

## Tayside Regional Council - Social Work Department

## CASE REVIEWS - CHILDREN IN CARE

## SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT

Name ..... Stacey Leonard .....  
 Address . c/o Ann and Roy McConachie, Braemnzion, Glen Clova, By Kirriemuir...  
 28.04.88  
 DOB ..... URN .....  
 Date of Last Review or Case Conference ..... 22/12/94.....  
 Date of Last Medical Inspection ..... 30/01/95.....  
 Date of Last School Report .....  
 Date of Last Financial Assessment (Form F8) .....

Please include comments under the following headings: -

*Pen picture of the child (including interests as well as physical and emotional attributes);*

Stacey have settled in their placement and appear to be fitting into the foster family.

All three children have displayed varying degrees of difficult behaviour eg. stealing, telling lies, destroying/damaging other's property.

Stacey has become more difficult to manage.

*Summary of work done since last Review (including frequency of visits);*

The Social Work Department have supported Ms. Leonard's application to be rehoused in Fife region and various options are being pursued. Angus District Council have nominated Ms. Leonard to Fife District Council through the National Mobility Scheme however we have been advised that it may be some considerable time before a house becomes available for her. The Homeless Persons Officer in Fife has agreed to offer Ms. Leonard temporary accommodation once she is reunited with her children. In order to facilitate this, the Social Work Department are in the process of requesting a Review Hearing in order that Ms. Leonard can have overnight access with the children with a view to the children returning to her care. Prior to the children being received into care Ms. Leonard had identified a number of difficulties she was experiencing relating to child care and household management. As a part of the preparation for the children returning home Ms. Leonard and the children have been spending one evening per week at Kingsmuir Resource Centre. This has given Ms. Leonard the opportunity to practice household management skills (eg. making the tea) and address child care issues, eg. managing the children's behaviour. These sessions have been assessed by Carol McFadden, Resource Worker.

In order to prepare the children for moving on Barbara Cowan and myself have started weekly group sessions with the children. The children spent a weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Archer, Respite Carers and they appeared to enjoy this. Mr. and Mrs. Archer have agreed to take the children for one weekend/month to give the foster family some respite.



Suitability of Placement (does it meet the child's needs? What are his views?)

The children appear to be relatively settled and happy in their placement and they seem to relate well to the foster carers. [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] fall in and out of friendship with the foster carers children however there are no significant difficulties.

School Report (facts about attainment and potential. Also any behavioural or relationship difficulties);

[REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] appear to enjoy school however their motivation and interest in their school work is variable. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Health (date of last medical and details of any treatment in addition to description of health);

The children generally keep in good health. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

All three children are soiling, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Stacey is also beginning to have this difficulty.

Contact with natural parents (current home situation/parent's views re future);

Ms. Leonard has twice weekly access with the children. Although she attends access regularly she does not make full use of the time that she has with the children. Ms. Leonard chooses to terminate access 1/2 hour early. Opportunities to increase contact is limited by Ms. Leonard's housing situation and the distance between the placement and Kennoway.  
[REDACTED]

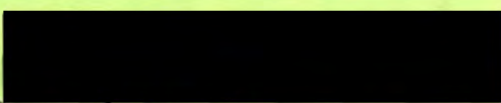
Mr. Leonard, step grandfather has requested access with the children. Ms. Leonard does not foresee Mr. Leonard becoming involved in her future however she is of the opinion that contact with him would benefit the children. The Social Work Department questions this given their estranged relationship and more importantly the serious risk Mr. Leonard poses to the children. This shall be considered further at the next Children's Hearing.

Parental Contributions:



3"  
Social Worker's views re future action (indicating why any changes 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.

The long term plan is for the children to return to their mother's care. As part of the preparation for this Ms. Leonard needs to continue to address the child care and household management issues which were problematic for her prior to the children being received into care. Ms. Leonard will be considered for temporary housing when the children are reunited with her and to facilitate this a review hearing has been requested which will allow the children to have overnight access with their mother. This will give us the opportunity to fully test out Ms. Leonard's ability to provide adequate care and protection for the children with a view to them returning to her care.

  
Elizabeth Ross  
Social Worker

ER/RW  
22nd February 1995

1130 AM 28/4/95 12:45 PM  
(Book Room!)

06/92

**CASE REVIEW****Summary of Review and Recommendations for the Future****Date of Review : 24 February 1995**

| Name                                              | Present Address                                              | DOB                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| ██████████<br><b>STACEY LEONARD</b><br>██████████ | c/o McConachie<br>Braemintion<br>Glen Clova<br>By Kirriemuir | ██████████<br><b>28.04.88</b><br>██████████ |

|                 |                 |                                               |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Present:</b> | Susan Leonard   | Mother                                        |
|                 | Mrs McConnachie | Mainstay Carer                                |
|                 | Paula Mulford   | Link Worker for Mr & Mrs McConnachie          |
|                 | Isabel Naylor   | Social Work Assistant                         |
|                 | Barbara Cowan   | Social Worker                                 |
|                 | Elizabeth Ross  | Social Worker                                 |
|                 | Mike Briggs     | Senior Social Worker                          |
|                 | Carol McFadden  | Resource Worker, Catherine Street             |
|                 | Steve Urquhart  | Senior Resource Worker, Catherine Street      |
|                 | Peter Pope      | Community Assessment & Review Officer & Chair |
|                 | Maria McCurdy   | Minute Taker                                  |

**Apologies:** Mrs Pollock      Head Teacher, Tannadice Primary School

A report was distributed by Elizabeth Ross at the meeting and this should be read in conjunction with this summary.

**HOUSING**

Ms Leonard is still staying with her Mother in Fife. The Social Work Department has requested a review hearing at the Children's Panel and hope that overnight access is granted. If this is granted then the Homeless Persons Officer in Fife has agreed to Ms Leonard being granted temporary accommodation in Fife. Ms Leonard is also being considered through the National Mobility Scheme for a house.

**WORK WITH CAROL MCFADDEN**

Carol felt that Ms Leonard has progressed well over the last few weeks. There have been a few issues that have arisen over the weeks but these have been resolved, eg Ms Leonard and ██████████ are quite close and all Ms Leonard's attention was being given to ██████████ This is improving and she is learning to share her attention among the three children. Ms Leonard is very aware of safety for the children and has been doing well with the cooking. Even when



Ms Leonard leaves the building to have a cigarette she amuses the children by playing outdoor games. Carol said due to the limited facilities at Kingsmuir it was not really the ideal situation for Ms Leonard to be assessed in ie the children are confined to one room so it is easier for her to control them.

## **ACCESS TO MUM**

Ms Leonard has access with the children twice weekly for one and a half hours. Sometimes Ms Leonard cannot handle the full access time with the children because she feels they have too much energy and she feels she cannot cope. Carol McFadden said that in her experience if Ms Leonard was feeling down when coming into contact with the children then this had an impact on them and maybe made them play up a bit more. When the Chair asked if Ms Leonard felt that she could cope with the children for overnight access, she said she would have her Mother and [REDACTED] (a close friend of the family) to help her and she would not be on her own.

Elizabeth Ross said that she felt Ms Leonard still needed a lot of support before the children are returned full time to her care. This is to do with boundaries for the children and controlling their behaviour. Elizabeth feels that Kingsmuir should still be an option and that it is not time to move on yet.

Mike Briggs said that before the children were taken into care, routines were quite loose and had broken down, these routines have to be re-introduced and tried out in a family home setting.

Ms Leonard has requested that the children have access to Mr Leonard (step-grandfather). The Social Work Department do not feel that this is a good idea due to previous child related convictions against Mr Leonard but agreed to let this decision be made by the Children's Panel, as Ms Leonard is quite convinced that supervised access with Mr Leonard would be good for the children.

Ms Leonard has recently become engaged to a [REDACTED] and he has requested access to the children. The Chair felt that this issue was important if [REDACTED] was going to be part of Ms Leonard's life, Elizabeth Ross felt that rehabilitation with Mum was more important in the first instance, and Mum and the children should focus on this.

## **CHILDREN IN THE PLACEMENT**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### Stacey

Stacey's behaviour has changed within the last two weeks. She used to be very honest, tidy and clean. In the last few weeks she has stolen, told lies, been very untidy and dirty. Stacey tries to domineer the boys. She gets on well at school and has a lot of friends.



[REDACTED]

When asked what the children's reaction is to access with their Mum, Mrs McConnachie says they are neither up nor down about it.

### **INDIVIDUAL WORK WITH THE CHILDREN**

The children are very much in need of individual work. This was tried as a group session with two Social Workers but was not very successful as the children proved to be hard to discipline. It is felt that they need work on a 1 to 1 basis.

### **CARE PLAN**

For the children to be returned to the care of their Mother. This is dependent on Ms Leonard getting suitable accommodation, and Ms Leonard being able to show she is able to care for and protect her children consistently.

This Care Plan was the same as at the last review therefore had already been signed.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS IN SUPPORT OF CARE PLAN**

- 1 Ms Leonard to continue to pursue housing.
- 2 Children's Hearing to be held as soon as possible. Elizabeth to chase this up. Access to Step-Grandfather to be brought up at this Hearing.
- 3 Access to be twice weekly as before, Ms Leonard to make extra effort to keep to full access time.
- 4 Kingsmuir to continue for a further three weeks, Carol to review this then with Ms Leonard and Elizabeth.
- 5 Individual work with the children to continue as appropriate.

### **DATE & PLACE OF NEXT REVIEW**

Friday 28 April 1995 at 11.30 am at Academy Lane.

[REDACTED]

**Peter Pope**  
**Community Assessment & Review Officer**  
**27 February 1995**



Report No: 64/95

Social Worker  
Preparing Report Elizabeth ROSS

**Social Work  
Department**

Academy Lane  
Arbroath  
DD11 1EJ

Tel 0241 878585  
Home Help 0241 870533  
Fax 0241 870372

**SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT  
CHILDREN'S HEARING**

The following Child:-

Surname: LEONARD Date of Birth: 28.04.88

Christian Names or Forenames: Stacey Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

School: Tannadice School Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: c/o Mr and Mrs McConachie  
Braeminzion  
Glenclova, By Kirriemuir

Is to appear on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ Children's Hearing

In Connection with 48(2) SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT 1968

**Update**

Stacey have continued to reside with Mr and Mrs McConachie and their family since being received into care. The children have settled in their placement however each child has displayed varying levels of difficult behaviour ie stealing, telling lies, damaging other's property and soiling. The carers note that the children require a high degree of supervision however they are responding positively to firm and consistent handling.



### **Ms Leonard's Circumstances: Housing**

The Social Work Department have supported Ms Leonard's application to be rehoused in Fife Region and various options are being pursued. Angus District Council have nominated Ms Leonard to Fife District Council through the National Mobility Scheme and the Homeless Persons Officer in Fife has agreed to offer Ms Leonard temporary accommodation once she is reunited with her children. In the meantime Ms Leonard is staying with her mother in Kennoway, Fife.

### **Rehabilitation Plan**

Prior to the children being received into care Ms Leonard had identified a number of difficulties she was experiencing relating to child care and household management. As a part of the preparation for the children returning home Ms Leonard and the children have been spending one evening per week at Kingsmuir Resource Centre. This has given Ms Leonard the opportunity to practice household management skills eg making the tea and address child care issues, eg managing the children's behaviour. These sessions have been assessed by Carol McFadden, Resource Worker. We have now reached the stage in the rehabilitation plan where we need to test out further Ms Leonard's parenting abilities. This will involve the children spending increased periods of time with their mother in their own home and will include overnight stays with her.

### **Access**

Ms Leonard has twice weekly access with the children. Opportunities to increase contact is limited by Ms Leonard's housing situation and the distances between the placement and Kennoway.

Mr Leonard step-grandfather has requested access with the children. Mr Leonard was released from Perth Prison in December, 1994

Ms Leonard is aware of Mr Leonard's request for contact with her children. She is of the opinion that he had a positive relationship with the children prior to his imprisonment and that contact with him would benefit the children. Ms Leonard has acknowledged the potential risk Mr Leonard poses to the children and recognises the need for any contact to be supervised.



As far as we are aware Ms Leonard has not had contact with Mr Leonard [REDACTED] and she has clearly stated that he will not feature in her future. The Social Work Department, therefore, questions the value of re-establishing contact between the children and Mr Leonard and feel that this situation would add further confusion for the children.

Ms Leonard has had difficulty protecting both herself and her children from abusive situations [REDACTED]. The Social Work Department therefore believe that Mr Leonard continues to pose a serious risk to children. The Hearing needs to consider these risks before consideration is given to allowing Mr Leonard to have access with the children.

[REDACTED]

#### **Future work with the family**

The Social Work Department will continue to offer a high level of support to this family in order to fully assess the possibility of the children returning to their mother's care. Ms Leonard will be offered individual support and opportunities to address parenting issues eg. maintaining parental role, management strategies, routines etc, the children will also receive weekly support.

#### **Conclusion**

The long-term plan is for the children to return to their mother's care. As part of the preparation for this Ms Leonard needs to continue to address the child care and household management issues which were problematic for her prior to the children being received into care. In order to test this out Ms Leonard needs to be given the opportunity to demonstrate that she can provide adequate care and protection for the children.

#### **Recommendation**

In order to facilitate the above I request that a Children's Hearing is called under Section 48(2) Social Work Scotland Act 1968. I would ask the Hearing to give consideration to varying the existing supervision order to allow the children to spend overnights at home as part of the ongoing rehabilitation plan.

The Hearing also needs to consider if it is in the children's interests to have contact with Mr Leonard.

P

[REDACTED]

Elizabeth Ross  
Social Worker

28 February 1995  
ER/ZD

Subject Access Request





**Tayside**  
Regional Council

S.W. File

**Report No:** 104/95

**Social Worker**

**Preparing Report** Elizabeth Littleford

**Social Work  
Department**

Academy Lane  
Arbroath  
DD11 1EJ

**SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT  
CHILDREN'S HEARING**

Tel 01241 878585  
Fax 01241 870533  
Fax 01241 870372

**The following Child:-**

**Surname:** LEONARD **Date of Birth:** 28.04.88

**Christian Names  
or Forenames:** Stacey **Religion:**

**School:** Tannadice School **Occupation:**

**Address:** c/o Mr & Mrs McConachie

Braeminzion

Glen Clova, by Kirriemuir

**Is to appear on**  **at**  **Children's Hearing**

**In Connection with**

**Update**

**Ms Leonard's Circumstances**

Ms Leonard is maintaining regular contact with the children and the ongoing rehabilitation work with the family continues. Ms Leonard is living with her mother in Kennoway. We have recently been advised that her application for housing in Fife through the National Mobility Scheme has been rejected and that she is unlikely to be housed in Fife through the Homeless Person's Act. Angus District Council however have agreed to offer Ms Leonard and her children accommodation. Ms Leonard whilst not keen to return to Angus is actively considering this option. The Social Work Department together with Angus District Council will continue to negotiate with Fife District Council with a view to the family being offered housing in Fife in the longer term.

Director  
Peter James Bates

Ms Leonard is keen to resume the full-time care of her children but acknowledges that she will require a high degree of support, at least in the short-term, if she is going to sustain this. Ms Leonard was intending on setting up home with her fiancé when the children returned to her care, however this relationship has ended and Ms Leonard has a new partner. We are unclear at this time if she intends on setting up home with this person.

During the access sessions Ms Leonard has demonstrated that overall she can maintain an acceptable level of parenting. There have been times when she has been low and has found difficulty managing the children. Ms Leonard recognises that her own mood affects her ability to parent the children and she has sought medical advice to address this.

### **The Children**

The children are generally settled in their foster placement however they present with varying degrees of difficult behaviour. [REDACTED]

Individual work with the children has highlighted both their confusion and uncertainty with regard to their future. Although the children are aware that they will be returning to live with their mother they are unclear about other adults who may be around.

Prior to the children coming into care there were various adults who had a significant impact on their lives. This included Anthony Hislop who was recently charged with physically assaulting the children. Mr Hislop was staying in the same household as the children at the time of the assaults. Mr Leonard, maternal step-grandfather also formed part of their household prior to his imprisonment. Ms Leonard has acknowledged that she has had difficulty protecting her children from powerful adults who pose a serious threat to her children's well-being.

### **Contact with extended family**

Ms Leonard maintains that she has no contact with her stepfather, Thomas Leonard or her step sister, Carol Leonard and has no intention of re-establishing these relationships. Despite her own position, Ms Leonard is in favour of the children having supervised contact with Mr Thomas and Ms Carol Leonard. As noted in the previous report the Social Work Department do not believe that contact would be in the children's best interests.

### **Summary and Conclusion**

The children were initially received into care following Ms Leonard's estrangement from her family which led to her becoming homeless. Prior to this Ms Leonard was experiencing difficulty providing adequate care and protection for the children and the Social Work Department were actively supporting the family.



Whilst the children have been in foster care Ms Leonard has had the opportunity to practice various aspects of her parenting within the safety of Kingsmuir Resource Centre. The next stage of rehabilitation will involve Ms Leonard caring for the children in their own home. Should this prove successful an early review will be requested in order that the children can be reunited with their mother.

In order to facilitate the above I request that the Hearing consider varying the supervision order to allow the children to spend overnights at home with their mother. Consideration also needs to be given to Mr Leonard and Ms Carol Leonard's request for access with the children.

...



Elizabeth Ross  
Social Worker

28 March 1995  
ER/ZD

## FORM1A

Dated 9 March 1995



NOTE TO PANEL MEMBERS IN THE CASES OF STACEY, BRIAN & TAMMY  
LEONARD

The Application called in the Sheriff Court on Friday 9 December. Ms Leonard confirmed that she accepted the Grounds of Referral as amended and the Sheriff remitted the case back to the Hearing.

You would therefore be able to make Supervision Requirements at the Hearing if you wish to do so.



# Children's Panel for Tayside

Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968

Warrant for detention under section 37 (4) of the act

Place

(a) Keith House

50 East Abbey Street

ARBROATH

DD11 1EW

(b) ~~Glebe House~~

~~Brechin Road~~

~~KIRRIEMUIR~~

(c)

Date 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1994

A children's hearing for TAYSIDE, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 37 (4) of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, (being satisfied that the further detention of

STACEY LEONARD (DOB 28.4.88), formerly of  
9, Hamley Terrace, Arbroath

is necessary in his/her \* own interest) \* ~~(having reason to believe that he/she \* will run away during the investigation of his/her \* case)~~ \* grant warrant for the detention of the said <sup>2</sup> STACEY LEONARD

in a place of safety (chosen by the Local Authority for Tayside Region) \*

for the period from <sup>3</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1994 to 13<sup>th</sup> December 1994  
both days inclusive.



Chairman of the Children's Hearing

\* Delete as appropriate

<sup>1</sup> Name and address

<sup>2</sup> Child's name

<sup>3</sup> Insert period not exceeding 21 days



# SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT 1968

FORM1A

MEMO TO Ms Elizabeth Ross, SMD, Arbroath RE ABOUT CHILD REFERRED TO THE REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL

1. Surname LEONARD First Name Stacey dob 28.4.88Mother's Address c/o Cryer, 71 Denvale Gardens, Kennoway, Fife School Tannadice PrimaryPresent Address c/o Mr and Mrs McConnachie, Braeminzion, Glenclova, by KirriemuirReference No: **A194** (Please quote in all communications)  
SWSGS NO 940990910 Social Worker Ms Elizabeth RossReason for Referral Section 48(2) Review requested by Social Worker Refl No 32. ☐ Thank you for your report/referral                      Dated                     3. INFORMATION REQUESTED: Please submit report/information by                     ☐ I would be grateful for a report to assist me and any hearing which may be convened for this child.☐ Please give me the following information                     

## 4. REPORTER'S ACTION

☐ I am not referring the child's case to a Hearing; [Section 39(1)]  
and have asked Tayside Police to administer a Senior Police Officer's Warning☐ I am referring the child's case to the Social Work Department to offer advice, guidance and  
assistance on a voluntary basis [Section 39(2)]☐ I have arranged a Hearing for the child on                      at                     ☐ A representative from your Department who knows the child and/or can take part in the discussion  
at the Hearing is expected/invited to attend.5. THE HEARING DECIDED ON 3 April 1995☐ To discharge the referral under Section 42(2)(c) and/or 43(2)☐ To apply to the sheriff for proof of the grounds, Section 42(2)(c) and/or (7)☐ To continue the case to                     ☐ To issue/renew a warrant in terms of Section                     ☐ To issue a supervision requirement in terms of Section 44                     ☐ To continue the existing supervision requirement in terms of Section 44                     ☒ To vary the supervision requirement from Section 44(1)(a) Place to Section 44(1)(a) Place with Condition☐ To terminate the supervision requirement☒ As a result of the requirement, the child will be living c/o Mr and Mrs McConnachie, Braeminzion,  
Glenclova, by Kirriemuir6. Note/Encs                     7. From:                      (For Reporter) **Keith House 50 East Abbey Street Arbroath DD11 1EW**  
Dated 4 April 1995 Telephone 0241 873194



## SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT 1968

## SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT VARYING EXISTING SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT

30 April 1995

Children's Hearing Centre  
Keith House  
50 East Abbey Street  
ARBROATH  
DD11 1EW

A Children's Hearing for Tayside, by way of variation of and in substitution for the supervision requirement dated 12 December 1994 to which

STACEY HEWARD (DOB 28.4.88)  
formerly of 2, Laurel Terrace, Rosyth

is subject, hereby require him/her to be under the supervision of the Director of Social Work for Tayside, subject to the conditions noted below;

and the requirement dated 12 December 1994 is hereby revoked.

[REDACTED] (Chairman)

## CONDITIONS REFERRED TO IN THE FOREGOING SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT

1. The child shall comply with directions given by the supervising social worker.
2. The child shall reside in a named place, namely with Mrs. McConnachie at Braemar, Glen Clova, by Kinross.
3. The requirement to reside is subject to the discretion of the Director of Social Work to grant leave of absence from time to time to enable the child to engage in approved activities.
4. ~~Subject to the discretion of the Director of Social Work the child may receive respite care with~~
- 4 Subject to the discretion of the Director of Social Work and the agreement of the child/parent/guardian, the child may receive respite care with other carers approved by the Social Work Department in terms of the Boarding Out and Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1985.
- 5 The child shall have access to her mother Mrs Susan Heward, & this access may be overnight at the mother's home address at the discretion of the supervising social worker.
- 6 The child shall have no access to Mr. Thomas Heward

[REDACTED] Chairman



**APPENDIX B3: REVIEW/UPDATE****1 REGISTRATION DETAILS**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Review Date (d/m/y): 24/05/95                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Registration Date: 03/11/94 |
| Subject Child(ren) :<br>Stacey Leonard                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                             |
| <p>(i) Note any changes of address, carers, members of household or new siblings.<br/>Update cross-reference name, date of birth and address details, if necessary.</p> <p>07/11/94. Children discharged from care.<br/>19/11/94. Children received into care Place of Safety - placed with Mr &amp; Mrs McConnachie.<br/>22/11/94. Ms Leonard moves to Kennoway c/o Mrs Cryer, 71 Denvale Gdns.<br/>01/05/94. Ms Leonard allocated temporarily accommodation at 4 Easterbank, Forfar.<br/>22/05/94. Ms Leonard evicted and returns to Kennoway.</p> |                             |
| <p>(ii) Changes in Social Worker, GP, Health Visitor or other Agency Personnel included in case to be noted below:</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                             |

**2 Information from other agencies regarding progress of child(ren)**  
(Attach available reports)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>(i) (School, Nursery or Playgroup)</p> <p>Mrs Pollock - Head Teacher to attend review.</p>                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p>(ii) (GP, Health Visitor, Hospital Consultant, Community Medical Officer)</p> <p>Stacey to be hospitalised in June to have a squint corrected.<br/>referred to ENT Department.</p> <p>(Attach growth and weight charts where applicable)</p> |



### 3 Frequency of Visits Since Last Case Conference

(State whether child(ren) seen and by whom)

17/11/94. Joint visit. E Ross, B Cowan - children seen.  
 19/11/94. Children received into care Place of Safety - foster carers Mr & Mrs Harrison.  
 21/11/94. Children moved to Mr and Mrs McConnachie.  
 22/11/94. Joint home visit to foster carer - Mr and Mrs McConnachie.  
 E Ross/I Naylor.  
 05/12/94. Access cancelled by Ms Leonard.  
 08/12/94. Supervision of access. E Ross children seen.  
 12/12/94. Supervision of access. I Naylor - children seen.  
 22/12/94. Supervision of access. E Ross. Children seen.  
 05/01/94. Supervision of access. E Ross. Children seen.  
 16/01/94. Supervision of access. I Naylor.  
 16/01/95. Parenting session. I Naylor. Children seen.  
 23/01/95. Parenting session. I Naylor. Children seen.  
 27/01/94. Home visit to Foster carers. E Ross. Children seen.  
 30/01/95. Parenting session. C McFadden. Children seen.  
 30/01/95. Home visit to foster carers - E Ross. Children seen.  
 15/02/95. Supervision of access. M Briggs - children seen.  
 22/02/95. Individual work with the children - E Ross, B Cowan.  
 27/02/95. Children at respite. I Naylor/E Ross.  
 01/03/95. Individual work with the children. E Ross/BCowan.  
 13/03/95. Supervision of access. C McFadden. Children seen.  
 16/03/95. Individual work with children and supervision of access.  
 E Ross/B Cowan.  
 20/03/95. Access cancelled by Ms Leonard.  
 23/03/95. Individual work with children and supervision of access.  
 E Ross/B Cowan.  
 27/03/95. Access cancelled by Ms Leonard.  
 30/03/95. Individual work with children and supervision of access. E Ross/B Cowan  
 05/04/95. Children at respite - D Archer. E Ross.  
 06/04/95. Family session. E Ross. B Cowan.  
 13/04/95. Supervision of access. I Naylor. Children seen at SWD. E Ross.  
 20/04/95. Supervision of access. B Cowan.  
 27/04/95. Home visit to foster carers. Children seen - E Ross.  
 02/05/95. Supervision of access - E Ross.  
 04/05/95. Supervision of access. M Briggs.  
 09/05/95. Supervision of access. M Briggs.  
 11/05/95. Supervision of access. B Cowan.  
 15/05/95. Supervision of access. I Naylor.  
 18/05/95. Supervision of access. B Cowan.



**4 Any Important Developments Since Last Case Conference?**

(Attach continuation sheets, if necessary)

Children were discharged from care on 07/11/94 and then received into care of 19/11/94 on a Place of Safety. Ms Leonard had gone to visit her mother in Fife for the weekend and adequate care arrangements had not been made for the children. Ms Leonard became homeless following the breakdown of her relationship with her stepsister and stepfather.

Ms Leonard has been unable to secure alternative accommodation and this had hindered attempts to rehabilitate the children to her care. She has had regular access, and weekly parenting sessions, which are supervised by the Social Work Department. Ms Leonard stated that she is keen to resume the full time care of her children however we are concerned about her commitment and ability to provide adequate care and protection for her children.

Ms Leonard was allocated temporary accommodation by Angus District Council on 01/05/95, however she was evicted some 3 weeks later. During this time Ms Leonard had regular contact with the children as part of the ongoing assessment. Throughout this time there was increasing concerns about Ms Leonard's parenting of the children. Ms Leonard is currently homeless and is uncertain about her future. The Social Work Department are of the opinion that Ms Leonard has not been able to demonstrate that she can provide an acceptable level of care for her children, and we are seeking legal action re permanency for the children.

24/05/95

js



**5 State Clearly If You Recommend That Child(ren)'s Names Should Remain on Register and Why. If De-registration Recommended, Also State Why**

Should child(ren)'s name remain on Register? (Y/N) : YES

State Reasons Why:

Attempts to rehabilitate the children to their mother has failed and their long term future is uncertain. Ms Leonard has not been able to demonstrate that she can provide adequate care for her children and there are concerns about her ability to ensure their continued well being. The children's names should be retained on the Register until permanent plans have been made with regard to their future care.

Date 24/05/95

Signed E Ross



**CHILD AND FAMILY COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT**

- 1 All pages and sections to be completed for presentation to first review Core Group (3 months) and updated for 1st Review Conference (6 months).
- 2 Front sheet and sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 21 and 22 to be updated for all 2nd and subsequent Review Conferences. Other sections to be updated in the event of significant change.

|                                                                                                                          |          |                                          |                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1 Subject Child:</b>                                                                                                  |          | <b>STACEY LEONARD</b>                    |                                                                |
| <b>Unique No:</b>                                                                                                        |          | <b>Date of Registration: 03/11/94</b>    |                                                                |
| <b>Latest Core Group Meeting:</b>                                                                                        |          | <b>Date of Last Conference: 24/05/95</b> |                                                                |
| 13/09/95                                                                                                                 |          |                                          |                                                                |
| <b>Surname:</b>                                                                                                          | Leonard  | <b>Alias:</b>                            |                                                                |
| <b>Forename(s):</b>                                                                                                      | Stacey   | <b>Alias:</b>                            |                                                                |
| <b>Sex (M/F):</b>                                                                                                        | Female   | <b>DOB:</b>                              | 28/04/88                                                       |
| <b>Legal Status:</b>                                                                                                     | 44(1)(a) | <b>Category of Registration:</b>         | Physical Abuse (Very Suspicious)<br>Physical Neglect (At Risk) |
| <b>Current Address:</b> c/o Mrs Claffey, 49 Millfield Road, Arbroath                                                     |          |                                          |                                                                |
| <b>Significant changes of address, carers, household members or new siblings (update cross-references as necessary):</b> |          |                                          |                                                                |
| Susan Leonard married [REDACTED] on 15/11/95 and she is now living at 26 Seton Terrace, Kennoway, Fife.                  |          |                                          |                                                                |
| <b>Changes in Social Worker, GP, Health Visitor or other professionals within the child's protective core group:</b>     |          |                                          |                                                                |

| <b>2 Family Composition:</b> |            |                     |                            |                                     |
|------------------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Name</b>                  | <b>DOB</b> | <b>Relationship</b> | <b>School / Occupation</b> | <b>Address</b>                      |
| Susan Leonard                | [REDACTED] | Mother              |                            | 26 Seton Terrace,<br>Kennoway, Fife |
| [REDACTED]                   | [REDACTED] | 1/2 Brother         | Tannadice PS               | [REDACTED]                          |
| Stacey Leonard               | 28/04/88   | Subject             | Inverbrothock<br>Primary   | 49 Millfield Road,<br>Arbroath      |
| [REDACTED]                   | [REDACTED] | Sister              | Tannadice PS               | [REDACTED]                          |
| [REDACTED]                   |            | [REDACTED]          |                            | [REDACTED]                          |



**3 GENOGRAM:****4 KEY PROTECTION ISSUES AT LATEST CONFERENCE / REVIEW:**

what were the concerns related to the child - what were the risks?

Ms Leonard's ability to provide adequate care for the children.

Ms Leonard's ability to ensure her children's safety.

**5 SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS (PROGRESS TOWARDS IDENTIFIED PROTECTION ISSUES; CRITICAL INCIDENTS; CHANGES IN CIRCUMSTANCES NOT IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 1):**

3 children are currently in foster care.

Access happens for 2 hourly periods each week and is supervised.

Susan Leonard now has accommodation in Kennoway, Fife, and the care plan is for rehabilitation to be tested out over the next 4-6 weeks between Tayside and Fife.

Susan Leonard is now married and is known as Susan Lessels. Mr Lessels intends to form part of the family.



**6 CURRENT PROTECTION ISSUES: An Update of Concerns/Risks to the Child.**

1. Child and siblings physically abused by adult living in family home. Child's mother was unable to protect children from this abuse.
2. Standards of hygiene and general routines in the home have slipped as mother's general emotional health was deteriorating. Mr Thomas Leonard, child's step grandfather, has been released from prison and wishes contact with the children. Mr Leonard is a convicted Schedule 1 Offender.

**7 BRIEF FAMILY HISTORY:**

[REDACTED] Her mother began co-habiting with Mr Thomas Leonard and Susan and her sisters were re-habilitated home. Susan's mother left the family home and Susan continued to be with Mr Leonard. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mr Leonard provided Susan with support to look after her children. Susan has had difficulty coping since Mr Leonard's imprisonment.

**8 PROFILE OF BIRTH MOTHER (including strengths and weaknesses):**

Ms Leonard presents as immature and vulnerable. She has limited household management skills - also appears keen to learn. She is keen to resume the full-time care of her children as soon as possible and is willing to work with the Social Work Department to achieve this.

**9 PROFILE OF BIRTH FATHER (including strengths and weaknesses):**

Nothing known.

**10 PROFILE OF ANY OTHER KEY CARETAKERS:**

Mr Leonard helped Susan look after the children prior to being imprisoned. Susan's younger sister, Carol, also provided support for Susan. Susan has limited contact with her stepsister and stepfather.



**11 PARENTS' RELATIONSHIP - describe nature, length and stability of relationship:**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Stacey Only: Susan and the two girls have no contact with their father.

**12 WHAT ROLES DO MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY PLAY - HOW DO MEMBERS INTERACT?:**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Stacey is a sullen child who is often withdrawn. [REDACTED]

**13 FINANCE & MATERIAL CONDITIONS:**

Susan has recently moved to a new tenancy. She struggles with household management skills eg. routines, cooking, budgeting, etc, which will be tested out in the forthcoming rehabilitation plan.

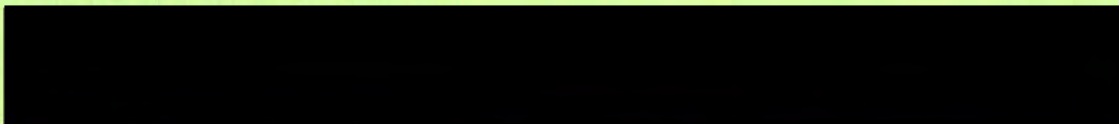
**14 PROFILE OF THIS CHILD - strengths and weaknesses, giving consideration to health, education, identity, self care, competence, emotional, physical and intellectual development as well as family and peer relationships, likes and dislikes:**

[REDACTED]



**15 PROFILE OF OTHER CHILDREN IN THIS FAMILY - strengths and weaknesses, giving consideration to health, education, identity, self care, competence, emotional, physical and intellectual development as well as family and peer relationships, likes and dislikes:**

(a)



(b) Stacey presents as a sad and serious little girl who is withdrawn and uncommunicative. No health difficulties, presents as an emotionally vulnerable, little girl. Underachieves at school.

(c)

(d)

(e)

**17 WHAT IS THE CHILD'S VIEW OF THE SITUATION AND THOSE CHANGES WHICH NEED TO BE MADE?**

Mum needs to get her house ready.

**18 WHAT IS THE MOTHER'S VIEW OF THE SITUATION, CHANGES THAT REQUIRE TO BE MADE AND ACTION TAKEN?**

Needs accommodation and support with child care and household management skills.



**19 WHAT IS FATHER'S VIEW OF THE SITUATION, CHANGES THAT REQUIRE TO BE MADE AND ACTION TAKEN?**

N/A

**20 WHAT IS THE SOCIAL WORKER'S VIEW OF THE SITUATION, THE CHANGES REQUIRED AND THE ACTION TO BE TAKEN?**

Ms Leonard needs to demonstrate that she can provide adequate care and protection for the children.

**21 SUMMARY OF KEY TASKS WITHIN PROTECTION PLAN (Inter-agency):**

1. Social Work Department - assess with a view to rehabilitation.

a) parenting

b) household management

2. Social Work Department - address CP issues.



**22 CASE CONFERENCE REVIEW REPORTS ONLY:**

**State clearly if you recommend that the child(ren)'s name(s) should stay on the register and why.**

We are entering a very unsettled time for the 3 children, in that prospects of their return home will be tested out over the next 4-6 weeks.

The childrens names should remain on the Child Protection Register during this period, until decisions are made for their long term future.

**SIGNED:**\_\_\_\_\_  
(Social Worker)**SIGNED:**\_\_\_\_\_  
(Senior Social Worker)**Date of next Core Group Meeting / Review Conference:**

\_\_\_\_\_



**APPENDIX B3: REVIEW/UPDATE****1 REGISTRATION DETAILS**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Review Date (d/m/y): 24/05/95                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Registration Date: 03/11/94 |
| Subject Child(ren) : [REDACTED]<br>Stacey Leonard<br>[REDACTED]                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                             |
| <p>(i) Note any changes of address, carers, members of household or new siblings.<br/>Update cross-reference name, date of birth and address details, if necessary.<br/>07/11/94. Children discharged from care.<br/>19/11/94. Children received into care Place of Safety - placed with Mr &amp; Mrs McConnachie.<br/>22/11/94. Ms Leonard moves to Kennoway c/o Mrs Cryer, 71 Denvale Gdns.<br/>01/05/94. Ms Leonard allocated temporarily accommodation at 4 Easterbank, Forfar.<br/>22/05/94. Ms Leonard evicted and returns to Kennoway.</p> |                             |
| <p>(ii) Changes in Social Worker, GP, Health Visitor or other Agency Personnel included in case to be noted below:</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                             |

**2 Information from other agencies regarding progress of child(ren)**  
(Attach available reports)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>(i) (School, Nursery or Playgroup)</p> <p>Mrs Pollock - Head Teacher to attend review.</p>                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <p>(ii) (GP, Health Visitor, Hospital Consultant, Community Medical Officer)</p> <p>Stacey to be hospitalised in June to have a squint corrected.<br/>All 3 children have been referred to ENT Department.</p> <p>(Attach growth and weight charts where applicable)</p> |



### 3 Frequency of Visits Since Last Case Conference

(State whether child(ren) seen and by whom)

17/11/94. Joint visit. E Ross, B Cowan - children seen.  
 19/11/94. Children received into care Place of Safety - foster carers Mr & Mrs Harrison.  
 21/11/94. Children moved to Mr and Mrs McConnachie.  
 22/11/94. Joint home visit to foster carer - Mr and Mrs McConnachie. E Ross/I Naylor.  
 05/12/94. Access cancelled by Ms Leonard.  
 08/12/94. Supervision of access. E Ross children seen.  
 12/12/94. Supervision of access. I Naylor - children seen.  
 22/12/94. Supervision of access. E Ross. Children seen.  
 05/01/94. Supervision of access. E Ross. Children seen.  
 16/01/94. Supervision of access. I Naylor.  
 16/01/95. Parenting session. I Naylor. Children seen.  
 23/01/95. Parenting session. I Naylor. Children seen.  
 27/01/94. Home visit to Foster carers. E Ross. Children seen.  
 30/01/95. Parenting session. C McFadden. Children seen.  
 30/01/95. Home visit to foster carers - E Ross. Children seen.  
 15/02/95. Supervision of access. M Briggs - children seen.  
 22/02/95. Individual work with the children - E Ross, B Cowan.  
 27/02/95. Children at respite. I Naylor/E Ross.  
 01/03/95. Individual work with the children. E Ross/BCowan.  
 13/03/95. Supervision of access. C McFadden. Children seen.  
 16/03/95. Individual work with children and supervision of access. E Ross/B Cowan.  
 20/03/95. Access cancelled by Ms Leonard.  
 23/03/95. Individual work with children and supervision of access. E Ross/B Cowan.  
 27/03/95. Access cancelled by Ms Leonard.  
 30/03/95. Individual work with children and supervision of access. E Ross/B Cowan  
 05/04/95. Children at respite - D Archer. E Ross.  
 06/04/95. Family session. E Ross. B Cowan.  
 13/04/95. Supervision of access. I Naylor. Children seen at SWD. E Ross.  
 20/04/95. Supervision of access. B Cowan.  
 27/04/95. Home visit to foster carers. Children seen - E Ross.  
 02/05/95. Supervision of access - E Ross.  
 04/05/95. Supervision of access. M Briggs.  
 09/05/95. Supervision of access. M Briggs.  
 11/05/95. Supervision of access. B Cowan.  
 15/05/95. Supervision of access. I Naylor.  
 18/05/95. Supervision of access. B Cowan.



**4 Any Important Developments Since Last Case Conference?**

(Attach continuation sheets, if necessary)

Children were discharged from care on 07/11/94 and then received into care of 19/11/94 on a Place of Safety. Ms Leonard had gone to visit her mother in Fife for the weekend and adequate care arrangements had not been made for the children. Ms Leonard became homeless following the breakdown of her relationship with her stepsister and stepfather.

Ms Leonard has been unable to secure alternative accommodation and this had hindered attempts to rehabilitate the children to her care. She has had regular access, and weekly parenting sessions, which are supervised by the Social Work Department. Ms Leonard stated that she is keen to resume the full time care of her children however we are concerned about her commitment and ability to provide adequate care and protection for her children.

Ms Leonard was allocated temporary accommodation by Angus District Council on 01/05/95, however she was evicted some 3 weeks later. During this time Ms Leonard had regular contact with the children as part of the ongoing assessment. Throughout this time there was increasing concerns about Ms Leonard's parenting of the children. Ms Leonard is currently homeless and is uncertain about her future. The Social Work Department are of the opinion that Ms Leonard has not been able to demonstrate that she can provide an acceptable level of care for her children, and we are seeking legal action re permanency for the children.

24/05/95

js



**5 State Clearly If You Recommend That Child(ren)'s Names Should Remain on Register and Why. If De-registration Recommended, Also State Why**

Should child(ren)'s name remain on Register? (Y/N) : YES

**State Reasons Why:**

Attempts to rehabilitate the children to their mother has failed and their long term future is uncertain. Ms Leonard has not been able to demonstrate that she can provide adequate care for her children and there are concerns about her ability to ensure their continued well being. The children's names should be retained on the Register until permanent plans have been made with regard to their future care.

**Date** 24/05/95

**Signed** E Ross



APPENDIX B2: CASE CONFERENCE

1. MINUTE

|                                                                                    |                       |                                                                                       |                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (i) Conference Type: REVIEW                                                        |                       | Date: 24 May 1995                                                                     |                                  |
| Subject Children: [REDACTED]<br>STACEY LEONARD<br>[REDACTED]                       |                       | DOB: [REDACTED]<br>28/04/88<br>[REDACTED]                                             |                                  |
| 4 Easterbank Forfar                                                                |                       |                                                                                       |                                  |
| Chair: Ms L Turnbull<br>Office: Broomfield Resource Centre<br>Tel No: 01674 678509 |                       | Group Manager: Alan Baird<br>Office: Academy Lane<br>Arbroath<br>Tel No: 01241 878585 |                                  |
| (iii) Participants Present                                                         |                       |                                                                                       |                                  |
| <u>Name</u>                                                                        | <u>Designation</u>    | <u>Agency</u>                                                                         | <u>Report Submitted</u><br>(Y/N) |
| Mrs E Ross                                                                         | Social Worker         | Arbroath SWD                                                                          | Y                                |
| Mrs B Cowan                                                                        | Social Worker         | Arbroath SWD                                                                          | N                                |
| Dr E Cockburn                                                                      | CMO                   | Angus NHS Trust                                                                       | N                                |
| Mrs D Wood                                                                         | Health Visitor        | Angus NHS Trust                                                                       | N                                |
| Mrs A McLean                                                                       | School Nurse          | Angus NHS Trust                                                                       | N                                |
| Ms Pollock                                                                         | Head Teacher          | Tannadice Primary                                                                     | N                                |
| Ms S Leonard*                                                                      | Mother                | 71 Denvale Gdns                                                                       | N                                |
| Mrs Cryer*                                                                         | Maternal Grandmother  | 71 Denvale Gdns                                                                       | N                                |
| Mrs I Naylor*                                                                      | Social Work Assistant | Arbroath SWD                                                                          | N                                |
| Mrs J Harvey                                                                       | Minute Taker          | Arbroath SWD                                                                          | N                                |
| *Arrived late                                                                      |                       |                                                                                       |                                  |
| (iv) Absent/Unable to Attend                                                       |                       |                                                                                       |                                  |
| <u>Name</u>                                                                        | <u>Designation</u>    | <u>Agency</u>                                                                         | <u>Report Submitted</u><br>(Y/N) |
| Mr M Briggs**                                                                      | Snr Social Worker     | Arbroath SWD                                                                          | N                                |
| Mrs J Cruickshank**                                                                | Locality Manager      | Angus NHS Trust                                                                       | N                                |
| Mrs F Jolly*                                                                       | School Nurse          | Angus NHS Trust                                                                       | N                                |
| Dr Hornsby**                                                                       | GP                    | Abbey Health Centre                                                                   | N                                |
| Mrs J McFatridge**                                                                 | Area Reporter         | Children's Panel                                                                      | N                                |
| *APOLOGIES RECEIVED      **APOLOGIES NOT RECEIVED                                  |                       |                                                                                       |                                  |
| Copies Also To:                                                                    |                       |                                                                                       |                                  |
| Mr J Gilruth                                                                       | Asst PO (Child Prot)  | SWD                                                                                   | N                                |
| Ms L Paterson                                                                      | Regional Mgr (OOHS)   | SWD                                                                                   | N                                |
| Mr D Dunlop                                                                        | Manager (Childcare)   | Arbroath/Carnoustie                                                                   | N                                |

NB Attach all previous sections - Chair to check information for correctness at outset



- (v) Summary of Discussion etc:  
 (To be read in conjunction with all previous sections)  
 (Continuation sheets to be attached)

The Review Case Conference was convened in order to further discuss and assess the situation with regard to [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] Leonard and to decide whether or not their names should be retained on the Child Protection Register.

A report prepared by Mrs E Ross (Social Worker) was circulated at the commencement of the meeting.

#### Social Worker

Mrs Ross reported that further to the Initial Case Conference the children had been received into care with Mr & Mrs Harrison. They had been discharged in the second week in November 1994 and readmitted to care the following week. When they had been discharged from care they had returned to live with their mother at Lamley Terrace. The house belonged to Mr Leonard (Ms Leonard's stepfather) who was in prison at the time. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and the relationship with Ms C Leonard (her half sister) broke down. Ms Leonard went to visit her mother in Kennoway leaving the children with inadequate care which resulted in them being made subject to a place of safety. Ms Leonard's relationship with her family in Arbroath had totally broken down and she was now homeless. It was noted that Mrs Cryer (Ms Leonard's mother) lived in sheltered accommodation and could not offer the children a home. Mrs Ross informed the meeting that Ms Leonard was pursuing accommodation in Fife, however she had been refused council accommodation as a result of her previous tenancies. Ms Leonard had been offered temporary accommodation in Forfar, however she was evicted after 3 weeks as she was not staying there.

Rehabilitation attempts had been made and Ms Leonard had identified that she had a number of doubts in relation to the children's practical care. Mrs Ross reported that there was a high level of concern regarding Ms Leonard's ability to parent the children and her commitment to them. At present the Social Work Department were considering whether rehabilitation should be pursued and were seeking legal advice regarding permanence.

Mrs Ross informed the meeting that advice and support had been offered to Ms Leonard although she did not appear to have made a great deal of progress. Ms Leonard did attend parenting sessions which were held in Kingsmuir Resource Centre and cooked tea for the children when they were there. However, Ms Leonard frequently left before the end of the access visit. Mrs Ross reported that Ms Leonard appeared to be loving towards the children but at times the relationship was very inappropriate. The children were confused as Ms Leonard often talked to them above their level of understanding and it was questionable whether Ms Leonard understood the children's emotional needs. Mrs Cowan felt that Ms Leonard would struggle to meet the needs of all three children at once.



Mrs Ross informed the meeting that Ms Leonard was observed during the parenting sessions. When Ms Leonard moved to temporary accommodation in Forfar however she left the cooking to others and at times the childcare was also left to the other tenant. Mrs Ross reported that Mrs Cryer and her friend were a support to Ms Leonard at present, and were helping with Ms Leonard's own needs. Mrs Cowan felt it was quite significant that Ms Leonard had had a few partners since the children's reception into care. Ms Leonard tended to identify these men as prospective fathers and the children were very confused.

Reports concerning the children in their foster placement were varied. The children were obviously confused and their feelings and attachment in relation to both their mother and their carers were mixed.

Stacey was experiencing difficulty. Generally the children were active and very demanding. Soiling was a problem for the carers and was a frequent occurrence.

#### School

Ms Pollock reported that the children first attended Tannadice Primary School in November 1994 for a short time. They had returned shortly after and had settled in well. The children appeared to be normal children who presented no significant problems. Ms Pollock informed the meeting that at times Stacey appeared to be sad.

All children were making educational progress,

Ms Pollock reported that the children mixed well with all the children in school and presented no problems.

#### Clinical Medical Officer

Dr Cockburn informed the meeting that she had seen the children at Hayshead and at Tannadice Primary Schools. Dr Cockburn had noted an improvement in the children's general demeanour and felt they were more settled at Tannadice. Dr Cockburn reported that all three children were being seen by ENT and their appointments would be due in June/July 1995. The children's last hearing test in February 1995 had been fine. It was noted that Stacey was due to go into hospital to have her squint corrected.

In relation to the soiling, Mrs Ross thought that all three children were soiling in their current placement although Ms Leonard had said that it was not a problem for all the children.

At this point in the meeting, Ms Leonard, Mrs Cryer and Mrs Naylor arrived.



2(b)

#### Health Visitor

Mrs Wood reported that she had not seen the children since they had attended school. Mrs Wood informed the meeting that she and Ms Leonard had talked around a number of issues in the past, and it was Mrs Wood's opinion that it was difficult for Ms Leonard to address all the children's needs at one time.

#### Mother

Ms Leonard stated that her life had been one continuous flop after another with nothing working out the way it was supposed to. Ms Leonard stated that at present she did not know what her commitments were and did not appear to be in a position to offer the children security.

#### Maternal Grandmother

Mrs Cryer informed the meeting that she had seen [REDACTED] and saw Stacey on one occasion. Mrs Cryer did not feel that her daughter had as many problems as were pointed out and she felt the situation appeared to be normal. Ms Turnbull informed Mrs Cryer that problems continued to exist and there was no indication that Ms Leonard was in a better position to protect the children.

#### Summary

The children had remained in care since November 1994 and were currently placed with Mr & Mrs McConnachie. Problems had arisen in December 1994

This had led to a total family breakdown with the support previously offered by Ms C Leonard being withdrawn. The children appeared to have progressed well in school with no significant problems being noted. The children's health appeared to be fine with improvements noted in their general demeanour. It was noted however that they had begun to soil in their placement. Ms Leonard was currently living with her mother in Kennoway and was not in a position to offer the children a secure home. Although intensive support had been offered to her there had been very little change in her situation.

#### Registration

A discussion then took place with regard to whether or not [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] names should be retained on the Child Protection Register.

It was noted that uncertainties remained regarding the children's future. There was a possible risk of emotional abuse, physical abuse and general neglect as Ms Leonard tended to leave the parenting of the children to others. It was also noted that despite intensive support there had been very little change in the situation. As a result it was unanimously agreed to retain [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] names on the Child Protection Register.

19/06/96

JH



**(vi) Recommendations and Agreed Tasks:**

- 1 It was unanimously agreed to retain [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] names on the Child Protection Register.
- 2 The children's future would be further considered at the Child in Care Review.
- 3 The current Child Protection Plan would remain in place.

**(vii) Should Child(ren) be referred to the Reporter? (Y/N):** Previously Referred

If YES, who will provide Report?

If NO, state reasons why:

**Is Child subject to Statutory Care Order? (Y/N):** YES

**(viii) Was concern such that Child has been Registered? (Y/N):** CONTINUED

Date of Registration (d/m/y):

**2. AREA OF IDENTIFIED ABUSE (See Guidelines)**

Area of Abuse [1] Physical Abuse

Stacey [REDACTED] Very Susp.

Area of Abuse [2] Physical Neglect  
(Optional)

Level of Certainty: At Risk



4

**3. IF OUTCOME DEREGISTRATION, REASONS**

Please detail below:

**4. OTHER DETAILS**

(i) Dissent:

(ii) Other

**5. CORE WORKERS**

Case Co-ordinator: Mr M Briggs

Keyworker: Mrs E Ross

Office: Arbroath SWD

Office: Arbroath SWD

Tel No: 01241 878585

Tel No: 01241 878585

Other Core Workers or Agencies involved in Case:

Agency Name or Worker  
Name and Designation

Address

Tel No



## 6. NEXT CONFERENCE

|                                                                              |                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| (i) Date of Next Conference (d/m/y): 8 November 1995 (to be confirmed later) |                            |
| (ii) Details of any other agencies or individuals to be invited:             |                            |
| (ii) Minute prepared by                                                      |                            |
| Signature: [REDACTED]                                                        | Date: 19.6.95              |
| Designation: CCM                                                             | Manager (Montrose/Brechin) |
| Group Manager/Asst Director: [REDACTED]                                      | Date: 19/6/95              |

## CONFIDENTIALITY

The information in this document is confidential to you and must not be disclosed to any other person or agency without the written consent of the Case Conference Chairperson.

## NOTE TO ADDRESSEES

If you disagree with any aspect of this report you should contact the Group Manager immediately in writing. If you agree with the content please return the acknowledgement below.

5/90

To: Group Manager, Social Work Department, Academy Lane, Arbroath

I have received a copy of the Minute of the Case Conference Review held on:  
24 May 1995 regarding: [REDACTED] STACEY [REDACTED] LEONARD  
and agree with the content and recommendations.

Signature:

Date:



**APPENDIX B3: REVIEW/UPDATE****1 REGISTRATION DETAILS**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Review Date (d/m/y): 24/05/95                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Registration Date: 03/11/94 |
| Subject Child(ren) : [REDACTED]<br>Stacey Leonard<br>[REDACTED]                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                             |
| <p>(i) Note any changes of address, carers, members of household or new siblings.<br/>Update cross-reference name, date of birth and address details, if necessary.</p> <p>07/11/94. Children discharged from care.<br/>19/11/94. Children received into care Place of Safety - placed with Mr &amp; Mrs McConnachie.<br/>22/11/94. Ms Leonard moves to Kennoway [REDACTED]<br/>01/05/94. Ms Leonard allocated temporarily accommodation at 4 Easterbank, Forfar.<br/>22/05/94. Ms Leonard evicted and returns to Kennoway.</p> <p>(ii) Changes in Social Worker, GP, Health Visitor or other Agency Personnel included in case to be noted below:</p> |                             |

**2 Information from other agencies regarding progress of child(ren)**  
(Attach available reports)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>(i) (School, Nursery or Playgroup)</p> <p>Mrs Pollock - Head Teacher to attend review.</p>                                                                                                                                                              |
| <p>(ii) (GP, Health Visitor, Hospital Consultant, Community Medical Officer)</p> <p>Stacey to be hospitalised in June to have a squint corrected.<br/>[REDACTED] referred to ENT Department.</p> <p>(Attach growth and weight charts where applicable)</p> |



### 3 Frequency of Visits Since Last Case Conference

(State whether child(ren) seen and by whom)

17/11/94. Joint visit. E Ross, B Cowan - children seen.  
 19/11/94. Children received into care Place of Safety - foster carers Mr & Mrs Harrison.  
 21/11/94. Children moved to Mr and Mrs McConnachie.  
 22/11/94. Joint home visit to foster carer - Mr and Mrs McConnachie.  
 E Ross/I Naylor.  
 05/12/94. Access cancelled by Ms Leonard.  
 08/12/94. Supervision of access. E Ross children seen.  
 12/12/94. Supervision of access. I Naylor - children seen.  
 22/12/94. Supervision of access. E Ross. Children seen.  
 05/01/94. Supervision of access. E Ross. Children seen.  
 16/01/94. Supervision of access. I Naylor.  
 16/01/95. Parenting session. I Naylor. Children seen.  
 23/01/95. Parenting session. I Naylor. Children seen.  
 27/01/94. Home visit to Foster carers. E Ross. Children seen.  
 30/01/95. Parenting session. C McFadden. Children seen.  
 30/01/95. Home visit to foster carers - E Ross. Children seen.  
 15/02/95. Supervision of access. M Briggs - children seen.  
 22/02/95. Individual work with the children - E Ross, B Cowan.  
 27/02/95. Children at respite. I Naylor/E Ross.  
 01/03/95. Individual work with the children. E Ross/BCowan.  
 13/03/95. Supervision of access. C McFadden. Children seen.  
 16/03/95. Individual work with children and supervision of access.  
 E Ross/B Cowan.  
 20/03/95. Access cancelled by Ms Leonard.  
 23/03/95. Individual work with children and supervision of access.  
 E Ross/B Cowan.  
 27/03/95. Access cancelled by Ms Leonard.  
 30/03/95. Individual work with children and supervision of access. E Ross/B Cowan  
 05/04/95. Children at respite - D Archer. E Ross.  
 06/04/95. Family session. E Ross. B Cowan.  
 13/04/95. Supervision of access. I Naylor. Children seen at SWD. E Ross.  
 20/04/95. Supervision of access. B Cowan.  
 27/04/95. Home visit to foster carers. Children seen - E Ross.  
 02/05/95. Supervision of access - E Ross.  
 04/05/95. Supervision of access. M Briggs.  
 09/05/95. Supervision of access. M Briggs.  
 11/05/95. Supervision of access. B Cowan.  
 15/05/95. Supervision of access. I Naylor.  
 18/05/95. Supervision of access. B Cowan.



**4 Any Important Developments Since Last Case Conference?**

(Attach continuation sheets, if necessary)

Children were discharged from care on 07/11/94 and then received into care of 19/11/94 on a Place of Safety. Ms Leonard had gone to visit her mother in Fife for the weekend and adequate care arrangements had not been made for the children. Ms Leonard became homeless [REDACTED]

Ms Leonard has been unable to secure alternative accommodation and this had hindered attempts to rehabilitate the children to her care. She has had regular access, and weekly parenting sessions, which are supervised by the Social Work Department. Ms Leonard stated that she is keen to resume the full time care of her children however we are concerned about her commitment and ability to provide adequate care and protection for her children.

Ms Leonard was allocated temporary accommodation by Angus District Council on 01/05/95, however she was evicted some 3 weeks later. During this time Ms Leonard had regular contact with the children as part of the ongoing assessment. Throughout this time there was increasing concerns about Ms Leonards parenting of the children. Ms Leonard is currently homeless and is uncertain about her future. The Social Work Department are of the opinion that Ms Leonard has not been able to demonstrate that she can provide an acceptable level of care for her children, and we are seeking legal action re permanency for the children.

24/05/95

js



**5 State Clearly If You Recommend That Child(ren)'s Names Should Remain on Register and Why. If De-registration Recommended, Also State Why**

Should child(ren)'s name remain on Register? (Y/N) : YES

State Reasons Why:

Attempts to rehabilitate the children to their mother has failed and their long term future is uncertain. Ms Leonard has not been able to demonstrate that she can provide adequate care for her children and there are concerns about her ability to ensure their continued well being. The children's names should be retained on the Register until permanent plans have been made with regard to their future care.

Date 24/05/95

Signed E Ross



## SIX MONTH REVIEW

Date of Review: 25 May 1995

Name

Present Address

DOB

**STACEY LEONARD**

c/o McConnachie  
Braeminzion  
Glen Clova  
By Kirriemuir

**28/04/88**

### Present:

Susan Leonard

Mother

Elizabeth Ross

Social Worker

Barbara Cowan

Social Worker

Isabel Naylor

Social Work Assistant

Paula Mulford

Link Worker

Peter Pope

Community Assessment & Review Officer, Chair & Minute Taker

### Apologies:

Mrs McConnachie

Mainstay Carer

Mike Briggs

Senior Social Worker

## INTRODUCTION

The children have now been in care for six months, they were received into care in November 1994.

### Present Situation

It was said that over the last six weeks intensive attempts at rehabilitation had been tried. There was a recognition now on Susan and the Social Work's Department part separately and together that the rehabilitation plan was not working out.



Susan was allocated a house on 01/05/95 in Forfar. This gave Susan a local base of her own to have access to her children, including overnight access. This was the proposal and had Susan's agreement. However, unfortunately Susan has found that she cannot manage the children, [REDACTED]

The Housing and Social Work Staff were looking for a commitment from Susan to be staying in Forfar overnight, this has not occurred. She has chosen to be elsewhere.

What Workers have observed during access is that Susan's own problems have taken priority and she has been telling Staff and her children her problems rather than paying attention and heed to her children's needs. It was said at times Susan might have been able to manage one of the children but as a consequence of this, the other two were in effect neglected. It was said Susan was not recognising when the children were distressed or unhappy, because of her concerns with her own needs.

[REDACTED]

As a result of the above unsatisfactory daytime access, it was considered by Susan and Staff that it was totally unrealistic to move to the next stage of Susan having overnight access. There was some discussion over whether or not Susan could manage one child on a longer term basis, Susan said herself during the meeting that she felt any one child would be too much for her to manage both now and in the longer term.

### **Ways Forward**

Susan was strongly advised to get legal advice in her own right to ensure that her interests were looked after.

Susan said she did not wish to give up all rights to her children, she said she did wish to have some kind of contact with them in the future, actually seeing them periodically. It was explained to Susan that the Social Work Department took the view that if rehabilitation was not working out, then permanent other plans had to be made in which the children's interests were put to the fore, and their need for security and permanency was addressed. Susan said she would like the three children to be kept together if at all possible.



There was a recognition that Susan had been unable to carry out the basic tasks of herself of budgeting her money, getting accommodation, feeding herself etc., in the past she has always had an extensive support network to assist her look after her children. However, now this has largely fallen away and as a result she is not managing. She said she is spending her time with her mother in Fife, she is also planning to go to England with her boyfriend. It was said this move would again reduce the support that Susan is presently getting from her mother in Fife.

Susan has been evicted from her house in Forfar because she was not staying in it [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] As a result she is again in effect homeless.

There was some discussion about any other supports that could be given to Susan to help make the situation work. It was not seen that Polepark Family Counselling Service could offer Susan or the Social Work Department anything in the present case, given that Susan was so mixed up within herself about what she wants. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

There was a recognition that the present rehabilitation plan had not worked out and that it was the view of all present that the childrens best interests in the long term would be in some other permanent situation. To explore this further, it was agreed that Elizabeth would pursue Social Work Management, and legal services to discuss with them possible ways forward. In the meantime, access would continue at once per week. In addition, Susan should see her own Solicitor and also follow up her appointment with her GP in Fife. Elizabeth would also contact Dr Hornsby as noted above.

### **The Children**

It was said that all three children were showing signs of distress, for example soiling, stealing, lying. This was seen as an indication of them being upset and needy. It was not felt appropriate to go into detail about the childrens position at the moment.

### **Extended Family**

Susan said her mother, i.e. the childrens grandmother, had health problems and she did not think she could [REDACTED] offer her grandchildren any permanent home. In addition the childrens father, [REDACTED] is in the Foreign Legion and people only have occasional contact with him.

There was some discussion about what the children should be told at the moment. They know already that Susan no longer has her house in Forfar, they should be told they will be staying in care while their future is sorted out. It is hoped that in one month's time people would be clearer about ways forward.



**Care Plan**

The Care Plan is "up in the air" at the moment, although it is recognised it is now tending towards permanency rather than rehabilitation.

**Recommendations in Support of Care Plan**

- 1 Susan to continue to have access once per week.
- 2 Susan to seek legal advice.
- 3 Elizabeth to seek management approval and legal advice for a change in the Care Plan to permanency.
- 4 Elizabeth to contact Susan's former GP.

**Date & Place of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 21 June 1995 at 12.30 pm at Academy Lane.

  
**Peter Pope**  
**Community Assessment & Review Officer**  
**6 June 1995**

**Copies to:**

All Present  
Mr & Mrs McConnachie



Report No: 179/95

Social Worker  
Preparing Report Elizabeth ROSS

**Social Work  
Department**

Academy Lane  
Arbroath  
DD11 1EJ

Tel 01241 878585  
Home Help 01241 870533  
Fax 01241 870372

**SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT  
CHILDREN'S HEARING**

The following Child:-

Surname: LEONARD Date of Birth: 28/04/88

Christian Names  
or Forenames: Stacey Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

School: Tannadice Primary Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: c/o Mrs Irene Claffey,  
49 Millfied Road,  
ARBROATH.

Is to appear on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ Children's  
Hearing

In Connection with 44(6) Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968

**Update**

Stacey's behaviour in her foster placement has been deteriorating considerably over the past few weeks.

There have been ongoing minor incidents involving Stacey bullying, stealing and lying, which has caused friction amongst the other children in the household. More recently however, her behaviour has been causing increasing concerns. The foster carers have found Stacey crawling into their room and hiding behind the furniture and wandering around the house in the middle of the night. Spent matches have been found in her bed and several of the family's personal belongings have gone missing, including 3 knives. Stacey has admitted to taking many of these items.



Mr and Mrs McConachie were expressing concern about the effect that Stacey's disruptive behaviour was having on their own children and [REDACTED]. They felt that they no longer had the personal resources to continue to care for her and requested that an alternative placement was found for her. Stacey was then moved to Mrs Claffey, 49 Millfield Road, Arbroath on 05 June 1995.

Following discussions with foster carers and with the child herself, the decision was made on 06 June 1995 that Stacey's move was by way of Emergency Transfer under Section 44(6) Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 as it had become apparent that there was no real prospect of Stacey's return to Mr and Mrs McConachie.

There are many uncertainties with regard to Stacey and her siblings' long term future. The Social Work plan is to work toward reuniting the 3 children and a long term foster family is currently being sought for them.

In the short-term, it is felt that Stacey should remain with Mrs Claffey, until decisions are made about what is in Stacey and her siblings' best interests in the longer term. I would hope to discuss this in full at the Hearing.

**Recommendation**

I would ask the Hearing to consider varying the current supervision order, naming Mrs Claffey as the foster carer.

[REDACTED]  
ELIZABETH ROSS  
SOCIAL WORKER

ER/KGP-95  
07 June 1995



## **TRANSFER IN CARE**

**ON STACEY LEONARD (DOB - 28/04/88)**

**ON 12 JUNE 1995 AT CATHERINE STREET RESOURCE CENTRE**

### **PRESENT:**

|                 |                                                             |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Irene Claffey   | Foster Carer                                                |
| Mrs McConnachie | Former Foster Carer for Stacey                              |
| Barbara Cowan   | Social Worker                                               |
| Elizabeth Ross  | Social Worker                                               |
| Isabel Naylor   | Social Work Assistant                                       |
| Mike Briggs     | Senior Social Worker                                        |
| Peter Pope      | Community Assessment & Review Officer, Chair & Minute Taker |

### **APOLOGIES:**

|               |                           |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| Susan Leonard | Mother                    |
| Mrs Pollock   | Teacher, Tannadice School |
| Ann MacLean   | School Nurse              |

### **INTRODUCTION**

Stacey was moved to the Claffey household on 5 June 1995. This was because she was displaying increasingly difficult behaviour at the McConnachie's. Examples were given of her lying and bullying, being disruptive with the other children and stealing things and throwing them in the dustbin.

In addition, she had lit matches in her bedroom.

At night time on occasion, she had wandered around the house and gone into Mr & Mrs McConnachie's bedroom. Things had been so difficult that Mr & Mrs McConnachie requested another placement be found for Stacey, hence the transfer to Mrs Claffey.



**Present Situation**

Mrs Claffey said that so far things had been satisfactory with Stacey. Generally she had found Stacey wishing to please others, she thought she was particularly enjoying being the youngest in her household.

Mrs Claffey had noted slight hints of defiance, but these had not really emerged into open confrontation. People felt the present situation was most likely a "honeymoon" period. Mrs Claffey felt that Stacey got on satisfactorily with the other children present in the household. Stacey had told Mrs Claffey about "Grandad Leonard" hitting her and being a bad person in the past.

**Health**

Stacey remains in good health, she is eating and sleeping satisfactorily. An ENT appointment is awaited, similarly a date for an eye operation which will be most likely a one day Hospital admission.

**Access**

It was agreed that access would continue on a weekly basis, in addition the children will see each other when at school and for fortnightly joint meetings with workers when individual work and the children seeing each other in a supervised setting occurs.

**Education**

It was said that Stacey will continue at her present school until the summer holidays at least. She seems to be managing with the school work and to get on with her peers. There had been some incidents of her stealing the playpiece of other children.

**CARE PLAN**

For another Care placement to be sought with all haste, the present placement is viewed as a short term. A placement will be sought for all three children together, failing this separately. Respite Care will continue at the Archers for all three children.



**Date and Place of Next Review:**

21 June 1995 at Academy Lane as had previously been arranged at 12.30 pm

**Copies To:**

All present  
Susan Leonard  
Alan Baird  
Dougie Dunlop



Subject Access Request



## SIX MONTH REVIEW

Date of Review: 22 June 1995

NAME

Present Address

DOB



Stacey Leonard

C/O Mrs Claffey  
49 Millfield Road  
Arbroath

28/04/88

### Present:

Susan Leonard

Mother

~~Elizabeth Ross~~

~~Social Worker~~

Mike Briggs

Senior Social Worker

Barbara Cowan

Social Worker

Isabel Naylor

Social Work Assistant

Ann Robertson

Link Worker for Irene Claffey

Paula Mulford

Link Worker for Mr & Mrs McConnachie

Mrs McConnachie

Foster Carer

Peter Pope

Community Assessment & Review Officer, Chair and Minute Taker

### INTRODUCTION

This review was scheduled as a follow up to that of 25 May 1995, to allow Elizabeth to consult with legal services and management of Social Work Department for advice regarding a move to a Plan for Permanency for the children rather than rehabilitation.

Mike expressed some misgivings about the Minutes of the last Meeting feeling that the phrase in the Care Plan "up in the air" was inappropriate. (This will be referred to later in this Minute).

**Progress with Recommendations in Support of the Care Plan  
of Meeting of 25 May 1995**

1 Susan has continued to have access once a week to her children.

Regarding the quality of this access, Elizabeth felt that Susan struggled with boundaries and limits on the children, that she failed to recognise the children's needs and as a result to respond appropriately. Elizabeth said she tended to be more caught up in her own needs, and often responded inappropriately to comments, relating to the children more as an equal than as a parent. [REDACTED]

Another occasion was sighted when one of her children proudly showed her a new sports shirt, she commented that she had one similar and never showed any interest in her child's shirt. In addition, workers felt it was inappropriate how Susan had told the children following the last meeting to the effect that, you'll be in real care for the rest of your lives. At the last meeting, it had been agreed that workers and Susan would in fact say nothing to their children about their future as it was so uncertain.

It was also said that Susan had been late on a number of occasions for access, this was not felt helpful to the children regaining trust in their mother.

Susan said she enjoyed seeing the children, she accepted her comments were not always appropriate.

2 Susan has sought legal advice. Mike has received a letter from her Solicitor which queries the reduction in access. The Chair felt the response to the Solicitor should note that reduction in access was with the agreement of Susan at the last meeting.

3 Elizabeth has sought legal advice from the Region's Solicitor, [REDACTED]

4 The fourth point of Elizabeth contacting Susan's GP was not discussed at this meeting.



### **Children in Placement**



#### **Stacey**

Ann reported that Stacey seemed to still be doing satisfactorily at Mrs Claffey's. There were not any problems that they felt they could not manage.

Mrs Archer had commented that during the weekend respite, the children had not seemed to be together as a group as they had in the past; Stacey had tended to seek out Mr & Mrs Archer's attention by being withdrawn, for example not speaking when spoken to, and lying on the floor refusing to move or speak to people.

At school it is understood that initially at least Stacey had encouraged the two other children to be difficult and defiant towards Mr & Mrs McConnachie. All three children continued to attend Tannadice School.

#### **Discussion**

Another rehabilitation plan was drawn up, and shared with Susan very recently. She said at the meeting today that she would prefer for the rehabilitation plan to go ahead in Fife, as she feels happier there. She said she has supports in the Community there from the Community Nurse, Psychiatrist, and Social Worker. In addition she has some extended family there.

Susan said she had no suitable accommodation to carry out the rehabilitation plan in Fife, this was seen as a major problem, also seen as a major difficulty was the fact that the children are living in Angus, and the distances involved in any rehabilitation plan being based in Fife would present real difficulties for the children.

Susan said she wished rehabilitation of all three children, she said she had changed her mind as she was feeling low at the last meeting and at other times. She said in Fife recently she had seen a Social Worker twice, [REDACTED] As a result of these and other supports already mentioned, she felt she could manage a rehabilitation plan, but based in Fife.

There was discussion about the possibility of Fife Region accepting some responsibilities for the children, this was felt to be unlikely given that the children and family's history is primarily in Angus, and this was where the children were received into Care.

### **Conclusion**

The chair felt this meeting could not move further forward at this juncture. It was agreed management advice would be sought, while simultaneously the rehabilitation package that was put forward would be looked at to see if a Fife based option was possible.

As already noted at the start of this meeting, Mike felt there may be certain issues missed from the note of the previous meeting. The Chair subsequently agreed that a concise summary would be made available from the Social Worker, highlighting the areas of progress and impasse in the rehabilitation package.

**Date of Next Review:** 4 July 1995 at 2.00 pm at Academy Lane, Arbroath

Peter Pope [REDACTED]  
Community Assessment & Review Officer  
23 June 1995

### **Copies to:**

All present  
Alan Baird  
Dougie Dunlop



## SIX MONTH REVIEW

Date of Review: 4 JULY 1995

NAME

Present Address

Dob

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

STACEY LEONARD

C/O Mrs Claffey  
49 Millfield Road  
Arbroath

28/04/88

### Present:

Susan Leonard

Elizabeth Ross

Mike Briggs

Barbara Cowan

Isabel Naylor

Paula Mulford

Peter Pope

Mother

Social Worker

Senior Social Worker

Social Worker

Social Worker Assistant

Link Worker for Mr & Mrs McConnachie

Community Assessment & Review Officer, Chair & Minute Taker

### Apologies:

Ann Robertson

Link Worker for Irene Claffey

## INTRODUCTION

The Chair viewed this as a continuation of previous review which was adjourned on 22 June 1995. At that meeting, "it was agreed management advice would be sought while simultaneously the rehabilitation package that was put forward would be looked at to see if a Fife based option was possible".

In addition, a chronological history was compiled, this was presented to this meeting.

### Progress

Fife based Care Placements had been sought for the children. None were available, and the indications were it was very unlikely one would become available in the immediate or foreseeable future. It was also said it would be highly unlikely to get a placement that could offer care to all three children simultaneously. Residential care options had been looked at too, again, nothing was available.

Alternative care arrangements were sought in Perth, again nothing was available. (There was a view that Perth was more accessible to Fife than the present care placements).

Susan said she continued to have no suitable accommodation for herself and the children in Fife, she has applied to the Local Authority in Fife for accommodation and hopes to be allocated a place in 3-6 months time, realistically it was said December 1995 was likely to be the time she will get such accommodation. In the meantime, should she become homeless she has been informed she would only get accommodation for herself, not for herself and her children.

Susan repeated at this meeting that she would not entertain moving back to live in Angus, even on a short term basis. Accommodation has been offered to her in Forfar and Arbroath, with a view to working at an early rehabilitation of her children to her care, however she was adamant that she would not move back to Angus. She said she felt unsafe in Angus because of things that had happened in the past. Susan said her intention was to get her house in Fife, work towards getting her children back in her care and then eventually, a year after she had resumed care of the children to move to England to be with [REDACTED] her boyfriend.

### Access

This continues to occur weekly, in Arbroath. Susan said she felt access was going quite well, Workers who have supervised the access expressed reservations again about the quality of it. They noted that Susan struggled to fulfil the basic parenting tasks for all children, struggled to communicate satisfactorily with them and encourage them and manage their behaviour. It was acknowledged that access in such circumstances was difficult, this was compounded by a



number of factors including Susan's own difficulties around parenting issues, but also included the childrens anger and uncertainties about the future, plus the fact that all the children were getting more attached to their present carers. Workers noted that the children were showing distress in their behaviour during access, by their tears et cetera.

Susan said she felt she was actually learning practical things that would assist her be a better parent, for example how to manage them and practical matters of cooking and budgeting. She said she felt in Fife, she would also have the benefit of access to support from her mother, sister and uncle.

#### **Children in Placement**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Stacey** - Stacey is settling in to her new placement, she enjoys the attention from the older children and enjoys being the youngest present. Emotionally it was felt she was vulnerable, however she was progressing in her care placement. Like her siblings, she no longer is soiling.

#### **Discussion**

It was said that the present arrangements of the children being in care with an uncertain future was not good for their emotional development. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Given the above, it was said this placed a burden on the children of living with the uncertainties, that realistically the children could not be travelling up and down to Fife from their present care placements frequently for access, this would have to be squeezed into holiday periods and weekends which made for obvious logistical difficulties.

It was also said that for this travelling to go on for a prolonged period for the children, given their ages and the distances involved was unrealistic.

Susan was adamant that this was the way forward that she thought was reasonable and that she wished to pursue, despite persuasion from members of staff she would not countenance moving to Angus for a period of time. Workers present had reservations about the alternative plan of rehabilitation working in Fife, given the time scales and distances involved, however it appeared the only way forward at this juncture.

Susan brought up the possibility of her sister in Fife having care of the children. At the moment she does not have suitable accommodation, as she has her own children and is awaiting moving to a new house. It was also said that a full Foster Care Assessment would have to be done on her for this to be approved first by the Social Work Department and then by the Childrens Panel. At this juncture, this was not viewed as a viable option.

### **Care Plan**

**Rehabilitation, in the longer term, once Susan has suitable accommodation. This Care Plan was signed by all present.**

### **Recommendations in Support of Care Plan**

- 1 Access to continue at once per week in Arbroath**
- 2 Susan to pursue accommodation with the relevant District Council in Fife. In addition, she to look into the possibility of private accommodation.**
- 3 Elizabeth to liaise with the relevant Housing Authority in Fife, to get some feed back regarding likely dates of allocation of a house to Susan. In addition, Elizabeth to pursue the possibility of private rented accommodation for Susan in the North Fife Area.**



4 Stacey to change school, it was acknowledged given the distance between Tannadice and Arbroath it would be in Stacey's best interests to transfer school to an Arbroath Primary. Elizabeth/Paula to follow this up.

5 Clothing for Stacey to be checked out, it was said at the Claffey's she seems to have inadequate clothing. It was agreed it would be checked whether or not clothing remained with her previous Carers, if not a grant would be made to ensure Stacey has adequate clothing. Elizabeth to sort this out as soon as possible.

6 Carers to be informed of the above Care Plan by their Link Workers. It was agreed the children should know it is hoped they will return to the care of their Mum once she has accommodation and shows that she can manage to care for them.

Date and Place of Next Review: Wednesday 8 November 1995 at 2.00 pm at Academy Lane, Arbroath



Peter Pope  
Community Assessment & Review Officer  
6 July 1995

**Copies to:**

All present  
All apologies  
Alan Baird, Group Manager, Child Care  
Dougie Dunlop, Manager, Child Care

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACCESS AND INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS**  
**WITH [REDACTED] STACEY [REDACTED] LEONARD**

Access will take place at Kingsmuir Resource Centre, Kingsmuir, and will be supervised by a member of the Social Work Department - Access is from 3.45 - 5.30 pm.

A member of the Social Work Department will collect Stacey from school (Inverbrothock), take her to access and return her to Mrs Claffey - Foster Carer. The Social Work Department will provide financial assistance to Ms Leonard to cover transport costs [REDACTED]

NB:- Susan will be dropped off in Forfar after access.

| DATE                   | TIME           | SUPERVISED BY  |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Wednesday 30 August    | 3.45 - 5.30 pm | Barbara Cowan  |
| Wednesday 06 September | 3.45 - 5.30 pm | Elizabeth Ross |
| Wednesday 13 September | 3.45 - 5.30 pm | Isabel Naylor  |
| Wednesday 20 September | 3.45 - 5.30 pm | Barbara Cowan  |
| Wednesday 27 September | 3.45 - 5.30 pm | Elizabeth Ross |

Individual sessions with [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] will take place at Mr and Mrs McConachies home. A member of the Social Work Department will transport Stacey from school and return her to Mrs Claffey.

| DATE                  | TIME           | WORKERS          |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Thursday 31 August    | 4.00 - 6.00 pm | E. Ross/B. Cowan |
| Thursday 14 September | 4.00 - 6.00 pm | E. Ross/B. Cowan |
| Thursday 28 September | 4.00 - 6.00 pm | Elizabeth Ross   |

[REDACTED]  
ELIZABETH ROSS  
SOCIAL WORKER



**REHABILITATION REVIEW MEETING**  
**held at**  
**ARBROATH SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT**  
**on**  
**04.12.95**

**LEONARD Family**

|           |                 |                            |       |
|-----------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Present : | Mike Briggs     | Senior Social Worker       | Chair |
|           | Elizabeth Ross  | Social Worker              |       |
|           | Isabel Naylor   | Social Work Assistant      |       |
|           | Christopher Roy | Foster carer               |       |
|           | Irene Claffey   | Foster Carer               |       |
|           | Susan Leonard   | Parent                     |       |
| Apols:    | Barbara Cowan   | Social Worker (On holiday) |       |

**Progress**

Susan was allocated her present tenancy at the end of September. Her current address is 26 Seaton Terrace Kennoway.

Her intentions were to move into the tenancy as soon as possible. However, she did not take this up until 15.11.95. Therefore, contact with the children, in Fife, did not begin until 23.11.95.

Before Susan's wedding, two meeting were held to discuss the plans. Following this, a meeting was set up with Susan on 08.11.95 to look at progress in setting up the new family home. At this point, there was no furniture in the house, no soft furnishings, no crockery or cutlery.

The children visited on 09.11.95 for "maintenance access" . They returned on 17.11.95. More progress had been made by this point.

On 23.11.95, the rehabilitation plan started in full.

Susan Leonard pointed out that she felt no feedback had been given on how she was doing during access. Elizabeth stated that regular meetings had taken place with Susan to monitor the progress she was making, and that one of the purposes of todays meeting was to discuss and review how things were going. It was agreed that there would be benefit in setting up individual sessions with Susan in order to provide more intensive help and more immediate feedback on her progress.

Susan received a Community Care Grant to furnish the house. Carpets are still needed for the girls' room and for the stair. She is currently removing the stair grip rods as they are a potential hazard for the children.

## PROGRESS WITH REHABILITATION

### Children's Attitudes

All 3 children have fears and anxieties about the future.

[REDACTED]

Stacey is very loyal to her mother. However, her behaviour at access shows a child who withdraws emotionally during access. She sometimes refuses to take off her coat for the time she is in her mother's house. She is clearly not comfortable during the process, and appears "lost" during access time.

[REDACTED]

### Children's Behaviour

Susan struggles to share her affection with the children during the time that they are with her.

[REDACTED] makes the most demands of her and therefore receives the most affection. Susan is overwhelmed by the children and quickly comes to the point where she cannot cope. She is clearly in need of help and support to look after the children, and has always had someone in the past to manage this for her.

(NB : When the physical abuse of the children was investigated at first, Carol Leonard described the family situation as Susan doing the caring for the children in the house whilst she (Carol) dealt with people such as the Housing Dept. the Benefits Agency and the like. However, it is suspected that Thomas Leonard, step grand-father was doing most of the practical work around the care of the children.)

[REDACTED]

Stacey places few demands on her mother. The way she seeks attention is by saying that she is not well and it is only when she does this does she get any affection from her mother. Susan thinks that Stacey "doesn't bother about her". Stacey often ends up lying down or curled up in a corner during access.

[REDACTED]



### Susan's interaction with the children.

Susan does make an effort to interact with the children. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Susan provides play materials and prepares a meal.

Susan does not involve herself in the children's play. She does not have the insight to come down to their level and tends to relate to them on an adult-adult basis. Most of the talk is around what Susan is interested in. There does, however, seem to have been some improvement in this area.

[REDACTED]

### Safety issues

Susan is becoming more aware of hazards around the house.

There was an incident where [REDACTED] became separated from her mother and the other children on the other side of the street. Susan did not see this as being very dangerous as she saw the road as being more of a "track". She did acknowledge the problem with this situation.

Also, there was a situation with [REDACTED] playing with "play-doh" on a glass top table.

### Susan / [REDACTED] situation

Susan was very tearful during access on Friday. Susan said that she was upset because she was not clear made clear about how she was doing in terms of access and rehabilitation. Elizabeth felt that Susan's feelings were more to do with the difficult nature of access.

David is currently working on a full-time basis in a hotel in Anstruther. He is currently not available for access, but would anticipate being part of the process in the future. David is currently not living full time with Susan, although she states that this will change on Friday coming. This is important as, in the past, Susan has expressed much worry about living on her own with the children, or even by herself.

There is an issue over the children, and how they refer to David. Susan encourages the children to call David "daddy." They are not happy with this.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### Irene Claffey

Stacey has been bothered with nightmares recently. She has been crying out in her sleep. She has also been displaying some anxiety in terms of [REDACTED] difficulties in placement ( or how she perceives them ).

Stacey's view of things is that [REDACTED] looks after her , who in turn looks after [REDACTED] and all 3 children look after Mum.

Stacey is afraid of Mum's friends. There was a situation where a man had come up behind Stacey whilst she was out with Susan, and had given the child a fright. Susan stated that this was someone she vaguely knew from the area.

It seems that the children are content to be in placement over the Xmas period. Stacey is unhappy about missing any more school that she has to. The children regularly have sore tummies and sore fingers before access time. All the children have loyalties to Susan, and in particular Stacey.

There is an issue for Stacey as to the identity of her real father, and whether David will be her "real" Dad. Susan stated that Stacey did not have any contact with her birth father.

### Summary

Access is continuing with the children travelling to Fife and spending both supervised and unsupervised time with the children. Susan is clear that she wishes this to proceed.

All 3 children are showing various signs of distress in placement which co-incides with access. [REDACTED]

Susan is struggling with the management and emotional care of the children during access.

There is often disagreement about perceptions, between Susan and workers, about situations and incidents during access. Individual time is to be made, with Susan, to work on parenting issues and to give immediate feedback.



Access will happen over Xmas at Arbroath Child and Family Centre.

The rehabilitation plan will be reviewed on 18th December 1995 at 11.00am at Arbroath SWD.

Mike Briggs  
Senior Social Worker

APPENDIX B2: CASE CONFERENCE

1. MINUTE

|                                                                                    |                                             |                                                                                    |                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| (i) Conference Type: REVIEW                                                        |                                             | Date: 14 DECEMBER 1995                                                             |                                  |
| Subject Children:                                                                  | [REDACTED]                                  | DOB:                                                                               | [REDACTED]                       |
|                                                                                    | Stacey Leonard<br>C/O Mrs Claffey, Arbroath |                                                                                    | 28/04/88                         |
| Chair: MS L TURNBULL<br>Office: BROOMFIELD RESOURCE CENTRE<br>Tel No: 01674-678509 |                                             | Group Manager: Alan Baird<br>Office: Academy Lane Arbroath<br>Tel No: 01241 878585 |                                  |
| <b>(ii) Participants Present</b>                                                   |                                             |                                                                                    |                                  |
| <u>Name</u>                                                                        | <u>Designation</u>                          | <u>Agency</u>                                                                      | <u>Report Submitted</u><br>(Y/N) |
| Mr M Briggs                                                                        | Senior Social Worker                        | Arbroath SWD                                                                       | N                                |
| Ms B Cowan                                                                         | Social Worker                               | Arbroath SWD                                                                       | Y                                |
| Mrs I Swan                                                                         | Social Work Assistant                       | Arbroath SWD                                                                       | N                                |
| Dr J Nolan                                                                         | CMO                                         | Angus NHS Trust                                                                    | N                                |
| Mrs Webster                                                                        | Head Teacher                                | Inverbrothock PS                                                                   | N                                |
| [REDACTED]                                                                         | Foster Carer                                |                                                                                    | N                                |
| Mrs S Lessels                                                                      | Mother                                      |                                                                                    | N                                |
| Mr D Lessels                                                                       | Stepfather                                  |                                                                                    | N                                |
| Ms E Ord                                                                           | Minute Taker                                |                                                                                    | N                                |
| <b>(iv) Absent/Unable to Attend</b>                                                |                                             |                                                                                    |                                  |
| <u>Name</u>                                                                        | <u>Designation</u>                          | <u>Agency</u>                                                                      | <u>Report Submitted</u><br>(Y/N) |
| Mrs E Ross                                                                         | Social Worker                               | Arbroath SWD                                                                       | N*                               |
| Dr K Anand                                                                         | Snr CMO                                     | Angus NHS Trust                                                                    | N*                               |
| Mrs Cruickshank                                                                    | Locality Manager                            | Angus NHS Trust                                                                    | N*                               |
| Mrs A MacLean                                                                      | School Nurse                                | Angus NHS Trust                                                                    | N*                               |
| Mrs D Wood                                                                         | Health Visitor                              | Angus NHS Trust                                                                    | N*                               |
| Dr A Hornsby                                                                       | GP                                          | Angus NHS Trust                                                                    | N**                              |
| Mrs Pollock                                                                        | Teacher                                     | Tannadice PS                                                                       | N*                               |
| *APOLOGIES RECEIVED    **APOLOGIES NOT RECEIVED                                    |                                             |                                                                                    |                                  |
| Copies Also To:                                                                    |                                             |                                                                                    |                                  |
| Mr J Gilruth                                                                       | Asst PO (Child Prot)                        | SWD                                                                                | N                                |
| Ms L Paterson                                                                      | Regional Mgr (OOHS)                         | SWD                                                                                | N                                |
| Mr D Dunlop                                                                        | Manager (Child Care)                        | SWD Arbroath/Carnoustie                                                            | N                                |

**NB Attach all previous sections - Chair to check information for correctness at outset**



- (v) Summary of Discussion etc:  
(To be read in conjunction with all previous sections)  
(Continuation sheets to be attached)

The Review Case Conference was convened in order to discuss and assess the situation with regard to [REDACTED] Stacey Leonard and to decide whether or not their names should be retained on the Child Protection Register.

A report prepared by Ms Barbara Cowan, Social Worker, was circulated at the meeting.

### **Background**

There has been significant change in the home circumstances since the last Case Conference. Susan has re-married and now has a tenancy in Fife. The current Care Plan for the children is for Rehabilitation with their mother. A programme is in place which will manage the Rehabilitation Programme over the next 4-6 weeks. The children visit Mrs Lessels for three periods access each week and two of these are supervised by the Social Work Department and one is unsupervised access.

### **Social Work**

[REDACTED]

It was felt that the Rehabilitation Plan was going well although it was noted this was still in the early stages. Ms Cowan said that she was meeting with Mrs Lessels once a week to discuss general parenting skills and she had also had meetings with Mrs Lessels and Mr Lessels individually to assess the impact that the marriage would have on the children and Mr Lessels role within the family. Ms Cowan stated that there had been some progress although she felt it was difficult to give a full assessment of the situation at this time. The situation would be reviewed in two weeks time.

Ms Cowan stated that the children were very demanding and attention seeking and Mrs Lessels had difficulty coping with all three children together. Ms Cowan said that Mrs Lessels was trying to make a home and her routines appeared satisfactory. Mrs Lessels prepared lunch for the children when they visited.

### **Parent**

Mrs Lessels informed the meeting that access was going well [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] She stated that Stacey [REDACTED] caused no difficulties. Mrs Lessels said that she had books and videos for the children and took them out to the shops when they visited. Apart from [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Mrs Lessels appeared to be happy with the situation.



2(a)

**School (STACEY)**

Mrs Webster informed the meeting that Stacey was emotionally flat and had become withdrawn lately. She stated that Stacey's behaviour is not difficult to manage but that she was not reaching her true potential in Class and it was felt Stacey was academically quite bright.

Mrs Webster stated that Stacey spoke positively about Mrs Lessels and looked forward to her visits to see her. It was felt that there was a significant change in Stacey's emotional state and her school work was showing the strain. Mrs Webster said that Stacey appeared to be confused regarding the days she was to visit Mrs Lessels and became tearful when her Class Teacher explained she should not have been at school that day.

**Health**

Dr Nolan informed the meeting that there were no health concerns with regard to [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] Stacey has had minor infections but nothing concerning.

[REDACTED]

**SUMMARY**

There has been fairly significant developments since May, namely that the children's mother now has a tenancy in Fife and has remarried. Rehabilitation Plans are under way. The Rehabilitation is still in the early stages with the children spending periods of supervised access and short periods of unsupervised access with Mrs Lessels. There are problems already being noted.

The situation will be reviewed in approximately two weeks time (notwithstanding Christmas) and the impact of Mrs Lessels' recent marriage will also need to be considered. The children's confusion has been reflected both within current placement and within the school environment. Special access arrangements are being arranged over the Christmas period.



2(b)

**REGISTRATION**

After discussion, the unanimous decision of the Case Conference was for [REDACTED] Stacey's names to remain on the Child Protection Register under the existing categories. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] - Physical Abuse (Very Suspicious) and Physical Neglect (At Risk). The reason for this decision was that the outcome of the Rehabilitation Plan which is currently under way is uncertain.

21/12/95  
EO



**(vi) Recommendations and Agreed Tasks:**

1. It was unanimously agreed that [REDACTED] Stacey's names remain on the Child Protection Register.
2. The existing Child Protection Plan in place but this to be reviewed frequently reflecting the process of Rehabilitation.
3. There is free access over Christmas which will take place up to 28th December and again a week later.

**(vii) Should Child(ren) be referred to the Reporter? (Y/N):** Previously Referred

**If YES, who will provide Report?**

**If NO, state reasons why:**

**Is Child subject to Statutory Care Order? (Y/N):** YES

**(viii) Was concern such that Child has been Registered? (Y/N):** CONTINUED

**Date of Registration (d/m/y):**

**2. AREA OF IDENTIFIED ABUSE (See Guidelines)**

**Area of Abuse [1] PHYSICAL ABUSE**

**Stacey [REDACTED] - Very Susp.**

**Area of Abuse [2] PHYSICAL NEGLECT  
(Optional)**

**Level of Certainty: AT RISK**



**3. IF OUTCOME DEREGISTRATION, REASONS**

Please detail below:

**4. OTHER DETAILS**

(I) Dissent:

(ii) Other

**5. CORE WORKERS**

Case Co-ordinator: Mr M Briggs

Keyworker: Ms B Cowan

Office: Arbroath SWD

Office: Arbroath SWD

Tel No: 01241-878585

Tel No: 01241-878585

Other Core Workers or Agencies involved in Case:

Agency Name or Worker  
Name and DesignationAddressTel No



## 6. NEXT CONFERENCE

(i) Date of Next Conference (d/m/y): 29 MAY 1996

(ii) Details of any other agencies or individuals to be invited:

(ii) Minute prepared by

MS L TURNBULL

Signature:

Date:

Designation:

MANAGER, CHILD CARE

Group Manager/Asst Director:

Date: 5/2/96

### CONFIDENTIALITY

The information in this document is confidential to you and must not be disclosed to any other person or agency without the written consent of the Case Conference Chairperson.

### NOTE TO ADDRESSEES

If you disagree with any aspect of this report you should contact the Group Manager immediately in writing. If you agree with the content please return the acknowledgement below.

5/90

To: Group Manager, Social Work Department, Academy Lane, Arbroath

I have received a copy of the Minute of the Case Conference/Review held on:  
14 December 1995 regarding: [REDACTED] Stacey Leonard  
and agree with the content and recommendations.

Signature:

Date:



## MINUTES OF MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 12 DECEMBER 1995

### AT ARBROATH SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

**PRESENT:-** Elizabeth Ross - Social Worker  
Susan Lessells - Parent  
David Lessells - Husband

#### School

Susan had agreed to take the children to see local places of interest, eg. shops, park and school. Susan had taken the children into the school to enquire about part time education, this had confused the children. [REDACTED]

Susan agreed to discuss what she wanted to do with the children with Social Workers, before embarking on an activity with them.

#### Rules

Susan believed that the children understood the rules of the house - she had made a list of 17 rules and presented them to the children the previous week. Social Workers observations would suggest that children don't know rules and boundaries.

Long discussion about rules, their purpose, need for consistency, etc. Susan and David agreed on 3 rules, which they would introduce the children to. Susan agreed to discuss the rules with the children at next access. It was noted that, although Social Workers had agreed to discuss rules/boundaries with Susan today, she had discussed this with the children beforehand. Children had been confused, [REDACTED] Stacey, unsure about the meanings of them.

#### Children's Behaviour

[REDACTED] She does not agree with Social Workers observations that all three children pose management difficulties for her.

#### Access over Christmas / New Year

Susan agreed to contact carers as soon as possible if she was unable to attend for access.

## REVIEW OF REHABILITATION

RE. [REDACTED] STACEY AND [REDACTED] LEONARD

To be held on Monday 18 December at Arbroath Social Work Department

- (1) All three children have shown signs of distress both travelling to and during access. Stacey [REDACTED] complain of various ailments, eg. sore tummy, leg, etc. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] It would seem these incidents happen when workers take their lunch break. On one occasion all three children became upset, when the workers returned, Susan was very tearful and was struggling to manage the children. Susan has difficulty recognising that she finds it difficult to respond to the children's emotional needs and tries to reframe or refocus the problem.
- (2) On one occasion Susan told the children to keep a secret from the workers. It would seem that [REDACTED] had fallen off a wall and bumped his head. Susan had told the children not to tell the workers as she would get into trouble. The children were unsure and distressed about holding onto this information.
- (3) Susan is unable to share her attention between the three children [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Susan puts this down to her deafness in her right ear. She believes that she can hear [REDACTED] because [REDACTED] talks louder. The children were not aware that their mother has a hearing problem, nor were the workers. Susan has agreed to make an appointment with her GP to get this addressed. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- (4) Susan now has weekly parenting sessions with the workers, and the aim is to help Susan address the parenting issues she has difficulty with, issues are identified by Susan and the workers.  
  
The first session looked at rules and boundaries. Although Susan agreed to do some work on this at the next access, this did not happen, eg. children not aware of the rules of the house. Susan appears to have difficulty listening and accepting the advice which was offered to her. Workers given Susan feedback at the end of each session. Susan does not agree with the workers observations nor does she accept advice and guidance.
- (5) David has been present for access and Susan appears to manage the children better with his support. Susan and David need to work joint decision making and strategies for managing the children.



- (6) Susan took the children to a local primary school to enquire about part time education, she also drew up a list of 17 rules for them to follow. All three children have been distressed by such incidents and Susan has agreed to discuss her intentions with workers beforehand in order to try to minimise the difficulties that such incidents cause the children.

  
ELIZABETH ROSS  
SOCIAL WORKER

ER/KGT-95  
21 December 1995

REHABILITATION PLANNING MEETING  
held at  
ARBROATH SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT

on  
18 December 1995

[REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] LEONARD

**Present:**

|                |              |                       |       |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------|
| Mike Briggs    | Arbroath SWD | Senior Social Worker  | Chair |
| Elizabeth Ross | Arbroath SWD | Social Worker         |       |
| Isabel Naylor  | Arbroath SWD | Social Work Assistant |       |
| Irene Claffey  | Foster Carer |                       |       |
| [REDACTED]     |              |                       |       |
| Susan Leonard  | Parent       |                       |       |

A further 4 sessions have been completed since the last planning meeting of 04.12.95.

Update

Elizabeth Ross

Susan Leonard now receives individual feedback sessions, which include specific work around parenting skills and style. There is also a focus on rules and boundaries.

Difficulties still continue on most levels. The children continue to struggle with the rehabilitation. There are disagreements between Susan and the workers around whether there are problems during access, and then strategies for dealing with these problems. In addition, workers believe that Susan has asked the children to keep secrets from the workers, specifically to do with [REDACTED] falling from a wall.

Susan continues to struggle with the management of the children. The situation seems to deteriorate during lunchtime when the workers are not present. The incident with [REDACTED] falling, and bruising his face, happened during a period of unsupervised access.

Susan continues to have problems in sharing her attention with the children. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The children appear to have visited a local primary school to investigate part time education. They were confused and quite upset by this. The children are also saying that a new baby is imminent and that Susan is going into hospital for this reason. Susan says that she did mention a new baby, but that it could be in 3-4 years time.



In terms of strategies, Susan will try selectively to act on the information, using some of the suggested strategies but not others. She tends to support [REDACTED] when conflicts have arisen between the child and David. Susan does, however, tend to find access easier when David is present.

#### Irene Claffey

Stacey is currently not coping well. She is tending to become withdrawn and sullen around the time of access. She will test boundaries quite vigorously but also displays the need to be near to Irene. Her appetite is not good at present. She has started to whimper and cry in her sleep. She is also telling of "funny" dreams about Mum, but is not want to speak about them.

Stacey continues to express a wish to continue with access. She clearly has mixed feelings, but wishes something definite to happen. Stacey tummy becomes progressively sorer as her sessions in Kennoway approach. She also experiences pains in her legs at the same time.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

#### Tannadice School

Elizabeth reported a recent discussion with the school. Although the children seem to be more unsettled of late, this is not a major problem.

There was a discussion about the continuation of the rehabilitation plan, particularly in the light of Susan's increasing difficulty with the management of [REDACTED]. It was felt

that, should the children's' behaviour become very distressed, then decisions would need to be made about whether rehabilitation should continue. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### Planning

There is a Child Care Review on 08.01.96. There is also a further planning meeting on 15.01.96.

Rehabilitation will continue after the New Year. Consideration will be given, by the workers, to the structure of the next phase of the rehabilitation programme and to some of the issues around Brian's situation.

The focus with Susan, individually, will be around rules and boundaries, and joint decision making.

There is a plan for access to happen between Christmas and New Year on Thursday 28.12.95 in Arbroath.

Mike Briggs  
Senior Social Worker



1. No touching TV or video
2. Do not touch electrical equipment
3. No fighting in the house
4. No food to be eaten in the sitting room unless it is to cold and you have been giving permission to have it in the sitting room
5. No Ball games
6. No swearing
7. No Jumping on the Beds or furniture
8. No Breaking Toy or other utensils
9. No going in Rooms without asking
10. No ~~going~~ touching other peoples property
11. Ask permission to go in the fridge
12. No leaving the table without permission
13. No running in the house
14. All out Door shoes must be removed at front Door entrance
15. No children to answer the Doors.
16. No playing near or at the Fire
17. No clothes to be removed unless in your room or toilet

The following is a working agreement in respect of a programme of rehabilitation of [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] Leonard to their mother, Susan Leonard.

This agreement will state roles, tasks and timescales in order to assess the possibility of the children returning to Susan's care. The first stage of the assessment will last 4 weeks. During this stage, Susan will have regular access with the children. The amount of access will be negotiated between Social Work Department and Ms Leonard and would likely take the form of eg. 3 sessions per week - 2 to 3 hours per session over meal times. Access will give Susan the opportunity to practice and develop her skills in parenting the children. Access will be supervised and assessed.

Following implementation of Stage 1, a Review Meeting will consider whether to proceed further with the assessment, or whether it is not realistic that the children return to Susan's care. Should this stage of rehabilitation fail, the Department will consider planning for the children's long term future with a permanent substitute family.

Angus District Council will provide Susan Leonard with temporary homeless accommodation. This will allow Susan to work toward the children returning to her care. The accommodation is a fully furnished flat. A resident Warden will be available, on site, to provide advice/support.

### **Areas of Assessment**

The assessment will focus on the following areas:-

- 1) Susan's parenting skills:-
  - a) Susan's ability to meet the children's basic physical care; eg. maintain routines for the children, perform basic parenting tasks (provide meals, address hygiene), and protect the children from danger.



- b) Susan's ability to meet the children's emotional needs;  
eg. provide consistency, daily routines, simple rules,  
consistent controls, praise and encouragement, age  
appropriate responsibilities.
- 2) Susan's lifestyle. Susan will be expected to maintain an element of  
consistency in her own life;  
eg. accommodation, relationships.

**Expectations of Susan**

- 1) Susan will comply with the tenancy agreement set out by Angus  
District Council.
- 2) Susan will keep the flat reasonably clean and tidy.
- 3) Susan will participate in the rehabilitation plan. She will;
  - a) Make herself available for access with the children.
  - b) Make herself available for meeting with members of the  
rehabilitation team.
  - c) Keep appointments with GP, CPN.
- 4) Access is for Susan to spend time with the children. No other  
person will be part of the access, unless this has been agreed by the  
Social Work Department in advance.
- 5) If Susan is unable to attend for access, she will contact the Social  
Work Department as soon as possible and let them know why she is  
unable to attend.
- 6) Susan will be given a copy of the assessment form which will be  
completed by workers.
- 7) Susan will contribute to the 1st Stage Review Meeting.
- 8) Susan will be responsible for the children during access.

**Expectations of Workers**

- 1) During the first stage of the rehabilitation plan, access will be supervised.
- 2) Workers will complete assessment form during access. Assessment will assess the standards of care Susan provides for the children.
- 3) Workers will provide Susan with advice / guidance as requested / appropriate.
- 4) Workers will meet with Susan weekly to give feedback of access session.
- 5) Arbroath Social Work Department will provide financial assistance in order that Susan can provide meals/snacks for children during access.
- 6) Workers will contribute to the 1st Stage Review Meeting.



I understand and agree to co-operate with the above working agreement.

1. Parent
2. Witness
3. Witness

I understand the above working agreement and do not wish to participate in its terms. I no longer wish the Social Work Department to pursue attempts at rehabilitation between myself (Susan Leonard) and my children, Brian, Stacey and Tammy Leonard.

1.  Parent
2.  Witness
3.  Witness

Date:- 21/06/95

.....  
ELIZABETH ROSS  
SOCIAL WORKER

ER/KGP-95  
19 June 1995

**CASE REVIEW****Summary of Review and Recommendations for the Future****Date of Review: 8 January 1996****Name****Present Address****DOB**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Stacey Leonard**c/o Claffey  
49 Millfield Road  
Arbroath

28/04/88

**Participants:**

Susan Lessels

Mother

Irene Claffey

Foster Carer for Stacey

[REDACTED]  
Paula Mulford

Link Worker for Foster Carer

Ann Robertson

Link Worker for Foster Carer

Barbara Cowan

Social Worker

[REDACTED]

Social Worker

Isobel Nailer

Social Work Assistant

Mike Briggs

Senior Social Worker

Peter Pope

Community Assessment &amp; Review Officer, Chair and Minute Taker

A written report was submitted to the meeting, and should be read in conjunction with this summary.

**Introduction**

The children have been in temporary foster care for 13 months.



## Progress with Recommendations from Review of 19 October 1995

- 1 "Access to continue, and to be developed over the next weeks..... a clear written rehabilitation plan to be shared between Susan and the Social Work Department..... to be in 3 clear stages....."

Access is occurring in Fife 2 full days per week i.e. 10.30 am to 3 pm of contact time between the children and their mother.

Susan said she felt that this access was going satisfactorily [REDACTED]

Susan said her husband was present occasionally at access and was generally helpful when there.

Workers present at the access said that Susan struggled to manage to meet the needs of all 3 children, the quality of the contact was mixed and advice was regularly given to Susan as to how she could take the concerns forward. It was said Susan tried to take on board some of the advice, but she seldom managed to sustain it, and struggled to maintain consistency.

During the access there is a brief period over lunch-time unsupervised when Susan struggles even more to manage all 3 children.

Mike indicated there would be a stock-taking period over the next few days when there would be a planning meeting with staff and the Assistant Principal Officer for Fostering and Adoption. At this planning meeting ways forward for all 3 children would be considered.

Over the Christmas period access was reduced to a maintenance level. It was said during this period the children were more settled in their placements. Prior to Christmas they had been very tense and difficult. [REDACTED]

- 2 "Susan to get her house sorted out, such that the children can visit and eventually stay with her."

Susan said this was largely done, there were a few items which she said were not yet completed, however, they were not seen as an impediment to the care plan.

## 3 Children in Placement

### Stacey

Irene said that within the placement Stacey was generally quite happy. However, over the last weeks, especially just prior to Christmas she was upset, having nightmares and her eating becoming poorer. A change had been noted in Stacey at her school, with her being distressed and hard to console.

Prior to going for access, Stacey regularly complains of sore tummy, sore legs etc. however, Irene said Stacey does wish rehabilitation to be tried.

### Children in Placement contd

Worker said when Stacey is with her mother during access she is withdrawn and subdued, reluctant to take her coat off etc. On the journey to access she continues to complain of various ailments, however, she brightens on return to her placement. It was said Stacey had considerable loyalty to her mother, she has on occasion implied she would like to try rehabilitation on her own with her mother and feels uncertain as to whether or not her mother will be able to manage all three.

After access Stacey does not say much to her carer about what has gone on, she sometimes comments that Brian has been naughty. Stacey is worried about missing school, both the work she is meant to be doing and keeping up with her friends.

At a recent access Stacey was upset about a Christmas card that she had received from her extended family which had been signed by her grand-dad. She has said that he has been physically abusive both towards her mother and to the other children and Stacey has witnessed this. She naturally worries about what the future holds in connection with this.

Stacey has been enquiring as to who her natural father is, it has been felt that it is inappropriate to commence life story work at the moment given the upset that she is experiencing over the rehabilitation, and the fact that she is not in a settled long-term situation.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



## **Discussion**

It was clear that the children are distressed both by the process and probably by the prospect of rehabilitation. Staff were clear that the children had been reassured that they would not be returned home until it was safe for this to occur.

It was said the rehabilitation plan could not go on forever, that this would be damaging not just for the children but doubtless for Susan too.

## **Care Plan**

Rehabilitation i.e. for the children to return to the care of mother.

## **Recommendations in Support of Care Plan**

- 1 A "Taking Stock"/Planning Meeting to occur on 15 January 1996, when the viability of rehabilitation for all 3 children will be considered. This will also consider and plan the next phase of rehabilitation, assuming this is the recommendation. Mike to ensure this meeting occurs.
- 2 Access to continue as at present, staff to support Susan with this and make clear to her how they feel it may be improved. Susan to make clear to staff what concerns she has.
- 3 [REDACTED] Mrs Claffey to care for Stacey. Both carers to be offered regular support from their link worker.
- 4 All 3 children to be supported through what is recognised as being a stressful period by their carers and others who are involved with them.

Should there be a change in the Care Plan, another Child in Care Review will be held to ratify the change.

## **Date and Place of Next Meeting**

Monday 22 April 1996 at 2 pm at Catherine Street Resource Centre. Peter Pope has booked the room.

[REDACTED]  
Peter Pope  
Community Assessment and Review Officer  
10 January 1996

## **Copies to:**

### **All Present**

Mrs Pollock, Head Teacher, Tannadice School  
Mrs Webster, Head Teacher, Inverbrothock Primary School  
Dougje Dunlop, Manager, Child Care

pp/nc/leonrev

**Tayside Regional Council - Social Work Department**

**CASE REVIEWS - CHILDREN IN CARE**

**SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT**

Name [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

DOB [REDACTED] URN [REDACTED]

Name Stacey LEONARD

Address c/o Irene Claffey, 49 Millfield Road, ARBROATH

DOB 28/04/88 URN [REDACTED]

Name [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

DOB [REDACTED] URN [REDACTED]

Date of Last Review or Case Conference 19/10/95

Date of Last Medical Inspection 12/10/95

Date of Last School Report May 1995

Date of Last Financial Assessment (Form F8) [REDACTED]

**Please include comments under the following headings:-**

**Pen picture of the child (including interests as well as physical and emotional attributes):**

As part of the rehabilitation plan which started on 23 November 1995, [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] have been spending two days per week at home with their mother. The children are less settled and are displaying a range of distressing behaviour both at home and in their placement.

All three children have been quite excited about visiting their mother, however they have also expressed their fears and anxieties about their future.

[REDACTED]



Stacey is very loyal to her mother and states that she wants to live with her mother, however she appears emotionally withdrawn during access, for example, Stacey is very reluctant to take her coat off when visiting her mother and is always keen to leave.

[REDACTED]

**Summary of Work done since last Review (including frequency of visits):**

Susan was allocated her tenancy at the end of September. Although it was her intention to move in as soon as possible, she did not take up occupancy until after her marriage to David Lessels which was on the 15 November 1995. The rehabilitation plan was scheduled to start in mid October, however due to the changes in Susan's plans and circumstances, rehabilitation did not start until 23 November. Workers supervise twice weekly access sessions as part of the rehabilitation plan, and meet with Susan weekly to address parenting issues.

**Suitability of Placement (does it meet the child's needs? What are his views?):**

All three children were settled in their placements and were not presenting with any significant difficulties, however they are all showing signs of distress. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Stacey is becoming increasingly withdrawn and is testing boundaries, her appetite is poor and she is having disturbed sleep. [REDACTED]

**School Report (facts about attainment and potential. Also any behavioural or relationship difficulties):**

The children's education is being disrupted by rehabilitation and they are currently attending school three days per week. The children are less settled in school and are not reaching their potential.

**Health (date of last medical and details of any treatment in addition to description of Health):**

There are no currently health difficulties.

**Contact with natural parents (current home situation/parent's views re future):**

Weekly contact as part of rehabilitation.

**Parental Contributions:**

**Social Worker's views re future action (indicating why any changes 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.**

The first phase of the rehabilitation plan has been completed, this has involved the children spending increasing periods of time at home with some unsupervised access. Although rehabilitation is the early stages, and the expectations which are currently being placed on Susan are minimal, she is struggling to cope with these demands. Susan does not always recognise or accept the concerns raised by the workers and she does not fully take on board the advice and guidance which is offered to her. It is difficult therefore to see a way forward to assist Susan in order that she can resume the full time care of all three children.

In summary, there are concerns about Susan's ability to meet the children's most basic needs. [REDACTED]

The next stage of rehabilitation will involve the children having increased periods of unsupervised access - including overnights. This will fully test out her ability to provide adequate care and protection for the children. However, should the children's behaviour become very distressed then decisions will need to be made about whether rehabilitation should continue.

[REDACTED]  
**ELIZABETH ROSS  
SOCIAL WORKER**

**ER/KGT-96  
08 January 1996**



## COMMENTS BY SOCIAL WORKER / LINK WORKER

(Separate Form to be Completed by Social Work and Link Worker)

- 1 Was the placement appropriate, taking into account the carers approval range, skills and experience and the needs of the child?

Dorothy and Stephen provided regular monthly respite (Friday - Monday) and an extended period of respite during the school holidays.

The placement was planned and dates were agreed in advance. The carers had the opportunity to talk with current carers and Social Work staff and this had information about children's circumstances and needs.

- 2 Comment on the quality of relationships within the carers home, ie between carers, their own and other children in the foster home. How did the child fit in?

The household is generally very busy and there tended to be other pre school children present. Dorothy and Steve work as a team, both are outgoing and they create a lively atmosphere in the home. [REDACTED] were not present during my visits, however [REDACTED] was frequently involved with the children. The Leonard children always looked forward to their respite weekends and were all given a warm welcome.

- 3 Comment on the quality of physical/practical care given to the child, ie how were the child's physical and day to day practical needs met?

The children always appeared well cared for. Dorothy contacted the Social Worker when children did not have enough clothing and they ensured that Stacey had the necessary items for her stay in hospital. [REDACTED]

- 4 Comment on the quality of the emotional care given to the child, ie carer's receptiveness to the child's emotional state, ability to help child with his/her feelings, to help understand his/her situation etc.

Children had regular access with their mother during the school holidays. Dorothy and Stephen were receptive to the children's anxiety and distress caused by this contact. Carers also helped prepare Stacey for her stay in hospital. Dorothy and Stephen certainly helped raise the girls' self-esteem and confidence by addressing appearance issues.

- 5 Comment on the carer's quality of working relationships with the



following. (Were there any difficulties and how were they resolved?)

a Child's parents and significant other people

A limited contact with children's mother.

b Members of the Social Work Department's staff

Carers sought advice/shared information as appropriate. They also made themselves available to assist with transport, etc.

c Other agencies, ie Health/Education

N/A.

6 Was the support and practical help given appropriate to meet the needs of the placement child?

Yes.

7 Comment on the carer's ability to use advice and support with regards to this placement.

Dorothy and Stephen sought advice and took this forward appropriately eg. contact with the children's maternal grandparents.

8 Were the tasks in relation to the placement goal being achieved? If not, why?

Yes.

9 Reason for the placement ending

Dorothy and Stephen were temporarily withdrawn as respite carers.

10 Comment on positive and negative features of this foster home.

All three children looked forward to going to stay with the Archer family. The carers involved the children in various indoor/outdoor activities which they thoroughly enjoyed.

11 Areas you consider carers would need further information, advice or training.

Signed by Social Worker/Link Worker ..

Date

.....  
30/1/96  
.....



REHABILITATION PLANNING MEETING

held at  
ARBROATH SWD

on  
13 February 1996

Stacey [REDACTED] LEONARD

Present:

|                |                       |                  |
|----------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Mike Briggs    | Senior Social Worker  | Minute and chair |
| Elizabeth Ross | Social Worker         |                  |
| Isabel Naylor  | Social Work Assistant |                  |
| Barbara Cowan  | Social Worker         |                  |
| Irene Claffey  | Foster Carer (Stacey) |                  |
| [REDACTED]     |                       |                  |
| Susan Lessells | Parent                |                  |

Progress to date for Stage III

Sessions at Kennoway - 3 completed. 1 cancelled due to weather  
Individual sessions - 1 completed 1 cancelled due to Susans ill health  
1 cancelled due to weather  
Family sessions - 3 completed 1 cancelled due to weather

UPDATE

Susan Lessells

Susan felt that the rehabilitation was going well. She feels that she is more involved in the children's activities and is more able to hold their interest during the sessions.

The girls were getting on well together. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The children were not getting into as much trouble.

Susan had, however, been tired at the end of one of the sessions and had sent the children home early. Susan struggles with Stacey on an emotional level but feels more confident in organising the practical tasks.

[REDACTED]

Elizabeth Ross SW / Isabel Naylor SWA / Barbara Cowan SW

### Family Sessions

Susan is listening to the advice being given, but is not consistent in carrying it out. With just the two girls to manage, the dynamics have changed in that they are not as demanding of Susan. Susan manages this better, but even at this level things have broken down. [REDACTED]

Susan attempts to structure the sessions but is not consistent in this. There has been some advance in her emotional care of the children, but certain key things remain weak

- Susan is not consistent in the way she manages the children, for example, greetings / goodbyes to the children
- both Susan and the children are emotionally drained after the sessions.

### Individual Work

Good sessions . [REDACTED]

### Family Work

This has been very difficult. Susan is quite flat by the time it happens at 4pm. [REDACTED] tends to take over the session and Susan has great difficulty in managing this. In trying to communicate with the children, Susan struggles to involve them in the structure of the session. She has difficulties in taking on the parenting role.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### Irene Claffey Foster Carer

Stacey continues to have nightmares about granddad . There are also themes around a motorbike and someone with a knife.

Stacey had gone through an uncertain time in terms of whether she wished to go and stay with Mum. At one point she indicated that she wished to withdraw, but then retracted, leaving the decision to the "panel" about whether they should return home or not. Stacey seems to take on something of the "mothering" role during the times on a Friday.



Stacey's eating has improved, although she remains "picky" with her food.

Tannadice P.S.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

#### General comments

Susan has persevered in the rehabilitation programme with the children. Whilst some limited improvements have been identified, Susan remains inconsistent in how she puts advice into practice. Workers have not seen the progress which they had hoped. However, progress has been such that rehabilitation will continue to the next level.

Susan is clear that she wishes to proceed with the current work.

She generally denies the reality of the children's past in that the children have been abused and neglected, and that she has been unable to protect them from dangerous adults.

There is a significant difference in the way the children present in placement - happy and relaxed - as opposed to access time where they appear troubled and tense.

#### Planning

The plan is to further test out prospects of rehabilitation with extended periods of unsupervised access at Kennoway. Should this be successful, then consideration will be given to residential access.

The family work will continue at the Child and Family Centre.

Individual work will continue with Susan.

Mon - parenting sessions - Susan and 3 children

Tues - individual sessions with Susan

Wed -

Thurs -

Fri - Access at Kennoway

Mike Briggs  
Senior Social Worker

CHILD AND FAMILY COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

- 1 All pages and sections to be completed for presentation to first review Core Group (3 months) and updated for 1st Review Conference (6 months).
- 2 Front sheet and sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 21 and 22 to be updated for all 2nd and subsequent Review Conferences. Other sections to be updated in the event of significant change.

|                                                                                                                          |          |                                  |                                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1 Subject Child:</b>                                                                                                  |          | STACEY LEONARD                   |                                                                |
| <b>Unique No:</b>                                                                                                        |          | <b>Date of Registration:</b>     | 03/11/94                                                       |
| <b>Latest Core Group Meeting:</b> MARCH 1996                                                                             |          | <b>Date of Last Conference:</b>  | 14/12/95                                                       |
| <b>Surname:</b>                                                                                                          | LEONARD  | <b>Alias:</b>                    |                                                                |
| <b>Forename(s):</b>                                                                                                      | STACEY   | <b>Alias:</b>                    |                                                                |
| <b>Sex (M/F):</b>                                                                                                        | F        | <b>DOB:</b>                      | 28/04/88                                                       |
| <b>Legal Status:</b>                                                                                                     | 44(1)(a) | <b>Category of Registration:</b> | Physical Abuse (Very Suspicious)<br>Physical Neglect (At Risk) |
| <b>Current Address:</b><br>C/O Mrs I Claffey, 49 Millfield Road, Arbroath                                                |          |                                  |                                                                |
| <b>Significant changes of address, carers, household members or new siblings (update cross-references as necessary):</b> |          |                                  |                                                                |
| <b>Changes in Social Worker, GP, Health Visitor or other professionals within the child's protective core group:</b>     |          |                                  |                                                                |

| <b>2 Family Composition:</b> |            |              |                     |                                     |
|------------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Name                         | DOB        | Relationship | School / Occupation | Address                             |
| Susan Lessels                | 21/11/68   | Mother       |                     | 26 Seton Terrace,<br>Kennoway, Fife |
| [REDACTED]                   | [REDACTED] | Half Brother | [REDACTED]          | [REDACTED]                          |
| Stacey Leonard               | 28/04/88   | Subject      | Inverbrothock<br>PS | 49 Millfield Road,<br>Arbroath      |
| [REDACTED]                   | [REDACTED] | Sister       | Tannadice PS        | c/o Mrs Roy                         |
|                              |            |              |                     | [REDACTED]                          |



**3 GENOGRAM:**

As Attached

**4 KEY PROTECTION ISSUES AT LATEST CONFERENCE / REVIEW:**

what were the concerns related to the child - what were the risks?

1. There are concerns about Mrs Lessel's ability to provide adequate physical and emotional care for her children.
2. There are concerns about Mrs Lessel's ability and commitment to ensure her children's safety.

**5 SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS (PROGRESS TOWARDS IDENTIFIED PROTECTION ISSUES; CRITICAL INCIDENTS; CHANGES IN CIRCUMSTANCES NOT IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 1):**

A Rehabilitation Plan commenced in November 1995 which involved [REDACTED] Stacey [REDACTED] spending periods at home with their mother. From the early stages, Susan struggled to cope with the demands of caring for three children although the expectations being placed on her were minimal. [REDACTED]

Rehabilitation continued for Stacey and [REDACTED] and this involved the girls spending overnight with Susan and David. Susan continued to experience difficulties managing both children and there was growing concern about her ability and commitment to keeping her children safe. It was also evident that Susan's commitment to co-operating with the Social Work Department was also lessening.

In light of the growing concerns, the workers involved in the rehabilitation assessment were of the opinion that rehabilitation should not be pursued for Stacey and [REDACTED]. Senior Management have been consulted and endorse this. Legal advice on routes to Permanency is being pursued. The recommendation not to pursue rehabilitation will be fully discussed at a Child in Care Review which is scheduled for 12/06/96. Susan will continue to have supervised access with the children until decisions are made about their long term future. Susan does not agree with the recommendation to stop rehabilitation and has sought legal advice.



Stacey and Leonard

**Thomas Leonard**

Elizabeth Gow, Cryer or Page

Susan  
(21/22/68)

David John  
Laing

David Lessels Stacey (24/8/88)

ER/KGT-96  
06 June 1996



**6 CURRENT PROTECTION ISSUES: An Update of Concerns/Risks to the Child.**

The Child Protection concerns remain unchanged.

**7 BRIEF FAMILY HISTORY:**

[REDACTED] Her mother began co-habiting with Mr Thomas Leonard and Susan and her sisters were rehabilitated home. Susan's mother left the family home and Susan continued to live with Mr Leonard. Mr Leonard was convicted of sexual offences [REDACTED] March 1994. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mr Leonard provided Susan with support to look after her children, and Susan has had difficulty coping since Mr Leonard's imprisonment.

Susan moved to Kennoway, [REDACTED] She met David Lessels in April 1995 and they married in November.

**8 PROFILE OF BIRTH MOTHER (including strengths and weaknesses):**

Ms Leonard [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] own childhood experiences have not equipped her well to be an effective parent to her own children. [REDACTED]

**9 PROFILE OF BIRTH FATHER (including strengths and weaknesses):****10 PROFILE OF ANY OTHER KEY CARETAKERS:**

Susan has re-established contact with her stepsister and father. She has been keen for Carol to have access with the children despite the children clearly stating that they did not want this to happen. The Social Work Department do not believe that it is in the children's interests for access to happen and this has been endorsed by the Children's Hearing in respect of Stacey.

David Lessels works full time in the Catering Industry and has limited contact with the children. It would seem that when available he takes an active role with the children.



**11 PARENTS' RELATIONSHIP - describe nature, length and stability of relationship:****12 WHAT ROLES DO MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY PLAY - HOW DO MEMBERS INTERACT?:**

Susan has experienced ongoing difficulties managing the children and there are times when roles are reversed, eg [REDACTED] and Stacey will parent Susan. [REDACTED] Stacey is very loyal and protective of her mother. Susan has difficulty responding to the children in an age appropriate way.

**13 FINANCE & MATERIAL CONDITIONS:**

Susan and David were allocated a house in Kennoway in September. They have managed to furnish the house to an adequate standard. [REDACTED]

**14 PROFILE OF THIS CHILD - strengths and weaknesses, giving consideration to health, education, identity, self care, competence, emotional, physical and intellectual development as well as family and peer relationships, likes and dislikes:**

Stacey presents as a chatty and happy child in placement. She is very loyal to her family and is very keen for them all, including [REDACTED] to be reunited as a family unit. Although Stacey presents a positive picture of home, her behaviour would suggest otherwise. She is a sad and serious little girl who is withdrawn and uncommunicative. She is making progress at school although is not reaching her potential.



**15 PROFILE OF OTHER CHILDREN IN THIS FAMILY - strengths and weaknesses, giving consideration to health, education, identity, self care, competence, emotional, physical and intellectual development as well as family and peer relationships, likes and dislikes:**

(a)

(b)

(c)

(d)

(e)

**17 WHAT IS THE CHILD'S VIEW OF THE SITUATION AND THOSE CHANGES WHICH NEED TO BE MADE?**

Stacey have expressed anxieties about their mother's ability to look after them and keep them safe. The children are also concerned that Susan will not cope and will be hospitalised. As rehabilitation has progressed Stacey has become increasingly guarded about the home situation.

**18 WHAT IS THE MOTHER'S VIEW OF THE SITUATION, CHANGES THAT REQUIRE TO BE MADE AND ACTION TAKEN?**

Susan believes that she is managing to provide adequate care and protection for Stacey and does not agree with the Social Work Department's decision to stop rehabilitation.



**19 WHAT IS FATHER'S VIEW OF THE SITUATION, CHANGES THAT REQUIRE TO BE MADE AND ACTION TAKEN?**

**20 WHAT IS THE SOCIAL WORKER'S VIEW OF THE SITUATION, THE CHANGES REQUIRED AND THE ACTION TO BE TAKEN?**

Susan has been unable to demonstrate that she can provide adequate care and protection for the children. We believe that rehabilitation is not in the children's best interests and that permanent substitute carers should be pursued for them. Susan will not have unsupervised contact with the children and therefore the risks to the children are significantly reduced. Consideration would need to be given to the risks to the children if rehabilitation was to be attempted for a third time.

**21 SUMMARY OF KEY TASKS WITHIN PROTECTION PLAN (Inter-agency):**



**22 CASE CONFERENCE REVIEW REPORTS ONLY:**

State clearly if you recommend that the child(ren)'s name(s) should stay on the register and why.

NO

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Social Worker)  
E ROSS

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Senior Social Worker)  
M BRIGGS

Date of next Core Group Meeting / Review Conference:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*[Signature]*



# AGREED TASKS

| Agency                 | Task                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Timescale/Frequency of Contact | Worker Substitut            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Social Work Dept       | Key Worker - visit to children in placement to keep in touch with their progress. Seeking and receiving information from other key agencies. Direct with Susan and the children as part of the ongoing rehab assessment. | Weekly                         | E Ross                      |
| Social Work Dept       | Direct work with Susan and the children as part of the ongoing rehab assessment.                                                                                                                                         | Weekly                         | B Cowan                     |
| Social Work Dept       | Direct work with Susan and the children as part of the ongoing rehab assessment.                                                                                                                                         | Weekly                         | I Naylor-Swan               |
| Education Dept         | Oversee children's educational progress, and note any significant issues to Key Worker.                                                                                                                                  | Daily                          | Inver.PS/<br>Tannadic<br>PS |
| Foster Carer           | Full-time care of children. Feedback.                                                                                                                                                                                    | Full-time care                 | Mrs Claffey<br>[REDACTED]   |
| Foster Carer (respite) | Respite care for children.                                                                                                                                                                                               | As arranged                    |                             |
| Parent                 | Co-operation with rehab work. Arrangement of transport to and from access.                                                                                                                                               | As per working agreement.      | Susan Less                  |



**DETAIL RECORD**

(For specified incidents or agreed cases)

URN: .....

Client: Stacey [REDACTED] LEONARD.....

DOB: .....

Date: 03/04/96

Event: Rehab

In car - Stacey [REDACTED] talking about bad dreams - Stacey worried if she phones Police they'll be no-one there to come and stop Grandad taking her away. [REDACTED] dreams are about Grandad Leonard.

Morning - [REDACTED]

Stacey started to speak about bad dreams - Susan immediately said "that's nothing, Mummy had a really bad dream on Monday."

David away to work at 3.30 pm.

Stacey - [REDACTED] came to visit after lunch. Snack - crispy bread, cheese, cake. Lunch - macaroni and beans, didn't like macaroni (packet)

Stacey-tears because I was worrying - worried about staying over. But mum said she'd check before we go to bed and every hour.

Mummy used to scream and smack us when she lost her temper, now she pretends to hit us - "Irene hit me once".

Stacey - I could have bad dreams.

Stacey - Worried that mum's not going to do well.

("Mummy will try to do her very best")

Client Name: Stacey & Tammy LEONARD

Date: 03/04/96

Event: Rehab

**Stacey** - I want to give it a try. We're going to see Granny Lessels. Going to a cafe for lunch (Leven), watching the 'The Bill'. Bedtime is at 9 o'clock? "8 o'clock when you stay here permanent".

No visitors tomorrow. Mummy will put you to bed. Daddy to come up. Stacey wants to bring her blades, Susan "bring your hat."

Stacey worried about Grandad Leonard coming over tomorrow, he'll attack us, smack us and take us away and make us starve again. No breakfast, lunch.

Talking about Grandad today, statue seen by Stacey that used to belong to Auntie Carol/Grandad.

"Mummy's speaking to Aunt Carol, not Grandad". Susan said, "I may be speaking to Grandad, but he wont get near youz."

██████████ worried about Grandad.

██████████ Stacey - Mummy could say no to Grandad visiting.

Role-play - Susan phoning directed by ██████████

Phoned Police/Social Work Department. Closed curtains.

Stacey would like him arrested.

Sad / Unhappy / Anything????

03/95



Client Name: Stacey & Tammy LEONARD

Date: 03/04/96      Event:- Rehab

Susan - Unhappy but understood how children felt about their fears (Tam).

Stacey - Unsure of Susan.

[REDACTED]

Stacey - If we have a quiet day, nobody will know our worries.

[REDACTED]

Stacey - Why are you asking about Grandad? I don't know if Mummy can keep us safe from Grandad. Grandad knows he's not allowed here.

Susan - I've told him.

[REDACTED]

Children talked to Police about Gino, Grandad (knife, scissors and gun).

Police talked to children about Grandad.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Isabel Swan-Naylor  
Social Work Assistant

ISN/KGT-96  
05 April 1996

**APPENDIX K**

**CHILD PROTECTION PLAN**

Date of Latest Network Meeting (where applicable) 15/04/96

Name of Child: Stacey LEONARD Date of Birth 28/04/88

Address: c/o Mrs Claffey, 49 Millfield Road, ARBROATH

Name(s) and Address of Parents/Carers (where not parents, specify relationship to child):

Susan LEONARD, 26 Seton Terrace, KENNOWAY, Fife.

Statutory Status of Registered Child: Section 44(1)(a) Place

Is the suspected perpetrator in the child's usual household? Y/N

If not, is a return to the household considered likely? Y/N

What is their relationship to the child (specify even if only "neighbour".  
"stranger" etc)

Mother

Other children in the Child's Usual Household Relationship to Registered Child

[REDACTED] 1/2 Sibling

[REDACTED] Sibling

Date of Latest

Conference/Review: 14/12/95 Date of Next Review: 29/05/96

Physical Abuse

Very Suspicious

Nature of Abuse/Neglect: Physical Neglect Level(s) of Certainty: At Risk

Key Protection Issues:

1. Children currently in care, in the process of rehabilitation to mother.
2. Concerns are present in terms of Susan Leonard's parenting skills, and her ability to keep the children safe in her care.
3. Children were previously assaulted by an adult living in the family home.



## AGREED TASKS

| Agency                 | Task                                                                                                                                                                          | Timescale/Frequency of Contact | Worker/Substitute     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Social Work Department | Key Worker - visit to children in placement to keep in touch with their progress.<br>Seeking and receiving information from other key agencies.<br>Direct work with children. | Weekly                         | Elizabeth Ross        |
| Social Work Department | Direct work with children.                                                                                                                                                    | Weekly                         | Barbara Cowan         |
| Social Work Department | Assessment work with children.                                                                                                                                                | Weekly                         | Isabel Naylor         |
| Education Department   | Oversee children's educational progress, and note any significant issues to Key Worker.                                                                                       | Daily                          | Inver. Primary School |
| Foster Carer           | Full-time care of children.<br>Feedback.                                                                                                                                      | Full-time care                 | Mrs Claffey           |
| Foster Carer (Respite) | Respite care for children..                                                                                                                                                   | As arranged                    |                       |
| Parent                 | Co-operation with rehabilitation work.<br>Arrangement of transport to and from access.                                                                                        | As per working agreement.      | Susan Lessells        |

Date of Next Network Meeting: 29/05/96

Venue: Abbey Health Centre, Arbroath

Key Worker: Elizabeth Ross

Senior Social Worker: Mike Briggs

Office Location and Tel No: Arbroath SWD, Academy Lane - 01241 878585

Parent(s)/Carer(s): Susan Lessells

## THE LEONARDS

### POSITIVES

Keeps access.

Tried to take on advice, but barely manages low order stuff. Cannot manage high order.

Supportive relationship.

Still has tenancy

David's relatives are supportive.

Furnished house, but standards slipping.

Turns up for children, and feeds them.

### NEGATIVES

Children have been physically abused.

Susan acknowledges:-

- physical abuse by Gino [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- denial that sexual abuse has happened, except ref. 1 incident with Stacey.

Susan has difficulty in assessing safe / unsafe adults.

Cannot listen to children and take action to protect and keep safe as requested.

Cannot protect - say no to; family / strangers.

[REDACTED]

Unable to understand / respond to her children's emotional needs. Blocks / denies threatening situations.

[REDACTED]

"Plays the game" less and less. Will comply for duration of rehab.

Children tell by various means of their distress.

Says Fife will support but is still isolated.



**Routines / Parenting-**

**5**

**Good day / children not challenging.**

**Emotional Care**

- **Physical reassurance** 2/3

- **Verbal reassurance** 2/3

**No solutions or comfort - own needs take over.**

- **Advice / comfort, etc.** 2  
**unprompted**

**Meaningless / mixed reassurance.**

**Safety**

- **Practical** 2

- **Active "keeping safe"** 1

- **Preventive keeping safe**

a. **Physical**

b. **Emotional**

c. **Child Protection**

**Not proactive**

**Unable to acknowledge past problems with relatives. Unable to protect them now.**

**COMMENTS BY  
SOCIAL WORKER  
(CURRENT PLACEMENT)**

(Separate Form to be completed by Social Worker and Link Worker)

1. **Is the placement appropriate, taking into account the carer's approval range, skills and experience and the needs of the child?**

Yes. Stacey has fitted in well with this family and this placement is meeting her needs.

2. **Comment on the quality of relationships within the carer's home, ie. between carers, their own and other children in the foster home. How does the child fit it?**

It is evident that Stacey is very fond of Irene and [REDACTED] and has established herself in this family. Irene's partner appears to be more actively involved with this placement.

3. **Comment on the quality of physical/practical care given to the child, ie. how are the child's physical and day to day practical needs met?**

Stacey's physical/practical needs are being met in this placement.

4. **Comment on the quality of the emotional care given to the child, ie. carer's receptiveness to the child's emotional state, ability to help child with his/her feelings, to help understand his /her situation, etc.**

Stacey is an emotionally vulnerable little girl, who requires a high level of support. Irene has developed a warm and trusting relationship with Stacey and the latter is now able to share her worries and concerns with Irene.

There have been some issues eg. holiday/family boundaries/meeting in which there have been differences of opinions and these have been discussed between Carer, Link Worker and Social Worker.

5. **Comment on the carer's quality of working relationships with the following. (Are there any difficulties and how are they resolved?)**

**A Child's parents and significant other people**

No difficulties identified. Susan has contacted Irene for advice and found this contact to be very helpful.

**B Members of the Social Work Department's staff**

Irene attends regular review meetings and maintains regular contact with self and other members of the Rehab Team.

**C Other agencies, ie. Health/Education**

Irene maintains regular contact with school and the various health related agencies who Stacey has contact with.



6. Is the support and practical help given appropriate to meet the needs of the placement child?

Yes.

7. Comment on the carer's ability to use advice and support with regards to this placement.

As previously noted there were differing opinions re holiday/family boundaries - Irene was able to take on board the concerns raised - although did not necessarily agree with them.

8. Are the tasks in relation to the placement goal being achieved? If not, why?

Yes.

9. Commencement on positive and negative features of this foster home.

Irene offers a high standard of care - of particular importance for this placement is Irene's ability to provide a high level of emotional support to Stacey and help her share her worries or concerns.

Irene's partner appears to be actively involved with this placement and this, I feel, needs to be acknowledged.

10. Areas you consider carers would need further information, advice or training.

Signed by Social Worker:-

Date:-

[Redacted Signature] .....  
16/4/96 .....

## CASE REVIEW

## Summary of Review and Recommendations for the Future

Date of Review: 22 April 1996

Name

Present Address

DOB

STACEY LEONARD

c/o Irene Claffey  
49 Millfield Road  
ARBROATH

28.04.88

## Participants:

Susan Lessels  
Isobel Swan  
~~Elizabeth Ross~~  
Mike Briggs  
Irene Claffey  
Paula Mulford  
Ann Robertson  
Peter PopeMother  
Social Work Assistant  
Social Worker  
Senior Social Worker  
Foster Carer for Stacey  
Family Placement Team (Link Worker [REDACTED])  
Family Placement Team (Link Worker for Mrs Claffey)  
Community Assessment and Review Officer, Chair and  
Minutetaker

## Apologies:

[REDACTED]  
Margaret Pollock

Headteacher, Tannadice Primary School

A written report was submitted to the meeting, it should be read in conjunction with this summary.

## PROGRESS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MEETING OF 08.01.96

- 1 "A "taking stock"/planning meeting to occur on 15 January 1996, when the viability of rehabilitation of all three children will be considered. This will also consider and plan the next phase of rehabilitation, assuming this is the recommendation. Mike to ensure this meeting occurs".

This occurred.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



## PROGRESS contd

In contrast, Stacey [REDACTED] do wish to try rehabilitation, back to the care of their mother. However, they too are anxious about this prospect.

- 2 "Access to continue as at present, staff to support Susan with this and make clear to her how they feel it may be improved. Susan to make clear to staff what concerns she has".

This has occurred. Susan said that she felt access generally was "okay", however, she did say that when all three children were together she found it a struggle, [REDACTED]

Staff who supervise the access commented that Susan struggled to parent all three successfully. However, Elizabeth saw it as an adult responsibility to parent the children rather than the child's responsibility to cooperate with the parent. This seemed to be a clear difference in view between the Social Work Department and Susan.

The girls have overnight access to Susan's house in Fife, she said that this was satisfactory once the children had settled. Apparently the children have expressed fears that their granddad will come to the door, and they have nightmares about this while in foster care.

Elizabeth commented that Stacey appeared unhappy when in Kennoway with her mother, this contrasted when she was in the foster placement where she was happy and outgoing. Stacey says following the access that she has a good weekend, yet her body language and mood appear to contradict this.

The children have just had their first long weekend with their mother. It is anticipated this will be repeated over the next six weeks.

It was said that Stacey was very loyal to her mum, and this shows through in what she says.

It was noted that after access Stacey is emotionally drained and tired.

It was agreed that the rehabilitation plan was stressful and difficult for the girls, however, it was also agreed that it was still best to try the rehabilitation plan, as the alternative was to leave the children in some kind of limbo which was clearly not in their long term interests.

Regarding the children's fears over their Granddad Leonard abusing them, this had occurred in the past and the children remember him with fear. Susan said she tried to reassure the children that she would protect them from him, and he would have no contact with them. It was pointed out to Susan that she, herself, has reopened contact with the granddad, he now knows where the children are, and the children know this. Apparently some memento from granddad had been returned by him to Susan, who now had it in her house in Fife. It was said this had further inflamed the children's worries. Elizabeth felt the children needed clear and consistent messages from their mother, however, they were not receiving this with Susan having inconsistencies around the Granddad Leonard issue.

Mike commented that people were taking a calculated risk in Susan's ability to protect her children. Susan had given the Department some commitment regarding this, however, the Department is aware that she has been inconsistent in certain of her patterns of functioning.

## PROGRESS contd

- 3 [REDACTED] Mrs Claffey to care for Stacey. Both carers to be offered regular support from their Link Worker".
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Stacey has been more challenging over the last two weeks in her care placement, testing the boundaries that previously she understood. People felt this was natural in the context of the move to return to her mum. She has been having more nightmares lately, and is tense, her eating has returned to being very picky and she needs to be encouraged and supported.

Irene noted that Stacey does want to see her mum, and make a go of the rehabilitation, but she is quite tense about this.

In school Stacey is seen as being a bright child and is making progress.

Both carers are offered support by their Link Workers.

- 4 "All three children to be supported through what is recognised as being a stressful period, by their carers and others who are involved with them".

This has occurred.

## DISCUSSION

Regarding the immediate future intentions, the plan is that Stacey [REDACTED] continue to have four nights of the week in the care of their mother, and three nights back with their carers. This will be reviewed at the end of May, with the hoped for outcome that a recommendation can go to the Children's Panel for Stacey's [REDACTED] Order to be changed to that of a Home Supervision Order, back with their mum.



## DISCUSSION contd

### CARE PLANS

For Stacey [REDACTED] rehabilitation, ie to return to the care of their mother.

[REDACTED]

### RECOMMENDATIONS IN SUPPORT OF CARE PLAN

- 1 [REDACTED] Stacey to continue to spend increasing times in the care of their mother. Susan to care for them, and share with workers concerns she may have regarding this. Workers to endeavour to support Susan manage this successfully.
- 2 Elizabeth to call a Children's Panel when it is clear that rehabilitation is or is not viable, ie most likely towards the end of May 1996, early June 1996.
- 3 [REDACTED]
- 4 All three children to be cared for in their care placements, and their carers to be supported by their Link Workers as appropriate. It is recognised that the next few months will be stressful for [REDACTED] and Stacey particularly.
- 5 Susan to endeavour to be consistent, clear and truthful with her children and workers involved regarding Granddad Leonard.

**DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 2 July 1996 at 2.00 pm, at Catherine Street Resource Centre.

It was agreed that the date and place of this meeting may change should it appear that by delaying it or bringing it forward it can be combined with a discharge from care meeting. Should people wish, the location of the meeting can move to Fife should this appear appropriate.



Peter Pope  
Community Assessment and Review Officer  
24 April 1996

**Copies to:**

All Present  
Christina Roy  
Margaret Pollock  
Dougie Dunlop, Service Manager

pp/jc/leonarev



S.W.  
File



W B Robertson  
Director of Social Work  
Academy Lane  
Arbroath  
DD11 1EJ

22 April 1996

Telephone: 01241 878585  
Fax: 01241 870372

Report No: 150/96

Social Worker  
Preparing Report Elizabeth ROSS

**SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT  
CHILDREN'S HEARING**

The following Child:-

Surname: LEONARD Date of Birth: 28/04/88

Christian Names  
or Forenames: Stacey Religion: \_\_\_\_\_

School: Inverbrothock Primary School Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: c/o Irene Claffey,

49 Millfield Road,

ARBROATH.

Is to appear on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ Children's Hearing

In Connection with Annual Review

**Stacey in Placement**

Stacey settled fairly quickly into this placement and has not presented with the difficult behaviour which was apparent in her previous placement.

She presents as a very sociable and polite child who is eager to please. She has developed a warm and trusting relationship with her carer and is now more able to share her worries and concerns. However, she remains an emotionally vulnerable little girl who requires a high level of support.

### **School**

Stacey transferred to Inverbrothock Primary School where she quickly established herself and made new friendships. She enjoys her schooling, however, the School notes that although she is making progress, she is not reaching her potential. She has been receiving additional support from within the School.

Stacey has been absent from school one day per week as part of the rehabilitation plan. It is envisaged that she will transfer to a school in Kennoway, Fife should the rehabilitation prove successful.

### **Health**

Stacey generally keeps in good health and attends for regular ophthalmic appointments.

### **Contact with her Mother**

Susan was offered temporary accommodation in various parts of Angus in order that rehabilitation could be tested out, however she would not accept this.

Stacey and her siblings had maintenance access with her mother until she was allocated her own tenancy in Kennoway in September 1995. Rehabilitation was scheduled to begin in September, however Susan's plans changed and she did not move into the house until after her marriage to David Lessels the following month.

Stacey and her siblings have been spending increasing periods of time in Kennoway as part of the ongoing rehabilitation programme. Initially contact was supervised and this was gradually extended to include periods of unsupervised access.

All three children were quite excited about visiting their mother, however they were also expressing fears and anxieties about their mother's ability to look after them and keep them safe. Susan stated that she felt able and committed to resuming the full time care of the children, however she struggled to manage all three children.



Whilst she was able to meet the children's practical needs, she had difficulty recognising and responding to their emotional needs. [REDACTED]

Stacey [REDACTED] have continued to spend time at home with their mother, including overnights. Stacey is very loyal to her mother and is keen for the family, [REDACTED] to be re-united. At the same time however, she is unsure about her mother's commitment and ability to keeping her safe.

### **Social Work Involvement**

The Social Work Department have been working intensely with this family, and this has included individual work with Susan and joint work with her and David Lessels. Much of this work has focused on parenting issues which Susan and David need to address if they are to resume the full time care of the children.

The children have also been seen individually and as a family. The main focus of this work has been helping them make sense of their personal histories. Stacey [REDACTED] have spoken at length of the difficult times they experienced whilst being cared for by their mother. It would seem that the children have been subjected to many inappropriate experiences and that their mother was unable to protect them. Susan Lessels is aware of both the children and the Social Work Department's concerns however, she states that she is committed to resuming the full time care of Stacey [REDACTED]

### **Contact with Extended Family**

Susan maintains that she will ensure that Mr Thomas Leonard, the children's step-grandfather, will have no contact with them, this is a condition of the current Supervision Order.

Susan has now re-established her relationship with her sister Carol [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Stacey has clearly stated that she does not want contact with Carol and that she is concerned that Carol was "hit her again". Although Susan is aware of Stacey's worries she does not believe the children's allegations that they were physically assaulted by Carol.

Susan maintains that she will supervise all contact between Carol and her children.

### **Conclusion**

The Social Work Department are currently assessing Susan's ability to resume the full time care of Stacey and this currently involves Stacey spending periods of time in Kennoway with her mother, including overnights. This will be increased over the next two months in order that rehabilitation can be fully tested out. It is unclear at this time if Susan will be able to maintain the level of parenting necessary for Stacey to be returned to her care on a permanent basis and therefore the future for Stacey remains uncertain. Susan is aware that should rehabilitation fail then consideration will be given to securing Stacey's long term future with substitute carers.

### **Recommendation**

Stacey is a child who is in need of compulsory measures of care and I would request that consideration is given to renewing the current Supervision Order. I would also ask the Hearing to consider whether it is in Stacey's best interest to have access with Susan's sister Carol

██████████  
████████████████████  
ELIZABETH ROSS  
SOCIAL WORKER

ER/KGT-96  
22 April 1996



**Tayside Regional Council - Social Work Department**

**CASE REVIEWS - CHILDREN IN CARE**

**SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT**

Name [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

DOB [REDACTED] URN                     

Name Stacey LEONARD

Address c/o Irene Claffey, 49 Millfield Road, ARBROATH

DOB 28/04/88 URN                     

Name [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

DOB [REDACTED] URN                     

Date of Last Review or Case Conference 08/01/96

Date of Last Medical Inspection April 1996

Date of Last School Report May 1995

Date of Last Financial Assessment (Form F8)                                     

Please include comments under the following headings:-

Pen picture of the child (including interests as well as physical and emotional attributes):

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

**Stacey**

Stacey has been spending increasing periods of time, including overnights with her mother in Kennoway. She is very loyal to her family and is very keen for them all, including [REDACTED] to be reunited as a family unit. At the same time, Stacey has expressed various worries and concerns about returning to her mother's care. Like [REDACTED] she has worries that her mother will not be able to care for her and keep her safe. Although Stacey does not present with any significant behaviour difficulties, she is an emotionally vulnerable little girl who requires a high level of support.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Summary of Work done since last Review (including frequency of visits):**

The Social Work Department have been working intensively with this family as part of the rehabilitation programme, this has included individual work with Susan and joint work with her and David Lessels. Much of this work has focused on parenting issues.

The children have also been seen individually and as a family. The main focus of this work has been helping them make sense of their personal histories. All three children have spoken at length of the difficult times they experienced whilst being cared for by their mother. It would seem that they have been subjected to many inappropriate experiences and that their mother was unable to protect them. Susan Lessels is aware of both the children and the Social Work Department's concern however she states that she is committed to resuming the full time care of Stacey [REDACTED]

**Suitability of Placement (does it meet the child's needs? What are his views?):**

[REDACTED]

Stacey presents as a happy and relaxed child in placement and it is evident that she has established a very warm and trusting relationship with her carer. She continues to experience "bad dreams" and these tend to be about her step-granddad.



Her behaviour is becoming more unsettled as rehabilitation progresses. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**School Report (facts about attainment and potential. Also any behavioural or relationship difficulties):**

[REDACTED] Stacey attends Inverbrothock School. All three children appear to be making some progress although are working well below their potential.

Stacey [REDACTED] have been absent from school one day per week as part of the ongoing rehabilitation assessment, this will increase over the next six weeks.

**Health (date of last medical and details of any treatment in addition to description of Health):**

All three children generally keep in good health and there are no current health concerns.

**Contact with natural parents (current home situation/parent's views re future):**

[REDACTED] has weekly access with his mother and siblings and Stacey [REDACTED] have regular contact as part of the rehabilitation assessment. Access takes place at Arbroath Child and Family Centre and is supervised by a member of the Social Work Department. Susan appears to have great difficulty managing all three children during access.

Susan has now re-established contact with her sister Carol Leonard and is keen for her to have contact with the children. Carol is in daily contact with Mr Thomas Leonard who is the children's step-grandfather and a Schedule 1 Offender. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Stacey [REDACTED] have clearly stated that they do not want to have contact with Carol and that they have worries that she will "hit them again". Although Susan is aware of the children's concerns, [REDACTED] She maintains that she will supervise all contact between Carol and the children.

**Parental Contributions:**



**Social Worker's views re future action (indicating why any changes 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.**

We are currently assessing Susan's ability to resume the full time care of Stacey and Tammy and this currently involves them spending periods of time in Kennoway, including overnights.

Contact will be increased over the next six weeks as part of the ongoing assessment. Should Susan continue to manage to care for the two girls, a Children's Hearing will be requested in order that consideration can be given to returning them to her care.

Susan is aware that if rehabilitation fails, consideration will be given to securing Stacey [REDACTED] long term future with permanent substitute carers.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**ELIZABETH ROSS**  
**SOCIAL WORKER**

ER/KGT-96  
22 April 1996  
leonard1.doc



# REPORTER TO THE CHILDREN'S PANEL FOR TAYSIDE

## SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1968

Notice about Child referred to the Reporter to the Children's Panel .....

Surname LEONARD Christian Names STACEY  
 Date of Birth 28.4.88 Age 7 School INVERROCK PRIMARY  
 Home Address 26 SETON TERRACE, KENNOWAY, FIFE  
 Present Address 10 MRS IRENE CLAFFEY, 49 MILLFIELD ROAD, ARBROATH  
 Social Work Area ARBROATH Social Worker ELIZABETH ROSS  
 Reporter's Reference No A194 Referral No 5

PLEASE QUOTE IN ALL COMMUNICATIONS

SWSGS NO 940990910 Dated 15.3.96

Reason for Referral 18(3) ANNUAL REVIEW

☐ Thank you for your report/referral ..... Dated .....

### INFORMATION REQUESTED :

- ☐ Please give me more information as specified in the attached note.  
☐ I would be grateful for a report to assist me and any Hearing which may be convened for this child.  
☐ Please submit the report by : .....  
☐ Note : .....

### HEARING

- ☐ I will arrange a Hearing upon receipt of a social background report.  
☐ I have arranged a Hearing on ..... at ..... am/pm.  
☐ You are expected/invited to attend the Hearing.  
☐ A representative who knows the child and can take part in the discussion at the Hearing is expected/invited to attend.  
☐ Note : .....

### RESULT

- ☐ I am taking no further action/and have asked the Police to warn the child.  
☐ I am referring the case to the Social Work Department to offer advice, guidance and assistance on a voluntary basis.

### THE HEARING DECIDED

- ☐ To Discharge the referral under Section 42(2) (c) or 43(2). . . . on .....  
☐ To apply to the Sheriff for proof of the Grounds Section ..... on .....  
☐ To continue the case as arranged above, From .....  
☐ To issue a Supervision Requirement under Section ..... on .....  
☐ To continue the existing Supervision Requirement under Section ..... on .....  
☒ To vary the Supervision Requirement from Section 42(2)(a) PLACE to Section 42(2)(a) PLACE on 13.3.96  
☒ To terminate the Supervision Requirement on .....  
☒ As a result of the Requirement/decision, the child will be living WITH MRS IRENE CLAFFEY, 49 MILLFIELD ROAD, ARBROATH  
☐ Note : .....  
☐ Enclosures .....

Signed

Dated

15 May 1996

ADDRESS OF REPORTER

Keith House,  
 50 East Abbey Street,  
 Arbroath, DD11 1EW



# SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT 1968

## SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT VARYING EXISTING SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT

13th May 1996

Children's Hearing Centre  
Keith House 50 East Abbey  
ARBROATH DD11 1EW

A children's hearing for Angus, by way of variation of and in substitution for the supervision requirement dated Jan. June... to which

..... STACEY LEONARD ..... (DOB 28.9.88) .....

.....  
is subject, hereby require him/her to be under the supervision of the Director of Social Work for Angus, subject to the conditions noted below; and the requirement dated..... is hereby revoked.

..... (Chairman)

### CONDITIONS REFERRED TO IN THE FOREGOING SUPERVISION REQUIREMENT

- 1 The child shall comply with directions given by the supervising social worker.
- 2 The child shall reside in a named place, namely,  
..... with Mrs Irene Claffey, 40, Millfield  
..... Road, Arbroath .....
- 3 The requirement to reside is subject to the direction of the Director of Social Work to grant leave of absence from time to time to enable the child to engage in approved activities.
- 4 Subject to the discretion of the Director of Social Work the child may receive ~~respite care with residential access to~~  
her mother Mrs Susan Hussels, including overnight stays,  
at the discretion of the supervising social worker
- 5 Subject to the discretion of the Director of Social Work and the agreement of the child/parent/guardian, the child may receive respite care with other carers approved by the Social Work Department in terms of the Boarding Out and Fostering of Children (Scotland) Regulations 1985.
- 6 The child shall not have access to Mr. Thomas Leonard  
or to Ms Carol Leonard.

..... (Chairman)



APPENDIX B2: CASE CONFERENCE

1. MINUTE

|                                                                                                    |                      |                    |                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| (i) Conference Type: REVIEW                                                                        |                      | Date: 12 JUNE 1996 |                                  |
| Subject Children: [REDACTED]                                                                       |                      | DOB: [REDACTED]    |                                  |
| <p>Stacey Leonard<br/>c/o Mrs Claffey, 49 Millfield Road, Arbroath</p>                             |                      | 28/04/88           |                                  |
| <p>Chair: MS LORRAINE TURNBULL<br/>Office: BROOMFIELD RESOURCE CENTRE<br/>Tel No: 01674-678509</p> |                      |                    |                                  |
| (iii) Participants Present                                                                         |                      |                    |                                  |
| <u>Name</u>                                                                                        | <u>Designation</u>   | <u>Agency</u>      | <u>Report Submitted</u><br>(Y/N) |
| Mrs E Ross                                                                                         | Social Worker        | Arbroath SWD       | Y                                |
| Mrs I Swan                                                                                         | Social Work Asst     | Arbroath SWD       | N                                |
| Mrs A MacLean                                                                                      | School Nurse         | Angus NHS Trust    | N                                |
| Mrs I Claffey                                                                                      | Foster Carer         |                    | N                                |
| Mrs Webster                                                                                        | Teacher              | Inverbrothock PS   | N                                |
| Mrs Susan Lessels                                                                                  | Mother               |                    | N                                |
| Ms E Ord                                                                                           | Minute Taker         | Arbroath SWD       | N                                |
| (iv) Absent/Unable to Attend                                                                       |                      |                    |                                  |
| <u>Name</u>                                                                                        | <u>Designation</u>   | <u>Agency</u>      | <u>Report Submitted</u><br>(Y/N) |
| Mr M Briggs                                                                                        | Senior Social Worker | Arbroath SWD       | N*                               |
| Mrs B Cowan                                                                                        | Social Worker        | Arbroath SWD       | N*                               |
| Dr Anand                                                                                           | Snr CMO              | Angus NHS Trust    | N*                               |
| Dr Nolan                                                                                           | CMO                  | Angus NHS Trust    | N*                               |
| Mrs J Cruickshank                                                                                  | Locality Manager     | Angus NHS Trust    | N*                               |
| Mrs F Jolly                                                                                        | School Nurse         | Angus NHS Trust    | Y*                               |
| Dr A Hornsby                                                                                       | GP                   | Angus NHS Trust    | N**                              |
| Mrs Pollock                                                                                        | Head Teacher         | Tannadice PS       | N*                               |
| [REDACTED]                                                                                         |                      |                    | N**                              |
| <p>*APOLOGIES RECEIVED    **APOLOGIES NOT RECEIVED</p>                                             |                      |                    |                                  |
| Copies Also To:                                                                                    |                      |                    |                                  |
| Ms L Paterson                                                                                      | Regional Mgr (OOHS)  | SWD                | N                                |
| Mr D Dunlop                                                                                        | Service Manager      | Arbroath SWD       | N                                |
| Mrs J McFatridge                                                                                   | Area Reporter        | Children's Panel   | N                                |

NB Attach all previous sections - Chair to check information for correctness at outset



- (v) Summary of Discussion etc:  
(To be read in conjunction with all previous sections)  
(Continuation sheets to be attached)

The Review Case Conference was convened in order to discuss and further assess the situation with regard to [REDACTED] and Stacey and to decide whether or not their names should be retained on the Child Protection Register.

A report was submitted by Mrs Ross, Social Worker and circulated prior to the meeting.

#### **Social Worker**

Mrs Ross informed the meeting that a rehabilitation plan commenced in November last year and it was felt that she was finding difficulty managing the children's behaviour, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] but the two girls continued and often had weekend visits. Mrs Ross said that the concerns continued regarding Mrs Lessels' parenting of the children and in May it was decided to halt the plan for rehabilitation. Mrs Ross stated that the concerns involved were Mrs Lessels' lack of emotional care towards the children and also her inability to ensure the children's safety. Mrs Ross said that it was felt Mrs Lessels was unable to manage the children appropriately and this was to be discussed further at a Children's Hearing and also a Child in Care Review to be held today. It was felt until a decision was made, all plans for rehabilitation would be suspended. It was acknowledged that Mrs Lessels had weekly supervised access to the children and she telephoned Stacey frequently.

Mrs Ross stated that Mrs Lessels felt the children should have contact with their aunt, Ms Leonard, but the children were not happy about this and concerns were expressed regarding Mrs Lessels understanding of how able Mrs Lessels was to protect the children.

#### **Parent**

Mrs Lessels stated that she was determined the children would be returned to her care and that it did not concern her if the children's names remained on the Child Protection Register. Mrs Lessels said that she had made mistakes in the past but she felt that she was in control of the situation now and would manage to care for the children.

#### **Health**

Stacey - Mrs Maclean informed the meeting that Stacey had appeared more settled and talkative. She required glasses for a squint and although had had hearing problems in the past, there were no health concerns at present.

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

### **School**

#### **Inverbrothock PS - Stacey**

Mrs Webster informed the meeting that there had been a remarkable change in Stacey's attitude to school work and in her outlook. Mrs Webster said that Stacey went to see her frequently to tell her what was happening in her life. She said that Stacey appeared calm and settled and was doing well in school.

#### **Mrs Claffey**

Mrs Claffey informed the meeting that the situation was much the same and Stacey had become extremely guarded. She said that Stacey was very loyal to Mrs Lessels and wanted everything to work out for the family. Mrs Claffey stated that Stacey would say her visits to Fife were not always good but she would not say what her concerns were. Mrs Claffey said that Stacey felt responsible for [REDACTED] and cared very much for them. She said that Stacey was looking forward to spending a day with Mrs Lessels during the summer holidays.

### **SUMMARY**

Since the last Case Conference in December, the intensive programme of rehabilitation has been in place but this has recently been terminated as the Workers found Mrs Lessels unable to meet the children's emotional and physical needs, unable to manage their difficult behaviour and also to keep them safe. This has to be reviewed at a Child in Care Review today and it is likely a Children's Hearing will be requested following this. The children have weekly contact with Mrs Lessels which is supervised. Mrs Lessels does not wish the termination of rehabilitation and feels she was coping well and wishes the children's names kept on the Child Protection Register. There are no health concerns for any of the children and Stacey is doing well at school.

### **Registration**

After discussion, It was the unanimous decision of the meeting that [REDACTED] Stacey's names be removed from the Child Protection Register and the reasons for this are that there are no risks to the children as contact with Mrs Lessels will be on a supervised basis. The situation will be reviewed should unsupervised contact be considered in the future.



**(vi) Recommendations and Agreed Tasks:**

1. It was the unanimous decision of the Case Conference that [REDACTED] Stacey's names be removed from the Child Protection Register.

2. A referral will be made to the Reporter by Mrs Ross.

**(vii) Should Child(ren) be referred to the Reporter? (Y/N): YES**

If YES, who will provide Report?

If NO, state reasons why:

**Is Child subject to Statutory Care Order? (Y/N): YES**

**(viii) Was concern such that Child has been Registered? (Y/N): DE-REGISTERED**

Date of Registration (d/m/y): N/A

**2. AREA OF IDENTIFIED ABUSE (See Guidelines)**

Area of Abuse [1]

Level of Certainty:

Area of Abuse [2]  
(Optional)

Level of Certainty:



**3. IF OUTCOME DEREGISTRATION, REASONS**

Please detail below:

After discussion, It was the unanimous decision of the meeting that [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] Stacey's names be removed from the Child Protection Register  
 and the reasons for this are that there are no risks to the children as contact  
 with Mrs Lessels will be on a supervised basis. The situation will be  
 reviewed should rehabilitation decide unsupervised contact may be made in  
 the future.

**4. OTHER DETAILS**

(I) Dissent:

(ii) Other

**5. CORE WORKERS**

Case Co-ordinator: Mr M Briggs

Keyworker: Mrs E Ross

Office: Arbroath SWD

Office: Arbroath SWD

Tel No: 01241-878585

Tel No: 01241-878585

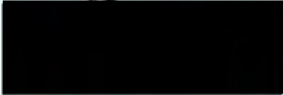
Other Core Workers or Agencies involved in Case:

Agency Name or Worker  
Name and Designation

AddressTel No



**6. NEXT CONFERENCE**

|                                                                  |                                                                                   |               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| (i) Date of Next Conference (d/m/y):                             |                                                                                   |               |
| (ii) Details of any other agencies or individuals to be invited: |                                                                                   |               |
| (ii) Minute prepared by MS LORRAINE TURNBULL                     |                                                                                   |               |
| Signature:                                                       |  | Date: 30 6 96 |
| Designation:                                                     | MANAGER                                                                           |               |

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

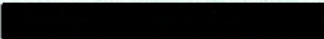
The information in this document is confidential to you and must not be disclosed to any other person or agency without the written consent of the Case Conference Chairperson.

**NOTE TO ADDRESSEES**

If you disagree with any aspect of this report you should contact the Group Manager immediately in writing. If you agree with the content please return the acknowledgement below.

5/90

To: Social Work Department, Academy Lane, Arbroath

I have received a copy of the Minute of the Case Conference/Review held on:  
12 JUNE 1996 regarding:  STACEY LEONARD  
and agree with the content and recommendations.

Signature:

Date:



APPENDIX B2: CASE CONFERENCE

1. MINUTE

|                                                                                           |                      |                    |                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| (i) Conference Type: REVIEW                                                               |                      | Date: 12 JUNE 1996 |                                  |
| Subject Children: [REDACTED]                                                              |                      | DOB: [REDACTED]    |                                  |
| <p>Stacey Leonard<br/>c/o Mrs Claffey, 49 Millfield Road, Arbroath</p>                    |                      | 28/04/88           |                                  |
| Chair: MS LORRAINE TURNBULL<br>Office: BROOMFIELD RESOURCE CENTRE<br>Tel No: 01674-678509 |                      |                    |                                  |
| (iii) Participants Present                                                                |                      |                    |                                  |
| <u>Name</u>                                                                               | <u>Designation</u>   | <u>Agency</u>      | <u>Report Submitted</u><br>(Y/N) |
| Mrs E Ross                                                                                | Social Worker        | Arbroath SWD       | Y                                |
| Mrs I Swan                                                                                | Social Work Asst     | Arbroath SWD       | N                                |
| Mrs A MacLean                                                                             | School Nurse         | Angus NHS Trust    | N                                |
| Mrs I Claffey                                                                             | Foster Carer         |                    | N                                |
| Mrs Webster                                                                               | Teacher              | Inverbrothock PS   | N                                |
| Mrs Susan Lessels                                                                         | Mother               |                    | N                                |
| Ms E Ord                                                                                  | Minute Taker         | Arbroath SWD       | N                                |
| (iv) Absent/Unable to Attend                                                              |                      |                    |                                  |
| <u>Name</u>                                                                               | <u>Designation</u>   | <u>Agency</u>      | <u>Report Submitted</u><br>(Y/N) |
| Mr M Briggs                                                                               | Senior Social Worker | Arbroath SWD       | N*                               |
| Mrs B Cowan                                                                               | Social Worker        | Arbroath SWD       | N*                               |
| Dr Anand                                                                                  | Snr CMO              | Angus NHS Trust    | N*                               |
| Dr Nolan                                                                                  | CMO                  | Angus NHS Trust    | N*                               |
| Mrs J Cruickshank                                                                         | Locality Manager     | Angus NHS Trust    | N*                               |
| Mrs F Jolly                                                                               | School Nurse         | Angus NHS Trust    | Y*                               |
| Dr A Hornsby                                                                              | GP                   | Angus NHS Trust    | N**                              |
| Mrs Pollock                                                                               | Head Teacher         | Tannadice PS       | N*                               |
| [REDACTED]                                                                                |                      |                    | N**                              |
| *APOLOGIES RECEIVED      **APOLOGIES NOT RECEIVED                                         |                      |                    |                                  |
| Copies Also To:                                                                           |                      |                    |                                  |
| Ms L Paterson                                                                             | Regional Mgr (OOHS)  | SWD                | N                                |
| Mr D Dunlop                                                                               | Service Manager      | Arbroath SWD       | N                                |
| Mrs J McFatridge                                                                          | Area Reporter        | Children's Panel   | N                                |

NB Attach all previous sections - Chair to check information for correctness at outset



- (v) Summary of Discussion etc:  
(To be read in conjunction with all previous sections)  
(Continuation sheets to be attached)

The Review Case Conference was convened in order to discuss and further assess the situation with regard to [REDACTED] Stacey and to decide whether or not their names should be retained on the Child Protection Register.

A report was submitted by Mrs Ross, Social Worker and circulated prior to the meeting.

#### **Social Worker**

Mrs Ross informed the meeting that a rehabilitation plan commenced in November last year and it was felt that she was finding difficulty managing the children's behaviour, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mrs Ross said that the concerns continued regarding Mrs Lessels' parenting of the children and in May it was decided to halt the plan for rehabilitation. Mrs Ross stated that the concerns involved were Mrs Lessels' lack of emotional care towards the children and also her inability to ensure the children's safety. Mrs Ross said that it was felt Mrs Lessels was unable to manage the children appropriately and this was to be discussed further at a Children's Hearing and also a Child in Care Review to be held today. It was felt until a decision was made, all plans for rehabilitation would be suspended. It was acknowledged that Mrs Lessels had weekly supervised access to the children and she telephoned Stacey frequently.

Mrs Ross stated that Mrs Lessels felt the children should have contact with their aunt, Ms Leonard, but the children were not happy about this and concerns were expressed regarding Mrs Lessels understanding of how able Mrs Lessels was to protect the children.

#### **Parent**

Mrs Lessels stated that she was determined the children would be returned to her care and that it did not concern her if the children's names remained on the Child Protection Register. [REDACTED]

#### **Health**

Stacey - Mrs Maclean informed the meeting that Stacey had appeared more settled and talkative. She required glasses for a squint and although had had hearing problems in the past, there were no health concerns at present.

[REDACTED]



**School**

**Inverbrothock PS - Stacey**

Mrs Webster informed the meeting that there had been a remarkable change in Stacey's attitude to school work and in her outlook. Mrs Webster said that Stacey went to see her frequently to tell her what was happening in her life. She said that Stacey appeared calm and settled and was doing well in school.

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Mrs Claffey informed the meeting that the situation was much the same and Stacey had become extremely guarded. She said that Stacey was very loyal to Mrs Lessels and wanted everything to work out for the family. Mrs Claffey stated that Stacey would say her visits to Fife were not always good but she would not say what her concerns were. Mrs Claffey said that Stacey felt responsible for [REDACTED] and cared very much for them. She said that Stacey was looking forward to spending a day with Mrs Lessels during the summer holidays.

**SUMMARY**

Since the last Case Conference in December, the intensive programme of rehabilitation has been in place but this has recently been terminated as the Workers found Mrs Lessels unable to meet the children's emotional and physical needs, unable to manage their difficult behaviour and also to keep them safe. This has to be reviewed at a Child in Care Review today and it is likely a Children's Hearing will be requested following this. The children have weekly contact with Mrs Lessels which is supervised. Mrs Lessels does not wish the termination of rehabilitation and feels she was coping well and wishes the children's names kept on the Child Protection Register. There are no health concerns for any of the children and Stacey is doing well at school.

**Registration**

After discussion, It was the unanimous decision of the meeting that [REDACTED] Stacey's names be removed from the Child Protection Register and the reasons for this are that there are no risks to the children as contact with Mrs Lessels will be on a supervised basis. The situation will be reviewed should unsupervised contact be considered in the future.



**(vi) Recommendations and Agreed Tasks:**

1. It was the unanimous decision of the Case Conference that [REDACTED] Stacey's names be removed from the Child Protection Register.

2. A referral will be made to the Reporter by Mrs Ross.

**(vii) Should Child(ren) be referred to the Reporter? (Y/N): YES**

If YES, who will provide Report?

If NO, state reasons why:

**Is Child subject to Statutory Care Order? (Y/N): YES**

**(viii) Was concern such that Child has been Registered? (Y/N): DE-REGISTERED**

Date of Registration (d/m/y): N/A

**2. AREA OF IDENTIFIED ABUSE (See Guidelines)**

Area of Abuse [1]

Level of Certainty:

Area of Abuse [2]  
(Optional)

Level of Certainty:



**3. IF OUTCOME DEREGISTRATION, REASONS**

Please detail below:

After discussion, It was the unanimous decision of the meeting that [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Stacey's names be removed from the Child Protection Register and the reasons for this are that there are no risks to the children as contact with Mrs Lessels will be on a supervised basis. The situation will be reviewed should rehabilitation decide unsupervised contact may be made in the future.

**4. OTHER DETAILS**

(I) Dissent:

(ii) Other

**5. CORE WORKERS**

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Keyworker: Mrs E Ross

Office: Arbroath SWD

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Tel No: 01241-878585

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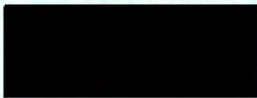
Other Core Workers or Agencies involved in Case:

Agency Name or Worker  
Name and Designation

AddressTel No



**6. NEXT CONFERENCE**

|                                                                  |                                                                                   |               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| (i) Date of Next Conference (d/m/y):                             |                                                                                   |               |
| (ii) Details of any other agencies or individuals to be invited: |                                                                                   |               |
| (ii) Minute prepared by                                          | MS LORRAINE TURNBULL                                                              |               |
| Signature:                                                       |  | Date: 30 6 96 |
| Designation:                                                     | MANAGER                                                                           |               |

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

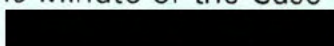
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5/90

To: Social Work Department, Academy Lane, Arbroath

I have received a copy of the Minute of the Case Conference/Review held on:  
12 JUNE 1996 regarding:  STACEY LEONARD  
and agree with the content and recommendations.

Signature:

Date:



Report No: 226/96

Social Worker  
Preparing Report Elizabeth ROSS

SOCIAL WORK  
Director: W B Robertson

Academy Lane  
Arbroath  
Angus DD11 1EU

DX 678 Forfar

Tel: 01241 876565  
01241 870372

**SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT  
CHILDREN'S HEARING**

The following Child:-

Surname: LEONARD Date of Birth: 28/04/88

Christian Names or Forenames: Stacey Religion:

School: Stacey - Inverbrothock Occupation:

Address:

Stacey - c/o Irene Claffey, 49 Millfield Road, Arbroath.

Is to appear on  at  Children's Hearing

In Connection with Section 48(2) Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968

**Significant Events**

Rehabilitation of the children to their mother's care was attempted in April 1995, however this was not successful. Susan decided that she would not consider temporary accommodation in Angus and we were unable to attempt rehabilitation for a second time until Susan was allocated a tenancy. The children had maintenance access with their mother until she was allocated her own tenancy in Kennoway in September 1995.

Rehabilitation was scheduled to begin in September, however Susan's plans changed and she did not move into the house until after her marriage to David Lessels the following month.

Rehabilitation started in October 1995 and this involved the children spending increasing periods of time in Kennoway. Initially contact was supervised and this was gradually extended to include periods of unsupervised access.

All three children were quite excited about visiting their mother, however they were also expressing fears and anxiety about their mother's ability to look after them and keep them safe. Although Susan was of the opinion that she felt able and committed to resuming the full time care of the children, she struggled to manage all three children. Whilst she was able to meet the children's basic needs, she had difficulty recognising and responding to their emotional needs. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Rehabilitation continued in respect of Stacey [REDACTED] which included the girls spending overnights with their mother. A five week block was planned which involved the girls spending four nights (Thursday to Sunday) at their mother's home. The children stayed for three of the five planned long weekends.

Over the three weeks workers involved in the assessment were becoming increasingly concerned about the following:-

(1) Susan's ability to manage the children.

There were frequent incidents whereby [REDACTED] would openly challenge and defy her mother and Susan was unable to manage this. David's grandmother stayed for the first two weeks of this block of work and Susan herself questioned whether she would have been able to manage the girls without her support.

[REDACTED]

Stacey was becoming guarded and withdrawn and would rarely volunteer information about her weekend, except to say that she had a good time and had no worries. Her general demeanour, however suggested otherwise in that she looked very sad and anxious. Stacey was unable to share her worries with her mother but would confide in workers, her carer and school about her concerns.

There were several incidents whereby Susan had arranged for the children to be child-minded. For example, Susan arranged for her friend to look after the girls in order that she could have a night at the Bingo. This was not discussed with the Social Work Department beforehand. Susan notes that this was a spur of the moment plan [REDACTED]



On another occasion, Susan allowed Stacey to spend a day outwith the local vicinity with a family who lived nearby. Susan didn't know Stacey's whereabouts. Susan also arranged for David to look after the children so she could visit her mother.

(2) Susan's ability and commitment to protecting the children and keeping them safe.

Susan has re-established contact with her step-sister, Carol and step-father Thomas Leonard. Carol Leonard has been pursuing access with the children and Susan is in agreement with this. Susan has been unable to demonstrate to the children that she is able to take on board their worries and concerns. Stacey has clearly indicated to her mother that she does not want contact with Carol and she was quite anxious when she saw her mother with Carol prior to her Panel. Susan is unable to acknowledge that such incidents have a negative impact on the children.

Stacey [REDACTED] have also expressed worries and fears about young males who were frequenting the home. Susan initially denied this was the case, but has since stated that these males visit her home when the children are in bed. When the children returned from Susan on the 07 May 1996, they told the workers that they had been smacked by one of the males and that they had been frightened. Susan and the children did not mention this incident during the feed back session and when she was given the opportunity to discuss this, she minimised the incident as an "innocent game". Susan maintains that these males were not in the house however, the children have clearly stated otherwise.

Such incidents demonstrate that Susan is unable to prevent the children from being placed in potentially abusive situations. The children remain very unsure and anxious about their mother's ability to look after them and keep them safe.

(3) Susan's commitment to working with the Social Work Department

Workers involved in the assessment were becoming less confident about Susan's commitment to co-operating with the Department. Susan had stated that her intention was to "do her own thing" when the children returned to her care. Stacey [REDACTED] were also becoming anxious and confused about the mixed messages their mother was giving them. For example it would appear that Susan had told the girls that she would do what she wanted, not what Social Workers said.

In light of the growing concerns, the workers involved in the rehabilitation assessment were of the opinion that rehabilitation should be suspended. The recommendation not to pursue rehabilitation has been endorsed at a recent Child in Care Review.

### The Children in Placement

All three children remain relatively settled in their placements. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Stacey [REDACTED] were both initially upset when rehabilitation ceased. Stacey has been reluctant to acknowledge that she has worries about returning to her mother's care but has been able to talk about the various concerns that were around for [REDACTED]. Stacey is worried about "getting her mum into trouble".

[REDACTED]

### Access

[REDACTED] has had weekly access with his mother and sisters [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Susan has attended for all access sessions. Access takes place at Arbroath Child and Family Centre and is supervised by a member of the Social Work Department. Susan struggles to manage all three children together and she requires ongoing advice and support during access. Susan will continue to have regular weekly access with the children until a decision about their long term future is made.

### Conclusion and Recommendation

The Social Work Department have worked intensively with Susan with a view to her resuming the full time care of her children. Susan was unable to manage the three children [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Stacey [REDACTED] continued to spend increasing periods of time with their mother as part of the ongoing rehabilitation assessment, however this was terminated in response to the growing concerns about her ability and commitment to providing adequate care and protection for the children.

Susan wants Stacey [REDACTED] to be returned to her care, however the Social Work Department's view is that rehabilitation is not in the children's best interests and that permanent substitute carers should be sought for them.



I would request that a Review Hearing is called in order that the proposed changes in the care plan in respect of the children can be fully explored.

A detailed report will be made available to the Hearing in due course.

  
ELIZABETH ROSS  
SOCIAL WORKER

ER/KGT-96  
leona.rpr.doc  
25 June 1996

# SCOTTISH CHILDREN'S REPORTER ADMINISTRATION

## SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1968

Notice about Child referred to the Children's Reporter .....

Surname LEONARD Christian Names STACEY  
 Date of Birth 28-4-88 Age 8 School TOWERHEAD Primary  
 Home Address 26 SETON TERRACE, KENNOWA, FIFE  
 Present Address C/O IRENE CLAFFEY, 49 MILLFIELD ROAD, ARBROATH  
 Social Work Area ARBROATH Social Worker HELEN BATH ROSS  
 Reporter's Reference No A194 Referral No 6

PLEASE QUOTE IN ALL COMMUNICATIONS

SWSGS NO 940990910 Dated 27/6/96Reason for Referral 48(2) REVIEW REQUESTED BY SOCIAL WORKER
☐ Thank you for your report/referral ..... Dated .....

## INFORMATION REQUESTED:

- ☐ Please give me more information as specified in the attached note.  
☐ I would be grateful for a report to assist me and any Hearing which may be convened for this child.  
☐ Please submit the report by : .....  
☐ Note : .....

## HEARING

- ☐ I will arrange a Hearing upon receipt of a social background report.  
☐ I have arranged a Hearing on ..... at ..... am/pm.  
☐ You are expected/invited to attend the Hearing.  
☐ A representative who knows the child and can take part in the discussion at the Hearing is expected/invited to attend.  
☐ Note : .....

## RESULT

- ☐ I am taking no further action/and have asked the Police to warn the child.  
☐ I am referring the case to the Social Work Department to offer advice, guidance and assistance on a voluntary basis.

## THE HEARING DECIDED

- ☐ To Discharge the referral under Section 42(2) (c) or 43(2). . . on .....  
☐ To apply to the Sheriff for proof of the Grounds Section ..... on .....  
☐ To continue the case as arranged above, From .....  
☐ To issue a Supervision Requirement under Section ..... on .....  
☐ To continue the existing Supervision Requirement under Section ..... on .....  
☒ To vary the Supervision Requirement from Section 44(1)(a) PLACE to Section 44(1)(a) PLACE on 13.8.96  
☒ To terminate the Supervision Requirement on .....  
☒ As a result of the Requirement/decision, the child will be living at C/O MRS IRENE CLAFFEY, 49  
MILLFIELD ROAD, ARBROATH

Note: 13.8.96 - APPEAL MADE UNDER SECTION 49 AGAINST DECISION OF 13/8/96.  
 Enclosures RESULT - APPEAL DISMISSED BY SHERIFF

Signed .....

Dated 3 September 1996

ADDRESS OF REPORTER

Keith House,  
 50 East Abbey Street,  
 Arbroath. DD11 1EW

23 September 1996

see