

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

C H I L D I N C A R E R E V I E W R E P O R T

CHILD'S NAME: SHARON CAIRNS
REVIEW DATE: 13th December 1990
DATE OF BIRTH: 23.12.75
TYPE OF REVIEW: Six Week

VENUE: Moorehouse School

CURRENT PLACEMENT: Moorehouse School

Address: Edinburgh Road
Bathgate

Type of Placement: List 'G'
Name of Carer/Parent: Cairns
Date of Placement:

DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 7th November 1990

DATE OF LAST MEDICAL:

DATE OF LAST SCHOOL REPORT: 2nd November 1990

The background to Sharon being placed at Moorehouse School is well described in previously forwarded reports.

Since her placement Sharon appears to have settled down remarkably well. Over this six week period there have not been, as far as I am aware, any incidents worthy of note.

Sharon stays at Moorehouse during the week, returning back "home" to Oxfangs at the weekend.

Her behaviour at Oxfangs has also been exemplary.

There has been no direct communication between Sharon and her parents since the last Review.

Sharon has always been unfailingly polite and pleasant in her dealings with me. She nearly always begins any discussion on a defensive or demanding note which I feel displays some of her insecurities. She does, however, quickly drop this attitude and can and does discuss things in a reasonable and intelligent manner. She finds it very difficult to discuss the process by which she originally came into care, feeling that that has gone and is behind her. She says she never thinks about life prior to her reception into care. She still displays a lot of anger and resentment about being in care and much of this anger and resentment is directed towards her parents.

She says that she does not want to see or talk to them again, but nevertheless is very interested in how they are and what they are saying. I feel that part of the rejection is due to Sharon's concerns about their reaction to her, ie it may very well be a case of Sharon "getting in her retaliation first".

During the initial stages of Sharon's stay at Moorehouse she resented strongly having to go to a residential school and felt that her life had been wasted. She found it very difficult indeed to accept praise and a guaranteed way of bringing suspicion to Sharon's face was by giving her a compliment. She now feels that the school is okay, although she would still have preferred to go to an ordinary school but professes to dislike the residential part of it. She gets along well, she tells me, with most of the children there and she has no problems with the staff at Moorehouse.

Her main goal it appears to me is to achieve day pupil status. She sees day school as being a sign of normality and is convinced she could manage this.

Sharon also appears to be managing well at Oxfangs although ~~when one speaks to~~ Sharon, does not think that she caused any problems anyway!

HOME SITUATION

As mentioned above, there has been no direct contact between [REDACTED] and Sharon since her move to Moorehouse other than their attendance at the last Review. The Cairns are very pleased about the progress that Sharon has made at Moorehouse, feeling that the structure and support that is available there is exactly what Sharon needs. They are, however, very cautious about making contact with Sharon and basically appear to be waiting for her to make the first move. They acknowledge the good sides to Sharon's nature but still feel very hurt and distressed about the events which led to her reception into care and subsequent incidents. They feel a great sense of bitterness about what has happened since Sharon was received into care, seeing the results as a function of the lack of controls applied in the various Children's Homes.

CONCLUSIONS

At the moment there is a complete estrangement between Sharon and her parents and both "sides" appear to be waiting for the other to make a first move. To some extent this is understandable given the quality of the contact on previous occasions. Both the parents and Sharon are very reactive and the feelings of hurt, bitterness and rejection felt on all sides, are going to be very difficult to overcome. In my opinion re-establishing a basic relationship between them all is going to be extremely difficult and will have to be taken at very slow pace whilst some degree of confidence and trust is built on all sides. At present, therefore, I do not feel that unsupervised home contact or indeed any contact that is not closely supervised, should be considered at present.

Given the force of emotions and each party's reactions to them, any attempt to do so at present would be a recipe for further estrangement. Obviously this status quo should not be allowed to continue indefinitely but little will be gained by trying to force the issue. Sharon's main agenda at the moment does appear to be to try to get back to some form of normality and she sees this very much in terms of her being able to attend Moorehouse as a day pupil. In my opinion it would be premature to consider this as an immediate option but I do feel that the practicalities and processes of this should be discussed fully in the Review to give Sharon a chance to air her views and to enable us to explain clearly to Sharon what she would have to do to achieve this goal, and for any practical difficulties to be explained to her.

I do feel, however, that it would be helpful and beneficial to Sharon if more time out from Moorehouse could be organised. This would also acknowledge the very real efforts that she appears to have made over the past number of weeks.

It is also important that the lines of communication between the various parties are delineated clearly.

Christmas leave also needs to be arranged and Sharon has expressed a wish to spend the fortnight's holiday at Oxfangs.

REPORT WRITTEN BY:

(Author)

OF:

(Area Team/
Unit address)

ON:

12th December 1990

(Date)

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS:

REF:

CHILD CARE REVIEW

Childs Name SHARON CAIRNS D.O.B 23.12.75.
Key Worker [REDACTED]
Date Admitted..... 21.10.90
Date of Review 13.12.90
Date of last Review 2.11.90
Section 44 1(B)

DECISIONS OF PREVIOUS REVIEW

Confirm that planning decisions have been carried out/progressed. If not why not?

To remain at Moore House.

Home base Ogangs

PROFILE OF CHILD

Sharon presents as a very pleasant girl who can be extremely caring towards the younger children. She does however feel the need to act tough with her peer group and although there has been no evidence of actual fighting there has been some posturing and threats made.

Sharon has had some problems accepting the authority of the staff but on a whole has been no management problem.

RESPONSE OF CHILD TO CARE

Initially Sharon was determined that she would not like Moore House and occasionally asks for a transfer. She has however settled well and put considerable work into the activities of the school. It would appear that Sharon does not feel the need to fight in Moore House as she was quickly accepted by the other children and found a place within her peer group. She is well liked by staff and kids and makes great efforts to be so.

MEDICAL/GENERAL HEALTH

Date of last medical and any health problems since last review

Has had low periods and complained of depression.

ACCESS ARRANGEMENT

Specify what there are and how they are working

Weekends at Oxfords Childrens Unit.

RECOMMENDED PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Sharon to remain at Moore House.

Weekends at Oxfords to continue.

Sharon wishes the review to discuss the possibility of an overnight mid week.

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK
CHILD IN CARE REVIEW REPORT

CHILD'S NAME: SHARON CAIRNS.
REVIEW DATE:
DATE OF BIRTH:
TYPE OF REVIEW:

VENUE: Moorehouse School.

CURRENT PLACEMENT: Moorehouse School / Oxygens.

Address:

Type of Placement: Res School / Group B. Children Home.
Name of Carer/Parent:
Date of Placement:

DATE OF LAST REVIEW:

DATE OF LAST MEDICAL:

DATE OF LAST SCHOOL REPORT:

Since the last review no progress has been made in terms of reintroducing Sharon to her parents. Both Sharon and her parents are adamant that they will not make the first move and therefore stalemate ensues.

Sharon did make one attempt at contact with her family over the Telephone which ended up in an argument and everything nowy back to square one.

Unfortunately over the past 2 1/2 months there has been a definite deterioration in Sharon's attitude both at school and at Oxygens with a number of incidents occurring in Oxygens where Sharon was rude, abusive and destructive.

To be fair to Sharon this probably reflects to some extent the situation at Oxygens which is highly unstable at present with Sharon being uncertain of her future there.

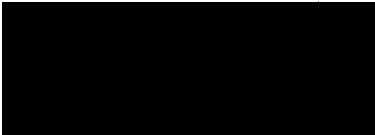
Despite this Shorn is still adamant that she wishes to attend Mowbray as a day pupil.

There are grave doubts about whether she would be able to manage this successfully given her present response particularly as she already spends Friday nights and week at Osgate, and this has not as yet led to any discernible moderation in her behavior. It may be better however if she is given the possibility of displaying that she can respond in a responsible manner to being treated as a day pupil and a trial basis particularly as any want to full her official status would ~~depend upon~~ be dependent upon a panel agreeing that this was the best way forward.

A panel could be convened in Mid Aug. to give Shorn the opportunity to argue that she had shown herself able to deal with day pupil expectations.

If we do nothing but maintain the status quo the way forward shows great difficulty.

If we agree on the above it should be made clear to Shorn that all aspects of her response good and bad would be made available to the panel to enable them to make an informed decision and that therefore she would have to be responsible for her own actions and the consequences which stem from this.



LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL
Department of Social Work

RECORD OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT REVIEW
OF CHILD IN CARE (CCR2)

Review Date 13.12.90	Place Moorehouse	
Child's Name SHARON CAIRNS		D.O.B. 23.12.75
Placement Moorehouse		

Action to be taken before next Review	Person Responsible
(1) Placement to continue at Moorehouse with Oxgangs as home base	CHILD'S SOCIAL WORKER [REDACTED]
(2) Midweeks stay at Oxgangs agreed (Tuesday overnight)	LIAISON SOCIAL WORKER
(3) [REDACTED] to check on clothing grant situation	SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER [REDACTED]
	KEY WORKER/FOSTER PARENT
If any other Section of the Department or Organisation is to be advised, indicate task requiring action and person responsible, including action related to "Time Limits"	Other

LONG-TERM PLAN
To continue at Moorehouse with Oxgangs as home base

Date	Signature of Chairperson	Date of Next Review	Time
	[REDACTED]	19th March 1991	2.30

Participants	Designation	CCR2	Date sent	Admin. Use	Date
[REDACTED]	SSW - A10				
[REDACTED]	SW - A10				
[REDACTED]	Oxgangs				
[REDACTED]	Moorehouse				
[REDACTED]	Moorehouse				
<u>Apologies</u>					
[REDACTED]	Parents - ill with 'flu				

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL
Department of Social Work

RECORD OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT REVIEW
OF CHILD IN CARE (CCR3)

Review Date 13.12.90	Place Moorehouse	
Child's Name SHARON CAIRNS		D.O.B. 23.12.75
Placement Moorehouse		

(Note: Use in conjunction with CCR2 when inserting details in heading box).

Six Week Review

See reports from Moorehouse and [REDACTED] Social Worker.

Moorehouse Situation generally settled and Sharon is working hard. At first Sharon gave out quite a lot of 'fighting talk' but this has diminished. Sharon is a popular member of the group and gets on well with staff and residents. A level of maturity in Sharon is now evident.

Sharon is starting horse-riding next week. Possibility of 'who cares' involvement suggested.

Education Sharon doing very well (see report).

Oxgangs Sharon is at Oxgangs as a home base from Friday - Sunday. Since moving to Moorehouse she has made a lot of effort to resolve past difficulties. Things generally going well at Oxgangs. Tuesday overnight in addition to weekend agreed to.

Social Work Contact Relationship with Sharon is building contact (approximately two weekly). Also has contact with parents (see report).

Parents [REDACTED] would have been at this Review but are ill with 'flu. They are very pleased to hear of Sharon's progress at Moorehouse.

Parental contact with Sharon is still not happening. Sharon still not feeling ready for direct contact, at present we need to work at Sharon's pace.

[REDACTED]
Senior Social Worker

[REDACTED]

CHILD CARE REVIEW

Childs Name Sharon Cairns D.O.B 23.12.75
Key Worker
Date Admitted.....
Date of Review 2.11.90
Date of last Review
Section 44 1(B)

DECISIONS OF PREVIOUS REVIEW

Confirm that planning decisions have been carried out/progressed. If not why not?

PROFILE OF CHILD

Sharon is a pretty 14 year old who takes great care of her appearance.

She presents as extrovert and outgoing and can be loud and demanding at times.

Within the unit she appears unsure of herself but over compensates by regaling all with stories of her prowess as a fighter. Sharon can have mad moods when she doesn't get her own way but these are short lived.

RESPONSE OF CHILD TO CARE

Initially Sharon was a disruptive influence in the house with her tales of fighting and challenges to other girls. However, when these challenges were not taken up and the others bored of her tales, there was a change in Sharon. We began to see a pleasant, helpful girl who appears settled, and accepting of the discipline within the unit.

Sharon has been no problem at bedtimes and settles well. She rises early in the morning, usually in good humour.

MEDICAL/GENERAL HEALTH

Date of last medical and any health problems since last review

No health problems

ACCESS ARRANGEMENT

Specify what there are and how they are working

Weekend leave to Oxfangs
None having taken place yet

RECOMMENDED PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Sharon to remain at Moore House where I feel she will eventually be an asset to the School



Moore House School

Directors:



Edinburgh Road
Bathgate
EH48 1EX
Tel: Bathgate 52312

HEARING REPORT

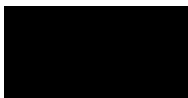
SHARON CAIRNS (23.12.75)

Sharon has been resident at Moore House School since October 1990.

From an early point she showed herself to be a strong willed girl. We have had no serious management problems with Sharon and have not had anything of the described behaviour at Oxfords Children's Unit.

The systems and structures of Moore House School are consistent and clear and although Sharon would prefer a lot more freedom to misbehave she responds positively when she knows the boundaries.

It is difficult to recommend a way forward for Sharon given the level of confusion around as to her care in Oxfords. We at the school are concerned about Sharon's future but do not see that Moore House School has a service that would be of value to Sharon beyond her school leaving date of December 1991.





Moore House School

Directors:



Edinburgh Road
Bathgate
EH48 1EX
Tel: Bathgate 52312

HEARING REPORT

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Sharon has been resident at Moore House School since October 1990.

From an early point she showed herself to be a strong willed girl. We have had no serious management problems with Sharon and have not had anything of the described behaviour at Oxfams Children's Unit.

The systems and structures of Moore House School are consistent and clear and although Sharon would prefer a lot more freedom to misbehave she responds positively when she knows the boundaries.

It is difficult to recommend a way forward for Sharon given the level of confusion around as to her care in Oxfams. We at the school are concerned about Sharon's future but do not see that Moore House School has a service that would be of value to Sharon beyond her school leaving date of December 1991.



SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT 1968

9 October..... 19 90

A children's hearing for the Lothian Region by way of variation of [and in substitution for] the supervision requirement dated¹ **21 September 1990**

to which² **Sharon Cairns (23 12 75), 15/7 Clovenstone Gardens, Edinburgh**

is subject, hereby require her [to reside in³ **Moor House School, Bathgate from**
21 October 1990, and

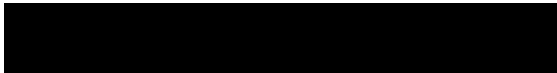
[to be under the supervision of⁴ **a social worker to be nominated by the**
Director of Social Work, Lothian Region]

subject to the conditions noted below and the said requirement dated **21 9 90**
is hereby revoked.

.....

**CONDITIONS REFERRED TO IN THE FOREGOING
SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT**

1. The child is required to observe the rules of conduct of the residential establishment.
2. The requirement to reside is subject to the discretion of the managers of the residential establishment to grant leave of absence from time to time.
3. **Sharon is required to reside in oxgangs Children's Home until she moves to Moor House School on 21 October 1990.**
4. **Between now and 21 October 1990 Sharon will have introductory visits to and a few overnight stays in Moor House School.**
5. **After 21 October 1990, Sharon will spend her leaves from Moor House School in Oxgangs Children's Home, as her home base.**

..... 

¹ Date of previous supervision requirement

² Name of child

³ Name of residential establishment

⁴ Name of local authority or other supervisor

Name: Sharon Cairns

Decision of Children's Hearing held on 9 October 1990 - Supervision requirement varied. Condition of residence at Moor House School from 21 October 1990, meantime to reside in Oxfangs Children's Home. Home leave after 21 October to be spent at Oxfangs.

The Children's Hearing reached the foregoing decision for the following reasons:

Panel members accepted that Sharon's supervision requirement with a condition of residence at Moor House School had not yet taken effect due to a breakdown in communication with the school. It was explained to panel members that Oxfangs Children's Home would provide Sharon with a home base at weekends and during school leave after she has started at Moor House. The admission plan was that Sharon would have an introduction to Moor House School, beginning her residence there on 21 October. Panel members thus amended her supervision requirement to include the condition of residence at Moor House, effective as of 21 October, with a condition of residence at Oxfangs Children's Home as her home base during weekends and school leave.



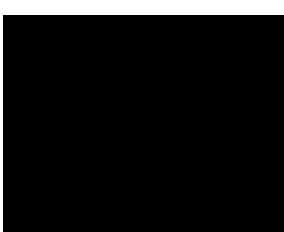
SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT

FOR CO-ORDINATED ASSESSMENT MEETING

on FRIDAY 15th JUNE 1990 at 9.30 am

re: SHARON CAIRNS (d.o.b. 23.12.75 (Aged 14)
Home Address - 15/7 Clovenstone Gardens
Residential Unit - Oxfangs Children's Home
School - Currie High School

FAMILY COMPOSITION

	17.6.39	Father	Unemployed
	33	Mother	Housewife
	12.6.74	Brother	Catering Assistant
	23.12.75	Subject	
	1.5.78	Sister	Attends St Nicholas
	3.4.82	Brother	Attends Clovenstone Primary

FAMILY BACKGROUND

The Cairns family have lived in Edinburgh in the Wester Hailes area for fourteen years. Both  hail from Glasgow. After their marriage there was a short unsettled period spent living with their respective in-laws. In 1974 they moved to the east coast where they cared for  ailing father. It would now appear that much of their extended family have also moved to Edinburgh or Livingston.

The couple have four children, Sharon being the second eldest. Sharon was born in 1975 and enjoyed a healthy, active early childhood. Her only illness was a lung and chest infection at the age of three.

From a very young age Sharon was noted by her parents to have a strong, domineering character. This was much in contrast to her brother  who has a very quiet nature. Constant friction appears to surround Sharon and  although there is some rivalry between Sharon and her younger siblings. Again Sharon plays a dominant role. She likes to command authority and can be somewhat brash and outspoken. Her vocal talents were such that she acted as spokesperson for  which camouflaged  speech disorder.  now attends special schooling where she is making good progress with her education.

SHARON CAIRNS

 state that they had few problems coping with Sharon's behaviour prior to the summer of 1989. They describe her as a moody, strong-willed child, especially when confronted on issues. They also refer to Sharon's capacity to be well-mannered and exceedingly pleasant. They believe there to be no particular difficulties within the family, nor was discipline seen as a problem. Thus Sharon's offending came as a considerable shock.

It would now seem that Sharon was initially enticed into her course of offending by a close friend. This escalated and in September 1989 Sharon was received into care on a voluntary basis. Her parents felt very ineffective and Sharon's running away from home was the final straw.

Sharon, however, was unable to accept the reasons behind her reception into care and placed anger and blame with her parents. Feeling hurt by her parent's actions, she set out to punish them in return by refusing to co-operate and refusing home contact. At this point she also had her growing reputation and status to maintain both at school and within the children's unit.

Her placement at Millpark was extremely turbulent and a similar pattern of behaviour was initially seen at Oxfangs. In recent months, however, family contact has resumed. In the last three weeks Sharon's attitude also seems to have altered. Both she and her parents have requested that home visits and overnight stays be re-established. These are now taking place and are planned on a steadily increasing manner.

SCHOOL

After coming into care, [REDACTED] felt strongly that Sharon's associations in Wester Hailes Education Centre were undesirable and that a change of school would prove beneficial. Sharon chose to attend Currie High School where her attendance and commitment has since deteriorated. Sharon's earlier experiences of school were positive and her record of attendance good. Now she appears to lack motivation and showed little desire to pursue her education.

Some recent improvement has been noted though. Sharon appears to have more success attending from her home base compared to Oxfangs. The Cairns feel they are able to assert more discipline on Sharon thereby forcing her to attend. Excuses are not tolerated and [REDACTED] has even driven Sharon to school on occasion.

PRESENT SITUATION

Contact between Sharon and her family is building up. Sharon's own commitment to an eventual return home was initially questioned but real efforts are seemingly being made by Sharon. Her behaviour in the unit, her attendance at home, have seen change.

Concerns, however, have been voiced that Sharon should not be allowed to manipulate or control her home leave. [REDACTED] acknowledge that if Sharon wants to be at home then they should set the terms and ground rules. They also realise that almost a year has past since Sharon's reception into care so it will take time to readjust to Sharon's presence at home. At the moment both Sharon and her parents are testing out the waters. Difficulties have already arisen as to the time Sharon is expected home at night while Sharon continues to resist school. These matters have been settled amicably.

Sharon appears content visiting home and is spending time with friends and family. Her parents are wary of past friendships being rekindled but feel that Sharon is maturing and is less likely to be drawn into trouble. The environment of Wester Hailes, however, may still present temptations for Sharon.

[REDACTED] are hopeful that Sharon will sustain her present attitude and determination to return home. Being in care, in their opinion, has not been a positive experience for Sharon. They see themselves as capable of setting the appropriate limits and discipline on Sharon's behaviour, but want some degree of commitment and co-operation from their daughter.

CONCLUSION

Sharon Cairns presents as a troubled adolescent who has experienced difficulties with both her family and at school. Her relationship with family members has been especially strained since her reception into care and Sharon has found it extremely difficult to share and express her feelings.

Since May of this year there appears to have been some movement and change from within Sharon. She has clearly stated an intention of returning home and has received much parental support to this end. There is still a need, however, for Sharon to show her motivation through her actions and behaviour. Likewise, school attendance requires close monitoring and pressure should be maintained on Sharon, particularly when at home as this appears to produced results.

Should Sharon fail to maintain her progress at home, at school and within the unit, then the option of an alternative placement, be it residential school, may need to be considered. At the moment, however, Sharon appears to be building-up better family relationships with a view to returning home.

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Wester Hailes Area Office
5 Murrayburn Gate
Edinburgh EH14 2SS

Typed: 13th June

Ref: [REDACTED]

Report for Co-ordinated Assessment meeting on 15/6/90

Sharon Cairns

Oxgangs Childrens Home

Sharon was admitted to Oxgangs, from Millpark on 2/3/90. The unit at this time was very unsettled and there was a strong element of extremely disruptive behaviour from other residents. Sharon quickly found her place in the group and began to exhibit a lot of disruptive and, at times, aggressive behaviour within the unit. Added to this, the staff member who was to be Sharon's keyworker became absent on long-term sick leave and it was several weeks before I was identified as the new keyworker. I believe these factors to have had a fairly significant effect on Sharon's behaviour in the initial weeks of her placement here and it is only in recent weeks that she has shown a willingness to co-operate with staff and attempt to modify her behaviour to an acceptable level.

Sharon has begun to develop some positive relationships with staff and is able to talk about her situation and her perception of the problems within her family. There is still a great deal of work to be done in this area and, I believe, we are just at the beginning of trying to help Sharon develop a more positive relationship with family members. In particular, Sharon presents as feeling

very rejected by her parents and expresses a lot of anger and resentment towards her siblings whom she views as being treated differently than herself. Sharon gives the impression of being the family 'scapegoat' and, as such, appears to have a fairly low image of herself particularly in relation to her position within the family.

Contact with Family

On admission to Otago Sharon was refusing to co-operate with plans in relation to contact with her parents and expressing a great deal of anger towards them. However, family meetings were re-established and Sharon did, in fact, manage to attend and participate. She also began to establish regular telephone contact with her parents and, on occasion, to visit home.

On 21/5/90, following a fight with another resident Sharon was missing overnight from the unit. On her return the following day she stated that she wished to return home to live with her family. A meeting of all concerned parties was held on 23/5 and [REDACTED] expressed their commitment to Sharon returning home on a permanent basis.

Oxgangs staff feel strongly that, given the problems that were around before and the limited contact Sharon has had with the family since her reception into care, any move home will need to be planned and monitored over a realistic amount of time. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] have had some difficulty accepting this view but, at a further meeting on 8/6, it was agreed that Sharon will spend Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday overnight at home. This will be reviewed on 27/6.

School.

School attendance continues to be a great problem for Sharon. Despite support and input from ourselves and from [REDACTED] (guidance teacher) she has been unable to maintain anything other than sporadic attendance. Sharon will not discuss, in any depth, her reasons for not attending and offers only superficial responses i.e. "it's boring". Our position is that we are unable to do any more to better this situation and that Sharon is extremely unlikely to commit herself to attending school in the foreseeable future.

In view of this it is essential that other options i.e. residential schooling, penitentiary house are considered urgently and that the situation

is not allowed to 'drift' any longer. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] maintain the view that Sharon is able to attend school from home but as yet, there appears no evidence that this is the case.

[REDACTED]
Keyworker Oxgangs Childrens Home.



JUN 1990

REPORT ON ASSESSMENT MEETING RESHARON CAIRNS (23.12.75)HOME ADDRESS 15/7 CLOVENSTONE GARDENS, EDINBURGHCURRENTLY CARE OF OXGANGS CHILDREN'S UNITSCHOOL CURRIE HIGH SCHOOL

PRESENT [redacted] (Social Worker); [redacted] (Guidance Teacher); [redacted] (Keyworker); [redacted] (Senior Educational Psychologist); and [redacted]

Sharon was referred for a coordinated assessment by [redacted] Social Worker, in April, 1990. [redacted], Sharon's new Social Worker outlined the circumstances that led to this referral. During Summer, 1989, Sharon amassed about nineteen offences of shoplifting, assaulted a 13 year old girl seriously and when she went missing from home for up to five days, this was the final straw for her parents who maintained that her offending came as a considerable shock. [redacted] would like to believe that Sharon was initially enticed into offending by a close friend. They consider that Sharon was beyond their control and was causing much family stress. Sharon was received into Millpark Children's Unit in September, 1989 on a voluntary basis.

Within Millpark, Sharon immediately identified with the delinquent residents and actively participated in their acting out behaviour such as creating serious disturbances in the Unit. She was so hurt by her parents' actions of placing her in care that she avenged by refusing home contact. It became evident that she was going to remain in care in the long term and given the unrest at Millpark, she was transferred to Oxgangs Children's Home on the 2nd March, 1990.

Initially, she displayed similar very unsettled behaviour at Oxgangs, taking part in extremely disruptive and aggressive episodes with the other residents. Unfortunately her keyworker went on long term leave and it was several weeks before a new worker was identified. Sharon is beginning to make relationships with staff particularly [redacted] but it is early days yet. She has started to talk to staff about her family relationships especially her feelings of rejection by her parents and anger and resentment towards her siblings, particularly [redacted] whom she considers are favoured by the parents. She regards herself as /

as the family scapegoat, has a poor self image and feels she has no place in the family. Staff are still working on clues that Sharon may be a victim of some form of abuse within the family.

Family meetings involving Sharon have been re-established. She keeps regular contact by telephone and home visits. Following a fight with another resident on the 21st May, 1990, Sharon was missing overnight and when she returned she informed staff that she wished to be discharged home. Her parents confirmed the same wish during a family meeting on the 23rd May, 1990. Given the considerable unresolved difficulties between Sharon and her family, staff consider that Sharon is not ready to return home and wondered why the parents have turned round quickly. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] are unhappy about Sharon staying on in care and a further family meeting is planned to take place on the 27th June, 1990. Meantime, Sharon is having four overnight stays at home per week.

When Sharon was received into care, her parents transferred her from WHEC away from undesirable associates, to Currie High School. This move has been unsuccessful as whereas Sharon was a regular attender at WHEC, her attendance at Currie High School is a great problem for her. It continues to be sporadic inspite of intensive input from Unit staff and [REDACTED]. She is non-specific about her school refusal and clearly gets a lot of reinforcement from other residents who are non-attenders. Her parents maintain that they can get Sharon to school from home, but so far there is no evidence that this is the case. On the contrary, they have colluded in having Sharon in the home when she should be in school. As far as staff are aware, Sharon has not offended since she was admitted into Oxfangs, but she has re-established contact with her close friend with whom she offended previously.

[REDACTED] confirmed that since Easter, 1990, Sharon has only been in school on 10 occasions, usually for a few periods at a time, or coming in and leaving the premises shortly afterwards. She has been unable to form any relationships with other pupils, mainly because of her manner of self-importance and truculent attitude. One incident of bullying was reported when Sharon chose her victim carefully. Among the staff, Sharon keeps a low profile and school has been tolerant of her school refusal in view of the intensive input by various agencies.

Sharon was not known to the Regional Psychological Services until very recently, but [REDACTED] knows the family through his involvement with [REDACTED] (16) and [REDACTED] (12). [REDACTED] was referred at the age of 14 years following violent serious assault on other children. Again, as is the case with Sharon's offending, [REDACTED] alarming assaults came as a shock to his parents. School regarded /

regarded him as a lonely studious pupil up to that point. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] likens [REDACTED] (8) to Sharon and [REDACTED] felt that these children have a lot of bottled up anger and hostility inside them. [REDACTED] however, attends St Nicolas School because of her educational needs rather than behavioural difficulties. Sharon is reported to be protective of [REDACTED] because of her language difficulties.

Discussion

Sharon presents as an angry, aggressive girl who is unhappy at home - feels rejected by her parents and badly treated in relation to her siblings. Given these feelings and her poor self image, she drifts easily into delinquent activities around Wester Hailes. Social Work and Midfield staff have not really got to grips with this family's dynamics and why they are dysfunctional. The parents won't open up although there are signs of at least marital violence and sibling rivalry. It was a mistake on the part of the parents to transfer Sharon from WHEC to Currie High School and now Sharon says that she will not attend any other school apart from Currie High School. Her attendance there is almost non-existent. Her schooling has totally broken down and she is using this as a powerful weapon to manipulate her carers. She is not ready to return home and it is doubtful if she would attend school from home or any other Group 'B' Unit. She is a physically attractive girl who lacks social skills and therefore has relationship difficulties especially with males. Unfortunately, the Young Peoples Unit have been unable to see Sharon because of staff problems but their opinion would still be beneficial in the management of this Case.

Recommendation

As Sharon's schooling has broken down and her home situation is unsettled, it is recommended that she should be made a Subject of a Residential Order to attend a school like St. Joseph's using her home and/or Oxbgangs as a home base depending on progress made in family work. Group work is also recommended for Sharon particularly during the Summer holidays. It is expected that the Young Peoples Unit will find time in the near future to assess this family and hopefully offer them family therapy/counselling.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR.

[REDACTED]
21st June, 1990.

CHILD CARE REVIEW

Childs Name SHARON CAIRNS D.O.B 23.12.75.
Key Worker [REDACTED]
Date Admitted..... 23.10.90.....
Date of Review 19.3.91.....
Date of last Review
Section

DECISIONS OF PREVIOUS REVIEW

Confirm that planning decisions have been carried out/progressed. If not why not?

PROFILE OF CHILD

Sharon presents as an attractive, bright girl. She takes pride in her appearance and shows interest in modern fashion. She relates well to peers and adults alike and has many qualities in terms of social grace and manners.

The other side of Sharon comes to the fore when she is told 'No'. She can be verbally abusive and threatening and has on one single occasion required to be restrained for several minutes in her room. The incident flared up from what appeared to be a trivial set of circumstances but Sharon lost the place completely.

Within Moore House Sharon has not shown the degree of aggression or disturbed behaviour as was described by the referers.

Sharon has chosen to co-operate to a degree with us and appears to be settling down with less difficulty than had been anticipated.

Although the picture is optimistic it is important that consideration be given to Sharon's performance all round.

RESPONSE OF CHILD TO CARE

Schoó1 Taking responsibility for her education during past weeks - being presented for Standard grade in English and Maths - can do well - Shows a level of ability - has stated an interest and commitment recently towards achieving something academically.

Early days - worried about extra responsibility of day pupil status at this crucial time i.e. exam time.

MEDICAL/GENERAL HEALTH

Date of last medical and any health problems since last review

Since admission Sharon has had no medical problems and continues to appear well.

ACCESS ARRANGEMENT

Specify what there are and how they are working

Sharon has weekend leave at Oxfords Children's Unit, Edinburgh from Friday p.m. to return Sunday p.m.

The feedback informally from Sharon leaves us concerned that the level of supervision may be less than desirable. She describes sitting up to whatever time she wants during the night. It would be helpful to have a formal arrangement for communication between the units to prevent any misunderstandings or opportunities for Sharon to

RECOMMENDED PLANS FOR THE FUTURE manipulate situations which may be against her best interests.

Sharon's initial placement in Moore House School has gone well. She shows herself to be an intelligent able girl who could blossom if directed positively. The future for Sharon depends on her level of commitment to work on the areas identified by the professionals around her, her temper, her inability to hear 'No' when it is in her best interest. Her future in terms of education. It is early days. Sharon has not had the opportunity to consolidate any level of success yet. The writer is aware of the issues being brought to the Review by Sharon, i.e. Day Pupil status. It is our view that Sharon has only begun the task of maturing and under no circumstances would we be able to consider a child for day pupil status at the stage Sharon is at. Sharon is not yet coping with a full day of education in terms of commitment or concentration. In our view day pupil is a realistic goal for Sharon, and in the near future, but one step at a time.

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK
C H I L D I N C A R E R E V I E W R E P O R T

CHILD'S NAME: SHARON ^{CAIRNS} ~~CARTNS~~
REVIEW DATE: 19th March 1991
DATE OF BIRTH:
TYPE OF REVIEW: Six Month

VENUE: Moorehouse

CURRENT PLACEMENT: Moorehouse Residential School

Address:

Type of Placement: Residential
Name of Carer/Parent:
Date of Placement:

DATE OF LAST REVIEW:

DATE OF LAST MEDICAL:

DATE OF LAST SCHOOL REPORT:

Sharon's progress at Moorehouse School will be well documented in their Report. Despite her great reluctance about attending residential school she has functioned reasonably well there posing no great problem, that I have been informed of, to either the care staff or the educational staff.

Sharon did find the close supervision, structure and clear boundaries laid down by Moorehouse somewhat claustrophobic but nevertheless has responded well to them and managed to live within the guidelines set.

Her behaviour therefore over the past six months has been in marked contrast to what was occurring before.

Oxgangs will again comment in their Report about her behaviour there. But generally there has been a vast improvement in her attitude and there has been very few problems caused during this last Review period.

Sharon herself however does feel somewhat displaced at Oxgangs in that she is finding it difficult to establish herself there during a period of great change in term of the children who have been admitted. Sharon feels that she is one of the longer "serving" children there yet is regarded in someways as an intruder because she only goes back once during the week and once at weekends.

She has consistently requested that she be allowed to attend Moorehouse School as a day pupil. She sees Oxgangs as being and remaining her home base and feels that she should be allowed more normal 'lifestyle' ie. leaving her own home and go to school like other children.

One also suspects that she finds the 'looser' structure of Oxfams and the slightly less challenging atmosphere is more to her liking.

In terms of Sharon's relationship with me and I find Sharon likeable and biddable. Sharon generally tends to be somewhat suspicious about motivation certainly initially and will often begin conversations in somewhat defensive come aggressive manner. However when challenged about this she generally relaxes and can listen and accept argument. She has a strong sense of injustice and betrayal and feels, I think, that she has been abandoned by her family. She finds it difficult to discuss her own part in what happened and defends herself by rejecting her family. Although Sharon would undoubtedly deny it I feel that she has been very hurt by her parents non-contact with her.

Sharon now sees her future as being in Oxfams for the foreseeable future moving eventually to independence.

As mentioned Sharon dislikes the boundaries placed upon her at Moorehouse School but nevertheless has overall accepted these and there has been no serious behavioural difficulties.

Sharon has been consistent in her desire to go to Moorehouse as a day pupil as soon as this can be arranged and agreed to.

CONCLUSION

Sharon, given the troubles that went before, has made remarkable progress at Moorehouse and has acknowledged the necessity for living within reasonably boundaries. Some of her previous problem if not all can be laid at the general 'unrest' that existed in Oxfams previously.

Given the lack of movement by both her parents and Sharon in terms of re-establishing contact it would seem that her future when her schooling finishes at Christmas does remain at Oxfams.

Consideration has been given to Sharon going to Moorehouse as a day pupil with Oxfams being her permanent home base. There are different opinions about the wisdom of this and these have been discussed in a meeting held at Moorehouse and will be discussed further in this Review.

Whilst there are risks involved in Sharon attending Moorehouse as a day pupil I nevertheless feel that taken into account longer term future at Oxfams that these must be given serious consideration and that Sharon should begin the process of attending Moorehouse as a day pupil.

I feel however that to move completely to day pupil status and removing the condition of residence at Moorehouse at this stage would be premature and that in my opinion that this would be best achieved by extending leave over the period between now and the summer term .

REPORT WRITTEN BY:

(Author)

OF:

(Area Team/
Unit address)

ON:

18th March 1991

(Date)

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS:

REF:

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL
Department of Social Work

RECORD OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT REVIEW
OF CHILD IN CARE (CCR2)

See Reports from George Coates
Moorehouse
Oxgangs

Review Date 19 March 1991	Place Moorehouse
Child's Name SHARON CAIRNS	D.O.B. 23.12.75
Placement Moorehouse/Oxgangs Children's Unit	

Action to be taken before next Review	Person Responsible
<u>Moorehouse</u> - Sharon generally doing well and gaining in maturity. She is developing more self control. <u>School</u> - Last few weeks have been much better- Sharon has been put forward for three standard grades. Possibility of work experience after May. <u>Oxgangs</u> - Now in bedsit in Unit - coping well. One extra overnight at Oxgangs to be included if school timetable permits	CHILD'S SOCIAL WORKER [REDACTED] LIAISON SOCIAL WORKER SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER [REDACTED] KEY WORKER/FOSTER PARENT
If any other Section of the Department or Organisation is to be advised, indicate task requiring action and person responsible, including action related to "Time Limits"	Other

LONG-TERM PLAN

Move to 'day pupil' status after exams in May would probably be appropriate. Educational Psychologist would need to be involved. To remain in care probably until independence.

Date	Signature of Chairperson	Date of Next Review	Time
26.3.91	[REDACTED]	To be arranged	

Participants	Designation	CCR2	Date sent	Admin. Use	Date
[REDACTED]	SSW - A10	✓			
[REDACTED]	Moorehouse	✓	✓		
[REDACTED]	Oxgangs	✓			
[REDACTED]	Moorehouse				
[REDACTED]	Oxgangs				
Sharon Cairns	Subject				

Apologies From [REDACTED] Moorehouse and [REDACTED] Area 10.

Review Report for Sharon Cairns
Review Date 19/3/91
Moorhouse School, Bathagate.

At the last review on 13/12/90 it was agreed that Sharons time at Oxgangs be increased to include an overnight stay on Tuesdays with Sharon returning to school on Wednesday mornings. This arrangement has continued successfully with only one occasion when Sharon refused to return to school on the Wednesday due to illness and had to be returned "reluctantly" on the Thursday by Oxgangs staff. On Sunday evenings Sharon returns to school by public transport and, to date, this has posed no problem for her.

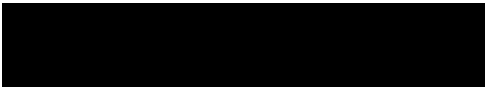
Within the unit Sharons behaviour continues, on the whole, to be positive. There are still occasional outbursts of unacceptable behaviour but it is felt by staff that her behaviour is more difficult during periods when she appears depressed or anxious. Episodes of deliberate and controlled disruptive behaviour are now very infrequent and Sharon is generally co-operative and responding to limits far more readily. Relationships with staff are also positive with Sharon demonstrating an ability and willingness to discuss issues as they arise and to compromise when there is disagreement.

Sharon moved into a bedsit within the unit in December and is now responsible for planning and shopping for food. The bedsit "contract" also requires her to comply with certain expectations regarding times in the main unit etc and, with support, she is coping well with this.

In my discussions with Sharon in recent months she has talked a lot about her feeling of "not belonging" anywhere describing herself as a "yo-yo". Understandably, she is finding it difficult to move between Moorhouse and Oxgangs and to adapt to the differences in structure between the two units. With this comes a feeling of "losing her place" in the group here and her need to establish her position in the group has been a source of considerable anxiety for her. Sharons position is that she wishes to become a day pupil at Moorhouse and it is not, in our view, unrealistic to suggest that she has reached a stage where she could cope with this. It is looking increasingly likely that Sharons short-term future needs (post 16) will be met at Oxgangs and to this end the staff team are committed to her spending as much time as possible in the unit prior to leaving school in December.

Clearly there are some concerns about Sharons ability to cope with day-pupil status without the added structure and support of being resident at the school. Oxgangs staff recognise that such a move would require planning, co-operation and commitment from all parties, not least Sharon herself. If it were agreed that Sharons leave be increased to the point where she was attending school daily from Oxgangs this would best be done on a trial basis thus placing a high-degree of responsibility on Sharon to demonstrate her commitment to such a plan.

Sharon is fully aware of the above concerns and, I believe has thought seriously about the implications of being a day-pupil. We feel it is important that she be given the opportunity at this stage to show that she is capable of handling more responsibility.



Assistant O.I.C.
Oxgangs Childrens Home

MINUTES OF REVIEW 11 JUNE 1991 AT MOORE HOUSE SCHOOL

SHARON CAIRNS (23.12.75)

Present: Sharon

 [REDACTED] (Key Worker)
 [REDACTED] (Principal)
 [REDACTED] (Social Worker)
 [REDACTED] (Senior Social Worker)

Apologies: [REDACTED] (Oxgangs)

At last review in March it was reported that Sharon was doing well and an extra overnight leave was agreed, Sharon now spends Thursday to Sunday and Tuesday overnight at Oxgangs.

Although Sharon was put forward for 3 standard grade examinations she only presented herself for Maths.

Sharon's behaviour both in school and in the unit has deteriorated. Sharon gets caught up in frivolous behaviour. She is irritable, tired and confused about her future and now has strained relationships with staff. She returns on a Sunday from Oxgangs feeling very tired.

Sharon has the ability and the personality to do well. We had a perfect Sharon with all the positive qualities but now she can be a tyrant in the wrong environment.

Sharon expressed a wish to go to College to study Hairdressing. It is hoped to arrange a 'Taster course' for her at West Lothian College in Bathgate. Oxgangs will look into the possibility of a Saturday job for Sharon.

On the whole Sharon is a pleasant girl. There are problems in Oxgangs but some of these are down to Sharon.

Sharon has no real contact with her family.

There will be a discussion on Sharon becoming a day pupil at Moore House School, but at this present time Oxgangs could not accommodate Sharon full time due to staff shortages, although she will stay in Oxgangs for the summer holidays. Any changes to the Supervision Order will have to go through the panel in September.

Health - no problems other than Sharon needs spectacles. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] will arrange for payment of same.

An education review will be held in Oxgangs.

LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL



CHILDREN'S PANEL

Lothian Regional Reporter
D. A. Stirling,
1/3 Howden Street, Edinburgh EH8 9HH
Telephone: 031-667 9431
Fax: 031-662 4640

[REDACTED]
Head Teacher
Moore House School
Edinburgh Road
BATHGATE

Our reference [REDACTED]

Your reference

Date 14 August 1991

17/9/91

Dear [REDACTED]

Sharon Cairns (23.12.75)
15/7 Clovenstone Gardens Edinburgh

1-10-91 3-30

Sharon's Social Worker has been in touch to request a Review Hearing. I am fixing it to take place in this office on Friday 27 September at 10.15 a.m. I hope that you or another member of staff will be able to attend and we would also appreciate a written report, to reach us by a week before the Hearing.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Reporter

If telephoning please ask for

All communications to be addressed to the Reporter

MOORE HOUSE SCHOOL

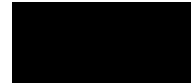
EDUCATION REPORT

SHARON CAIRNS

SEPTEMBER 1991

English

There have been occasions this term when Sharon has worked with enthusiasm and determination. Unfortunately, Sharon has been absent on too many occasions.



Maths

Sharon's progress is patchy due mainly to her absences and the fact that her commitment to the subject varies according to her mood. However, as Sharon already has Foundation Maths we can feel confident of her ability to survive mathematically.



Science

The few times I've seen Sharon she has been co-operative and willing to settle to work. It would be unfair to comment on her ability due to my lack of contact in class.



Art

Sharon does very neat attractive work, normally posters, as long as it is of her own choice. She is rarely willing to fit in with classwork.



Home Economics

Sharon enjoys Home Economics and generally works well and with enthusiasm. She is less enthusiastic about clearing up! She is certainly less aggressive and more reasonable in her behaviour.



Music

Sharon tries to do her best in this class now that it is non practical. Behaviour has been good this term.



Careers/

Careers

Sharon is very interested in hairdressing and is at present doing a one day a week work experience programme in a salon in Edinburgh. Her work is always neat and usually accurate. Her behaviour has been acceptable and she has caused no problems.



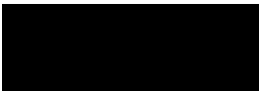
P.E.

I have seen very little of Sharon this term due to illness and absence but her badminton has improved considerably in the few lessons and sports afternoons that she has attended. This seems to be due to a willingness to take part with a much improved attitude and enthusiasm.



Headmaster's Comments

Overall Sharon's attendance has not been good. However, when she has been here she has worked well and the teaching staff have been pleased with her.



LOTHIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

S O C I A L B A C K G R O U N D R E P O R T
F O R C H I L D R E N ' S H E A R I N G
S o c i a l W o r k (S c o t l a n d) A c t 1 9 6 8 S e c t i o n 3 9 (4)

FOR: 1-3 Howden Street (Children's Hearings Centre)

ON: 1st October 1991 (Date)
(Time)

ABOUT: SHARON CAIRNS (Child's Full Name)
23.12.75 Aged 15 (D.O.B./Age)
c/o Oxfams Children's Home (Address)
Edinburgh

Moorehouse (Religion)
(School)

GROUND'S OF REFERRAL:

Section 48 (2) Review of Supervision Requirement dated 9th October 1990

Very full reports will be presented by both Moorehouse School and Oxfams and I will not go over the content within them in this report.

Sharon was placed at Moorehouse School on 23rd October 1990 with Oxfams Children's Home remaining her weekend and holiday base.

Sharon from the very beginning settled down well at Moorehouse School once she had realised where the boundaries were and that these boundaries would be maintained by the staff. Sharon resents these but has shown herself as capable of adhering to them but often complains that Moorehouse School is like a prison.

Sharon has always been clear that she would prefer to be a day pupil at Moorehouse School whilst living full time at Oxfams.

Sharon being Sharon wanted this to begin immediately but again was able to cope with her disappointment when we did not feel that we could pursue day pupil status following her first two reviews.

Sharon's behaviour within Oxfams has always been quite mixed. She can be extremely charming, pleasant, co-operative, sensible, mature, etc at one time but at others become extremely abusive and threatening both to staff and other residents in the Children's Home. To be fair to Sharon there was a very stable period in Oxfams to which she responded very well indeed. However various changes in personnel and residents took place with an almost one hundred per cent change in staff.

Nevertheless Sharon did well enough for us to be able to consider trying her on a day basis at Moorehouse School just prior to the summer holidays and for a three-and-a-half week period after. We also had to consider when making this decision the need for Sharon to feel more established at Oxgangs, there was a period when she felt merely like a visitor and this was not helping her to find her place within the Children's Home. We also had to give her additional responsibility for her own behaviour, as quite obviously Oxgangs does not offer the oversight or control that is afforded at Moorehouse, and there is an expectation that the children will accept some responsibility for their own behaviour.

It was made clear to Sharon by me and the staff that she would have to demonstrate quite a high level of maturity and not abuse the trust that has been placed on her.

Unfortunately during this period there have been quite considerable problems at Oxgangs centring around Sharon's behaviour, generally not returning to the home until quite late, being abusive and foul mouthed to the staff, bullying other residents, etc.

There have however also been quite positive efforts made by Sharon. She went and found herself work during this period, in her quiet moments she was able to examine herself in relation to Oxgangs and what may best be on offer for her there, and despite these troubles she can be still a very charming and pleasant girl.

Sharon is still very keen that she go as a day pupil and despite the problems mentioned above, and that she very often does not return home until the early hours of the morning, she has managed to get into school quite regularly although I understand that her tiredness does not make her the most attentive pupil.

In terms of contact with home this has been practically non-existent, both the parents and Sharon insisting that they will not make the first move towards reconciliation, each being very negative about the other. There seems to be little movement on each side and attempts to force the issue in the past have ended disastrously. Sharon is quite adamant that she does not want contact with her family and I can see little point in not taking Sharon's wishes and acting on them at face value.

SUMMARY

Sharon has been very keen to go as a day pupil at Moorehouse practically from the first day she started there. She has shown that she can accept control and guidance, certainly within the highly structured set up at Moorehouse but that she is perhaps less able to manage herself in a way that gives rise to optimism at Oxgangs Children's Home. As mentioned to be fair this has not all been Sharon's fault as for a period when things were very settled in the

Children's Home Sharon did quite well and it was this period that allowed us to look constructively at the possibility of her becoming a day pupil. Unfortunately this is not the case now and there appears to have been some deterioration in Sharon's behaviour over the three weeks since the term began.

It has always been made clear to Sharon that I would let her 'record' speak for itself when it came time to discuss the changing of her Supervision Order at the Panel. To help with this, I enclose an abbreviated copy of the 'record' since Tuesday 20th August which was Sharon's first day back at school. To a certain extent the Panel will have to weigh in their minds the fact that bad news gets reported far more often than good, when taking this into account - for instance despite all these things as mentioned she has attended school very regularly.

The Panel will also have to take into account the fact that Sharon will in any event be leaving Moorehouse School at Christmas and therefore the problems that she experiences at Oxfams can perhaps be best tackled with her being placed there. Whether the Panel should in fact take a chance on Sharon attending Moorehouse as a day pupil will become clearer through the hopefully detailed discussion you will have at the Hearing. At present this would appear to be a somewhat risky decision to make but nevertheless it may be felt to be in Sharon's best interests in the longer term.

REPORT WRITTEN BY:

(Author)

OF:

(Area Team/
Unit address)

ON:

30th September 1991

(Date)

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS:

REF:

SHARON CAIRNS

- TUES
20/8 Sharon restarted at Moorhouse after the summer holiday.
- 20/8. Police informed that Sharon had not returned by 11pm as requested. Sharon returned at 1.20am.
- THURS
22/8 Police informed that Sharon had not returned by 12.30am. Sharon returned at 4.35am.
- SAT
24/8 Police informed that Sharon had not returned by 1am. Sharon returned at 2.45am.
- MON
26/8 Police informed that Sharon had not returned by 11.30. Sharon returned at 2.15am.
Questioned and then charged by police. Charged with 2 counts of assault.
- FRI
30/8 Returned to Unit at 12.20am.
- SUN
1/9 Returned to Unit at 11.40pm.
Admitted to member of staff that she had spent £7.50 on a "bang".
Not at school - complaining of sore tummy.
- TUES
3/9
- WEDS
4/9 Refusing to go to bed - Eventually went 1.35am.
- FRI
6/9 Returned 12.15am.
- SAT
7/9 Returned 12.15am.
- SUN
8/9 Very abusive and threatening towards another resident so much so that the resident was moved out for his own safety.

- SUN
8/9 - Returned at 12:10am.
- MON
9/9 - Not at school - complaining of flu/cold.
- MON
9/9 - Returned 11:55pm.
- TUES
10/9 - Suspicion of Sharon having "been on" something.
- THURS
12/9 - Refused to go to school saying that she had flu and then left the Unit at 11am without permission.
- THURS
12/9 - Sharon at M/House for overnight time out.
- FRI
13/9 - Returned at 11:20pm.
- SAT
14/9 - Returned at 12:10am.
- SUN
15/9 - Returned at 11:15pm.
- TUES
17/9 - Sharon not at school - complaining of feeling unwell. Doctor's appt arranged from school Weds 18/9.
- TUES
17/9 - Returned at 12:15am. Went out again - returned at 12:45am.
- WEDS
18/9 - Returned from school at 1:20pm - Doctor feels Sharon has scarletina - to stay off school for 7-10 days.
- THURS
18/9 - Returned 11:30pm. Told member of staff she had been smoking "hashi".
- SAT
21/9 - Returned at 11:45pm. Went out again returned 12:10am.

SUN
22/9 - Involved in incident - throwing food at staff; very abusive but settled quickly.

MON
23/9 - Returned 11:15pm.

TUES
24/9 - Charged by Police on 2 counts of assault on another resident.

WEDS
25/9 - Threw and broke a lamp during a temper tantrum in the sitting. Tipped over plants and very abusive to staff.

THURS
26/9 - Off to M/House till Panel 1st Oct.

Throughout this period Sharon on numerous occasions has been very foul mouthed and abusive towards staff; threatening towards other residents and flaunting bed times. Over the last two weeks there has been more and more concern from staff about Sharon possibly being unwell with and maybe using drugs ('heroin' mainly, though there has also been the suspicion of alcohol).



C.P.4a

*Form of statement by reporter of grounds for the
referral of a case to a children's hearing. (Rule 15).*

SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT 1968

On Tuesday 1 October 1991 at 3.30 p.m.

1 Sharon Elaine Cairns (23.12.75) c/o Oxgangs Children's Home
54 Oxgangs Avenue Edinburgh

is being referred to a children's hearing for the Lothian Region on the grounds of the following conditions:

Section 32(2)(g) - That she has committed the offences specified below:

1. That she did on 28 July 1991, within Oxgangs Children's Home, 54 Oxgangs Avenue, Edinburgh, assault [REDACTED] and throw several books at him, this being an offence of assault.
2. That she did on the above date at the above place conduct herself in a disorderly manner by shouting and swearing and did commit a Breach of the Peace, this being an offence of Breach of the Peace.

23 September..... 19 91

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Reporter

NOTES

At the children's hearing the child or his parents may or may not accept the grounds for bringing the child before the hearing. If the grounds are accepted by the child, and his parents, if present, the children's hearing will discuss and consider with the child and his parents what is best for the child. If any of the grounds are not accepted, the hearing may either discharge the referral or direct the reporter to refer to the sheriff for a decision as to whether or not any of the grounds exist. If this happens the child will have to appear before the sheriff at a later date. If the sheriff decides that any of the grounds do exist, the children's hearing will then discuss and consider what is best for the child, as if these grounds had been accepted. If the sheriff decides that no grounds exist the referral will be discharged.

1 Name and address of child

NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

Name and Address	Date of Birth	School	Class
Sharon Cairns 17/5 Clovenstone Gardens EDINBURGH	23.12.75	Moore House	

Grounds of Referral: Section 48(2) plus Offence Charges

Reporter's Decision dated:

- 1) No formal Action ☐
- 2) No action current S.R. ☐
- 3) No action insufficient evidence ☐

- 4) Voluntary measures of care ☐
- 5) Police Warning recommended ☐
- 6) Juvenile liaison recommended ☐

Children's Hearing Decision dated: 01.10.91

- 7) Referral Discharged ☐
- 8) Continued to _____ /date to be fixed ☐
- 9) Supervision requirement ☒

Condition ~~attend Moore House School daily~~ plus

- 10) Residential Supervision Requirement ☒

Place Oxgangs Children's Unit with cond. to attend Moore House School on a daily basis.

Pending Placement (a) At Home
(b) Howdenhall Children's Unit
(c) _____

- 11) Supervision requirement dated _____ continued ☐
- 12) Supervision requirement terminated. ☐

SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT 1968

1 October

.....19 91

A children's hearing for the Lothian Region by way of variation of [and in substitution for] the supervision requirement dated¹ 9 October 1991

to which² Sharon Cairns (23.12.75)

is subject, hereby require her [to reside in³ Oxgangs Children's Unit

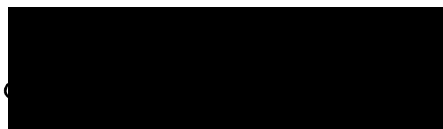
]

[to be under the supervision of⁴ a Social Worker nominated by the Director of Lothian Region Social Work Department

]

subject to the conditions noted below and the said requirement dated 09.10.90 is hereby revoked.

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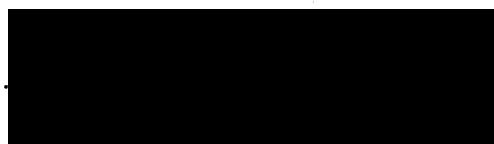


....

**CONDITIONS REFERRED TO IN THE FOREGOING
SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT**

1. The child is required to observe the rules of conduct of the residential establishment.
2. The requirement to reside is subject to the discretion of the managers of the residential establishment to grant leave of absence from time to time.
1. Sharon will attend Moore House School, Bathgate, on a daily basis - i.e. Monday to Friday.

..



....

¹ Date of previous supervision requirement² Name of child³ Name of residential establishment⁴ Name of local authority or other supervisor

NAME: Sharon Cairns (23.12.75) 15/7 Clovenstone Gardens Edinburgh

Decision of Children's Hearing held on 01.10.91 - To vary Sharon's Supervision Requirement with a condition of residence at Oxfangs Children's Unit and another condition is that Sharon will attend Moore House School, Bathgate on a daily basis i.e. Monday to Friday

The Children's Hearing reached the foregoing decision for the following reasons:

The period whilst Sharon resided at Moore House during the week and Oxfangs at weekends and holidays proved difficult to her because of the different structures in the two establishments and her difficulty in making a real commitment to Oxfangs.

Sharon seems committed to finishing her educational career at Moore House and is doing well academically and with her work experience.

As Sharon's home after December is likely to be at Oxfangs, the Panel felt she should be committing herself to Oxfangs and working on difficulties that may exist for her there, whilst finishing schooling as a day pupil at Moore House.

[REDACTED]

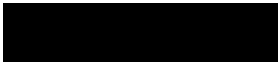
MEETING WITH SHARON CAIRNS - 10 OCTOBER 1991

Sharon requested a meeting with me today and when asked what was bothering her she complained of still feeling unwell.

Her feelings seemed to be of lack of energy, not sleeping well, not wishing to be bothered with anything or anyone.

She was unable to give any explanation for these feelings other than that she had not gained complete recovery since being ill.

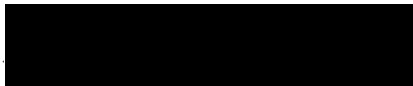
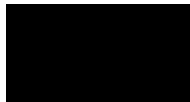
She indicated that she intended making an appointment to see the Doctor. As she would be at work experience the following day I decided that we should inform the care staff of this and see if a Doctor's appointment could be arranged for her.





Moore House School

Directors:



Edinburgh Road
Bathgate
EH48 1EX
Tel: Bathgate 52312

CHILD CARE REVIEW

CHILD'S NAME SHARON CAIRNS

DATE OF BIRTH 23.12.75.

DATE ADMITTED 23.10.90.

ADMITTED FROM Oxgangs Children's Unit.

DATE OF REVIEW 4.11.91.

DATE OF LAST REVIEW .5.91.

SECTION Education

AREAS REPORT WILL COVER

DECISIONS OF PREVIOUS REVIEW

PROFILE OF CHILD

RESPONSE OF CHILD TO CARE

BEHAVIOUR

LEVELS OF OFFENDING (IF APPROPRIATE)

CONCERNS (IF ANY)

MEDICAL/GENERAL HEALTH

ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

RECOMMENDATIONS

SCHOOL REPORTS

REVIEW REPORT - 4 NOVEMBER 1991

SHARON CAIRNS (23.12.75.)

Since Sharon became a day pupil there has been little contact with care staff. What contact there has been has consisted of breaks and lunch times. During these times Sharon has been contemptuous of staff and rude.

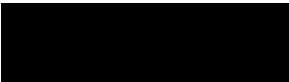
Sharon has made it very clear that she does not wish to be at Moore House School. Her attitude is one of superiority and any request made to her is dealt with grudgingly.

Sharon appears to feel that she is an adult now and should not be mixing with children.

In all encounters with staff Sharon shows her determination to get her own way and cannot be reasoned with.

Sharon's attitude and manner have made her unpopular with staff and children.

As previously stated Sharon has little contact with care staff and the incidents that cause the above assessment may have been few.



MOORE HOUSE SCHOOL

EDUCATION REPORT

SHARON CAIRNS

UPDATED SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1991

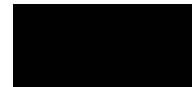
English

There have been occasions this term when Sharon has worked with enthusiasm and determination. Unfortunately, Sharon has been absent on too many occasions.



Maths

Sharon's progress is patchy due mainly to her absences and the fact that her commitment to the subject varies according to her mood. However, as Sharon already has Foundation Maths we can feel confident of her ability to survive mathematically.



Science

The few times I have seen Sharon she has been co-operative and willing to settle to work. It would be unfair to comment on her ability due to my lack of contact in class.



Art

Sharon does very neat attractive work, normally posters, as long as it is of her own choice. She is rarely willing to fit in with classwork.



Home Economics

Sharon enjoys Home Economics and generally works well and with enthusiasm. She is less enthusiastic about clearing up! She is certainly less aggressive and more reasonable in her behaviour.



Music

Sharon tries to do her best in this class now that it is non practical. Behaviour has been good this term.



Careers/

Careers

Sharon is very interested in hairdressing and is at present doing a one day a week work experience programme in a salon in Edinburgh. Her work is always neat and usually accurate. Her behaviour has been acceptable and she has caused no problems.



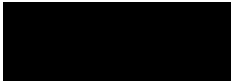
P.E.

I have seen very little of Sharon this term due to illness and absence but her badminton has improved considerably in the few lessons and sports afternoons that she has attended. This seems to be due to a willingness to take part with a much improved attitude and enthusiasm.



Headmaster's Comments

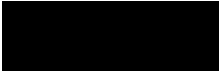
Overall Sharon's attendance has not been good. However, when she has been here she has worked well and the teaching staff have been pleased with her.



UPDATED 30 OCTOBER 1991

Modern Studies

I have met Sharon on one occasion only due to her poor attendance.



Headmaster's Comments

Teachers are unable to update Sharon's report as her school attendance continues to be extremely poor.

This is a great pity as she clearly has the potential to do well.



Strathclyde Regional Council
Department of Reporter to the Children's Panel

Regional Reporter [REDACTED]

Divisional Office

Divisional Reporter: R R Hanvey

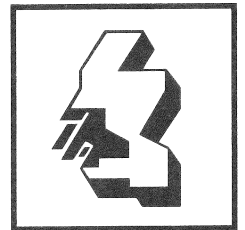
16 Albion Street, Glasgow G1 1JZ

Tel: Direct Line 041-227-3532

Our Ref: LC/TH

Your Ref:

Date: 15 November 1991



Strathclyde
SCOTLAND



A nuclear-free zone authority



An equal opportunities authority

The Head
Moorhouse School
Edinburgh Road
Bathgate
Edinburgh

Dear Sir/Madam

CHILDREN'S HEARING ON WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 1991 AT 5.30 PM

Please note that the above Hearing has been cancelled. You will be notified of the new Hearing date in due course.

I appologies for any inconvenience caused.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Lothian Regional Reporter
D. A. Stirling,
1/3 Howden Street, Edinburgh EH8 9HH
Telephone: 031-667 9431
Fax: 031-662 4640

[REDACTED]
Moore House School
Edinburgh Road
BATHGATE EH48 1EX

Our reference [REDACTED]

Your reference

Date 13.01.92

[REDACTED]
Sharon Cairns (23.12.75)
Currently c/o: Oxfords Children's Unit

A Review Hearing has been arranged for Sharon and will take place in this office on Tuesday, 28 January 1992 at 4.15 p.m. I am aware that she has now left Moore House, however if you would like to provide Panel Members with any updated information from Sharon's last Hearing on 1 October 1991 until she left the school, I would be happy to hear from you. If your Report could be to hand a week before the Hearing date.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Nov.

If telephoning please ask for

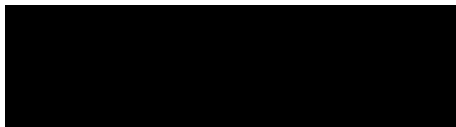
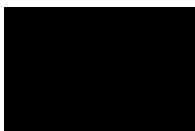
All communications to be addressed to the Reporter



Moore House School



Directors:



Edinburgh Road
Bathgate
EH48 1EX

Tel: Bathgate 52312



17 January 1992



Lothian Regional Council
Children's Panel
1/3 Howden Street
EDINBURGH
EH8 9HH

Dear



Sharon Cairns (23.12.75.), c/o Oxfam Children's Unit

Re your letter of 13 January, please find enclosed copy of last Review report on behalf of the above named child.

It was pointed out to [redacted] Social Worker and Oxfam that Sharon should have been attending school. At the Review meeting it was decided that Oxfam staff would bring Sharon to discuss the package on offer up to her leaving date. This did not transpire.

Sharon only attended school on 14 days from August to December 1991. (20,21,22,23 August; 2, 5, 10, 11, 17, 18, 30 September; 1, 10 15 October).

Yours sincerely

