

Date: 19/05/2026  
Our Ref: 61581

Dear Mr Kennedy,

Thank you for your patience while we gathered and prepared all your care records held by the City of Edinburgh Council.

We would like to point out a few things to be mindful of with your enclosed records-

- **Your records may look different from what you imagine:** paper files have been scanned to allow us and you to access them more easily. However, this can make them hard to read at times, especially if we have reprinted them for you. You can always contact us to clarify any text that is not clear.
- **Your records have been redacted:** Redactions will appear greyed out on your records. We provide further details at the end of this letter on why we have redacted the way we have but you are able to query any redaction with us directly. We have to comply with data protection legislation. For your request we have had to remove third-party information (i.e. information on other people) that we believe you are not aware of.

Sometimes we remove signatures, but we will provide you with the names of those who have signed a document when we can make it out.

Please note, that some of the enclosed documents contain microfiche records which vary in quality, some records may be hard to read.

Your microfiched Children and Families record may be smaller than you were expecting and may not hold the amount of information about your time in care you were hoping for. This is because of the age of the file and the recording practices of the time, children's social work records were more transactional than the expected standards of today. Information recorded in children's files from this time was down to the diligence of the responsible social worker.

#### SELF CARE

We know that it may be distressing to read through your care records. It's very individual whether people prefer to read their records alone or with a support person. Many people find that it's best to read their records in small chunks, in the earlier part of the day. They find that reading records in the evening or night-time can interfere with their sleep.

When reading through your records, if you find you are becoming overwhelmed try not to struggle on but take a break and come back to them later or on another day.

It's important to be kind to yourself after you've been reading through your records and do something that makes you feel safe and supported. That could be as simple as going for a walk or speaking to someone close to you.

Have a think about where you store your records. Make sure that it is somewhere only you and those you are comfortable seeing them can do so and that it is not at risk of being lost or damaged. It's best to be intentional about when you read them rather than having them lying around or open on your laptop to see at any time.

## FURTHER SUPPORT & HOW TO COMPLAIN

We have a social work professional on hand to help care experienced people make sense of their journeys using their records. They can provide context that might help people understand their records and time in care. This support is entirely voluntary, and available at any stage. If this is something you would like to know more about, please email [SCAIResponse@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:SCAIResponse@edinburgh.gov.uk) or phone 0131 469 3857. This is a voicemail service but if you leave a message, we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Sometimes we get it wrong, and you can ask us to review our approach if you are unhappy with how we have dealt with your request or handled your personal data more generally. You can do this by contacting us at:

Information Compliance  
City of Edinburgh Council,  
Waverley Court Business Centre 2:1,  
4, East Market Street,  
Edinburgh,  
EH8 8BG

Email: [information.compliance@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:information.compliance@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## OUR REASONS FOR REDACTING

This section explains why we have redacted your files the way we have, outlining which parts of the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 we have had to adhere to.

*Schedule 2, Part 3 (16) of the Data Protection Act 2018 has been applied to protect the rights of other individuals. This means we have withheld some of your personal data where it would identify another individual.*

## FURTHER DATA PROTECTION INFORMATION:

If you would like to know more about how the Council processes personal data, please read our Privacy Notice on our website ([www.edinburgh.gov.uk/privacy](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/privacy)) or consult our Record of Processing:

[www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/10951/gdpr\\_record\\_of\\_processing](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/10951/gdpr_record_of_processing).

If you would like to know more about data protection, or your information rights in general, the Information Commissioner's Office is responsible for promoting and enforcing the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. They can also provide general advice regarding your information rights. In addition to their information online, they also have a telephone helpline, 0303 123 1113, which is charged at a local rate.

Information Governance Unit

Level 2:1, Waverley Court, Edinburgh EH8 8BG Tel 0131 200 2340

[informationrights@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:informationrights@edinburgh.gov.uk) [www.edinburgh.gov.uk](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

Iain Blair

Information Rights Officer

Information Governance Unit

Level 2:1, Waverley Court, Edinburgh EH8 8BG Tel 0131 200 2340

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