

CASE REVIEWS

Summary of Review Meeting and Recommendations for the Future

Date of Review 8.9.86 at Carolina House, Dundee.

Name	Present Address	D.O.B.
THOMAS (TOMMY) TARBETT,	c/o Carolina House,	16.7.73
LISA TARBETT	Strathmore Avenue, Dundee.	7.8.74

Participants :

Mr J. R. Anderson, Senior Social Worker, Dundee West
 Mr A. Nicoll, A.A.F.M., Dundee West
 Mr P. Devlin, S.W., Dundee West
 Ms. L. Craig, Key Worker, Carolina House
 Ms. P. Walls, A.O.I.C., Carolina House
 Tommy Tarbett, subject child
 Lisa Tarbett, subject child
 Mr M. Terry, Reviewing Officer

Mr Tarbett was invited to attend but failed to appear for this review.
Summary Discussion * Goals / Tasks for the Future (Goals to be listed separately)

Social Workers report A016 and a report from residential staff at Carolina House was provided in respect of each child. The Carolina House reports were neither dated nor signed and attention was drawn to this fact.

Background - see attached appendix.

Lisa - Anxiety - Home Contacts

Prior to Lisa and Tommy joining the review the Reviewing Officer questioned if there could possibly be a link between the childrens reluctance to speak

being permitted staff would be particularly alert to the children's responses.

It was indicated that Tommy had shown some anxiety about his colour, and he is very apparently different in colouring to his sister Lisa. The social worker indicated that he would try to check with Kings Cross Hospital to see if they could offer any guidance as to whether this was a genetic factor rather than an indication of different parentage to his sister.

Recommendations from Previous Review

It was stated that the social worker had found it unable to make the degree of commitment necessary to ensure weekly contacts with the Carolina House key

worker. Not least this was complicated by the fact that residential staff shifts obstructed such frequent contact. Generally contact between social worker and key worker has been on a fortnightly basis but both agree that the problem relates to the focus of contacts rather than the frequency and efforts are continuing to develop the most purposeful contacts both among the 2 workers involved and individually and jointly with the children.

Both children have become irritated by meetings with the social worker in Carolina House and the repeated focus of such meetings upon their family. It is therefore intended that the social worker will arrange more outings with them from Carolina House. The matter of the children developing their separate identities and how this could be best fostered was discussed. Certainly Lisa appears to get tired of talk focussing on football all the time. It was therefore suggested that on some occasions it might be beneficial to take the children out individually as well as jointly on other occasions. The possibility that there might be some benefit in the children also having separate social workers and/or key workers was also discussed. For the present this is not thought to be a major concern but it is a matter that will be kept under review as the childrens individual personalities develop.

Currently the children normally visit home on alternate Sundays between 1am and 8pm. Seemingly in the course of these visits Lisa usually visits relatives while Tommy is inclined to sit watching television. The children appear not to have presented any difficulties in respect of home visits but there has been some concern that their father is not always at home when they do visit.

Many efforts have been made to encourage Mr Tarbett to visit Carolina House as the children would wish but he has shown a marked reluctance to have any contact with Carolina House personally. At the present time it has been the practice that the social worker advise Mr Tarbett if for any reason a planned visit is not to take place. The possibility that contact might be fostered between Mr Tarbett and Carolina House if he were given a specific cause for making contact, i.e. if the onus was put on him to check with Carolina House if the children would be visiting at the agreed time, was discussed. This remains a possibility that could be pursued if it seemed appropriate.

Education - Tommy

Tommy attends Morgan Academy and a report was last received on 21st August, 1986. He is reported to be a particularly hard worker who relates well to staff and peers. It is understood that he is in the top grade for every subject and that he has now begun to take a second language, ie. German, in addition to French.

Copies to :-

Miss A. Crawford, A.F.M., Dundee West
Mr F. Cura, A.A.F.M., Dundee West
Mr A. Nicoll, A.A.F.M., Dundee West
Mr Anderson, S.S.W., Dundee West
Mr P. Devlin, S.W., Dundee West
Mr Murphy, A.R.S.M., Children
O.I.C., Carolina House
Admin., Dundee West

Signed Pete Dack

Signed Alwyn

(Reviewing Consultant)

Date

26.9.86

Feedback re Resources to Assistant Director via Area Field Work Manager.



Lisa

Like Tommy Lisa now has also started at Morgan Academy although the most recent report available in respect of her and dated 22nd August, 1986 relates to her previous school. Her report was excellent and indicated her to be a popular and well liked child.

At the present time Lisa indicates her ambitions to become an air hostess and Tommy wishes to become a footballer.

Health

Both children were last medically examined on 29th April, 1986. Apart from normal minor illnesses and the sort of routine treatments normal to all children the only problem noted is related to Lisa and the ongoing problem of enuresis. This is reportedly being treated with drugs and monitored by Dundee Royal Infirmary.

Childrens Hearing

It is understood that at the present time both children are subject to both parental rights resolutions in terms of Section 16 Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 and Supervision Requirements in terms of 44(1)(b) of the same act. It is also understood that a Children's Hearing review is due in the very near future. The Reviewing Officer questioned the need for the 44(1)(b) requirement to be continued in view of the fact that this Region held parental rights. It was acknowledged that in the past there had been difficulties, not least because Mr Tarbett was appealing against the parental rights resolution. However, it is understood that the situation is now considered to be stable and it was agreed that the social worker and appropriate others will give consideration to recommending that the Section 44(1)(b) requirement now be terminated. It is understood that to date Mr Tarbett has only attended one Childrens Hearing so that annual Childrens Hearings tend to be an ordeal for the children alone.

Other Matters

It is acknowledged that as yet the relationship between the children and the social worker has developed to a limited extent only. However, all concerned recognise that this is in part due to reserve by the children and they recognise that this has applied with their previous social worker in the early stages.

It was reported that work has been started on a family tree for the children and this is seen as a preliminary to a life story book. The work with the children on this project has been undertaken by the social worker and key worker jointly and to date some material has been obtained from the family.

Overnight Leaves

Mr Tarbett has indicated that having moved to a larger house he would now like the children to be able to spend weekends at home and in the course of the review the children indicated that they would like such an arrangement. It was indicated to the children that there was no automatic opposition to the idea but that it would be necessary to make appropriate checks and ensure that suitable arrangements could be made before going ahead with such visits.

Recommendations

The plan for Tommy and Lisa remains that of them continuing to reside in Carolina House for the foreseeable future and the provision of all necessary support and developmental guidance appropriate to the parental rights responsibilities held by this Region.

Identified tasks at the present time are:-

1. Key worker and social worker to continue to attempt to develop a most productive working relationship, both between each other and between each of them and the children. To this end the venue and pattern of contact with the children will be varied periodically.
2. Present access arrangements to continue with continuing encouragement to Mr Tarbett to maintain contact with Carolina House. The possibility of the children being able to have weekend leaves at home to be investigated.
3. The Section 44(1)(b) Supervision Requirement now appears to be unnecessary and consideration to be given to recommending to Children's Hearing that this now be terminated.
4. Work on the children's family tree is to continue.

Next Review

The next review will take place at 11.30am on 8.1.87 at Carolina House.

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APPENDIX TO CASE REVIEW REPORT

Children's background - Tommy Tarbett, d.o.b. 16.7.73 and Lisa Tarbett, d.o.b. 7.8.74

The children's parents, David and Helen Tarbett, became known to the R.S.S.P.C.C. in February, 1968. The home situation was characterised by domestic violence with the children being left unattended at numerous times and repeated financial difficulty affecting the whole family. Mr Tarbett had convictions for wife assault and breach of the peace and his wife has deserted the home on numerous occasions. During her absence the children were either cared for by their paternal grandparents or received into the care of the Local Authority. There were placements at Roineach Mhor, Nimmo Place Childrens Home, Perth, Dundee Childrens Shelter and Carolina House. The 3 older boys of the family, David, Graeme and Derek, have shown disturbed reaction to this disruption and their behaviour gave cause for concern over a number of years.

The parents relationship continued to deteriorate and the couple finally separated in early, 1982 when Mrs Tarbett went to live in London. Derek, Tommy and Lisa were left in the care of their father. Graeme and David had been placed in residential establishments some time prior to the breakdown of the parental home. Within a short period of time, Mr Tarbett declared himself unable and unwilling to continue to care for the 3 youngest children and they were received into care in February, 1982, initially placed in Burnside Assessment Centre and subsequently transferred to Carolina House Children's Home, Dundee. Parental rights were assumed in January, 1984 and upheld following an appeal by Mr Tarbett.

Tommy and Lisa settled happily at Carolina House, adjusting to the establishments move to Strathmore Avenue without difficulty. Intensive preparation towards placement in a foster home was undertaken during 1984 but the children withdrew from this programme after introductions to a family had taken place. It appears that there strong feelings of attachment and loyalty to the natural family were the underlying reasons for this decision. Lisa responded well to contact with the foster family but was unable to proceed without Tommy who remained adamant that he does not wish to be fostered. A negative response to the whole idea of fostering from Mr Tarbett and his oldest sons is recognised as exerting a strong pressure on the children to resist any further moves in this direction.

1/11 26/9/86

CASE REVIEWS — CHILDREN IN CARE

SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT

Please include comments under the following headings:—

Pen picture of the child (including interests as well as physical and emotional attributes);

Summary of Work done since last Review (including frequency of visits):

Suitability of Placement (does it meet the child's needs? What are his views);

School Report (facts about attainment and potential. Also any behavioural or relationship difficulties);

Health (date of last medical and details of any treatment in addition to description of health);

Contact with natural parents/current home situation/parents' views re future;

Parental Contributions: Has parental assessment form been submitted to HQ.?

Social Workers's views re future action (indicating why any change in direction has taken place since last review/initial assessment. Also indicate why particular goals are used and link with understanding of child's behaviour).

8th September 1986

NAME	ADDRESS IN CARE	D.O.B.
TOMMY TARBETT	c/o Carolina House, Strathmore Avenue, Dundee.	16.7.73

DATE OF LAST REVIEW OR CASE CONFERENCE	4th March 1986
DATE OF LAST MEDICAL EXAMINATION	29th April 1986
DATE OF LAST SCHOOL REPORT	21st August 1986
DATE OF LAST FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT (Form F8)	

Tommy's case was last reviewed on 4th March 1986, since when he has remained in Carolina House.

Tommy appears well settled within Carolina House and presents no major management difficulties although he can be a bit huffy at times and also has a quick temper. He is generally however, a friendly, chatty boy who is well liked by staff and other children, not only in his own unit. He involves himself with life in Carolina House, cooking etc. and sees how this will benefit him in future.

He has just started his second year at Morgan Academy where as a result of good marks in first year, he has moved into the top grade. Again, at school, he is well liked by staff and other pupils and is described as a popular, attentive pupil.

His spare time is usually taken up with football, watching or playing and he has recently joined Broughty Athletic for whom he plays regularly.

Contact with his natural family usually consists of a fortnightly visit to Whitfield which Tommy continues to enjoy. Mr. Tarbett is not always there, although one of the brothers usually is. Contact with his elder brothers is on a haphazard basis mainly through chance meetings, but despite this the family does maintain a form of loyalty. During the summer a visit was made to see David in Aberdeen and this proved successful. Another visit was planned, but David left his wife and returned to Dundee, leading to the visit being cancelled.

Mr. Tarbett has recently obtained a larger house (old house flooded) and is asking about the possibility of the children coming for overnights or weekends. Given the children's loyalty to dad, I feel this is something that will have to be given serious consideration. It would however, need much more discussion and planning plus a commitment from Mr. Tarbett about the availability during such a visit. Another serious consideration must be the number of "strays" who habitually frequent the household, the latest of whom I believe is [REDACTED]. The only commitment I would give at the moment is that future visits would be considered. Encouragement should also be given to Mr. Tarbett to visit the children, particularly as this is at their request.

I have had recent contact with Granny Robertson regarding a family tree, during which she indicated her wish to see the children. This did happen during their latest visit to Whitfield. She told me she had had no contact with the children's mother since she returned to London in April 1982.

Healthwise, Tommy has no problems apart from the continuing turn in his foot. He was last medicalled in April 1986.

Contact with the children has been on a regular basis within Carolina House although there have been occasions where alternations have had to be made. It is hoped that contact will be more outwith Carolina House, as this would help discussion move more away from family matters and look at the children individually.

At the present time, Tommy appears well settled in Carolina House and at school. Mr. tarbett has indicated a wish to have the children out but as mentioned, this needs a lot more discussion. It would be wrong however not to look at this as I feel it would lead to resentment from the children. He feels that at the present time, he is likely to remain in Carolina House until he is sixteen, but given dad's moves towards contact (although this remains to be followed through) this may change in the future. His needs are being met in Carolina House at present and there is no reason to suggest any change in this.

A Children's Hearing is to be convened imminently and again there is a recommendation that his current supervision requirement continue without variation.

Signed *Peter Dault*
(Social Worker)

Date 3rd Sept 86

REPORT ON: THOMAS TARBETT

D.O.B: 16 7 73

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: CAROLINA HOUSE
281 Strathmore Avenue
DUNDEE

SOCIAL WORKER: PETER DEVLIN

OFFICE ADDRESS: SWD, 6 Paradise Road
DUNDEE

REPORT FOR: PANEL/REVIEW

DATE: SEPT 86

Tommy remains in Scott House unit within Carolina House. The age range is 10 - 14 years. Although generally regarded as the 'youngest' unit, responsibilities/expectations placed upon and undertaken by the members, has increased. Tommy copes well with the various responsibilities placed upon him eg chores, decision making etc. Tommy chooses to seek staff's help in terms of the preparation of meals, although his confidence is growing.

Tommy is a healthy, growing teenager. He likes to give and receive a lot of physical contact, and can be quite engaging, chatty and confident. At other times he is quieter and withdrawn and staff have had to gauge when best to leave him alone or how to help encourage him to express his thoughts if something is troubling him.

Tommy generally is co-operative and supportive. His confrontations with staff arise when he doesn't get his own way, if he cannot back down on an issue or if he loses at games (is getting better at defeat).

Tommy is well liked by his peers (and this extends to the older teenagers) and holds quite a strong position within the group. At times, Tommy presents as being a stabilising influence and helps others listen to reason.

However, Tommy can be quite quick tempered and this is further aggravated by his frustrations towards the others when they are acting in a childish manner or deviating from the 'rules'. There are times when this authoritative manner causes problems for himself and confrontation with the others.

Tommy's ability to make and sustain friendships allows him to pursue interests and contacts outwith Carolina House. His great passion in life is his football. Tommy used his initiative and established contact with football teams and has succeeded in getting signed for Broughty United.

Tommy is conscious that he will have to maintain a balance between his involvement/commitment to football and his studies.

School has always been a positive feature in Tommy's life and his past year was no different. Tommy attained good grades and as a result, has begun his 2nd year in a top grade class.

Family contact remains an important factor to Tommy. Contact with Mr Tarbett is basically on a fortnightly basis, when the children visit Mr Tarbett at his home. It would appear that there is little time spent specifically alone with Mr Tarbett, as there are usually other members of the immediate and extended family there

Tommy states that he does not object to this, but enjoys the company of the larger family circle. It is felt that Tommy would like a more emotionally fulfilling relationship with Mr Tarbett, but is aware of inhibitions on each side. Mr Tarbett has also failed to respond to verbal and written requests by the children, staff

and SW to visit Carolina House on alternate weeks. His tendency to make promises that are rarely carried out, continues. This naturally disappoints/disillusions Tommy, but he has also had a change of approach over the past year ie, he's now more aware that the probability of dad keeping an arrangement is against the odds and therefore keeps his hopes in check to avoid greater disappointment. He also helps Lisa try to look realistically at these situations.

Tommy is also keen to see his brothers, although meetings are usually on the basis of a haphazard nature.

A planned visit to David and family in Aberdeen went well and it had been hoped there would have been more in the future, but David has had to return to Dundee at the moment.

Granny Robertson has been approached by the social worker to offer details for 'family tree'. She has also made it clear that Tommy and Lisa are welcome to visit. It is hoped they will take up this offer in the future.

It is felt to be important and appropriate that a family tree be established to attain some focus before tackling a life Story Book, which is to follow on.

The strong family bond between Tommy and Lisa remains and both share a preference to be guarded re disclosing feelings/info re their family ties. Within the unit, Tommy and Lisa generally enjoy a good rapport although, at times, can find each other a bit wearing and 'niggles' arise. This does not last and matters can be resolved before long.

CONCLUSION

Tommy quite definitely sees himself staying in Carolina House until he is, at least, 16 years. He has stated quite clearly that he does not wish to be considered for fostering and it is felt this wish should be respected.

Carolina House feel they can offer Tommy the security he requires to continue developing, especially in these adolescent years, whilst encouraging & monitoring family contact.

Remaining at Carolina House could also provide the time and space needed for Tommy to determine in which direction his future lies.

Peter

REPORT ON: TOMMY TARBETT

D.O.B: 16 7 73

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: CAROLINA HOUSE
281 Strathmore Avenue
DUNDEE

SOCIAL WORKER: PETER DEVLIN

OFFICE ADDRESS: SWD, 6 Paradise Road
DUNDEE

REPORT FOR: ~~PANEL~~/REVIEW

DATE: SEPT 86

FOCUS OF WORK

The aims agreed at the last review were that:

- a) Tommy and Lisa remain in Carolina House.
- b) Close Liaison to be maintained between the social worker and staff at Carolina House, with particular emphasis on the weekly contact with the children's "key worker".

Staff and social worker felt that, for various reasons, weekly contact be changed to fortnightly. However, this again has lapsed because of holidays, postponed appointments etc. This matter has, once again, been discussed and should be rectified.

- c) Home visits were to continue on a fortnightly basis. Mr Tarbett was to be encouraged to respond to the children's request that he visit Carolina House.

To date, Mr Tarbett has failed to respond to both verbal and written invitations.

- d) The subject matter of a possible introduction of 'befrienders', particularly for Lisa, be discussed in detail by all workers concerned.

This issue, and the reservations, have been discussed. it is felt inappropriate, at this moment in time.

During an informal chat with the children, they intimated that they were quite happy with the amount of outside contacts/friends they had (no mention made to children re term 'befriender').

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However, Tommy can be quite quick tempered and this is further aggravated by his frustrations towards the others when they are acting in a childish manner or deviating from the 'rules'. There are times when this authoritative manner causes problems for himself and confrontation with the others.

Tommy's ability to make and sustain friendships allows him to pursue interests and contacts outwith Carolina House. His great passion in life is his football. Tommy used his initiative and established contact with football teams and has succeeded in getting signed for Broughty United.

Tommy is conscious that he will have to maintain a balance between his involvement/commitment to football and his studies.

School has always been a positive feature in Tommy's life and his past year was no different. Tommy attained good grades and, as a result, has begun his 2nd year in a top grade class.

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Tommy states that he does not object to this, but enjoys the company of the larger family circle. It is felt that Tommy would like a more emotionally fulfilling relationship with Mr Tarbett, but is aware of inhibitions on each side. Mr Tarbett has also failed to respond to verbal and written requests by the children, staff and SW to visit Carolina House on alternate weeks. His tendency to make promises that are rarely carried out, continues. This naturally disappoints/disillusions Tommy, but he has also had a change of approach over the past year ie, he's now more aware that the probability of dad keeping an arrangement is against the odds and therefore keeps his hopes in check to avoid greater disappointment. He also helps Lisa try to look realistically at these situations.

Tommy is also keen to see his brothers, although meetings are usually on the basis of a haphazard nature.

A planned visit to David and family in Aberdeen went well and it had been hoped there would have been more in the future, but David has had to return to Dundee at the moment.

Recently, Tommy has begun to question his colour, as have the other children. Staff have found this difficult to cope with and are a bit unsure of what to say, as we don't know if Mr Tarbett has told Tommy anything to the contrary. Following this it was decided that we would start a Family Tree and possibly follow on with Life Story as children unsure of all their relatives. Mr Devlin visited Gran Robertson to get the relevant information to start family tree and she said she would be happy for Lisa and Tommy to visit her.

It is felt to be important and appropriate that a family tree be established to attain some focus before tackling a life Story book, which is to follow on.

The strong family bond between Tommy and Lisa remains and both share a preference to be guarded re disclosing feelings/info re their family ties. Within the unit, Tommy and Lisa generally enjoy a good rapport, although, at times, can find each other a bit wearing and 'niggles' arise. This does not last and matter can be resolved before long.

PROGNOSIS

Recently Mr Tarbett's home was water damaged. He has apparently been allocated another house, but, as yet, we have still to be notified. In the past, the children have visited to find not only their own family members there, but strangers also residing in the home. This has caused Lisa and Tommy some upset in the past. Perhaps some thought could be given to this matter and the Review as Lisa has intimated that dad has suggested they come for weekend stays in the future, as he has a larger house!

It is felt that Tommy and Lisa have, as yet, not fully established a good level of communication with their social worker. In discussion with the children, they recognise that it takes them a while to relax and gain confidence with 'new' people. An added difficulty is, of course, the fact that there is the expectation of discussion around family matters, which Lisa and Tommy find awkward. Both Lisa and Tommy have acknowledged that it would be beneficial to look at ways in which they and the SW could get to know each other better and express their expectations and, hopefully, enhance the relationship.

Tommy quite definitely sees himself staying in Carolina House until he is, at least, 16 years. He has stated quite clearly that he does not wish to be considered for fostering and it is felt that this wish should be respected.

Carolina House feel they can offer Tommy the security he requires to continue developing, especially in these adolescent years, whilst encouraging and monitoring family contact.

Remaining at Carolina House could also provide the time and space needed for Tommy to determine in which direction his future lies.