

REPORT OF A CHILD PROTECTION INVESTIGATION APPENDIX B1

1 SUBJECT CHILD

Unique No: 91018444	Date of Referral: 5 JANUARY 1996.
Surname: TARBETT	Alias:
Forename(s): WILLIAM	Alias:
Sex (M/F): MALE	DOB: 9 JULY 1991
Home Address (before removal to Care, Hospital or Place of Safety): [REDACTED] DUNDEE	
Current Address (if different from above): -	

2 REFERRAL

Name of Referrer: LINDA ARCHER	Agency/Status: MOTHER
Address: 15B MELVILLE STREET PERTH	
Details of Referral: During access visit to the children on 5 January 1996 at Whitfield Social Work office, William and his brother [REDACTED] told their mother they had been smacked by the respite foster carer, [REDACTED]	
Specific Requests of Referrer: To investigate the matter.	

3 ACTION CHECKLIST

CIS Check:	Date N/A	Police:	Date 05.01.96
Health Check:		School/Nursery/Pre-School:	
Enter Referral on CIS:	10.01.96	Consultation SSW/Manager:	05.01.96

4 INVESTIGATING PERSONNEL

Date Report submitted for typing: 15 January 1996

	Name:	Office:	Signature:	Date:
Lead Worker:	Anne Campbell	Seymour Lodge	<i>[Signature]</i>	16-01-96.
2nd worker (If involved):	Marion Selfridge	Whitfield Office	<i>[Signature]</i>	19-01-96
Co-ordinator:	Colleen Gibb	Whitfield Office	<i>[Signature]</i>	19/1/96.
Manager:			<i>[Signature]</i>	24/1/96

5 CHILD'S LIVING GROUP

SUBSTITUTE	FATHER OR SUBSTITUTE
Surname: [REDACTED]	Surname: [REDACTED]
Alias:	Alias:
Maiden Name:	
Forename(s): [REDACTED]	Forename(s): [REDACTED]
DOB (d/m/y): [REDACTED]	DOB (d/m/y): [REDACTED]
Relationship to Child:	Relationship to Child:
Birth Parent: ☐ Adoptive Parent: ☐ Step-Parent: ☐ Relative: ☐ Co-Hab: ☐ Other: ☐ Foster Parent: ☒	Birth Parent: ☐ Adoptive Parent: ☐ Step-Parent: ☐ Relative: ☐ Co-Hab: ☐ Other: ☐ Foster Parent: ☒
If Relative or Other, please specify:	If Relative or Other, please specify

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

NAME	SEX	DOB	RELATIONSHIP	LOCATION
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

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

NAME	DOB	ADDRESS	RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD
Linda Archer or Robertson	17.06.69	15B Melville St Perth	Mother
Davy Tarbett	08.04.47		Father
[REDACTED]			

8 AGENCY LINKS

	CHILD'S GP	HEALTH VISITOR	SCHOOL/NURSERY/PRE-SCHOOL/PLAY GROUP
NAME	Dr D F Gemmell	N/A	Lilybank C & F Centre
ADDRESS	Wallacetown HC		Thornbank Street
TEL NO:	457629		462345

9 CHILD PROTECTION RECORD CHECK

Is/was child's name on the Register?	YES		
If YES, which names?	[REDACTED] WILLIAM [REDACTED]		
Date of de-registration, if appropriate:	9 MARCH 1995		
Details of Social Work Department record check:			
Current Case Details		Previous Case Details	
Case open (Sec 12):	18 January 1993	Sec 12 case opened:	23 Dec 1991
Placed on supervision (home)	15 June 1993	Place of Safety:	5 May 1992
Received into Care (Sec 15):	21 January 1994	Back home (Sec 12):	28 May 1992
At home:	7 February 1994	Case closed:	22 June 1992
Place of Safety Order:	22 September 1994		
In care under Sec 44(1)(a):	12 October 1994		

10 POLICE INVOLVEMENT IN REFERRAL

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

Name: Fiona Smith	Rank: Constable	No:	Division: Central
Office: Seymour Lodge		Tel No: 665117	Eastern
Time of Contact: PM		Date of Contact: 05.01.96	Western

(ii) Did the Police indicate that they would investigate? YES

Investigating Officer:	Fiona Smith	Investigating Officer:	
Rank: Constable	No:	Rank:	No:
Station: Seymour Lodge		Station:	
Station:		Station:	
Commencement date of Police investigation: 8 January 1996			

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

No information provided. Police have interviewed William and his brother.

(iv) Known Offenders (adults convicted of offences involving children): None

Name:	Current Address:		
Previous Offence(s):	Date:	Court:	
Name:	Current Address:		
Present Offence(s):	Date:	Court:	

4

(v) Proposed future action by Police:

Constable Smith intends talking with respite carer [REDACTED]

11 MEDICAL INVESTIGATION NO [FIRST STAGE]

(i)	Dr (Name); Address: Tel No: Date: Location of medical:
(ii)	Comment by medical practitioner on nature and extent of injuries:
(iii)	Outcome of medical investigation (tick appropriate box) Strong medical evidence of abuse: ☐ Diagnosis uncertain: ☐ No indication of abuse: ☐ Proceed to Specialist Assessment (Y/N)

12 SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT NONE

Dr (Name): Status: Address: Place of Examination: Date:	Dr (Name); Status: Address: Place of Examination: Date:
Were x-rays taken? (Y/N) Were photographs taken? (Y/N) Any other medical tests? (please specify)	

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

13 RECORD OF INVESTIGATION

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

5 JANUARY 1996 (pm)

During access visit at the Whitfield Social Work office with their mother, Linda Archer, both [REDACTED] and William said that they had been smacked by respite carer, [REDACTED] also said that [REDACTED] had pulled his arm up his back.

[REDACTED] also had a healing burn on his back which he said had been caused when he had fallen against the fire (heater). On being told this, their mother had looked at her sons' bodies; there were no obvious marks or injuries (apart from the burn on [REDACTED] back).

Social Worker, Marion Selfridge, consulted with Colleen Gibb, Acting Manager, who discussed with Jacqui Roberts, Group Manager, and Margaret Moyes, Manager for Family Placements.

It was agreed that a planning meeting should be convened on the next working day ie 8 January 1996. No more immediate action was deemed necessary as:- (I) the boys were returning to main carers today ie [REDACTED] (ii) no other children were currently placed with [REDACTED] and (iii) there appeared to be no injuries on either children, apart from the burn which was said to have been accidental.

Following further discussion by Colleen Gibb, Acting Manager, with Fiona Smith (CAFSES), Donald MacKenzie (Senior Social Worker, Child Protection Team), Margaret Moyes and Ann Brown (Family Placements), and Marion Selfridge (children's Social Worker), it was agreed:-

- that from the police point of view, there was little likelihood that any evidence would be lost by waiting until Monday 8 January 1996 to begin the investigation.
- that the following people would attend the planning meeting on Monday 8 January 1996:- Colleen Gibb, who would co-ordinate the investigation; Marion Selfridge, Fiona Smith (CAFSES); Anne Campbell (Child Protection Team) who it had been agreed would be lead worker; Joyce Hagan (Family Placements Team) in place of Ann Brown.
- OOHS were informed of the situation by Margaret Moyes.
- Mother, Linda Archer, was advised that the boys' allegations would be investigated and that there would be planning meeting on 8 January 1996.

8 JANUARY 1996 - PLANNING MEETING HELD AT WHITFIELD SW OFFICE

Meeting involved:- Colleen Gibb, Marion Selfridge, Fiona Smith, Joyce Hagan and Anne Campbell.

Following discussion of circumstances, the following tasks were agreed:-

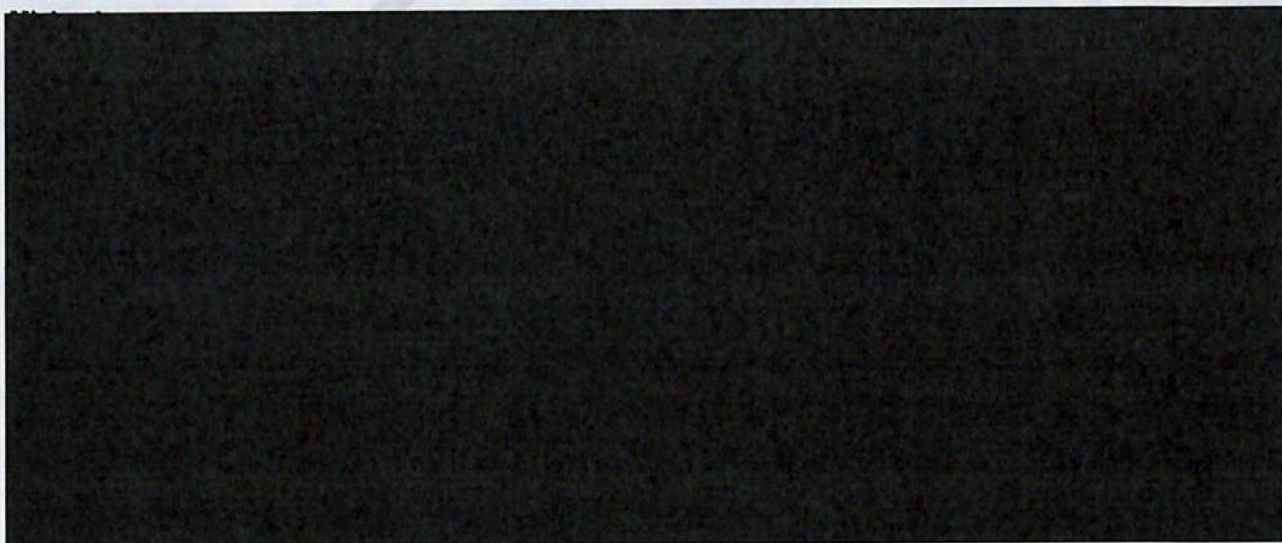
- Fiona Smith and Anne Campbell to interview [REDACTED] and William once their mother's permission has been sought and given. Marion Selfridge, Social Worker, to link between the children, mother, carers and Fiona Smith and Anne Campbell for the purpose of the investigation.
- Joyce Hagan to advise Joyce Gall of the situation; Joyce Gall to support the carer at the appropriate time.
- The earliest the interviews should take place was after 3 pm as today is [REDACTED] first day at a new school.
- Discussions regarding how to proceed in relation to [REDACTED] to be taken after the children have been interviewed and consultation with appropriate people has taken place. (Agreed that [REDACTED] to be advised as soon as possible).
- Colleen Gibb to act as co-ordinator.
- Linda Archer and [REDACTED] carer, to be invited to support children for the investigation interview process.

As Linda Archer could not be reached today, to obtain her consent to interview the children, this was deferred until the following day.

9 JANUARY 1996 - LINDA ARCHER CONTACTED MARION SELFRIDGE, SOCIAL WORKER, HAVING RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM MARION

It was agreed that the interviews of [REDACTED] and William could take place today - after school. Marion would arrange for Linda, [REDACTED] and William (and, hopefully, also [REDACTED]) to come to Seymour Lodge for this purpose.

4.00 pm (approximately) - [REDACTED] and William were interviewed by Fiona Smith and Anne Campbell (and, for part of the time, Marion Selfridge).



Although his mother joined the interview while Marion left in an effort to help encourage [REDACTED] to talk, he said no more about these incidents. He talked a lot about other things and seemed preoccupied with these eg wanted to ask both his mother and Marion about things that had happened in his life.

William

William was interviewed by PC Fiona Smith and Anne Campbell and Marion Selfridge, Social Workers.

William, too, was reluctant to talk about [REDACTED] and what had happened there. He was easily distracted and he, too, talked about other things, wanted to play etc.

The information that William eventually gave was:-

- he had not liked living at [REDACTED] house.
- she had smacked himself and [REDACTED] when asked more about this, he said she had smacked them "4 times" - all at the same time. This was on the bottom, on top of their clothing. When asked why this had happened, William replied that he and [REDACTED] had been kicking [REDACTED] fire (this is in the livingroom). He added that [REDACTED] had been crying. Asked why, William said "because it's her house".
- (William did not mention anything about [REDACTED] putting [REDACTED] arms up his back).

Following these interviews, Fiona Smith indicated that she would be arranging to see [REDACTED] to talk with her about the boys' allegations. This, however, would have to wait until Thursday 11 or Friday 12 January 1996 as Fiona was not available tomorrow.

5.40 pm - contact was made with Colleen Gibb to advise her of the outcome of these interviews and probable follow-up action by the police.

It was agreed that, given the information to date, it was not necessary or appropriate that the boys be medically examined.

WEDNESDAY 10 AND THURSDAY 11 JANUARY 1996

Attempts were made by Resource Workers and Marion Selfridge, Social Worker, to contact [REDACTED] (The Department was aware that [REDACTED] had been ill for a few days, possibly 'flu).

AFTERNOON OF THURSDAY 11 JANUARY 1996

Marion Selfridge, Social Worker, and Ann Brown, Resource Worker, visited [REDACTED] at home to advise that police wanted to interview her.

FRIDAY 12 JANUARY 1996 (am)

[REDACTED] was interviewed by PC Smith at West Bell Street police station. Ann Brown, Resource Worker, accompanied [REDACTED]. Ann Brown was not permitted to participate in the interview. Later that afternoon, PC Smith telephoned Colleen Gibb, Acting Manager. Outcome of police interview with [REDACTED] was that [REDACTED] had stated she had neither smacked [REDACTED] and William nor pulled [REDACTED] arms up his back. [REDACTED] could not think of an occasion(s) to which the boys may be referring. [REDACTED] is not to be charged; the police as normal will make a report available to the Reporter to the Children's Panel.

(ii) Family history and current situation:

(See child's case file for full information). [REDACTED] and William were last received into care in September 1994. They moved to their current carers, Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] on 9 December 1995. There were problems in this placement in relation to the boys' behaviour and Mr [REDACTED] mother died suddenly, hence they were moved to [REDACTED] care for respite for the Christmas/New Year period. They returned to Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] on 5 January 1996 (the evening following the access visit with Linda Archer, their mother, from which came this referral) as planned.

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

There is no ongoing risk in respect of [REDACTED] and William because:

- [REDACTED] and William's allegations were unsubstantiated ie [REDACTED] and William were unable or unwilling to elaborate ^{this is a} ~~this~~ and context for their allegations was not provided. [REDACTED] refuted the allegations.
- [REDACTED] and William returned to the care of Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]

In relation to other children - there are no other children currently in [REDACTED] household and, in any case, the allegations made were unsubstantiated.

Other issues in relation to the burn to [REDACTED] back and in relation to whether there were other difficulties with [REDACTED] and William's placement with Miss [REDACTED] will be followed up by family placement staff.

FRIDAY 12 JANUARY 1996 (pm)

Ann Brown, Resource Worker, and Margaret Moyes, Manager (Family Placement), advised of outcome.

14 PROTECTIVE ACTION TAKEN

- (i) Recommend convening Case Conference? NO
(ii) Referral to Reporter? NO - [redacted] and William
subject to Section 44(1)(a) Named Place. This situation does not warrant a request for
a Children's Hearing.
(iii) Action proposed to advise referrer of outcome: Marion Selfridge is to advise
Linda Archer
(iv) Other: George Bowie, SSW, is to contact Mr Tarbett, the children's father.
Colleen Gibb, Acting Manager, is to write to [redacted]

15 CONFERENCE INVITEES/MANAGERS COMMENTS IF NO CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATION: Colleen Gibb, Acting Manager, and co-ordinator for this Child Protection investigation, comments included in main write-up of this Appendix B1.

*Delayed submission of Appendix needs to be addressed
by Colleen Gibb.*

- 1. Agree No Case Conference.*
- 2. Records for [redacted] to be
clearly marked that this
allegation was unsubstantiated.*

appendixb1s/tarbett.doc/janet15.01

- 3. Social worker + carers for
William + [redacted] to be alert
to any other statements made
by [redacted] by them about
the placement. J Roberts 24/1/96*

Social Work
Department

Lothian Crescent
Dundee
DD4 0HU

Tel 01382 503838
Fax 01382 502937

Prepared By
Social Worker Marion Selfridge

Tel ext 221

SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT
CHILDREN'S HEARING

The following children:-

Surname	Tarbett	Date of Birth	1 [REDACTED]
			2 [REDACTED]
			3 09.07.91
Christian Names	1 [REDACTED]		
or Forenames	2 [REDACTED]	Religion	
	3 William		
School	1 Grange Primary		
	2 Kinloch Primary		
	3- Lilybank Fam Centre		
Address	1&3 [REDACTED]		
	15 [REDACTED]		
	2 [REDACTED]		
	22 [REDACTED]		

is to appear on 30.11.94 at 11.30 am Children's Hearing

in connection with Section 48(4)

Formal Report

Director
Peter James Bates

UPDATE

There have been no changes in [REDACTED] and William's circumstances since last report.

Access has continued on a weekly basis with mum. The children look forward to and enjoy these sessions. There has been one further access session with Mr Tarbett. This has continued to show improvement from previous sessions, although the session lasted only $\frac{3}{4}$ hour. The children spent time discussing past experiences with Mr Tarbett ie, the berries and when they lived in the multi. [REDACTED] and William are keen to continue contact with dad [REDACTED] has stated to workers and carers that she doesn't wish to see dad but has shown no signs of this during actual access sessions. All three wish to continue contact with Ms Robertson.

Plans are going ahead by Social Work Department to recommend that [REDACTED] and William remain permanently in the care of the local authority. Ms Robertson is agreeable to this plan as she accepts this is in the best interests of the children. Mr Tarbett refuses to accept or discuss this recommendation and believes the children should return to his care.

Social Work Department propose to place [REDACTED] and William with Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]

Present carers have two other children who are also moving to permanent carers and this situation has made it difficult to provide [REDACTED] and William with the necessary support to allow them to move to permanent carers. The prospective placement will allow [REDACTED] and William more individual attention to help them move on to permanent care. Attempts were made to discuss this with Mr Tarbett and his opinion sought on 08.11.95 but he refused stating the children would be returning to his care.

RECOMMENDATION

Writer recommends that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and William remain subject to S44(1)(a) named place. Placement presently under discussion.

Conditions that all three children should have access with mum at the discretion of Social Work Department and that they should have access with Mr Tarbett once each month for one hour.



Marion Selfridge
Social Worker
Children & Families Team 3
MM/CA 21.11.95
TARBETT Rep

Client Copy

BRIEFING NOTE

Mr David Tarbett has said that he has taken his story to the Sunday Newspapers. He says they are interested.

FAMILY

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
William Tarbett (dob 09.07.91), c/o [REDACTED]
Father - Mr David Tarbett (dob 08.04.47 }, separated
Mother - Ms Linda Robertson/Archer }

BACKGROUND

All three children were received into care on a place of safety warrant at a Children's Hearing on 22 September 1994. At a Children's Hearing on 12 October 1994 all three children were made subject to Section 44(1)(a) Named Place Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968.

Prior to this Children's Hearing, Mr Tarbett and his three children were known to the Social Work Department since the birth of [REDACTED] in 1988. From this date all children had been referred at different times to the Reporter. From 15 June 1993 all three children remained subject to Section 44(1)(a) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 up until their reception into care on 22 September 1994.

Prior to their reception into care there was repeated concern about the care the children were receiving. There were frequent moves of address, as the result of violence in the home between Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer, the children's mother. The children were used as pawns between the adults, for example on one occasion when the parents were separated Mr Tarbett left the children at a family centre stating Ms Archer should look after them.

Prior to the reception into care there were allegations of physical abuse made by the children against Mr Tarbett. On 9 September 1993 [REDACTED] name was placed on the Child Protection Register under the category of physical abuse (proven) [REDACTED] and William, physical abuse (at risk) and all three children under category of physical neglect (suspicious). It is also unfortunate to note that whilst the Social Work Department were seeking his help to improve the children's situation, Mr Tarbett was reluctant to co-operate or take any advice and guidance. For example Mr Tarbett failed to comply with two of the conditions in section 44(1)(a) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 dated 28 February 1994:-
Condition 3 - The child(ren) shall attend Polepark Family Counselling Centre
Condition 4 - The child(ren) shall have supervised access to his mother.

Mr Tarbett refused to allow the children to be part of an assessment programme at Polepark and he refused to take part in the arranged programme.

Mr Tarbett also refused to allow the children access to their mother. The history of concerns for these three children culminated in their reception into care.

THE REASONS STATED BY THE CHILDREN'S HEARING FOR THE PLACE OF SAFETY TAKEN ON 22 SEPTEMBER 1995 WERE AS FOLLOWS:-

- 1 The three children attended the hearing and their behaviour was seen to be violent, disruptive and completely out of control despite their father's presence.
- 2 Mr Tarbett was point blank in his refusal to adhere to the conditions of the care order, to work with the Social Work Department and other support agencies.
- 3 The two older children were disruptive and violent at school, and the headmaster stated they were both very close to exclusion.
- 4 As the social worker was refused access to the children at home, it was also felt they were probably at risk, because of their father's inability to exercise control.
- 5 Access arrangements with the children's mother is still a problem area and has to be addressed in order to benefit the children.

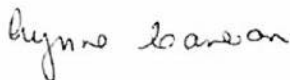
CONCERNS EXPRESSED PRIOR TO RECEPTION INTO CARE

- a [REDACTED] sexualised behaviour at school (23 March 1994);
- b Mr Tarbett telephoned Womens Aid, sounding under the influence of alcohol and put child on telephone - unclear who child was (02.00, 9 April 1994);
- c [REDACTED] (11 April 1994);
- d [REDACTED] behaved in a sexualised way to worker at Polepark (13 April 1994);
- e [REDACTED] (adult) (14 April 1994).

FOLLOWING RECEPTION INTO CARE

The plan was to work with Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer with a view to ascertaining if they could be better parents to these children; that is, could these children be returned to a safe and nurturing environment? Unfortunately Mr Tarbett did not co-operate and there was no progress in Mr Tarbett's attitude or understanding of what had to happen for the children to return to his care. Since being in care the children have been describing episodes in the home indicating they were unsafe and unhappy, eg - witnessing sexual activities and allegations of physical abuse. Given the case history the Social Work Department sought advice from the Department of Law and Administration. The advice received was that plans needed to be made for the children's future which will afford them a stable, safe and consistent environment. Mr Tarbett, in the presence of his solicitor on 20 June 1995, was informed of this advice and told that the Department would not recommend the children's return to his care.

Mr Tarbett had not been notified formally of the department's recommendation for permanent substitute care, as he has not kept appointments. At the time of the meeting with solicitor on 20 June 1995, the Department were still assessing Ms Linda Archer for the care of the children. However, it is now apparent that Ms Archer cannot offer the care these three children need. Arrangements are now in place to keep Mr Tarbett informed of all developments in writing.



Ms L Cameron
Manager
Children & Families (East), Dundee

LC/LM
31.10.95

Client Copy

UPDATE REPORT FOR SHERIFF KEEGAN, SHERIFF COURT

William file

Report regarding access [REDACTED] and William Tarbett with Mr Tarbett on 6 September 1995 at St Matthew's Family Centre, 4pm - 5pm

Mr Tarbett has declined to take up access with the children since 25.04.95. At that session Mr Tarbett was verbally abusive and aggressive towards Ms Owler, supervising worker, regarding the recording of his sessions. He insisted on discussing this in front of the children's despite requests to desist and the offer of another appointment to discuss the matter. The children all became very upset. This session was stopped on the advice of senior management. The children all needed reassurance regarding this incident and they have all continued to speak about this.

Mr Tarbett agreed to resume access on 06.09.95. [REDACTED] was refusing to attend the session and it was only after [REDACTED] foster carer agreed to accompany her that she agreed to attend. When William saw his father he said, "You won't shout at Marion today will you big Davy?" The children did appear to be apprehensive before the session.

The access session was a considerable improvement on previous sessions, which had often been chaotic with the children's behaviour being outwith Mr Tarbett's control. Mr Tarbett did not make attempts to control their behaviour in previous sessions and relied upon supervising staff to intervene if necessary. During the session on 06.09.95 the children's behaviour was more settled. They played well together with no evidence of their previous aggressive, unruly behaviour during access. The children's improved behaviour was, I believe, instrumental in the session being successful as they made fewer demands of Mr Tarbett in terms of their management. Mr Tarbett spoke to the children when they approached him although he made no attempts to be involved in their play.

Writer had some concerns that Mr Tarbett is unable to monitor the physical safety of the children. William at one point jumped three times from a high windowsill to a worktop below and Mr Tarbett failed to stop this although he was sitting nearby. On these occasions William was also on top of play equipment and writer had to intervene as he appeared to be unsafe. The children still seem to take little notice of Mr Tarbett if he requests them to do something or makes attempts to reprimand them.

Mr Tarbett asked [REDACTED] if he would be seeing his mother tomorrow and when we left the building he asked [REDACTED] if she saw her mother yesterday. The ongoing acrimony between Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer and the way in which the children are constantly involved in this has been concerning for the Social Work Department.

The children left happily after the session, and at the time of writing there are no reports from their foster carers of any adverse reactions to it.

Client Copy

Given that this is the first positive experience of access for the children with Mr Tarbett for some time, it would be premature to conclude that future sessions would necessarily have the same outcome, given the troubled history at access to date. It is hoped that the positive atmosphere of the session on 06.09.95 can be built upon at future access. This department would not recommend any change to the current access conditions for the following reasons:

- 1 The presence of the supervising social worker still seems necessary to ensure the children's physical well-being through appropriate supervision.
- 2 Mr Tarbett appears to need assistance in managing the children's behaviour.
- 3 [REDACTED] has demonstrated her anxiety about access generally but particularly unsupervised access.
- 4 It is the writer's opinion that the children would be questioned about their mother's whereabouts and activities were social work staff not present.

sp George Bone, ssw.

Marion Selfridge
Social Worker

MS/SR/IH
11.09.95

REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL FOR TAYSIDE

SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1968

Notice about Child referred to the Reporter to the Children's Panel

Surname Tarbutt Christian Names WilliamDate of Birth 9-7-91 Age 3 SchoolHome Address 70 Bonnethill Court, DundeePresent Address 90 [REDACTED]Social Work Area East Social Worker Mervin SelfridgeReporter's Reference No E110515 Referral No 10

PLEASE QUOTE IN ALL COMMUNICATIONS

SWSGS NO 910911807 Dated 21/6/95Reason for Referral 42(4) Review at request of Parent☐ Thank you for your report/referral Dated

INFORMATION REQUESTED:

☐ Please give me more information as specified in the attached note.☐ I would be grateful for a report to assist me and any Hearing ~~which may be~~ convened for this child.☐ Please submit the report by: 22/11/95☐ Note:

HEARING

☐ I will arrange a Hearing upon receipt of a social background report.☐ I have arranged a Hearing on Thurs 30 November 1995 at 11.30 am/pm☐ You are expected/invited to attend the Hearing.☐ A representative who knows the child and can take part in the discussion at the Hearing is expected/invited to attend.☐ Note:

RESULT

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

THE HEARING DECIDED

☐ To Discharge the referral under Section 42(2) (c) or 43(2). . . on☐ To apply to the Sheriff for proof of the Grounds Section . . . on☐ To continue the case as arranged above, From 25/10/95☐ To issue a Supervision Requirement under Section . . . on☐ To continue the existing Supervision Requirement under Section . . . on☐ To vary the Supervision Requirement from Section . . . to Section . . . on☐ To terminate the Supervision Requirement on☐ As a result of the Requirement/decision, the child will be living at☐ Note:☐ EnclosuresSigned L. [Signature]Dated 31/10/95Reporter to Children's
Panel for TaysideADDRESS OF REPORTER Dundee District,
91 Commercial Street,
Dundee, DD1 2AH
Tel. 23281 Ext. / Floor

Client Copy

REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL FOR TAYSIDE

SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1968

FORM 1A

Notice about Child referred to the Reporter to the Children's Panel

Surname Tarbutt Christian Names William
Date of Birth 9-7-91 Age 3 School
Home Address 70 Bonnet Hill Court, Dundee
Present Address 9a [REDACTED]
Social Work Area East Social Worker Menan Selfridge
Reporter's Reference No E110515 Referral No 10

PLEASE QUOTE IN ALL COMMUNICATIONS

SWSGS NO 910911207 Dated 21/6/95

Reason for Referral 48(a) Review at request of Parent
Remit 49(5)(b) - Appeal

☐ Thank you for your report/referral Dated

INFORMATION REQUESTED:

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

HEARING

- ☐ I will arrange a Hearing upon receipt of a social background report.
☐ I have arranged a Hearing on Wed 25 October 1995 at 3.15 am/pm.
☐ You are expected/invited to attend the Hearing.
☐ A representative who knows the child and can take part in the discussion at the Hearing is expected/invited to attend.
☐ Note:

RESULT

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

THE HEARING DECIDED

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

Signed [Signature]
Dated 13/10/95

Reporter to Children's
Panel for Tayside
ADDRESS OF REPORTER Dundee District
91 Commercial Street,
Dundee, DD1 2AH
Tel. 23281 Ext. / Floor

Regional Council

Social Work
Department

Lothian Crescent
Dundee
DD4 0HU

Tel 01382 503838
Fax 01382 502937

Prepared By
Social Worker Marion Selfridge

Tel ext 221

SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT CHILDREN'S HEARING

The following children:-

Surname	Tarbett	Date of Birth	1 [REDACTED]
			2 09.07.91
			3 [REDACTED]
Christian Names or Forenames	1 [REDACTED]		
	2 William	Religion	
School	1 Grange Primary		
	2 Lilybank Family Centre		
	3 Kinloch Primary		
Address	[REDACTED]		
	3 [REDACTED]		

is to appear on 25.10.95 at 3 pm Children's Hearing
in connection with Section 49(5) (b) Appeal

Formal Report

Director
Peter James Bates

Client Copy

Update

██████████ and William remain in the care of Mr and Mrs ██████████ and ██████████
██████████



William

William is again happy and settled in placement. There have been some problems at Lilybank Child and Family Centre with William displaying sexualised behaviour towards other children.

Polepark

Sessions at Polepark had continued until 28.08.95 and are planned to resume 23.10.95. See Polepark Report.

Access

Access between the children and Ms Robertson (mother) has continued on a regular weekly basis. All three children express a strong wish that they continue seeing mum. When all three children and ██████████ are together their behaviour can sometimes be difficult to control but normally the sessions are enjoyable for Ms Robertson and the children.

Mr Tarbett agreed to resume access on 06.09.95. ██████████ was refusing to attend the session and it was only after ██████████ foster carer, agreed to accompany her that she agreed to attend. When William saw his father he said, "You won't shout at

Client Copy

Marion today, will you big Davy? The children did appear to be apprehensive before the session.

The access session was a considerable improvement on previous sessions, which had often been chaotic with the children's behaviour being outwith Mr Tarbett's control. Mr Tarbett did not make attempts to control their behaviour in previous sessions and relied upon supervising staff to intervene if necessary. During the session on 06.09.95 the children's behaviour was more settled. They played well together with no evidence of their previous aggressive, unruly behaviour during access. The children's improved behaviour was, I believe, instrumental in the session being successful as they made fewer demands of Mr Tarbett in terms of their management. Mr Tarbett spoke to the children when they approached him although he made no attempts to be involved in their play.

Writer had some concerns that Mr Tarbett is unable to monitor the physical safety of the children. William at one point jumped three times from a high window sill to a worktop below and Mr Tarbett failed to stop this although he was sitting nearby. On these occasions William was also on top of play equipment and writer had to intervene as he appeared to be unsafe. The children still seem to take little notice of Mr Tarbett if he requests them to do something or makes attempts to reprimand them.

Mr Tarbett asked [REDACTED] if he would be seeing his mother tomorrow and when we left the building he asked [REDACTED] if she saw her mother yesterday. The ongoing acrimony between Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer and the way in which the children are constantly involved in this has been concerning for the Social Work Department.

Mr Tarbett again had access on 04.10.95. [REDACTED] (half sister) and her baby, [REDACTED] also attended this session. Again the children's behaviour was good and they played well with each other and on their own. They obviously continue to have a good relationship with [REDACTED] engaged well with the children, talking to them and reprimanding them when their play became dangerous.

[REDACTED] again climbed on play equipment which was obviously unsafe and he did fall off on one occasion. [REDACTED] picked up these dangers immediately and warned the children. There was little communication between Mr Tarbett and the children although he spent some time taking photographs.

[REDACTED] reports that [REDACTED] behaviour before and after access with her father is often difficult. [REDACTED] is saying quite openly to carers, social worker, Polepark workers and her mother that she does not like her dad and does not want to go to access. There have been no adverse effects from access with mother and [REDACTED] states clearly she wishes access with mum to continue.

[REDACTED] reports there are no obvious effects on the boys' behaviour before or after access. They seldom speak about dad or what has happened, apart from how many sweets they have been given. [REDACTED] would like more time with dad. When asked what his favourite things were about access he answered, "Sweets and toys."

Client Copy

William wishes to continue seeing his dad. It was difficult to establish whether William would like this increased as his concentration would not permit further discussion.

These last two access sessions with the children and Mr Tarbett have been more positive and hopefully can be built upon at future access sessions. Writer would not recommend any change to the access sessions with Mr Tarbett at this time for the following reasons.

- 1 The presence of supervising social worker still seems necessary to ensure the children's physical well being through appropriate supervision.
- 2 Mr Tarbett appears to need assistance in managing the children's behaviour.
- 3 [REDACTED] is stating quite clearly that she does not wish to attend sessions.
- 4 Should access be unsupervised it is the writer's opinion that the children would be questioned about their mother's whereabouts and activities were social work staff not present.
- 5 There is no plan to recommend that the children be returned to Mr Tarbett's care.

Future plans

Social Work Department plans are to recommend that all three children remain in permanent care. Consequently access between the children and Ms Robertson will be reduced on a planned basis.

Recommendation

Writer recommends that [REDACTED] and William continue subject to Section 44(1)(a) Social Work (Scotland) Act Named Place with condition that Ms Robertson have supervised access with the children at the discretion of Social Work Dept and that the children have access with Mr Tarbett monthly for one hour.

Marion Selfridge
Social Worker
Children & Families Team 3



Tayside
Regional Council

Social Work
Department

Lothian Crescent
Dundee
DD4 0HU

Tel 01382 503838
Fax 01382 502937

Prepared By
Social Worker Marion Selfridge

Tel ext 221

SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT CHILDREN'S HEARING

The following children:-

Surname	Date of Birth
<u>TARBETT</u>	<u>1 [REDACTED]</u> <u>2 09.07.91</u>
Christian Names or Forenames	Religion
<u>2 William</u>	<u>[REDACTED]</u>
School	
<u>1 Grange Primary School</u> <u>2 Lilybank Family Centre</u> <u>3 Kinloch Primary School</u>	
Address	
<u>[REDACTED]</u> <u>[REDACTED]</u> <u>[REDACTED]</u>	

is to appear on _____ at _____ Children's Hearing

in connection with Section 48(4)

FORMAL REPORT

Director
Peter James dates

Client Copy

Update

██████████ and William have continued to live with Mr and Mrs ██████████ since reception into care on 22.09.95. ██████████ was briefly placed with ██████████, Broughty Ferry and moved to Mr and Mrs ██████████ 06.10.94 where she has since remained. ██████████ is to move to Mr and Mrs ██████████ Monifieth for a period of 6 weeks respite care, while Mrs ██████████ is in hospital but she will be returning to Mrs ██████████ care subsequent to this.

Ms Archer and ██████████ returned to the family home on 14.10.94. Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer continued to have twice weekly access with the children until 09.04.95 when Ms Archer and ██████████ again left the family home to live in Women's Aid Refuge. Access was then arranged on a weekly basis with separate parents. Subsequent to an incident on 25.04.95 when Mr Tarbett was very abusive and aggressive towards supervising worker Cath Owler causing the children to be very frightened and upset, Mr Tarbett was asked to discuss the problems before further sessions arranged. Ms Archer has continued to have weekly access sessions with the children.

School

SchoolWilliam

William remains in care of Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]. They have always found him to be a happy go lucky child, who has fitted in well with the family, both adults and children. They have had some concerns recently that William is the focus for aggressive behaviour by [REDACTED] has deliberately destroyed many of William's belongings.

There was an incident at the carers home in November 1994, when William was found in bed with another foster child simulating sexual intercourse. Subsequent to this it was decided to arrange sessions at Polepark for all three children to look at their past experiences and offer counselling and guidance to the children to explore acceptable sexual behaviour.

During home visits writer has observed William as being relaxed and happy and getting on well with everyone. He is a very likeable character, who appears to take life in his stride, with little upset. William states a wish to continue seeing both mum and dad.

Lilybank Family Centre

William enjoys attending the Family Centre and usually gets on well with staff and children. There have been concerns about sexualised behaviour by William displayed towards his keyworker and other children. William can also be quite aggressive towards other children in the Centre, which has been on occasions linked to contact at the Centre with his father.

Polepark

All three children were referred to Polepark Family Counselling Centre on 08.12.94. This was as a result of reports of ongoing sexualised behaviour displayed by [REDACTED] in a particular incident at carer's home and reports from Grange Primary School. It was felt that work with the children was necessary to explore the origins of their sexualised behaviour and help them understand about acceptable behaviour. It was then decided that sessions at Polepark would allow the children time and space to talk and to explore their feelings and actions in regard to sexual issues and also explore their feelings regarding other areas of their lives, especially experiences at home, present experiences, and looking to the future. The work was to be focused on the children's views and not intended to be investigative but therapeutic in orientation.

Two of the children in a different combination attended Polepark on a weekly basis. These sessions are presently still continuing. The children have spoken quite openly about witnessing acts of a sexual nature between parents also incidents of physical abuse by Mr Tarbett in relation to [REDACTED] and of witnessing physical violence between parents. (Further details in Polepark Report). Workers from Polepark and writer have discussed these issues with both parents. Mr Tarbett denies all knowledge of sexual issues, physical abuse and violence between parents. Ms Archer denies sexual issues but acknowledges physical abuse and violence between parents witnessed by children.

Access

Access continued on a twice weekly basis with [REDACTED] William, [REDACTED] Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer from October 1994 to April 1995. During access sessions Ms Archer made attempts to play with the children and talk to them. Mr Tarbett sat back and took little part in the sessions, although in the beginning William often spent time sitting beside Mr Tarbett. The children's behaviour was often unruly and uncontrollable during sessions, with frequent squabbles, the children climbing over furniture and unable to concentrate on any activity for any length of time.

When Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer separated in April access was arranged for the children on a weekly basis with Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer. These sessions have continued with Ms Archer and some improvement in quality of access has been noted, although Ms Archer still has difficulty controlling the behaviour of all four children.

Mr Tarbett disagreed with recordings made by worker (Ms Owler) supervising his access sessions. On 25.04.95 Ms Owler arrived with the children for access. Mr Tarbett was very verbally abusive and aggressive towards Ms Owler regarding the recording of his sessions. He insisted in discussing this in front of the children despite requests to desist and the offer of another appointment to discuss the matter. The children all became very upset. After consultation with Lynne Cameron, Acting Manager, it was decided to stop access for this session. [REDACTED] and William left with Ms Owler but Mr Tarbett insisted that [REDACTED] stay. Writer later returned to collect [REDACTED]. Mr Tarbett continued to shout abuse about recordings and Ms Archer. Advised him writer would not discuss further in front of [REDACTED]. The children were very frightened and upset about this experience and needed reassurance that this was an issue which should have been discussed between adults.

Mr Tarbett has been given the opportunity to discuss this incident prior to further access sessions being arranged but he declined to keep appointments until 20.06.95 when at a meeting with Mr Tarbett, his solicitor and Social Work Department staff he was given the opportunity to re-introduce access sessions on a monthly basis. He has declined to do so. This reduction in access is based on

- a the Department's plan that the children should not return to Mr Tarbett's care,
- b the poor quality of access and its affect on the children,
- c the length of time Mr Tarbett has not maintained access.

Assessment/Rehabilitation Plans

Joint work to look at assessment of Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer's ability to offer adequate care and a safe environment to meet the children's needs was undertaken. Four individual sessions with Ms Archer and writer and Calum Strathie, St Matthews Family Centre with Mr Tarbett began in November 1994 and one joint session. During individual sessions Ms Archer appeared to be aware of the needs of the children. She acknowledged they were often upset by the separations/reconciliations and volatile relationship between the couple. During individual interviews with Ms Archer she has continued to state she will not remain in a relationship with Mr Tarbett. She also acknowledged the need for appropriate boundaries and limits set on the children's behaviour but often found this difficult as Mr Tarbett undermined her attempts to incur appropriate measures of punishment which then resulted in acrimony and arguments between the couple. Ms Archer agreed that the relationship between the couple would have to change to offer the children a stable secure home life and the couple would need advice regarding behaviour management of the children.

During his sessions Mr Tarbett denied there was any problems in the couple's relationship nor that there had ever been any incidents of violence. He could not say whether the relationship was likely to be permanent. Mr Tarbett has continued to state throughout all sessions that there are no problems with the children's behaviour or his ability to care for them. He states very clearly that he is a good father with no need to change any aspect of his care.

Further joint sessions with the couple were arranged subsequent to meetings where Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer found it difficult to make any commitment to a permanent relationship, or to work with Calum Strathie or writer. These sessions began on 07.02.95. Mr Tarbett refused to accept reasons for children being in care. He continued to state that there was nothing wrong with the way he looked after the children and he did not need to change. Ms Archer did not accept any responsibility for the children's reception into care as she had not been at home but she did acknowledge the need for change to meet the children's needs. Attempts to discuss the relationship between the couple resulted in Mr Tarbett denying any violence between the couple but Ms Archer discussing incidents which [REDACTED] had witnessed. Mr Tarbett stated at the beginning of the third session that he was "wasting his time". Mr Tarbett stated that they (the children) could say "this or that" but he felt things would revert back to what they were before - the children would be their normal selves. Mr Tarbett felt it was no use telling lies - he would bring the children up the way he wanted. Mr Tarbett continued to blame Social Work Department, schools, safeguarder for children's reception into care. He continues to deny any responsibility for children's reception into care.

After a further joint meeting with G Bowie, Senior Social Worker, it was decided not to continue joint sessions. In March 1994 Mr Tarbett was advised that Social Work Department would not be returning the children to his care or to the care of Mr Tarbett and Ms Archer as a couple. It was stated at this time that should Ms Archer decide to live independently, a further assessment of her ability to care for one or more of the children would be made.

Present situation

Ms Archer left the family home in April 1995. She was residing in Women's Aid Refuge in Arbroath with [REDACTED]. Mr Tarbett found her whereabouts on 12.06.95. He visited Arbroath on a number of occasions. Ms Archer was feeling very threatened and frightened to leave the house. On 14.06.95 Ms Archer arrived at the Family Centre to collect [REDACTED] and she was under the influence of alcohol. An incident followed in which Ms Archer was charged with assaulting three social work staff. She was remanded in custody and [REDACTED] received into care under place of safety.

[REDACTED] has now returned to Ms Archer's care and both are living outwith the Dundee area. Ms Archer continues to have weekly access with [REDACTED] and William.

Mr Tarbett has continuously refused to co-operate with social work staff over the past four months. His behaviour towards staff has often been abusive and threatening, culminating in Police involvement on a number of occasions. His main interest again appears to be his separation from Ms Archer and during recent phone calls, writer has attempted to give Mr Tarbett information about the children but this is ignored as Mr Tarbett only appears interested in his dispute with the Social Work Department and allegations about Ms Archer.

Recommendation

Writer recommends that the Supervision Order under Section 44(1)(a) Named Place Social Work (Scotland) Act be continued for [REDACTED] and William, that the condition for supervised access for Ms Archer at the discretion of the Social Work Department be continued and that Mr Tarbett's access be defined in a condition at once monthly, supervised.

pp George Bonni, Senior Social Worker.

Marion Selfridge
Social Worker
Children and Families Team 3
MS/MR/IH
14.07.95
Tarbett.Rep