

Re - [REDACTED]

Thomas Tarbett (d.o.b. 16 3 73)
Lisa Tarbett (d.o.b. 7 8 74)

I write to advise you that Graham and Derek Tarbett who are both currently subject of a 44(1)(a) supervision order have been received into care along with their brother and sister, Tommy and Lisa in terms of Section 15 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act, 1968, as of 14 September, 1981. All four children are currently placed in Burnside Assessment Centre and I should be grateful if a children's hearing could be called to vary the orders on Graham and Derek, and also to consider bringing Tommy and Lisa to a children's hearing as the reasons for their reception into care are that they are outwith parental control; father is unable and unwilling to cope any longer whilst mother is in desertion once more.

Please find enclosed a catalogue of significant events which have been extracted from the files of the R.S.S.P.C.C. and our own casenotes, these go back as far as 1969, and these together with the more contemporary reports submitted to your office in conjunction with children's hearings should distinctly portray the unsettled lifestyle exhibited by the parents to the children. It is only a matter of one year ago that a Section 15 Order was used in connection with the children. You may recall that Mr. Tarbett was present in your office one evening prior to the commencement of the children's hearing programme for that date, and on that occasion he insisted that he could no longer look after the children and requested their reception into care. During the intervening period, and as you are probably aware, Mrs. Tarbett has been absent from the family home for a period of approximately 7½ months. She returned recently for 10 days but left once more on Monday 7 September and her current whereabouts are not known, although it is suspected that she may be in the London area and possibly [REDACTED] although this cannot be confirmed. I understand from Mr. Tarbett that there is a pending charge [REDACTED] due to be heard in the Dundee courts. In recent months, Mr. McIntosh who is the social worker in this case, has kept me informed of developments within the family, and it would appear that Mr. Tarbett has been unable to effectively manage the children. On 22 July a children's hearing was called which resulted in David being made the subject of a 44(1)(b) supervision order and he was placed in Carolina House where he remains at present.

The Housing Department have received numerous complaints in relation to the behaviour of the children, and detailed information concerning these complaints I am sure would be made available by Mr. Buddas the housing officer in Kirkton. On 3 September this year Gillburn Primary School wrote to both Mr. and Mrs. Tarbett complaining about the unacceptable behaviour of Derek, Tommy and Lisa and requested the parents to call at the school. A copy of this letter was sent to Mr. McIntosh for his information. Mr. Tarbett has been known to leave the children in the charge of a neighbour in Dunmore Street, but it was pointed out to him by Mr. McIntosh, that this arrangement on a repeated basis was not satisfactory, due to the fact that it was felt that this neighbour had quite sufficient to cope with, without additional children. Her circumstances were known to Mr. McIntosh as she was involved on a statutory basis with him. It is evident, therefore, that the domestic situation was tenuous in the extreme and on the 9 September Mr. Tarbett approached this office with a view to this department receiving the above mentioned four children into our care. In all honesty, if he had not approached us, we would have in all probability been writing to you requesting a children's hearing for the reasons already mentioned.

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Nevertheless at this interview it was made very clear to Mr. Tarbett that the children were becoming 'yo-yo' kids and should he pursue his wish to have them received into care we would not be amenable to returning them the instant his wife reappeared. I told Mr. Tarbett specifically that I would be writing to the Reporter with the object of attempting to have the younger children also placed on supervision. Mr. Tarbett was also given some insight into the emotional damage which undoubtedly was being caused to the children, but it is doubtful if he fully appreciates the point.

Consequently in the light of the foregoing circumstances the children have been received into our care and I would ask you to consider these circumstances with a view to attempting to have the two younger children placed on supervision also. Should you require any more specific information concerning any of the events eluded to please do not hesitate to contact either myself or the social worker concerned with the family, Mr. McIntosh.

John R. Anderson

Mr. J.R. Anderson,
Social Worker.

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Mr. J.P. Ingram, Area Controller Area 2
✓ Mr. G. McIntosh, Social Worker, Kirkton