

## CASE REVIEWS

### Summary of Review Meeting and Recommendations for the Future

Date of Review 26.11.87 at Carolina House

| Name          | Present Address                              | D.O.B.  |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------|---------|
| TOMMY TARBERT | Carolina House,<br>Strathmore Avenue, Dundee | 16.7.73 |

**Participants :**

Mr. M. Terry, Reviewing Officer

Tommy Tarbert, Subject Child

Mr. P. Devlin, Social Worker, Dundee West

Miss L. Craig, Key Worker, Carolina House

**Apologies:** Mr. A. Nicoll, Acting Senior Social Worker, Dundee West

**Summary Discussion + Goals / Tasks for the Future (Goals to be listed separately)**

A social worker's report (A016) together with a residential staff report were available in advance of this review.

**Recommendations from Previous Review**

Work has continued to proceed on Tommy's lifestory book with information having been gathered from case files and Tommy, with his sister, having visited various establishments where they have lived. It has been found that the amount of changes, particularly involving Tommy's older brothers, has proved very confusing and time consuming.

Although social worker has endeavoured to make contact with Tommy on a fortnightly basis as agreed at the time of the last review, this has not always been possible partly because of the pressure of other work on the social worker but also due to Tommy's many outside interests. He has on occasions felt unable to agree to alternative times for appointments. As a consequence the level of contact has not been ideal and has tended to be sporadic. In the circumstances it was felt that there could be benefit in the parties involved negotiating some different form of arrangement for appointments, perhaps over lunch.

As agreed at the time of the last review, Tommy has invited his father to visit him at Carolina House for tea and his father has been given every encouragement by the social worker but to date he has failed to take up the invitation.

Tommy visited his brother David for a day and overnight stay in Aberdeen but as his brother has now separated from his wife no further such visits will be possible.

## **Carolina House**

Within Carolina House, Tommy appears to be well settled and he is now taking responsibility for budgeting and cooking for his suppers. Generally he is reported to be a popular boy with both staff and peers.

Tommy has continued to visit his home on a fortnightly basis and although there have been some minor difficulties, these appear to have been resolved. Tommy also has regular contact with his grandmother.

## **School**

Tommy has recently completed his term examinations at Morgan Academy and although he has been experiencing some difficulty with mathematics he has been receiving additional support within Carolina House. Key worker is in regular touch with the school.

## **Health**

Tommy continues to enjoy good general health.

## **Social**

Tommy continues to take a particular interest in sporting activities and this year enjoyed a brief holiday with Broughty United in Holland where they played local teams.

## **Future**

Tommy appears to have a clear idea where his father stands in his life and he clearly sees himself remaining in Carolina House until he eventually moves to independence. As he is now occupying a single room and beginning to undertake some budgetary responsibility for himself and enjoying doing so, it is anticipated that he will now begin to make rapid strides towards independence.

### **Copies to :-**

Area Fieldwork Manager, Dundee West  
Mr. Cura, Asst. AFM, Dundee West  
Mrs. S. Bardsley, SSW, Dundee West  
Mr. P. Devlin, SW, Dundee West  
Mr. Mathers, Asst. RDC Manager (Children)(for Date)  
OIC, Carolina House  
Admin, Dundee West

Signed .....

Signed .....

(Reviewing Consultant)

10.12.87

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



**Recommendations**

The plan for Tommy remains that of continued residence in Carolina House with all appropriate support and encouragement being given to enable him to develop towards mature independence in accordance with the duties of the parental rights resolution.

**Identified Tasks Are:**

1. Lifestory book work will continue with Tommy as appropriate.
2. Social worker should endeavour to negotiate an alternative arrangement with all concerned to improve the regularity of meetings with Tommy.
3. Tommy should be encouraged to produce a brief written report for the next review.
4. Carolina House will continue to liaise with school and to guide and assist Tommy in developments towards independence.

**Next Review**

The next review will take place at 11 am on 24.5.88 at Carolina House.

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## 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, 281 Strathmore Ave.

16.7.73

DATE OF LAST REVIEW OR CASE CONFERENCE

26.5.87

DATE OF LAST MEDICAL EXAMINATION

DATE OF LAST SCHOOL REPORT

DATE OF LAST FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT (Form F8)

Review on 26th November 1987.

Tommy was last reviewed on 26th May 1987 since which time he has remained in Carolina House.

The identified tasks at that time were:

- 1) work to proceed on life story book. Information has been gathered from cases files and the children have visited the various establishments they have lived in. The sheer amount of changes involving Tommy's elder brothers has proved very confusing and time consuming.
- 2) Contact with Tommy on a fortnightly basis. As far as possible this has continued but pressures in other cases have meant this is not always possible. It is also fair to say that Tommy has many outside interests which take up a large part of his spare time.



- 3) Consideration be given to Tommy inviting his dad for tea. Tommy has asked his father as have I encouraged him to visit Carolina but it does not appear he will take this invitation up.
- 4) Tommy to visit a David and family in Aberdeen. Tommy had a day visit and an overnight stay but David has separated from his wife and further visits have not been possible.

Within Carolina House Tommy appears well settled. He now has his own room and is taking on responsibility for budgeting and cooking for suppers. He is a popular boy with both staff and other children.

Tommy's visits home have continued on a fortnightly basis although over the summer there was a difficulty when Tommy was thumped by Derek. A decision was made that in future Mr Tarbett should collect the children. He did this once but when it became apparent this arrangement would not work I discussed with Mr Tarbett a return to the previous arrangements although he promised to contact Carolina House if for any reason he wouldn't be in. The children have also had contact with their Grammy Robertson.

Tommy is doing well at Morgan Academy although he has a slight difficulty with his maths. He enjoys good health and is very sport minded.

Tommy's spare time is almost totally taken up with sports activities particularly football. He went on holiday with Broughty United and enjoyed himself.

It would appear that Tommy is a very well adjusted young boy who has a clear understanding of family dynamics. He is also tremendously loyal to them. He is very well settled in Carolina House and I would see him remaining there until he moves on to independence.

PD/JEJN

Signed .....  
(Social Worker)

Date ...26th November 1987.....

REPORT ON: TOMMY TARBETT

D.O.B: 16 7 73

PLACE OF RESIDENCE: Carolina House Children's Home  
281 Strathmore Avenue  
DUNDEE

SOCIAL WORKER: PETER DEVLIN

OFFICE ADDRESS: SWD  
6 Paradise Road  
DUNDEE

86000854

REPORT FOR: PANEL/REVIEW

DATE: 26 11 87

The identified tasks at the last review were:

1. Work to proceed without delay on Life Story Book.
2. It is anticipated that social worker will continue to have contact directly with Tommy at about fortnightly intervals.
3. Consideration to be given to encouraging Tommy to invite his father to Carolina for tea.
4. Consideration to be given to arranging for Tommy to visit his older brother in Aberdeen during the summer holiday period.

Points 1, 3 and 4 have been tackled.

Point 2. Although Tommy has had contact with Mr Devlin, it hasn't always been at fortnightly intervals. This has been because of cancelled appointments and the fact that Tommy is involved most evenings after school with rugby, football etc.

#### TREATMENT/PERSONAL

Tommy remains in Scott House. At the time of the last review Tommy was sharing a bedroom with a younger boy, with the view to moving to a single room. This has now happened and he appears to be enjoying the privacy the single room affords him.

Within the unit Tommy would appear to be one of the more mature members and copes well with the various responsibilities placed on him.

Tommy has recently taken on a further responsibility. He is now on his own supper budget. This entails the purchasing and cooking of his own suppers and the financial management of the weekly allocated allowance.

Tommy has a good relationship with staff and his peers.

He is still prone to huffs/moods when he doesn't get his own way and it has been known for him to sulk for a whole evening. Staff and Tommy have acknowledged that, at times like these, it is best to leave him alone to come out of his moods.

At the present time Tommy has not raised the question regarding his skin colour. However, we are aware that there is a new boy who has moved in to one of the other units in Carolina House who is of similar skin colour to Tommy. Questions are being raised from certain members in the other unit regarding this matter and Tommy may become involved. Because David is now back in Dundee and into the family circle we are unsure if he would still be willing to help if Tommy was to raise the question with him.

#### FAMILY

Tommy's visits to dads have continued on a fortnightly basis. Although it has been noted that he is not always there when they visit. Mr Tarbett has been encouraged to contact staff at Carolina House, if this arrangement is not suitable; however he has failed to do so.

On Sunday 16th August the children visited their father and, again, he was not in. An incident occurred which resulted in Tommy being assaulted by his elder brother Derek. Because of this, it was felt that access arrangements would have to be looked at again. Staff from Carolina House and SWD made a joint visit to Mr Tarbett to



discuss access. In the light of the circumstances Mr Tarbett was asked in future to collect and return the children to Carolina House. Mr Tarbett has collected and returned the children once. Both Tommy and Lisa were disappointed as they had previously stated "he won't collect us".

Mr Devlin has written to Mr Tarbett regarding the matter. On the 14th October Mr Tarbett arrived at Carolina House unexpectedly in the company of [REDACTED] who is apparently still staying with him.

He claimed he had never seen Mr Devlin nor had any letters from him. Staff suggested he contact SWD re this. Mr Tarbett agreed to visit me at Carolina House on Monday 19th October to look over Family Tree work etc. However, he failed to visit. I heard from Mr Devlin at a later stage that the reason Mr Tarbett failed to visit was because he received a phone call from Mrs Tarbett's aunt to say his wife was in hospital with throat cancer. This has been checked out but there is no substantiating information available, so it is questionable as to whether this is true or not. The children have not been informed about this.

Mr Devlin visited Mr Tarbett on 21st October and a contract was made regarding visiting for the children.

He has agreed for contact to be resumed as before, and that if, for any reason, he will not be in at the stated time, he will contact Carolina House by Saturday night at the latest.

To date, this arrangement is working.

When Mr Tarbett was not collecting the children, Lisa had asked if they could have contact with gran Robertson, the children's maternal grandmother. Tommy was also keen on this. Mr Devlin and I visited her on the 10th Sept and it was agreed that the children would visit their gran on alternate Sundays, from dads.

The children's first visit was on 20th Sept. They seem to enjoy these visits and see extended family members whilst there. On two occasions, Tommy missed visits due to being unwell.

Tommy has had contact with his brother David, from Aberdeen, on two occasions. Once for a day visit on 23rd July and on the 4th Aug they stayed overnight.

Both children enjoyed these visits and it was hoped there would be more in the future. However, we have recently heard that David is back in Dundee and is supposedly getting a divorce.

Contact with the other brothers is limited because of their movements.

#### PHYSICAL/MEDICAL

Apart from the odd cold, Tommy is in good health. He exercises a great deal and has a good appetite. He also has regular dental check-ups.

#### SPECIAL WORK

I have continued working with Tommy on his life story book. Tommy had decided to start working from where he is now in 'Carolina House' and go backwards into his past eg what he remembers about moving to Carolina House, good times, bad times etc. Tommy has also compiled a list of places he has stayed in the past, ones he remembers and I have endeavoured to fill in as many of the grey areas as present information allows.

Mr Devlin and I have taken Lisa and Tommy around various establishments and houses where they had lived in the past and taken photographs so they can put them in their books.

There is considerable information on the family regarding the compiling of flow

flow charts. Some of it is not accurate and we are having difficulty in establishing who lived where at what time, with whom.

We are hoping in the near future to have the use of computer equipment which, hopefully, will enable us to provide Tommy with a more accurate picture of his family's movements.

#### OTHER AGENCIES

Tommy is now in 3rd year at Morgan Academy. Early reports showed that he was working well but he has recently had some difficulty with his maths subject. Staff are in the process of making arrangements to provide additional tuition for Tommy in the hope that this will enable him to maintain an acceptable level.

Tommy's main interest continues to be football. He trains and plays regularly for Broughty United. On October 3rd he went to Holland with them for several days to play various teams. They won all their matches, which made the trip even more worthwhile for him.

Tommy also plays Rugby for the school on Saturday mornings, more for the sheer enjoyment than anything else.

He also enjoys playing pool and golf.

Tommy has one close friend, Kevin, who is also in the football team.

Recently, Tommy was invited to the wedding of one of the boys in CH mother's wedding. The wedding took place in Montrose so he and the other boy stayed overnight with the boy's family. Tommy was delighted to have received an invitation and thoroughly enjoyed himself.

Contact with Mr Peter Devlin, SW, has not been on a regular fortnightly basis. This has been due to various reasons.

#### CONCLUSION

While Tommy can, on occasions, still enjoy taking advantages of the opportunity Scott House affords him to be a young boy, he has matured considerably in recent months. A fact which is reflected in his willingness and capability to take on a little more responsibility within Scott House and in developing positive peer group relationships in his social life.

As yet, there are no immediate plans for Tommy to move to an older peer group unit but Tommy continues to state that he sees his future as remaining in Carolina House with the possible view of eventually moving on into independent living.

Lynn Craig  
Key Worker

*J. McKenzie*  
Judi McKenzie  
Unit Manager