

CASE REVIEWS

Summary of Review Meeting and Recommendations for the Future

Date of Review: Thursday, 20 September 1990 at 4pm
at 10 Fintryside, Dundee.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Address</u>	<u>D.O.B.</u>
TOMMY TARBETT	10 FINTRYSIDE, DUNDEE	16.7.73

Participants:

Anne Partington, Senior Social Worker, Dundee West
Peter Devlin, Social Worker, Dundee West
Tommy Tarbett, subject of review
Derry Meridith, Support Worker, Carolina House
Margaret Wastie, Reviewing Officer

Introduction

Tommy Tarbett is in care in terms of Section 16 Social Work Scotland Act and parental rights were resumed on 7 February 1983.

Tommy had been placed at Carolina House in February 1982.

The last Child in Care Review took place on 30 March 1990. Conclusions at that Review were:

- 1 Tommy was well settled in Carolina House and was coping with independence in the self-contained unit.
- 2 Tommy remained at school to sit further exams but continued to need advice about his future career.
- 3 Family contact was maintained at Tommy's level and wishes.
- 4 Support would continue at the present level to enable Tommy to focus on his future.

Reports were available at this review from Peter Devlin, Social Worker and Derry Meridith, Support Worker.

Developments since the last review

The major development for Tommy since the last review has been a move from Carolina House to Independent Living in a supported flat and this move took place on 6 August.

The second major development has been Tommy has completed his fifth year at school and is now in sixth year.

Independent Living

Tommy is now living at 10 Fintryside which is a self-contained shared flat supported by staff from Carolina House. During August, Tommy made introductory visit and stayed for several nights prior to moving in full-time on 6 August.

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He signed a lease for the flat on 15 August. Tommy is sharing the flat which has 2 bedrooms, living room, bathroom and kitchen with a friend whom he previously resided with in the self-contained unit at Carolina House.

The report from Derry Meridith, Tommy's key-worker from Carolina House indicated that Tommy has coped very well with the move. Night Staff visit every evening to check that Tommy and his flat-mate are in. There is an agreement that if Tommy will be late at the week-end he will notify staff. On the whole this arrangement had worked apart from one week-end when Tommy failed to phone. This necessitated some discussion between Tommy and staff to explain the need for Tommy maintaining contact. It was recognised that this can be a difficulty for Tommy if he is out with friends and not near a telephone, but there is a need for Tommy to maintain this contact.

In the review Tommy was more out-spoken than previously. He was able to compare the difference between independent living and Carolina House. He has found it much quieter and misses having so many people around, as a result, Tommy finds that he goes out more and is visiting his family more often.

There is an ex-resident support group at Carolina House 4 days a week and Tommy uses this 3 days.

There have been no difficulties in Tommy managing life skills in his independent living situation. He does his own budgeting, shopping and cooking. Tommy is allowed £9.50 a week for his food and stated that he can manage with this. He is also given pocket money and dinner money and a £20 per month clothing allowance. Derry Meridith confirmed that Tommy has always been able to manage well with his money and has only twice requested extra funding.

In the review Tommy was complimented on managing on such a tight budget.

School

Tommy gained O' grade English and Modern Studies at his exams in June, but failed his Higher History. He has returned to his sixth year and is sitting Higher English, History and Modern Studies. Derry Meridith confirmed that all Tommy's school reports are good. Tommy will be assessed as to whether he can sit Prelims prior to Christmas and will sit Prelims in the 3 subjects in January. In the review Tommy acknowledged it is more difficult to do his homework when he is living on his own as at Carolina House space had been made for him to study in his own separate room. He acknowledged that it requires more discipline by himself.

At the review Tommy was looking extremely smart in his school uniform with braid around his blazer to indicate that he is now a Prefect. This involves him in doing play-ground duty.

Tommy is still not clear about his future education or employment. He is still waiting for Career advice at school but is presently considering the possibility of attending Further Education College to obtain more Highers. Tommy will be due to leave school in May 1991.

Tommy continues his ~~sporting~~ activities and still plays football and rugby every week for the school. He is keen on golf and had a holiday in Ayr playing golf with a friend.

Contact with Family

Since his move to independence Tommy has visited his father and his partner more frequently as they live nearer to Tommy's flat. His sister Lisa has visited Tommy in his flat and he has visited her in her Mainstay placement. He also has regular contact with Lisa at the father's house.

Leisure Activities

Derry Meridith's report commented that Tommy has built up relationships with peers and has outings in a group with them. He meets friends socially to play snooker, go to the cinema or watch videos and does not present any problems in his activities.

Social Work Contact

Peter Devlin's report commented that Tommy has resisted social work contact and recognised that whilst Tommy is receiving daily support from workers from Carolina House, he feels he does not need social work support.

This was confirmed within the review and it was suggested that whilst Tommy does not need further social work support than he is getting from Carolina House staff, he might enjoy social contact with Peter Devlin. It was therefore suggested that Tommy and Peter meet in a lunch hour and it was agreed that if Tommy does not get in touch with Peter within a month then Peter will contact Tommy.

Future Plans

Tommy's aim is to live independently without social work support. The present lease on the flat from Carolina House is for 6 months. At the end of 6 months the situation will be reviewed and decisions made about the appropriateness of maintaining such a high level of support. If it is felt appropriate the level of contact may be reduced with the aim of Tommy eventually transferring to his own tenancy.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- 1 Tommy has made the transition from Carolina House to a supported flat in the community with apparent ease. He is coping well in life skills budgeting, cooking and shopping and appeared more mature and confident for this move.
- 2 Whilst Tommy remains on the present lease he must accept daily contact with support workers from Carolina House and must notify them if he will be late home at weekends. It was acknowledged that Tommy has found this intensive support difficult to accept but has worked through this.
- 3 Tommy is now in his sixth year at Morgan Academy and will sit 3 further exams next year. He remains unclear as to his future education or career plans.
- 4 Tommy is looking at independent life in the community and has appropriate friends and activities. He maintains contact with his family at the level he wishes.

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- 5 Tommy should be commended for his life skills and ability to cope to date in the community and it is hoped that he will eventually transfer from the present lease to his own tenancy.
- 6 Social Work support is given by Carolina House staff but it is recommended that Tommy maintains contact with Peter Devlin on a social level by meeting occasionally in the lunch hour.

The next review is arranged for 21 March 1991 at 4 pm.

Mrs M Wastie

MRS M WASTIE
Reviewing Officer

cc - District Manager, Dundee West
Admin Dundee West
Derry Meridith, Key-Worker, Carolina House
Anne Partington, Senior Social Worker, Dundee West
Peter Devlin, Social Worker, Dundee West
Tommy Tarbett, 10 Fintryside, Dundee
Mrs M Wastie, Reviewing Officer

MW/DC
10.10.90