

Extracts - 1

CHRISTOPHER MULHOLLAND EXTRACTS FROM DOCUMENTS HELD BY SCRA

Please note: Some names have been removed from the document extracts. It would not be reasonable or appropriate to disclose this information to you. In order to make the extracts reader-friendly, names of relevant third-parties have been replaced with a descriptor or [].

2013-10-02 Initial Child Protection Case Conference dated 02/10/2013

Mr Mulholland has previously successfully completed a detox on suboxone. In March 2013 Mr Mulholland's father who was a support to the couple in their parenting role, passed away. It was felt at this point Mr Mulholland turned to substances as his father's death was very traumatic for him.

On 7 June allegations were made suggesting that Mr Mulholland was using illicit substances and storing them in his house.

Mr Mulholland later admitted to keeping drugs in the garden however denied there were any kept in the house.

Mr Mulholland has one pending case and thirty previous convictions since 1993 for a variety of offences. There is one domestic incident together which was non physical

Mr Mulholland appears in three other domestic incidents with a previous partner.

Three intelligence logs suggest that Mr Mulholland is involved in the supply and possibly the cultivation of controlled drugs. Further intelligence suggests that Mr Mulholland was responsible for recent robberies within the Beith area. Mr Mulholland appeared in four crime reports.

There is recent intelligence that suggests that Mr Mulholland is driving drugs around for another person and that they are involved in money and heroin transactions and storing the drugs within the home of Mr Mulholland. There is also intelligence informing that Mr Mulholland had taken another person to the bank at 2am asking for a loan of money. Intelligence states that Mr Mulholland is associating with a sex offender

Mr Mulholland appears to be living a chaotic lifestyle information was received with regards to his illicit substance misuse and cultivation and storing of drugs.

Mr Mulholland to seek advice in relation to his substance misuse and mental health issues also ensuring he attends future meetings for [] .

2014-01-21 Statutory Record of Proceedings
Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision – The panel decided to send the grounds for proof to the Sheriff. Mum and Dad did not agree with some of the statement of facts of the grounds so it felt the sheriff could decide

2014-02-11 Statutory Record of Proceedings
Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision – The panel made the decision today to issue a further Interim Compulsory Supervision Order because we were given 100% assurance from Social Work there are significant risks to []. These included domestic abuse, criminal activity and Dad's non engagement with Social Work

2014-03-18 Statutory Record of Proceedings
Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision – To make a further Interim Compulsory Supervision Order. The decision was taken because the hearing was assured by Social services that there were sufficient and significant risks to [] whilst awaiting the decision of the sheriff. Both Mum and Dad are cooperating with social services. Dad is now back in the family home.

**GROUND OF REFERRAL AS AMENDED AND WITHOUT EVIDENCE
LED
ESTABLISHED AT KILMARNOCK SHERIFF COURT ON 10 th APRIL, 2014
STATEMENT OF GROUNDS**

Section 67 Ground

The children's reporter has arranged a children's hearing for []
Because the reporter believes the following ground applies:

that in terms of Section 67(2)(a) of the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act, 2011 he is likely to suffer unnecessarily or his health or development is likely to be seriously impaired, due to a lack of parental care.

Supporting Facts

Christopher Mulholland has a history of poor parenting, criminality, illicit drugs misuse. Christopher Mulholland has consistently prioritised his illicit drug misuse over parenting responsibilities

2014-08-05 Statutory Record of Proceedings
Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision - To continue the Child Protection Order until the Eighth Working Day hearing. *The hearing made this decision for the following* reason(s): In order to keep the child safe it was the unanimous decision to continue to the 8th Working Day Hearing as the panel felt that there is serious risk for [] due to his parents lifestyles and that the Grounds are being written up and these will be getting read to the parents. Contact was discussed with everybody participating in the discussion. Social Worker advised that the last contact did not go well. They stated that Mr Mullholland sat for 35 minutes before reacting to his child being present. Mr Mullholland did not agree with the social worker on the quality of the contact or the time. He also felt that social worker always was negative towards himself and his family. These are points that a further hearing may wish to look at appointing a Safeguarder. The hearing made the decision to continue with the Sheriffs recommendation of minimum of 1 x per week for minimum x1 hour per week. It was agreed to keep the non disclosure of address in order to keep [] safe at his foster carers. Social worker was asked why they are asking for this and it was stated clearly that there is an element of risk regarding "flight" should the parents find out this address. Mr Mullholland very vocally disagreed with this but the panel erred on caution as we did not have the full facts in front of us. Mr Mullholland was told that this would again be looked at on the 8th Working Day Hearing. Mr Mullholland left the hearing just as decisions were being made.

2014-11-04 Statutory Record of Proceedings
Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision - As contact is positive the unanimous decision was to keep contact as it is i.e 1 hour minimum per week for mum and dad, supervised by social services. Dad indicated that he would like this increased but social work raised concerns regarding his drug use, attitude, progress and presentation at times

2014-11-18 Statutory Record of Proceedings
Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision: A full discussion took place where dad advised that he is currently taking part in a mellow dads program based in [] nursery. He has advised that the 3 weeks he has been attending it there is no new learning to him it is all information about things he is already doing. Dad informed the hearing that he registered last week with addiction services and is awaiting feedback from them. As such no safeguarder was necessary at this time.

2015-10-05 Statutory Record of Proceedings
Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision - To continue the compulsory supervision order dated 18.11.14 Christopher Mulholland (dad) still has substance misuse issues. Since moving to Irvine, he has been allocated a new addictions worker. [] parents have settled in their new home, and it is hoped that being away from previous negative influences will be of benefit. It was emphasised that it is vitally important that he fully engages with all supports.

2017-05-17 Statutory Record of Proceedings
Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children's Hearing

Decision - To proceed in the absence of the child's father, Christopher Mulholland. Mr Mulholland has reported that he has a new job and would not be attending. He was informed that the papers were ready for collection but did not collect. The panel decided to proceed in his absence in the best interests of the children but did not grant him dispensation given that he has a responsibility as well as a right to attend.

The children should reside with the foster carers given that they have been able to provide them with a safe and therapeutic environment for several years. The parents have not been able to provide a safe and secure environment because of their lack of understanding of the risks they were to the children, their capacity to parent was not good enough, there were contradictions on what they said to social work and because of the controlling relationship that Mr Mulholland had on [].

There is no benefit or value in the contact of [] with his father therefore it was terminated. Mr Mulholland is only a negative influence during contact. All parties agreed on this.

2017-12-01 CHILD ASSESSMENT AND PLAN

Health issues

Family or Carer – Identified need, Dad has an opiate dependency.

Historical

Mr Christopher Mulholland

In relation to his upbringing, departmental records note that Mr Mulholland was born in Rutherglen and raised in the Easterhouse and Castlemilk areas of Glasgow. He has two older sisters and his parents separated when he was about four years of age. He and his father moved to Beith when he was eleven years old and he attended Garnock Academy for approximately one month. Mr Mulholland advised the writer that around this time his father had a breakdown and left home. Departmental records note that Mr Mulholland experienced behavioural difficulties in school. Social Work became involved and he was placed in Red Brae Residential School.

Mr Mulholland was involved with the Children's Hearing System and was subject to Supervision until aged 16. He described his experience in care as positive and attended mainstream school four days per week. Mr Mulholland advised that he left school at sixteen with four GCSEs and went to college to undertake a course in motor mechanics. On leaving school, Mr Mulholland moved into the Dregghorn Hostel for a period, before returning to live with his father in Beith. Mr Mulholland reported that he worked full time as a roofer however after injuring his knee whilst working he left this. Mr Mulholland began a relationship with his daughter's mother after she moved to Beith. He said that his ex partner was an ex user of illicit substances during their relationship however relapsed. He advised he occasionally used cannabis however he began using heroin when he was about twenty six or twenty seven years of age.

Mr Mulholland was involved with [] (community payback team) in 2003, in relation to unpaid fines and there was a warrant issued for his arrest to attend court. When he was arrested Mr Mulholland appeared at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court on 30th October 2013 where he received 1x20hrs plus 1x40hrs community service in relation to unpaid fines. Departmental records note that Mr Mulholland's attendance could be sporadic however did complete his Community Payback Order. Mr Mulholland has another child who is in the full time care of her Maternal Grandmother. This child's mother ended her relationship with Mr Mulholland after another person, who was an associate of Mr Mulholland, had an overdose in the house and drug paraphernalia was found in the property where the children lived. He now has no contact with this child.

A Child Protection Case Conference Review was held on 8th August 2012 where the decision was made to remove [] name from NAC Child Protection Register. Positive progress had been made during the period of registration. Mr Mulholland continued to engage with Addiction Services and successfully completed a Suboxone programme to aid withdrawal from methadone. [] and Mr Mulholland appeared to be parenting [] positively and no issues reported. However the previous writer felt that compulsory measures of care were needed for [] given the family history and high level of support that had been offered to support his parents with parenting him. As such the writer made a referral to the Reporter's Department however no grounds of referral could be found. However, social work remained involved as part of Child Protection de-registration procedures.

In March 2013, Mr Mulholland's father, who was very supportive to [] and Mr Mulholland, sadly passed away. The writer soon observed a marked decline in Mr Mulholland's presentation and he disclosed in April/May 2013 that he had relapsed and was using illicit substances again.

Mr Mulholland successfully completed a suboxone detox however his father passed away from cancer in March 2013. It appears that this significant event contributed to Mr Mulholland turning to substances to deal with his grief and loss and contributed to a decline in [] and Mr Mulholland's relationship. In June 2013 the writer carried out a home visit to [] and Mr Mulholland to follow up allegations that Mr Mulholland was using illicit substances and storing them in his house. Mr Mulholland was putting pressure on [] to return to live with him and denying domestic abuse taking place.

Due to the accumulative concerns involving [] a Child Protection Investigation was commenced with the decision made that a Child Protection Case Discussion was convened. All agencies involved at the meeting expressed concern about Mr Mulholland's behaviours, substance abuse. This meeting then led to a Child Protection Case Conference being convened on 16th September 2013. At this meeting Police reported concerns regarding intelligence relating to Mr Mulholland's criminal activity and non- attendance at court. [] name was placed on North Ayrshire Council's (NAC) Child Protection Register at that meeting due to the following risk factors identified; Domestic Abuse Parental Mental Health Issues Emotional Abuse Parental Drug Misuse Other Concern- Historical Issues Other Concern- Criminal, Violent or Anti Social Behaviour. Mr Mulholland did not attend the CP Case Conference.

The writer remained the allocated lead professional for [] and visited weekly with monthly core groups being held. A high level of support was provided to the family through health, education and social work. Mr Mulholland was presenting as stable and his involvement with services had increased since the previous February.

He did not feel the need for engagement with addiction services. The couple also appeared more united in their relationship and demonstrating a commitment to the work in respect of []. Police did not have any new evidence or intelligence in respect of drugs, however had information around the possibility of Mr Mulholland being concerned with handling and storing stolen property which was strongly denied by Mr Mulholland. At []'s Child Protection Review Case Conference on 11th June 2014 []'s name was removed from North Ayrshire Council's Child Protection Register.

However, on 19th June 2014 social services received a referral from Ayrshire Out of Hours advising that Police had notified them of an incident involving [] and unborn baby's father Mr Christopher Mulholland. Police advised that they attended the family home at 10:30am on 19th June 2014 with Mr Christopher Mulholland. Mr Mulholland was then taken to Ayr Police Station, when searched he was found to have ten wraps of heroin secreted within himself. Mr Mulholland was charged with possession and intent to supply heroin. He was released from custody to return home and attend Court at a later date. Police also secured a warrant to return to the family home at 16:30 in the evening. This incident initiated a further Child Protection Investigation for [] with recommendation to proceed to a Child Protection Case Conference. A Pre-Birth Child Protection Investigation had also been completed on [] with the recommendation to proceed to a Pre-Birth Child Protection Case Conference.

On 31st July 2014 social work received a telephone call from Glasgow Homeless Social Worker [] advising that Mr Mulholland and [] presented at Out of Hours Glasgow Homeless Office on 29th July at 5:15pm, stating they were living with Mr Mulholland's sister. They were advised to return the following day to the Homeless Office. Mr Mulholland did on his own and advised the family were living with his sister but could not provide details of an address. He informed that he was presenting as homeless as he was fleeing violence in Beith and wanted a house in Glasgow as he had family in Glasgow.

On 5th September 2014, social work completed a home visit to the property in Beith and drug paraphernalia was found within the parents bedroom. Mr Mulholland's presentation was also questioned, however he denied any drug use and declined a drug screening test. There were significant concerns regarding the chaotic lifestyle of Mr Mulholland and [] , which would potentially place [] at risk.

Addictions (2015):

Mr Mulholland reported to Addiction Services in 2015 that he was using approximately 2-3 bags of Heroin per week (1/2 gram). Mr Mulholland had not reported this to Social Services, and claimed that he was stable on 25ml prescribed Methadone. Mr Mulholland's substance misuse has remained a concern for staff since. The writer would suggest that Mr Mulholland has not been open and honest with social work regarding his use. In November 2014, Mr Mulholland self referred to Addiction Services, he attended one appointment and was prescribed suboxone. He did not engage any further with the service following the initial appointment, although advised social work that he was. He then self referred again on 6th March 2015 following discussion with the writer regarding evidencing change. He was tested as part of the assessment and tested positive for cocaine, benzodiazepine and cannabis. He tested negative for opiates. Mr Mulholland was described to be very aggressive and angry with addiction's staff due to not being placed on a Methadone script, as this is how he felt he would get his children returned to his care. A further appointment was made on 8th April 2015 and Mr Mulholland was prescribed 25ml Methadone (daily supervised) given that he tested positive for opiates at that appointment and reported to be using heroin. This was then monitored every three months by NHS addictions. The previous writer had concerns for Mr Mulholland's presentation at contact on 19th May 2015, however Mr Mulholland denied any drug misuse and declined a drug screening test by his Addictions support worker the following day. Mr Mulholland's prescription increased by 10ml on 3rd September 2015 (to 35ml) due to Mr Mulholland advising that he was using around 2-3 bags of Heroin a week. Following his move to Irvine, Mr Mulholland is now allocated to [] , NHS Addiction Service who plans to meet with him every 2-3 weeks at present to closely monitor his circumstances.

Criminal Justice (2015):

Mr Mulholland was sentenced to a 100 hour Community Payback Order in May 2015 in relation to unpaid fines dating back to 2006. He failed to complete this order in the time given, therefore was given a three month extension on 6th August 2015. Mr Mulholland provided a medical certificate between 10th July and 4th September 2015, however has failed to engage with his worker since the end of this period, therefore has been given a first formal warning.

Criminal Justice (2016):

On 8th October 2015 Chris's unpaid work order was extended by 3 months.
On 20th October 2015 Chris's CJS worker noted that he believed Chris to be lacking in motivation to change, however Chris refuted this. He requested a DTTO.

1st November FTA

4th November Court Disposal: 12 month supervision requirement

10th November Chris is subject to a tag until 6th March
15th November FTA, notification of breach issued (subsequently attended appointments as required)
30th March Court Disposal: 100 hours of unpaid work to be completed within 3 months
26th April Chris advised to increase unpaid work days to meet time limit of order
24th May FTA
14th June Chris warned that he was running out of time to complete unpaid work within timeframe
15th June Chris attended appointment and said he would do extra days of unpaid work
21st June FTA
28th June telephone call to Chris to say he hasn't completed unpaid work within time. Chris was unhappy with this decision and feels he should have had an extension.
29th July Court Disposal: warrant to cite in breach proceedings. Chris has to appear in court on 24th August
2nd August Chris attended appointment.

Current (2017)

Mr Mulholland is no longer engaged with services in North Ayrshire, as he has reportedly moved to Mauchline. No paper confirmation has ever been given of this address. An unannounced home visit was attempted but access was not gained.

Mr Mulholland's engagement with services appears superficial and concerns remain regarding his criminal activity and possible substance misuse.

[] and Mr Mulholland had a period of homelessness between August 2014, and receiving their own tenancy in August 2015 in Irvine

Analysis

Mr Mulholland appears to be controlling and his engagement with services also appears superficial.

Mr Mulholland has a history of substance misuse, namely Heroin, since the age of 26 years old. Mr Mulholland has sought support from Addictions Services periodically, and has at times made progress. However, Mr Mulholland has been unable to sustain these changes, and in the past has been unable to be open and honest with Social Work regarding his illicit substance misuse.

At an office visit on 27th July 2016 with the writer Mr Mulholland reported not having a substance misuse problem but failed to mention the positive tox screen earlier that month. This would suggest that Mr Mulholland is not willing to be as open and honest with the writer as he could be. On 28th July 2016 the writer asked Mr Mulholland to discuss the impact his substance misuse has had on his children. He was of the opinion that his substance misuse has had no effect on his children. The writer pointed out that it was a primary reason why his children were looked after but neither parent had any response. During appointments Mr Mulholland dominated the

conversation and even after the writer pointed out that it is important for “name removed” to equally contribute he continued to give her little opportunity or encouragement to voice her views. Given the dynamic observed between the parents, which indicates a level of coercive control in existence

2018-01-15 Statutory Record of Proceedings Decision of Pre-Hearing Panel or Children’s Hearing

Decision - To excuse Christopher Muiholland (Father) from attending. The reporter does not have a current address for Christopher Mulholland, so he was not aware of the hearing taking place. He no longer plays any part in []’s life.

Christopher Mulholland is a negative influence on [] due to his poor lifestyle choices and controlling attitude. There would be no benefit to [] if he had contact with his father.

2018-06-25 Extracted from Chronology

26/05/2015 – Christopher Mulholland (Father) given 100 hours community service in relation to unpaid fines dating back to 2006. - 100 hours Community Service to complete

05/09/2014 - Home visit carried out today [], SW) and [], (SW). Christopher Mulholland (father) and [] (mother) both present. Workers observed drug paraphernalia within the parents bedroom. Both parents deny any drug use. Mr Mulholland refused a drug screening test.

19/06/2014 - Chris Mulholland has been charged with possession and intent to supply heroin. He was found to have ten wraps of heroin secreted within himself. House also searched however no further illegal substances were found.

2018-09-24 Extracted from Safeguarders Report

The whereabouts of Mr Mulholland are unknown

2018-11-28 Child Plan

Mr Mulholland continues to pose a risk of harm to the children as evidenced by his recent disengagement from addiction services, recent domestic abuse as reported by [] and non-engagement with the writer for over a year. Mr Mulholland historically showed no insight into the impact of his substance misuse, namely Heroin, on his children. He also denied that he had ever committed domestic abuse. Therefore he continues to be a significant risk factor, who could potentially cause the children harm

Mr Mulholland is no longer pursuing residency. His whereabouts are unknown. He has made no contact with North Ayrshire for 18 months.

The writer attended an address he gave justice services over summer however the occupants said he no longer resided there.

2024-07-07

The whereabouts of Mr Mulholland are unknown. His last contact with the children was in 2017. Records indicate that heroin use has featured in his life. He was most recently known to the Justice Services in 2018 due to offending behaviours.