

HIGHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL - SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

DETAIL RECORD

Page 1

Client Name: PAMELA RATTRAY	Ref No: 3200173402
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Date: 24:3:95

23:3:95 - Received a telephone call from [REDACTED] Dingwall Police Station, regarding an alleged indecent assault which had taken place in Coulpark Children's Centre the previous evening. [REDACTED] had already contacted [REDACTED] at Alness Police Station who was available and was now requesting social work involvement. [REDACTED] informed me of the details of the alleged assault on a resident of Coulpark Children's Centre, Pamela Rattray. Pamela had given a detailed account of the events to two of the workers at Coulpark, Terri Boyd and Jackie Schiller. I understood from [REDACTED] that the alleged perpetrator, [REDACTED] and also another resident, [REDACTED] were at this time being detained in police custody in Alness.

I ascertained from the Coulpark Children's Centre that Pamela's social worker, Evelyn Stewart, could not be contacted and would not be available until later in the day. [REDACTED] and I discussed the situation and arranged to visit Coulpark at that time as it was felt to be important to speak to the staff on duty prior to them going off shift at 3 p.m. We decided also to ask Pamela whether or not she wished to speak to us at this time and if she had preferred to speak in the presence of her own social worker then this would be arranged for later in the day.

10.30 a.m. - attended Coulpark Children's Centre with [REDACTED] and spoke to Terri Boyd, Care Worker, who informed us that Pamela was willing to speak to myself and [REDACTED] but only the company of Terri. We confirmed this with Pamela and arranged to take a statement from Terri initially to allow her to be present when we spoke to Pamela. It would appear from Terri's account that the residents were sent upstairs at approximately 10.30 p.m. the previous evening to begin preparing for bed. It had been a difficult evening with the children "acting up" in various ways at various times. These difficulties continued when the residents went upstairs, with, it seems, at least two members of staff trying to deal with several situations at once. Terri had gone to Pamela's bedroom door, which was locked, and asked Pamela to open the door. Pamela refused to do this, saying that she was getting ready for bed and that she would not open the door. Terri left the immediate vicinity and was still upstairs in the building at this time but did not remember hearing any loud noises coming from Pamela's room.

It was only at approximately 12.30 a.m. that Pamela and [REDACTED] another resident, had approached Terri and Jacqui Schiller, saying that they wanted to discuss what had happened earlier in the evening. It was at this time that Pamela gave a detailed description of the events which had taken place.

11.30 a.m. - [REDACTED] and I then interviewed Pamela Rattray, who was willing to give a statement at this time. Pamela's initial concern particularly was that her mother should not be informed of this. We explained to Pamela that due to the nature of the allegations it was important that her mother knew although I was aware that attempts had been made by the Coulpark Staff to contact her and that she could not be contacted until approximately 3 p.m. in the afternoon.

Pamela then went on to describe how at approximately 11 p.m. the previous evening [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had been in her bedroom. The door had been locked from the inside and when Terri asked her to open the door she had told her that she was getting ready for bed. She then said that she had been sitting on the chair in her bedroom when [REDACTED] had sat on the arm of the chair beside her and had tried to fondle her left breast. Pamela further remembered that [REDACTED] had also placed his hand on her inner thigh and moved his hand up and down. It was at this time both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had left the bedroom.

A short time later [REDACTED] returned to Pamela's bedroom when he had taken his trousers and boxer shorts down, Pamela stated that his penis was "upwards". Pamela said that [REDACTED] had grabbed her hand and tried to force her to touch his penis. She could not remember whether or not her hand had made contact with his penis. Pamela then said that she sat on the bed to feed her fish and [REDACTED] came and sat beside her, still in a state of undress. Pamela then told [REDACTED] to leave her bedroom at which point he said "I bet you a shag that I can jump from your bedroom window". Pamela then said that he dressed and climbed out of the window, dropping to the courtyard below whereon he shouted back to her "that's a shag you owe me". She said that at this time she saw another member of staff, Paul, coming round the corner into the courtyard and was embarrassed by what [REDACTED] had said so she closed her windows and closed her curtains. When asked if she had given all the details of the alleged incident, Pamela replied that she had and that she had and the interview with her was concluded at this point.

We then spoke to [REDACTED] in whom Pamela had confided the previous evening before telling the staff of the events. [REDACTED] confirmed various aspects of Pamela's statement and really had no more details to add to this.

As the other staff members who had been on duty the previous evening had left for the day, we had decided that we could go no further at that time and were leaving the building at approximately 2 p.m. Michaela, another member of staff, then informed us that Pamela had told her that she had not told us everything and that [REDACTED] had forced her to have sexual intercourse with him.

We then spoke to Pamela who confirmed this and explained that due to the further information she had given us it would be necessary for her to have a medical which would take place in Inverness. We explained to Pamela that we would have to contact her mother at this point to obtain permission for this medical to take place.

[REDACTED] then contacted the Inverness Police and requested that they go round and explain the situation to Pamela's mother and obtain the necessary consent and also to inform her that we would be going to Dalneigh Crescent. Pamela again stated at this point that she did not wish her mother to be present at Inverness.

[REDACTED] myself and Pamela left Coulpark at about 3.15 p.m. to go to Dalneigh Crescent in Inverness. Pamela appeared quite calm at this time although stated that she was tired as she had not got much sleep the previous night. We arrived at Dalneigh Crescent at approximately 3.45 p.m. and [REDACTED] had arranged for Dr. Annie Griffiths to attend at approximately 5.30 p.m. Pamela then said that she wished her mother to be present and [REDACTED] telephoned Mrs. Rattray, who arrived at Dalneigh Crescent 15 - 20 minutes later. Pamela was obviously agitated by speaking in front of her mother but managed to give a clear statement to us about the alleged offence. She then said that when she had told us previously that [REDACTED] had climbed out of the window that was untrue and that she had sat down on the bed to feed her fish at which time [REDACTED] trousers and boxer shorts were still pulled down with his penis pointing "upwards". He then pushed her back onto the bed, where she bumped her head, and sat astride her pinning her to the bed. [REDACTED] then managed to pull her trousers and pants down to her knees and lay on top of her, forcing her legs apart, Pamela then said that/

that he tried to put his penis inside her and she remembers it as being sore. After he had done this he then moved up her body until he was sitting astride her chest, with his legs pinning her arms to the bed. He then used his hands to try and force her mouth open and said to her "it's only a dick". Pamela remembers him succeeding in putting his penis into her mouth, after which he got off her. She then threatened to open the door of the room to which he replied "it's you who will be embarrassed, not me". Pamela stated that it was at this time that [REDACTED] left the room via the window.

At approximately 5.30 - 5.45 p.m. Dr. Griffiths arrived at Dalneigh Crescent, after which Pamela was given a medical examination. [REDACTED] and I escorted Pamela back to Aness, arriving at approximately 8 p.m.

Joyce Gartshore.

Joyce Gartshore
Social Worker