partington	Snr Social Worker	Kirkton Road SW office
Joyce Gall	Resource Worker	Kirkton Road Resource Centre

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] & William)
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

It was noted that the Form E recorded the date of the plan for permanency as having been March 1994. However, Marion Selfridge, Social Worker who completed the Form E, believed this date should be March 1995. It was agreed that Phillip McGill, Social Worker, will check this matter.

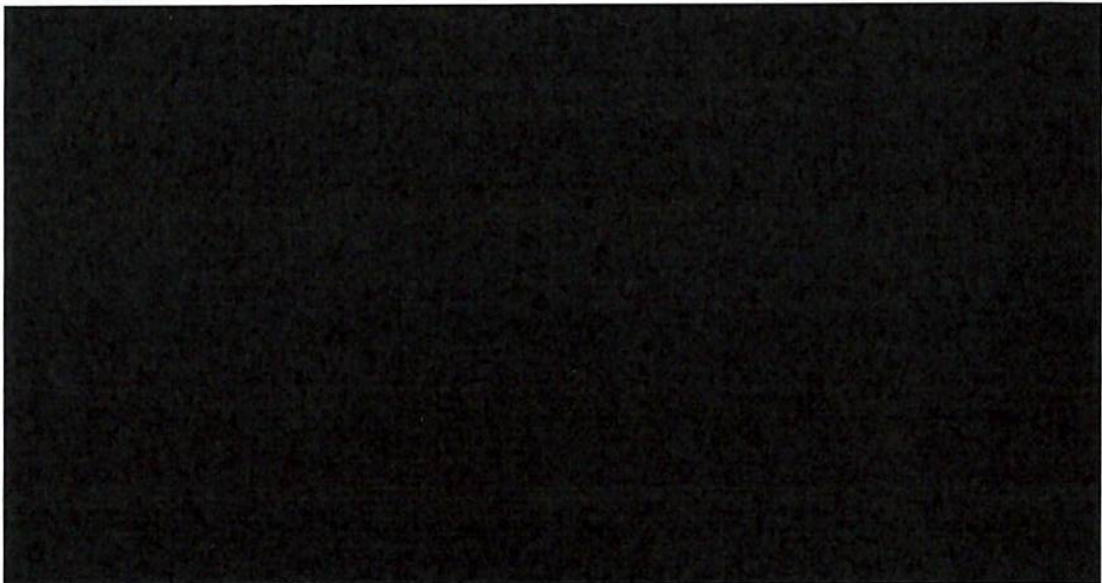
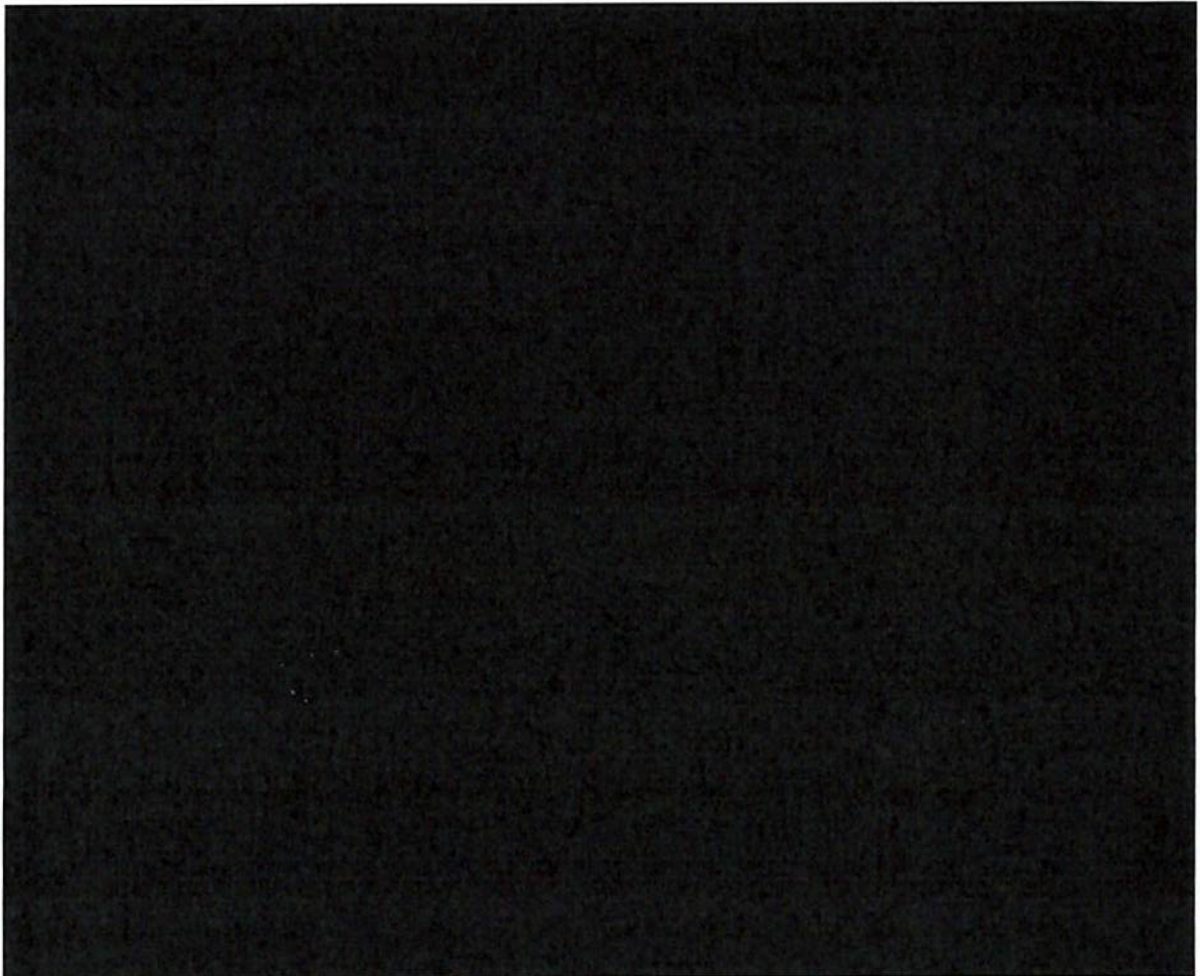
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

With regard to why this case has taken such a long time to be presented to the Panel, Mrs Anne Partington, Senior Social Worker, stated that her team took over responsibility for the Tarbett children in February 1996 on the understanding that this would allow Mrs Marion Selfridge to complete the Form Es. This was done due to the fact that the management of the case was taking up such an inordinate amount of time ie separate access sessions, parents and children in different places. Mrs Partington informed that, since the Form Es were completed, the medical examinations took up more time and it was only after these were done that consideration could be given to setting a Panel date.

The Panel asked if the delay in time had been caused by the Social Work Department or had it been due to some other reason. Mrs Selfridge replied that, in March 1995, the decision was taken to pursue permanency. Rehabilitation had been attempted and it was agreed that the children would not return to their father or mother, either separately or together (they were living together as a couple at that time). However, Mrs Jacquie Roberts, Manager, had stated that there was still a possibility that Linda Tarbett, mother, could resume the care of one, or more, of the children and so the situation was left. However, the children's parents again separated and there was yet another delay in order to reassess the situation.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Dr Dewar advised that the children were seen by Dr Patricia Gallagher, CMO, on 16 July 1996. It was noted that the children were quite disruptive during examination.



William

William's family history is the same as [REDACTED] histories. Dr Dewar described William as a healthy 5 year old boy who does not require any regular medication. He does not attend the GP for any current problems.

When 5 weeks old, William suffered meningococcal meningitis, a condition which is sometimes associated with hearing loss. He failed to attend the Audiology Clinic for check-up but he was recently re-referred. Dr Dewar informed that the basic testing carried out at medical examination did not diagnose any problems but this does not mean William has not suffered any hearing loss.

It was noted that William suffered asthma when younger but has had no problems since 2 years of age. It was further noted he still required his pre-school booster at the time of his medical examination. However, this is now up-to-date.

William reached his developmental milestones at 3½ years. He presents as a bright, able child but, at the time of his medical examination, failed to demonstrate appropriate skills, particularly in respect of fine motor skills, pencil skills specifically. His concentration span is limited. He was noted as being lazy in respect of self-help but it is not known whether this is a genuine laziness or if he is simply not good at self-help tasks.

In general, William's behaviour is attention-seeking and immature. He has also had numerous changes of address and has witnessed various types of abusive behaviour when in his parents' care. He suffers physical and verbal abuse from his brother, [REDACTED] and his own behaviour can be violent or sexualised at times. William also attended Polepark Family Counselling Centre but this was discontinued.

William requires security in his life - he needs an environment in which he can receive and reciprocate love and attention. He likes both adult and younger children's company.

With regard to his education, it is felt that William may not cope unsupported in Primary 1. If this is the case, Dr Dewar stated that William will be seen early in P1 by her Department and an appropriate referral will be made to the Education Psychology Service.

William has been referred to Ryehill Clinic. It was noted he may require referral to Child and Family Psychiatry at some stage in the future.

[REDACTED] & WILLIAM IN PLACEMENT

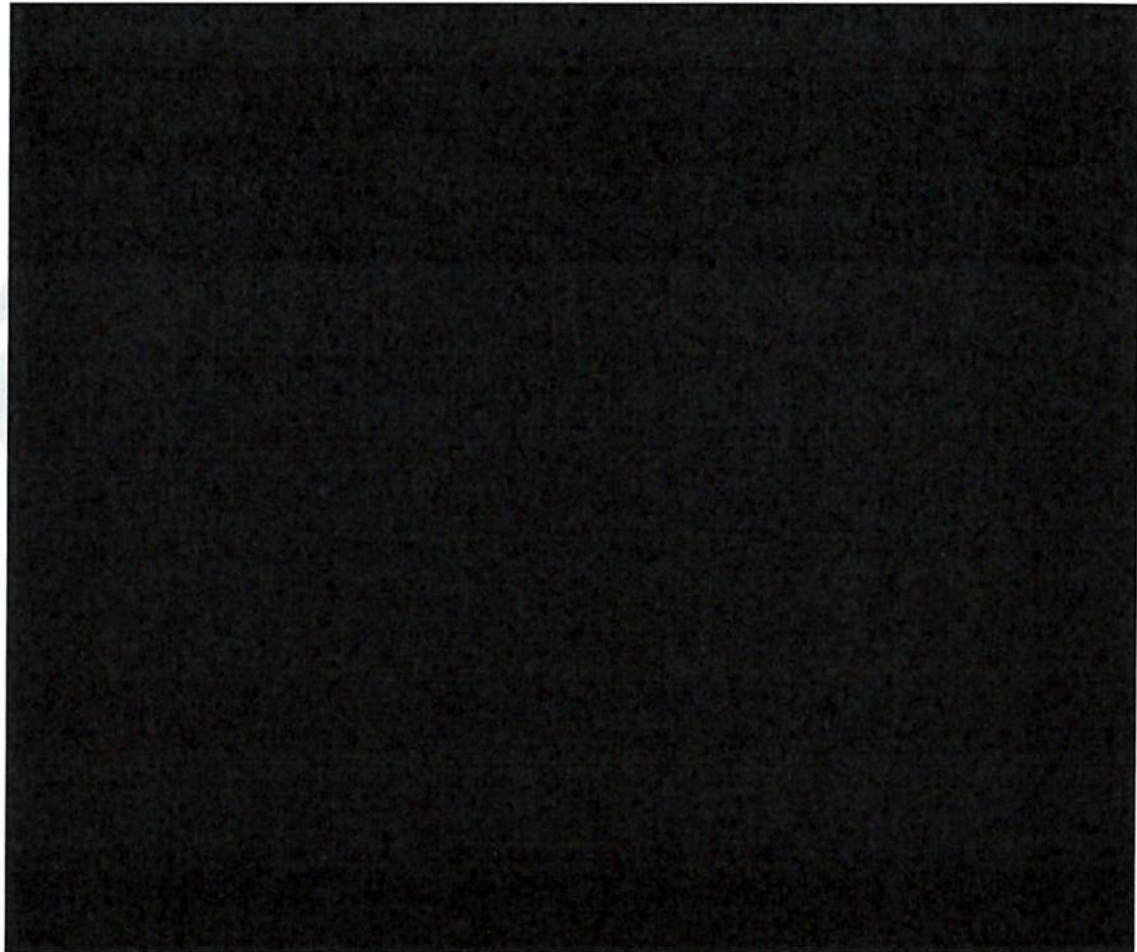
[REDACTED] described [REDACTED] as being very aggressive and not liking discipline. His behaviour at school is good but, within the foster home, it is bad. He is like this with everyone within the family.

██████████ stated that she believed ██████████ behaviour at school to be better due to the fact he is told that if he does not conform to rules etc, he will be placed in the Behaviour Support Unit.

██████████ also stated that ██████████ does not like to speak about things. However, he does sometimes speak at bedtimes, if he is in a good mood. At these times, he wants to know about such things as being in care and whether or not his father wants him. ██████████ added that ██████████ does not like physical contact.

When asked by the Panel what were the most difficult aspects of caring for ██████████ ██████████ replied this was ██████████ predilection to constantly cause trouble. If this is not amongst ██████████ own children then it is with his brother, William. ██████████ stated that ██████████ physically fights with William - the 2 of them cannot sit down to a meal without physically fighting or calling each other names.

The Panel asked if there was a degree of loyalty between ██████████ and William. Mrs ██████████ replied that there most certainly was not any sense of loyalty between the boys.



WILLIAM'S BEHAVIOUR AND UNDERSTANDING OF HIS SITUATION

██████████ stated that William can be quite good although, at times, he does copy ██████████ behaviour. She added that William can be affectionate, he likes a little love and a cuddle and is more rewarding than ██████████

██████████ described William as being "a little slow" although he has been better since starting school. He can now sit and listen while a book is being read to him.

Mrs Joyce Gall, Resource Worker, stated that William always gives people a warm welcome. ██████████ commented that she has always to tell William where she is going and when she will be back.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ██████████ AND WILLIAM

██████████ told the Panel that she thought the sexual part between the brothers was under control. She added that, since Polepark Family Counselling Centre involvement ceased, the sexual language had stopped but now William is saying that ██████████ This has happened on 2 occasions.

██████████ she does not know when this is happening as she checks the boys before she goes to bed. She also ensures that William is asleep before ██████████ goes to bed. Mr McGill stated that this issue requires discussion. He added that the time-span of a lot of what William says is difficult to gauge. However, he added it was good that he was able to talk about these things. ██████████ stated that William only talks about these things when he is alone with her.

With regard to the physical fights between William and ██████████ stated that William is now more able for ██████████ Mr McGill described William as a "sturdy" child but, despite that, ██████████ still "batters" him when it proves impossible to stop him. It was noted that William will hit back at ██████████ when he can. Mr McGill added that when all 3 children, (William, ██████████ are together), they all tend to use physical violence if not watched.

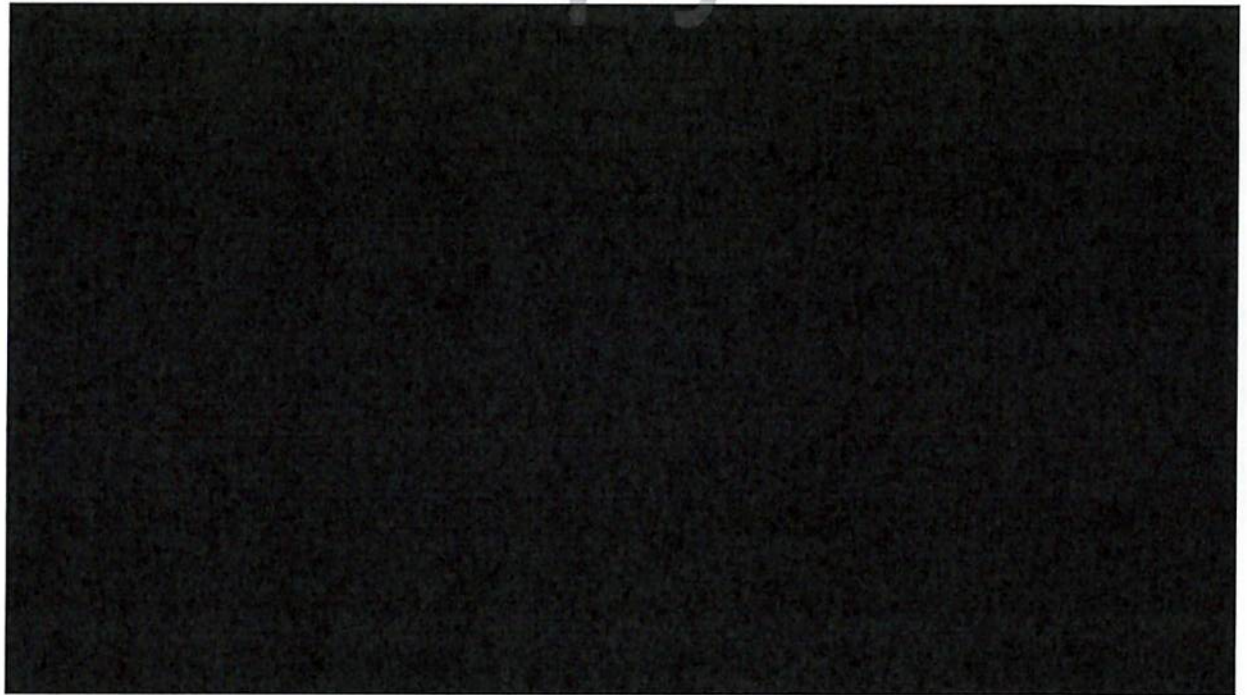
With regard to William's view of the future, Mr McGill stated that he believes William knows what is going on. He likes staying with Mrs ██████████ and wants to stay there. He knows that the Social Work Department do not want him to return to the care of his mother and father because they cannot look after him properly. William talks about when he was hit when in the care of his father but, to him, tomorrow is more important than the past.

Mr McGill stated that whilst William is a sturdy child, he is frightened of certain things such as dogs and workmen. Mr McGill believes there is a very dark side to this fear. Whilst William likes dogs, he is always wary of them in that they may bite. He is always looking out for being hurt by something or someone.

FUTURE CARE OF ██████████ AND WILLIAM - TOGETHER OR SEPARATELY?

██████████ clearly stated that, in her opinion, ██████████ and William should not be placed together. She felt they would be quite happy placed in separate placements.

Due to other commitments, ██████████ left the meeting at this point.



PARENTS' CIRCUMSTANCES

Mr McGill, Social Worker, informed that Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer are no longer living together with each saying they want nothing more to do with the other. However, it is known that the couple are having contact.

Mrs Leslie, Social Worker, stated that Mr Tarbett is very clear that he is capable of caring for the children on his own. He states he does not know why the children are in care, does not recognise any problems and chooses to say that the Social Work Department is the problem. Mrs Leslie remarked it is concerning that Mr Tarbett has no sense of recognising past issues.

It was noted there is no possibility of Ms Archer resuming the care of the children. Mrs Leslie informed that, at the moment, Ms Archer agrees with the Social Work Department plan. However, she added that, if the children were returned to the care of their father, the situation would probably change. Marion Selfridge, Social Worker, informed that it will not be recommended that [REDACTED] return to his mother's care.

ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

Access is monthly with both parents, separately, and is supervised. This access allows the children to see each other on a once fortnightly basis. It was noted that access arrangements are to be reviewed.

FUTURE PLACEMENTS/ACCESS/JOHN ARCHER

The Panel noted that these 3 children have quite distinct needs. The need to consider [REDACTED] position was also questioned.

Mr McGill, Social Worker, stated it is Mr Tarbett's view that the children should all stay together in his care. Mrs Leslie added that he has also stated that, if they are not placed with him, then they should all be together in one placement. Mr McGill informed that Ms Archer would like the children to stay together but she recognises the difficulties in respect of the relationship between [REDACTED] and William. She accepts the fact that separation may take place.

Mrs Leslie stated it is felt that separate placements would be best given the possible difficulties in sustaining one placement. She added that discussion has taken place in respect of placing [REDACTED] and William, or [REDACTED] together, but concern was expressed about the impact on [REDACTED] behaviour, particularly in relation to [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] foster carer, remarked that she would not be happy about [REDACTED] being placed with any of the boys. She stated that, at the moment, [REDACTED] is settled and stable but it would prove very easy for her to revert to her past behaviour.

The Panel noted it would appear that separate placements would be best, with contact between each child and each parent being arranged. With regard to the amount of contact with their parents, Mrs Leslie stated this would very much depend on each parent's attitude. Mrs Leslie felt that Ms Archer's contact would be negotiable - she would like contact but, from her point of view, she just wants the children to be happy and settled.

Mr McGill stated he did not think there was an option of stopping [REDACTED] having contact with his father. However, there was a possibility that William may not have

contact with either parent - he is more interested in the "Mum and Dad" who currently care for him.

Mrs Partington, Senior Social Worker, informed that Mr Tarbett always brings [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to access and this contact is more significant for the children than the contact with their father.

It was noted that [REDACTED] who was previously placed with [REDACTED] is interested in [REDACTED] situation. Mr McGill stated that William does not like [REDACTED] very much. Mrs [REDACTED] foster carer, stated that placing [REDACTED] together was a possible combination as, in general, they get on well together. However, Mrs Partington pointed out that one difficulty would be in respect of the fact that [REDACTED] case has been transferred to Perth Social Work Department. Perth will still be seeking legal advice on whether there are grounds for permanency in respect of [REDACTED]. However, any possible carers must be made aware of the situation in relation to [REDACTED].

LEGAL ROUTE

Mrs Leslie, Social Worker, stated that she felt the preferred legal route was not necessarily through adoption. She added she felt permanency should be sought but this should be with the option for open adoption.

Mr McGill stated he felt William was a candidate for adoption given that access/contact would be reduced to a point whereby it would be feasible to the placement family to adopt him. He would still have some access/contact with the rest of his family.

Mrs Leslie stated that she did not feel [REDACTED] should be placed for a closed adoption. Ms Selfridge stated that she felt [REDACTED] would be best placed in a family with younger children.

With regard to [REDACTED] Mr McGill stated that [REDACTED] is very aware that [REDACTED] is not his final placement. Mr McGill added that he felt psychotherapy would be helpful for [REDACTED] in assisting him to differentiate between what he wants and what his father wants for the future. Ms Selfridge stated that she felt [REDACTED] would be best placed in a family where there were no younger children and he would be given individual attention.

Mrs Partington stated that all of the children are aware of the plan to move to a permanent family and the sooner this is achieved the better. Mr Tarbett is quite clear that his battle is with the Children's Hearing and this, perhaps, takes some of the onus off the Social Work Department.

Following further discussion, general opinion was that the preferred legal route is through a Children's Hearing Order leaving open the option for adoption.

PLACEMENT TO BE WITHIN OR OUTWITH DUNDEE AREA

Mrs Selfridge stated that she worried about Mr Tarbett's contact with any future placements as he has had unwanted involvement with carers in all of the children's placements. Mr McGill confirmed Mrs Selfridge's statement, however he informed that Mr Tarbett has been instructed about his inappropriate contact with carers. He

added that he did not think it would matter where the children are placed, Mr Tarbett will continue to make efforts to make contact.

Following further discussion, general opinion was that as wide a net as possible will be spread in seeking appropriate placements for the children. Referrals will be made as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATION

The Panel unanimously recommended that [REDACTED] William and [REDACTED] should not be returned to the care of their birth parents. It was further recommended that they would be better placed separately, although the possibility of [REDACTED] their youngest half-sibling, joining them was not ruled out. Ongoing contact between each child and contact with their parents will continue.

It was agreed that the preferred legal route is through a Children's Hearing Order thus leaving open the option of adoption. As wide a net as possible will be spread in seeking an appropriate family.

The need for future psychotherapy in respect of [REDACTED] behaviour was also recommended.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ADOPTION AND FOSTERING PANEL OF
THURSDAY 29 AUGUST 1996

In respect of the Permanence Plan for [REDACTED] William and [REDACTED] the Panel unanimously recommended that the children should not be returned to their birth parents. It was further recommended they be better placed separately although the possibility of [REDACTED] their youngest half-sibling, joining them, was not ruled out. On-going contact with each other and contact with their parents will continue.

It was agreed that the preferred legal route is through a Children's Hearing Order leaving open the option for adoption. As wide a net as possible will be spread in seeking an appropriate family.

The need for future psychotherapy in respect of [REDACTED] behaviour was also recommended.

Concern expressed about drift - it may be
to take this matter up with the
senior social worker.

Decisions:

Agree.

Signed:

Janet Dempster
(Agency Decision Maker)

Date:

30/8/96

Form E Part 1

Details of child needing family placement

Please read notes for guidance before filling in the form

Confidential

1

Agency details

Name of agency

Tayside Region Social Work Department

Name of child's social worker

Philip McGill

Area address

Kirkton Social Work Department
Dundee

Name of senior social worker team leader/manager

Anne Partington Telephone 833933

Name of link worker for inter-agency placement

Postcode

Telephone 833933

Telephone

Date of completion of Part 1

06 03 96

Updated

Date of completion of Part 2

06 03 96

Updated

2

Child concerned

Name

William Tarbett

Date of birth

09 07 91

Present address

DUNDEE

Postcode

Telephone 01382 622693

Name(s) of key person(s) caring for the child there, i.e. foster carer, key residential social worker

3

Type of placement needed (see also section 11, page 6)

For how many children is placement required?

Age(s)

Gender(s)

Placement for:

adoption

x

fostering with aim
of adoption

residence order

long-term fostering x

fostering with aim
of rehabilitation

Other (specify)

Are there any expected legal complications which would affect the choice of family? If so, specify

*XXX No

Matching considerations. Please indicate which are essential requirements and which are preferences. You should indicate in Part 2 the reasons for the importance of these requirements.

1. Ethnic

White - British

4. Medical

2. Religious

Protestant

5. Educational

3. Geographical

Outwith Dundee

Family structure. Advancing you can about the sort of family with whom you think the child would do best.

William would benefit from a placement where there are children younger than himself or near his age group.

4 The child

	First names <u>William</u>	Surname <u>Tarbett</u>
see note a	Known as: (include nicknames)	Date of birth <u>09 07 91</u>
	☐ Marital ☐ extra-marital ☐ non-marital ☐ adopted	Gender <u>Male</u>
		Place of birth <u>Dundee</u>
AA b	Nationality <u>British</u>	Ethnic descent <u>White - Scottish</u>
	Religion: what religion, if any, has been specified for the child?	
	Give details of baptism, confirmation or equivalent ceremonies	
	What religion, if any, does the child practise?	
	<u>None</u>	
c	Legal status <u>Section 44(1)(a) Social Work (Scotland) 1968 Named Place</u>	Brief comments
	If your agency supervises the child on behalf of another agency which agency has legal responsibility for the child?	Has this agency agreed to the proposed plan for the child?
	<u>N/A</u>	<u>*Yes No</u>
AA d	Has the child any rights/claims under the Fatal Accidents Act 1976 sec 30 or any other rights to or interest in property? If yes please specify.	<u>*Yes No</u>

5^e Brief description of child

William is of stocky build, brown wavy hair and brown eyes. William is a real character who gets on easily with children and adults. William takes everything in his stride and has an ability to comment on situations in a way which is comical and belying his age. He enjoys lots of affection from carers and asks endless questions about anything and everything.

6^f Health

William is normally of good health. He has suffered from Asthma but there has been no trace of this since October 1994.

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Education

Name of present school -Nursery
Lilybank Child & Family Centre

Address of school - Nursery
Thornbank Street, Dundee

Type of school

Primary

Comprehensive

Special needs

Boarding

Other (specify) Child & Family Centre

see
note a

Is the child subject to a statement under the Education Act 1981
record of needs under the Education (Scotland) Act 1981?

Yes/No

List schools previously attended:

Name	Address	Type	Date	Attainments
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8

Child's placements since birth

List details of *all* known moves since birth including present placement. At the end of the list give brief comments/ observations about the quality of care the child has received, reasons for moves etc.

h	Age of child at placement (months, years)	Dates of placement (month/year)	Types of placement e.g. at home, foster care, residential care	Names of principal carer(s) e.g. foster carer, key residential social worker	Total duration
	2½	21 01 94 - 26 01 94	foster care	Mr & Mrs [redacted] [redacted] Dundee	5 days
	2½	26 01 94 - 07 02 94	foster care	Mr & Mrs [redacted] [redacted]	12 days
	3	22 09 94 - 01 12 95	foster care	Mr & Mrs [redacted] [redacted] Monifieth	15 months
	4	01 12 95	foster care	Mr & Mrs [redacted] [redacted] Dundee	ongoing

9

Family: Siblings

Put an asterisk* by the name of each child for whom placement is being sought with this child.

Put an 'A' by the name of any sibling with whom the child will have continuing contact.

First name(s)	Gender	Surname	Date of birth	Relationship e.g. full brother, half brother	Ethnic	Where the child is
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Comment briefly on the extent of current and planned contact with each sibling and the nature of the relationship enjoyed.

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10

Family: Parents

Give name by which parent is officially known first, then indicate below if he/she is usually known by a different name.

Birth mother

First names

Linda

Surname

Archer

Known as

Robertson

Maiden name

Name at time of child's birth if different

Date of birth

17 06 69

Address

Place of birth

c/o Women's Aid, Perth

Glasgow

Name of husband

N/A

Name of co-habitee

N/A

Current level and quality of access to or contact with child

Weekly access for one hour. William enjoys his contact with mum. He does not demand mum's attention in the same way as [redacted] and tends to amuse himself. There is sometimes confrontation between William and [redacted] has a very close relationship with mum. Ms Robertson finds it difficult to control behaviour of all four children and access sessions are often chaotic.

Brief description

Ms Robertson is of average height and build. She is normally open and friendly but can sometimes be moody and aggressive. Ms Robertson spent her childhood years in the care of local authority and has concerns that William will experience a similar situation. She has expressed a wish that the children should follow a future plan which is in the children's best interests and is in agreement this would be in long-term care.

10

continued

Birth father	First names	Surname
	David	Tarbett
	Known as	Date of birth
		08 04 47
	Address	Place of birth
	7D Bonnethill Court	Dundee
	Dundee	
	Name of wife	
	Name of co-habitee	

Indicate whether: legal father alleged father putative father

Does he hold parental responsibility? Yes ~~No~~

If not, a) has he acknowledged paternity? Yes ~~No~~

b) does he intend applying for parental responsibility under the Children Act 1989 (England and Wales) or custody under any Scottish legislation? Yes ~~No~~

Current level and quality of access to or contact with the child
Mr Tarbett has access with [redacted] and William for one hour each month. Mr Tarbett makes little effort to engage with the children in play or conversations. The sessions are often noisy and the children's behaviour uncontrollable. [redacted] has stated she does not wish to continue access with her father. [redacted] has expressed a wish to continue access with his father.

Brief description

Mr Tarbett is of large build and stature. He can often present as loud and aggressive but can also be amicable when not discussing any contentious issues. Mr Tarbett labours on farms and has various other business pursuits.

	Birth mother	Birth father
Educational attainments	None	None
Ethnic descent	White-Scottish	White-Scottish
Nationality	British	British
Religion	Protestant	Protestant
Does he/she practise this religion?	No	No
Occupation now	Housewife	Casual Labourer
Previous occupations	None	
Marital status when child born	Single	Divorced
Marital status now	Single	Divorced
Do both or either have parental responsibility for the child?	Yes	No
When did they last care for the child?	December 1993	22 09 1994

j If someone other than the birth parents (s) are legal parent(s), guardian(s) or have parental responsibility for this child, give details here or on a separate sheet:

N/A

11

Placement plan

1. General

What is the plan for this child?

(brief summary of the overall plan, including contact with birth family)

That William be placed with a permanent family. Route to permanency undecided -
Section 16 Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 or Freeing For Adoption.

Date this plan was agreed

March 1994

Where was the plan agreed? ☐ review meeting ☐ fostering panel ☐ adoption panel

Meeting with Senior Management

Other (specify)

Did this include the key person(s) caring for the child?

*Yes ~~XX~~

Discussion with carers previous to meeting.

If adoption is planned:

1. Give a summary of any recommendations, comments of the adoption panel and the date of the adoption panel's recommendation if different from above.

No decision made regarding legal route to permanency.

2. Date of agency decision to pursue adoption if different from above.
To be discussed at Permanency Panel.

Do the people caring for the child agree with the plan? If no give details.

*Yes ~~XX~~

Is there a time limit by which the child must be moved? If so, specify.

~~XX~~ Yes No

Outline any action necessary before the plan can be carried out (e.g. tracing of relatives, court action, further counselling, preparation of child) and specify who will undertake this.

Further work to be carried out by Social Worker involving preparation of the child for permanency.

2. Family finding

What special efforts will be made to find a suitable family for this child? (e.g. referral to a family-finding agency, publicity campaign)

To be discussed at Permanency Panel.

Have the necessary consents been obtained

1. to the action?

*Yes No

2. to the expenditure?

*Yes No

11

continued

3. The child

Does the child know of the proposed plan? If no, give brief reasons.

*Yes/No

William's age makes it difficult for him to understand plans and reasons.

Date the child received written information about the proposed plan

Has the child been counselled regarding his/her future? If yes, by whom?

*Yes/No

Fiona Sinclair/Sandra Smillie Polepark FCC - Marion Selfridge, Social Worker

What are the child's views about the plans for his/her future care? William seems unaffected by his present situation and appears unable to show real understanding of future plans. He continues to express a wish on occasions to return to dad's care.

Has the child any views about his/her religious or cultural upbringing? If yes, please specify.

*Yes/No

For adoption placements

Does the child understand what "adoption/freeing other plan will mean for him/her?

*Yes/No

Does the child understand the legal implications/procedures of adoption/freeing?

*Yes/No

If another adoption agency has been working with the child are you satisfied that the requirements in the Adoption Agencies Regulations relating to the child have been met? Name of social worker/agency

*Yes/No
N/A

Parents/guardians	Mother	Father	Guardian
Has counselling been given?	Yes	No	
Name of social worker and agency (where appropriate)	M Selfridge, Whitfield SWD		
Date written information sent			
Does the parent understand the plan for the child and its legal implications?	Yes	No	
Does the parent agree to the plan?	Yes	No	
Specify any wishes regarding the child's religious/cultural upbringing.	Protestant	Protestant	
Will the parent give consent to an adoption/freeing order?	Yes	No	
Does the parent intend to take legal action?	No	Yes	
Does the parent have access to or contact with the child?	Yes	Yes	
Is there any court order or children's hearing requirement in force regarding contact or access?	Yes	Yes	
If so, give details.	Supervised Access - discretion SWD	Supervised Access - Monthly - 1 hour	

Has legal advice been obtained with regard to the plan for the child?

*Yes/No

If yes, please give summary of advice and details of any legal action recommended. Assumption Parental rights S16(1)(a)ii) Social Work (Scotland) Act - grounds under S16(2)(d) and possible S16(2)(e). Adoption or Freeing for Adoption S16(2)(b) Adoption(S) Act 1978 & S16(2)(e). Evidence to Support a disruptive relationship of parents b lack of parenting skills and care given to children c mother's abuse of alcohol d constant upheaval in children's lives e violence between parents and parents and children.

*delete as appropriate

12

Checklist of additional material

The following should be provided with the completed Part 1 of Form E:

		Date provided	Update
For all children	1 Photograph		For Panel
	2 Report by person caring for child (may be incorporated in the profile in Part 2)	March 1996	
	3 BAAF medical Form C, D or YP and annexes	March 1996	
As appropriate	4 Psychiatric report	N/A	
	5 Psychologist's report	N/A	
	6 Additional specialist medical reports (specify)	N/A	
	7 School report	N/A	
	8 Statement under Education Act 1981/ Record of needs under Education (Scotland) Act 1981	N/A	
	9 The child's written statement on his/her views about the proposed placement/adoption	N/A	

13

see
note m

Signatures

Child's signature

Date

Social worker's signature

Date



3/5/96

Team leader's signature

Date



3/5/96

Link person's signature (if inter-agency)

Date

WILLIAM TARBETT

A THE FAMILY

1 Description Of The Birth Family

Ms Archer is slim, dark haired and of average height. She usually presents as chatty and relaxed and enjoys a good sense of humour. When under pressure she can be quite sullen and withdrawn or outspoken and argumentative. She is able on most occasions to make her thoughts and feelings very clear.

Ms Archer is the daughter of Linda Brannan and William Archer. She has

Ms Archer spent all her childhood years in the care of the local authority apart from a two year period, 1980-1982, when she returned to her mother's care.

Ms Archer has many unhappy memories of her childhood and spent time in nine different placements which included foster homes and children's homes.

Mr Tarbett is the putative father of [REDACTED] and William. Mr Tarbett is a man of very large stature and build. He has balding fair hair. Mr Tarbett can be very friendly and amenable on occasions, but often presents as angry, abusive and aggressive. He has difficulty seeing the views of others and he has very strong opinions and often refuses to discuss important issues in any helpful way.

Mr Tarbett has been employed on a casual basis on local farms and has various other business interests.

Mr Tarbett was previously married and he accepted responsibility for four

Ms Archer and Mr Tarbett met in 1986 and quickly set up home in the Whitfield area of Dundee. Ms Archer became pregnant [REDACTED]

After [REDACTED] birth in 1988 it would appear the couple's relationship deteriorated very quickly. The relationship has continued to be problematic with numerous separations and reconciliations. When together the relationship is acrimonious with many arguments, fights and incidents of physical violence, both parties being very strong willed and unwilling to back down. Ms Archer has abused alcohol in the past and this would appear to be a contributor to disagreements.

2 Family History

See family tree attached.

[REDACTED] and William (09 07 91) were born during the relationship of Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer. The children have all been party to the ongoing acrimony between parents and have on many occasions been involved directly in Mr Tarbett's determined efforts to have Ms Archer return to the family home subsequent to separation. The children have been subjected to many changes of parent carer and address and also custody applications by both parents.

[REDACTED] Robertson born to Ms Archer on 18 December 1992 is not the natural son of Mr Tarbett although Mr Tarbett claims he sees [REDACTED] as his own son. [REDACTED] has mainly remained in the care of his mother. [REDACTED] William and [REDACTED] accept [REDACTED] as their baby brother although their time together as a family has been limited.

[REDACTED] and William had close contact with Mr Tarbett's previous family while they resided with their father. While they appear to have been quite close to [REDACTED] (step siblings), they have also expressed to workers at Polepark Family Counselling Centre that they are quite frightened of [REDACTED].

3 Birth Families Wishes for Children

Mr Tarbett wishes the three children to return to his care. He receives advice from his solicitor and will strongly oppose any action regarding permanent care of all three children. It has been impossible to discuss the children's future with Mr Tarbett as he has declined to do this.

Ms Archer's views regarding the future of the children does change from time to time. Her own past personal experiences of local authority care made her uncertain about agreeing that it would be in their best interests to remain in permanent care although she now agrees that she would be unable to care for all four children. She wishes to have what is best for the children and now agrees this would be in the permanent care of the local authority. She would prefer that [REDACTED] and William are placed for adoption as she feels this would allow them the best opportunity to settle into a new life.

Should the children remain in care permanently Ms Archer would have liked all three children placed together. She now feels that [REDACTED] should be placed separately, and as a result of recent problems between [REDACTED] and William it would be in [REDACTED] and William's best interests to be placed separately. Ms Archer strongly wishes to have continued contact with the children. Ms Archer and [REDACTED] have weekly access with all three children.

Subsequent to an incident at an access session with Mr Tarbett and [REDACTED] and William in April 1995, the sessions was stopped after Mr Tarbett became very abusive and threatening towards supervising worker. Mr Tarbett declined to discuss the incident or take up further offers of access. At a Children's Hearing on 02 August 1995 a condition of Supervision Order stated that the children would have monthly supervised access with Mr Tarbett. Mr Tarbett has seen the children on a monthly basis.

Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer have both shown an inability in the past to plan for the children. Ms Archer has attempted to separate from Mr Tarbett on numerous occasions both with and without the children. She has been unable to set up a permanent home independent from Mr Tarbett although she has now been separated for a period of nearly one year and she has her own tenancy outwith Dundee. Mr Tarbett has continued to undermine any attempts by Ms Archer to live independently and he has often used the children in his determined efforts to have Ms Archer return e.g. For example by having them approach Women's Aid hostels to determine whether their mother is resident.

It is improbable that Mr Tarbett will co-operate with any future planning for the children as he refuses to discuss the possibility that they will remain in permanent care.

Ms Archer now accepts she is not able to care for all her four children and accepts it would be in [REDACTED] William and [REDACTED] best interests to remain in permanent care. She is co-operating fully with the Social Work Department in future plans for [REDACTED] and William.

B CHILD'S PROFILE

1 William Tarbett

William is of sturdy build, he has brown wavy hair and a friendly, chubby face.

William communicates well with adults in a mature way which belies his age. He is a real character who continuously asks questions about anything which catches his attention. William usually gets on well with his peer group, although he can also, on occasions, be quite aggressive towards other children.

William is usually a happy, go-lucky character, who takes everything in his stride. he is very independent but also enjoys lots of physical contact/comfort, by cuddles from adults close to him. William is normally able to talk about things which have made him unhappy and upset e.g. when he moved home from [REDACTED] he was able to talk to staff at the Family Centre about this.

William has recently become the subject of aggressive, abusive behaviour from [REDACTED]. William appears to deal with this behaviour with no outward signs of being angry or upset.

William has also displayed sexualised behaviour towards other children and his language can be very sexually explicit. It is difficult to determine whether this is behaviour learned from [REDACTED] since Reception Into Care or as a direct result of his experiences at home. There are present concerns that there have been incidents of a sexual nature between [REDACTED] and William when alone. The children also clearly described incidents of physical abuse e.g. [REDACTED] have both said Mr Tarbett hit [REDACTED] with a belt from his kilt. William has also said that Mr Tarbett used to kick [REDACTED] around the floor. There have been no direct allegations regarding physical abuse towards William. Work has been ongoing with Polepark Family Counselling Centre. Conclusions from this work are that all three children have witnessed sexual acts between adults but have not been sexually abused. William has also witnessed incidents of physical violence between parents. Mrs [REDACTED] (present carer) feels that William's sexualised behaviour is often heightened following sessions at Polepark but at other times there is now very few incidents of a sexualised nature.

William requires clear boundaries regarding behaviour and he usually reacts positively to this.

William copes well with routine but he can become quiet and shows little emotion to major changes in his lifestyle.

William has an extremely good appetite and enjoys a wide range of foods. He is especially partial to sweets. William sleeps well, presents as clean and tidy and there are no problems with personal hygiene.

William enjoys playing out of doors. He especially enjoyed the spell of snow and can play quite happily on his own or in the company of other children. William enjoys days out with the family and joins in most activities. William tends to have a short concentration in regard to indoor activities but again he can play contentedly for periods on his own. He can be quite boisterous when in the company of other children and will imitate characters from TV especially pretend fighting.

William's predominant need at present is a stable, secure permanent home. He needs lots of attention to answer his endless questions, an open, affectionate approach to his friendly character and firm boundaries regarding his sometimes over zealous approach to life.

William sometimes remembers the good times spent with his parents and he was particularly close to Mr Tarbett prior to Reception into care. As with [REDACTED] one of William's predominant memories is time spent with dad at the "berries". William portrays himself as a "worker" and maintains a particularly strong Dundee accent which adds to his likeable character.

William's reactions to stress and change in the past have displayed very few outward signs. As already stated he tends to take things in his stride. He did appear more confused and withdrawn subsequent to his moves over the Christmas period but has now quickly settled to his new family and routine.

2 Health

William has suffered from Asthma in the past for which he receives medication, but there has been no recurrence of this problem and he has not required medication since Reception Into Care. Apart from normal childhood illnesses William is normally of good health and very robust.

3 Intelligence and Level of Functioning

William has continued to reach all his developmental milestones. He is a bright, able child who can communicate in a very mature way with adults.

4 Child & Family Centre

William has attended Lilybank Child & Family Centre intermittently since he was about one year old. There have been some problems regarding William's behaviour e.g. being aggressive towards other children and incidents of a sexualised nature towards adults and children. William's character makes him well liked by staff members and he formed a particularly close relationship with his keyworker at the Family Centre. William's aggressive behaviour often towards other children became more apparent when Mr Tarbett had visited the Family Centre and spoke to William through the fence. William is to start school in August 1996.

5 Religion

William was born Protestant but neither parents nor children have practised religion. [REDACTED] attended Sunday School while in placement in Monifieth.

Ms Archer shows no interest in religion.

Mr Tarbett is opposed to William being brought up in Roman Catholic religion.

6 Social Links In The community

William does not at present attend any organised clubs or activities. He enjoys days out with his carers and he mixes well with other children in the household and in the community. William also enjoys going to visit the family and friends of Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]

William as already stated particularly enjoys the freedom to play out of doors and would benefit from a safe, play area where he could play with other children or on his own.

William has recently moved placement to Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] William relates well to [REDACTED] enjoying the male role he portrays. William also enjoys open affection from [REDACTED] William also gets on well with other children in the home. At present there have been serious concerns regarding [REDACTED] behaviour towards William. These problems were noted in previous placement but appear to have been exacerbated by move. [REDACTED] has become more openly hostile and verbally aggressive towards William. He makes statements such as "I wish he didn't live here", "I hate William", "I wish William was dead". He often openly calls William really offensive names. It would appear [REDACTED] would like to settle into this placement without William.

William does not appear to react openly in any way to this behaviour although he does sometimes appear quite quiet and withdrawn.

7 Child's History and Relationships Within The Family

William was born in Ninewells Hospital in September 1991.

[REDACTED] was born in Ninewells Hospital in June 1988. At this time Ms Archer and Mr Tarbett were living at 54 Whitfield Loan, Dundee. Their relationship quickly deteriorated after the birth of [REDACTED] and the couple were often verbally abusive towards each other with allegations of domestic violence in the home. Separations and reconciliations have been an ongoing feature of their relationship.

There has been a history of Child Protection Investigations involving allegations of physical abuse against [REDACTED] by both Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer but there have been no allegations of physical abuse against William by either parent.

William was often involved in the separations of Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer and has many moves as a result of this since his birth. The involvement of the children in these incidents are too numerous to detail for example on one occasion Mr Tarbett brought [REDACTED] and William to Douglas SWD stating it was Ms Archer's "turn to look after them". The children were all clearly distressed and regardless of social work staff's advice Mr Tarbett left the children, knowing Ms Archer could not care for them. On other occasions Mr Tarbett has taken the children to various Women's Aid hostels, sending them in to as if their mother is resident.

William has often been exposed to derogatory statements about his mother from Mr Tarbett e.g. "Your mum's away with a Paki". "Your mum doesn't love you". William appeared quite unaffected by these statements and has shown a continued loyalty towards Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer. William has in the past expressed a wish to return to Mr Tarbett's care.

Listed are some of the moves in home situation [REDACTED] has experienced:

30 09 91

21 10 91 Women's Aid Hostel Dunfermline Mother
home with both parents.

10 12 91 Women's Aid Hostel Elgin Mother

Jan 1992 Women's Aid Hostel Tullibody Mother

25 04 92 Foster Care (number of hours mother had been
arrested by Police).

26 04 92 Bed & Breakfast accommodation.

July 1992 Alloa Mother
Home with both parents

09 02 93
to Homeless Unit Dundee Mother
11 02 93

11 02 93
to Temporary accommodation, Dundee Mother
01 03 93

01 03 93 Mr Tarbett uplifted [REDACTED] while going to
Lilybank C&F Centre. [REDACTED] remained in
his care.

06 03 93 Mr Tarbett forcibly removed [REDACTED] and William
From their mother's care.
All three children in Mr Tarbett's care.

July 1993 Ms Archer returned to the family home.

20 01 94 Ms Archer leaves family home with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and William remain in
Mr Tarbett's care.

21 01 94 Mr Tarbett decides he is unable to care for the
children and all three are received into care
under Section 15 Social Work (Scotland)
Act 1968.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] returning to Mr Tarbett's care ten days later.

Throughout these numerous moves William has been consistently exposed to the animosity between Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer. There have been numerous allegations by Mr Tarbett regarding Ms Archer's inability to care for the children. There were also occasions when Ms Archer has abused her use of alcohol. A number of times this has resulted in her being involved in disagreements and fights resulting in charges of alleged breach of the peace and assault. This often meant she had to move from Women's Aid Hostels and the children when in her care were exposed to yet another move.

An example of this was when Ms Archer and the children were living in Women's Aid Hostel in Tullibody (January 1992). Ms Archer was under the influence of alcohol. She was involved in a fracas with another resident and was arrested and detained in Police custody. The children were received into care for a few hours and on their mother's release had to move to Bed & Breakfast accommodation. The children have often been witness to these incidents.

██████████ and William have also been exposed to acts of violence committed by Mr Tarbett against an ex partner of Ms Archer's. The children have watched from the car while Mr Tarbett has assaulted this man. They appeared to accept this behaviour as normal and exciting rather than being frightened by it.

Over his formative years William has been exposed to many incidents of physical violence; between parents; between parents and children and between parents and other adults. William accepts violence and aggression as a normal way of dealing with difficult situations.

William's behaviour while at home was often outwith parental control. He was often aggressive towards his siblings but there was also a close bond and the children would defend each other against adults attempts to make changes in their behaviour.

William was not exposed to the same level of risks as ██████████ as he did not roam the neighbourhood unattended. He was, however, seen on various occasions in the Wellgate Centre with no adult present. Mr Tarbett claimed it was safe for William to play in the lifts etc, as the security men "watched out" for him.

Mr Tarbett is unable to accept William was at risk or that his behaviour was out of control. Ms Archer made attempts to enforce adequate behavioural controls but believed these were often undermined by Mr Tarbett. The children's physical needs were catered for adequately by Mr Tarbett and he believed this was all that was necessary.

Ms Archer returned to the family home subsequent to ██████████ and William's reception into care as Mr Tarbett had assured her the children would return to them if she returned home

REHABILITATION

Plans to rehabilitate the children to Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer's care were implemented subsequent to their reception into care. Individual sessions were undertaken with Mr Tarbett by Calum Strathie, St Matthew's. Mr Tarbett refused to accept any responsibility for the children's Reception Into Care. He would not accept the children's behaviour was problematic and he could not appreciate the need for the children's emotional security. Mr Tarbett continued to deny any physical violence had occurred with either Ms Archer or the children.

Ms Archer co-operated with individual sessions with Ms Selfridge, social Worker. She was very aware of the children's needs and the problems Mr Tarbett and herself had meeting these. She acknowledged the unsettled lifestyle, and lack of behavioural controls the children had experienced had detrimental effect on their present behaviour.

Ms Archer continued throughout sessions to state she would not remain in a permanent relationship with Mr Tarbett.

Joint sessions were then undertaken with Mr Tarbett, Ms Archer, Mr Strathie and Ms Selfridge. Mr Tarbett continued throughout sessions to deny there were any problems regarding the care he gave the children and he blamed all other agencies involved for their Reception Into Care. Ms Archer acknowledged the problems outlined but neither parent could give any commitment to an ongoing relationship and a stable home life for the children. The decision was made in March 1995 that Social Work Department would recommend that the children would not return to Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer's care. There remained a possibility that should Ms Archer decide to set up a permanent, independent home an assessment would be completed regarding her ability to care for one or more of the children. Ms Archer has failed to achieve this and has since had four moves of address and [REDACTED] has been received into care on two occasions under a Place of Safety warrant when Ms Archer has been detained in the custody of the Police. [REDACTED] is presently in care under Section 44 (1)(a) Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 named place. Plans are that he will be rehabilitated to his mother's care.

ACCESS

Access between Mr Tarbett, Ms Archer, [REDACTED] William and [REDACTED] continued on a twice weekly basis subsequent to reception into care.

These sessions were usually noisy and loud with the children fighting between each other, climbing over furniture and generally reverting to behaviour which parents found themselves unable to control. Ms Archer made efforts to engage the children in play, with board games and singing games etc. She also attempted to give them some individual attention by speaking to them and giving them cuddles.

Mr Tarbett tended to distance himself and expected the children to come to him. He made no efforts to control their behaviour. William continued for some months to have a close relationship with Mr Tarbett and often spent time sitting on his knee.

Ms Archer separated from Mr Tarbett in April 1995 taking [REDACTED] to live at Women's Aid hostel in Arbroath. Access was then arranged weekly for Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer separately.

Ms Archer's access has continued on a weekly basis. William looks forward to seeing his mother and although sessions still tend to be rowdy when all four children are together and competing for mum's attention; they are on the whole enjoyed by all the children.

Mr Tarbett was angry that his access had been reduced to weekly sessions. Following an incident in April 1995 when Mr Tarbett was very abusive and aggressive towards supervising worker the session was stopped. [REDACTED] was retained at access by Mr Tarbett while worker left with the other two children. The children were all very upset and frightened by this experience.

William was at Social Work Office when worker left to collect [REDACTED]. He commented "where are you going Marian? Are you going to fight big Davy". When [REDACTED] was later released by his father, he was concerned about the worker and that Mr Tarbett had told him he wouldn't get to see [REDACTED] again. Mr Tarbett was invited to attend numerous meetings to discuss future access visits but declined. Access was reintroduced with Mr Tarbett, subsequent to a Children's Hearing in August 1995, when a condition of supervision order stated that Mr Tarbett should have monthly access for one hour. These sessions have shown improvement from former sessions. Mr Tarbett now makes attempts to talk to the children and at the last session the children, enjoyed memories with Mr Tarbett of when they lived in the "multis" and went to the "berries".

William would like contact to continue with both Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer.

8 Placements

William was received into care on a voluntary basis in January 1994 when Mr Tarbett felt he was unable to care for the children subsequent to Ms Archer leaving the family home. William was rather confused when placed with Mr and Mrs Lunan for five days then moved to Mr and Mrs Berry. William settled well into placement but he was very upset and showed obvious distress when leaving his father after access sessions.

William was received into care under Place of Safety Order by a Children's Hearing on 22 September 1994. Michael, Linda and William were very upset as Mr Tarbett had insisted on bringing them to the Children's Hearing but then refused to talk to them about Reception into Care and reassure them he would see them soon.

William was placed with Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]. There were no problems with William's behaviour and he settled quickly, responding well to firm boundaries and sanctions. There were some problems early in the placement when William was involved in an incident of a sexual nature with another foster child. There were no further indications within the home of continued problems. William related well to Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] and enjoyed a good relationship with the other children. Towards the end of the placement Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] were concerned that [REDACTED] attitude towards William had become very aggressive and he often destroyed William's toys.

9 Relationships With People William Is Currently Living With

William moved to the care of Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] on 01 December 1995. William's behaviour was quite difficult in the beginning. Mr [REDACTED] continued to see William on a regular basis as he transported William to the nursery. This caused William some confusion and made it difficult for him to settle. William spent two weeks respite care over the Christmas holidays with [REDACTED]. This was a result of a bereavement in the [REDACTED] family. [REDACTED] and William made allegations of physical abuse against Ms [REDACTED]. These allegations were investigated by Police and found to be unsubstantiated.

Since returning to Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] care, William has settled well into the family routine. He is very affectionate especially towards Mrs [REDACTED] and enjoys lots of physical contact with her. William also enjoys a close relationship with Mr [REDACTED] especially the role model of the working man.

There have been concerns raised by Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] regarding William's sexualised behaviour and bad language from time to time. They feel this is linked to sessions at Polepark as this behaviour is more evident on William's return from sessions. They also have concerns that [REDACTED] instigates this behaviour while the boys are alone in their bedroom.

Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] are very concerned about the effect [REDACTED] increasingly aggressive, verbally abusive behaviour towards William is having on him. William seldom shows any retaliation or effects from this but Mrs [REDACTED] feels the continued statements such as "I hate William", "I don't want William to live here" must be having some detrimental effect on William's confidence and self esteem.

William has settled well into this placement and has shown an easy ability to make good relationships within the family. He is again described as a likeable wee boy with lots of character.

10 Relationships With Other People

William has had minimal contact with [REDACTED], half sister since Reception Into Care. [REDACTED] is the daughter of Mr Tarbett from a previous marriage. [REDACTED] was involved with the care of [REDACTED] and William while at home, and shows an ability to manage their behaviour. The children have an obvious bond with [REDACTED] which has been evident during contact.

C PLAN FOR THE CHILD

1 Planning

William should be placed with a family on a permanent basis. Legal advice is that there would be grounds for permanency under Section 16 Social Work (Scotland) Act and probably Freeing for Adoption.

William's understanding of his present situation is limited in relation to his age. He has not experienced the same levels of physical abuse as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. William did have close relationship with Mr Tarbett and given the opportunity would probably be happy to return to Mr Tarbett's care.

William needs to have a settled home environment. William would be a very rewarding addition to the right family given the opportunity to develop close relationships and the security of knowing he belonged.

2 Contact

Contact between William and Ms Archer should continue and Ms Archer accepts this will be reduced from present level. [REDACTED] enjoys his contact with his mother and it would be important to him that this continues.

Contact between William and Mr Tarbett would have to be reviewed. William does not display the same closeness to Mr Tarbett as previously and tends to see him as a hero figure who "fights" everyone he meets. It would be important William maintains contact with [REDACTED].

3 Preparation of the Child for Placement

William, as age appropriate, has found it difficult to discuss or concentrate for any length of time regarding plans for his future. William has attended Polepark FCC and has been given the opportunity to explore his feelings regarding his past experiences at home, his present situation and future plans.

Again William has found it difficult to look at future plans. As already stated William would probably settle quickly into a permanent home but given the opportunity would just as easily return to Mr Tarbett or Ms Archer's care. Further work will be completed by new Social Worker Phillip McGill.

4 Legal Situation

William is presently subject to Section 44 (1)(a) Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 named place with Mr and Mrs McMaster, 25 Napier Drive. Legal advice - see attached.

5 Placement Required

William would benefit from a placement where there are other children either younger than himself or near his own age group.

William would require carers who could offer him open affection and lots of patience to answer his endless questions. William responds well to clear boundaries regarding his behaviour but also the freedom to develop his personal character.

**Marion Selfridge
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MS/SD
07.03.96
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