

HT/KG
15th February, 1985

Thomas Tarbett, D.O.B.

Focus of Work

Since the last review there have been changes in Tommy's situation. On 15th September, 1984 Carolina House moved into new premises. Tommy seemed to have adapted well to the changes and coping well with travelling to and from school by bus.

Also at that time it was difficult to gauge his true feelings because he was involved in an introduction programme with a prospective foster family.

Treatment

On 30th August, Tommy was introduced to "The Frasers'", an approved foster family who were willing to consider Tommy and Lisa. They were both nervous and excited on the first occasion and through time contact with the Frasers' was extended to day visits, overnight and then weekend stays. They both appeared to enjoy these visits although Tommy seemed reluctant to talk about them or see a future with the Frasers'.

In October Tommy was beginning to express doubts about the family and said that he did not feel he could visit again. At this time there were also doubts expressed by residential staff and social worker concerning the suitability of the family and their compatibility with Tommy and Lisa. Because of this it was agreed that the children should not visit until a meeting was arranged with the Frasers' and the social worker where these feelings could be discussed.

Tommy felt guilty about pulling out as he recognised that Lisa was making a bigger effort and was enjoying the contact with the family. However, Lisa was able to say that she felt that staying together with Tommy was more important than the foster family.

Since that time Tommy seems to have been a bit unsettled and unsure. He continues to be no real management problem, however, we had noticed a deterioration in his behaviour. He has become very moody and huffy if he cannot get his own way.

There has been a slight change in Tommy's house group, one of the older boys has been promoted to an older group, and girl Tommy's age has joined his group.

Family

Tommy continues to have contact with dad, brothers, grandparents', which is now on a more structured basis. Tommy and Lisa are now able to travel to the

paternal grandparents' home unaccompanied every alternate Sundays, which he enjoys. Mr. Tarbett still visits, but these appear to be as infrequent as before.

Tommy maintains contact with his brothers by telephone and often is the instigator of these calls.

Tommy has a good relationship with Lisa although like brother and sister there are the usual quarrels and arguments.

Personal Progress

The past few months appear to have been difficult for Tommy. He had to cope with the move to new premises, the foster introduction falling through and his feelings toward Lisa and the Frasers'.

The staff have noticed a change in Tommy's behaviour. He is more moody and goes in the huff if he feels things are not going his own way. He can be argumentative and at times refuses to see any other point of view.

He is pleased that he can now have contact with the family without waiting to be taken, and has tried on a few occasions to build in more.

He seems to have made his place in the group again and does not want to discuss any plans for the future, especially fostering, although he is aware that at sometime he will need to think about and plan his future with staff and social worker.

He is still football mad and involved himself passively collecting programmes etc, as well as participating and spectating.

Health

Tommy is fit and is not on any medication at present.

Other Agencies

Tommy continues to work well at school. He has managed to cope well with the extra travelling etc. caused by the move. At a recent school open day Tommy's class teacher did mention she had noticed a deterioration in work and behaviour around the time when he was involved with the Fraser family.

We have recently received papers re Tommy's transfer to secondary school. He was concerned that the secondary school mentioned was "Rockwell High", he would prefer to move to Morgan with his classmates. However, he was relieved when staff explained that this could happen.

Prognosis

As already stated the past few months have been unsettling for Tommy and seems to have taken its toll. We feel that Tommy still has some work to do to sort out his feelings re fostering, future, etc., but needs a period of stability and security in Carolina House before he can tackle this.

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).

NAME	ADDRESS IN CARE	D.O.B.
Tommy Tarbett	Carolina House	16.7.73

Pen Picture – Since last subject to a full review, the event of most significance for Tommy was the fostering introduction programme with the Fraser family. The foster placement did not go ahead, mainly because of Tommy's negative feelings about the family. Since that decision in mid-October last, Tommy has presented in a more moody light than is the norm for him, both to residential staff and myself. Also he has shown more signs of physical aggression of late, although not of a serious nature. It is possible that the aftermath of the fostering experience has left him with a sense of insecurity.

Tommy's main pre-occupations in life are centred on football, both playing and spectating, and maintaining family contact.

Summary of Work – Visits made weekly to Carolina House. Access arrangements, as per review decision, were agreed with Mr Tarbett, i.e. on alternate Sundays Tommy and Lisa make their own way to Granny's at 72 Drumlanrig Drive. There have been no problems so far with this arrangement. The main focus of my work has been to gauge Tommy's feelings, both about the foster breakdown and his views re the future. Tommy is certain that his future lies in Carolina House and that he does not wish to be fostered. In retrospect, I feel that this may have been his secret feelings before the introduction programme commenced but that he was afraid to voice this.

Suitability of Placement – Given Tommy's statements, and my own general satisfaction with the standards of physical and emotional care provided by Carolina House staff, I feel that his long term future will be best catered for there. It may be that an experience of family life as envisaged by the 'Mainstay' scheme could be a consideration during adolescence however.

School – Last report prepared for Annual Review Hearing in Reports section. Contradictions between headmaster's report and class teacher.

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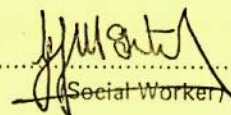
Health - Satisfactory - no problems known.

Family Contact - Little at Carolina House. Children now visit father and family as per previously detailed access arrangements.

Future Action - As per recent case management meeting including senior social worker, area homefinder, caseworker, incumbent caseworker and residential worker (Harry Tosh); both Tommy and Lisa to be helped to write an 'essay' on their own hopes and wishes for their future care.

It is recommended that the new caseworker be 'introduced' soon after the review and that joint visits be made by both he and I enabling my withdrawal from the case after approximately 2 months.

Signed


Social Worker

Date 14.2.85