

**C.O.S.S.
Report to the Children's Hearing**

Date of Panel: 17-11-00

Name of Young Person: Lewis Duncan

Date of Birth: 22/10/1984

Address of Parent/Carer: Caroline Duncan, 5 Berkley Gardens, Irvine.

Legal Status: S70

Report compiled by: Susan Smith

Position: Project Worker

Reason for Hearing: _____ Emergency

X **Review of Supervision Requirement**

Grounds for Referral

Other

HOME / FAMILY SITUATION

Lewis had been living with his dad since leaving care until August this year. After considerable thought Dad decided to return to live in Inverness. Following a number of discussions Lewis decided to complete his education at Kibble school. To enable Lewis to continue his final term at Kibble School he has been living with mum, partner Hugh Tait and younger brother Grant. Initially both boys were involved in "winding up" behaviour through time this has dissipated. Living at home with mum has been a positive experience for Lewis and has allowed him the opportunity to rebuild his relationship with both mum and brother.

Lewis has travelled independently to visit his dad in Inverness and has on most occasions shown maturity in planning these trips.

There have been no issues relating to behaviour in either home for some considerable time.

HEALTH

There are no issues known to the writer regarding health. Lewis appears as a healthy young man who has developed appropriately for his chronological age. Lewis smokes and has expressed no wish to stop doing so despite the health risk.

PROGRESS WITHIN C.O.S.S. (SINCE LAST PANEL)

INDIVIDUAL: Lewis continues to work well on a one-to-one basis and has benefited from the intensive programme which the COSS project offers. Lewis has developed interpersonal skills which he has learned to employ in everyday issues. He has become an exemplary member of the Leavers college and has been described as a positive role model in his peer group.

FAMILY: Like any teenager he needs occasional reminding to tidy room or complete tasks. Lewis has displayed a growing level of maturity over the last six months. He is coping better with frustrations instead of 'acting out' Lewis is expressing his point of view and feelings. This is a marked improvement for which Lewis should be proud.

EDUCATION: Lewis completed four standard grades receiving low marks. Being in the final term of school meant that Lewis joined the

Leavers college based within Kibble school. Primarily Lewis has been involved in work experience in various maintenance sections within the school. Lewis's commitment and effort during this term has been exceptional. He has a 98% attendance rate and displays commitment, energy and skill in the work he has completed. Lewis's weekly reports from Leavers college are full of praise for his behaviour, attitude and reliability.

GROUP: N/A

RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEERS & STAFF

Lewis has good relationships with his peer group within school and in the community. He loves the outdoor life and enjoys off road cycling with friends. Lewis is learning to resist being lured into inappropriate behaviour within school and community. This is a positive outcome and is a result of the hard work put in by Lewis, family and COSS project in addressing behavioural and emotional issues.

Lewis has built up good relationships with staff during his attendance at Kibble Education and Care Centre. Many members of staff have approached the writer commenting on the positive change in Lewis and that he will be missed within the school.

RELEVANT WORK BEING CARRIED OUT WITH YOUNG PERSON

INDIVIDUAL: Lewis has contact with COSS staff on a regular basis. At the beginning of term the purpose of the involvement included supporting Lewis to adjust to his new living environment. The transition of the home move was carefully planned which in the writers opinion contributed to the fairly settled transition.

Currently and for the remaining term time the focus of work will be on providing opportunities to enable Lewis to plan effectively for the daunting prospect of leaving the security of an environment in which he feels confident and secure.

FAMILY: The placement with mum has in the writers opinion been successful for all parties involved. Mum and Lewis have re-established their relationship which is undoubtedly positive for both of them.

After minor initial issues the placement settled and has been successful. Mum and Lewis have both shown a commitment to trying new strategies to address any arising issues and have done so successfully.

Dad has regularly kept in touch with the COSS project and Kibble School. Lewis has made a number of trips to see dad, after each visit dad has provided feedback on the visits. Lewis has enjoyed these visits and feels their relationship has remained strong.

Discussions are beginning to take place regarding Lewis's options after school, currently he would like to move to Invernesshire to be with dad. However there are other options, mum has continually offered Lewis the choice to stay with her or return if things do not work out in Invernesshire.

COMMUNITY: To the writers knowledge Lewis has not been involved in any incidents within the local community for a number of months. Lewis states that he no longer smokes 'hash' and there have been no reports from home, school or community regarding this activity.

PERSON / COLLABORATIVE AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

The social work department and the community outreach and support service (COSS) worked in partnership to provide a holistic approach to meet the assessed needs of Lewis and his family. Lewis's response particularly over the last eleven months is evidence of the success of the joint work.

EDUCATION / EMPLOYMENT UPDATE

Information from the Leavers college is attached to the document.

Lewis will also participate in a carers programme for the remaining seven weeks of term.

CONCLUSION

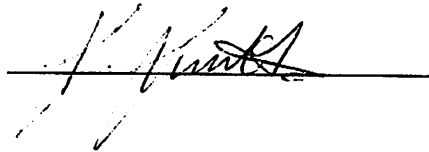
Lewis has successfully attended and participated in the Leavers College programme within Kibble Education Centre. He has developed positive relationships with adults and peers in school and community alike.

Lewis has shown that he has matured and developed, this is evidenced in his approaching mum and dad talking through where he wanted to live rather than "acting out".

Lewis will approach the COSS team if he requires reassurances regarding issues at home or school. He has become a positive role model for younger boys in the project. Lewis takes his responsibilities of being an older, good role model seriously. Both Lewis and family have demonstrated their ability to address the rigours of family life without the need for intervention.

In the writers opinion and in agreement with social work the writer would recommend that today's hearing consider taking Lewis off the supervision order.

Keyworker (signature)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Smith', is written over a horizontal line.