

Enc: L.H. Lee
2777/1954

STORMONT,
BELFAST
HIA-1586 2240

31st December, 1954

Personal

Dear Freer,

I am sending you back your file about the inspection of the voluntary organisations, with just a note to say that I would be delighted to discuss it with you any time that would be convenient, but in the meantime for your private information, you might like to know what my impressions are, for what they are worth, which I don't say is very much.

But if you would like me to speak without putting a tooth in it, I would say that I wholeheartedly agree with your minute to your staff on the subject, and I disagree equally wholeheartedly with the action that they took on your minute.

I think they took you up completely wrongly, and that they have gone much too far, and made much too heavy weather out of the whole business.

I did a lot of this sort of thing when I was on the outdoor staff of the Local Government Board, and the essential character of it was that we did not lay claim to any rights to inspection at all, but acted on the assumption that the parties concerned would take it as a kind of pretty compliment on our part that we called in and that it gave them a useful opportunity of telling us what magnificent people they were. In these sort of cases the Board used never to write to the body concerned and say that their inspectors would call, but they would mention to me that there were certain places that they would like me to have a look in on occasionally, and I would then go along and introduce myself and say that we were of course mildly interested in the whole affair because we had a sort of responsibility in the matter, and that I just dropped in to make myself known to them. And with a little more guff of this kind they invariably insisted on taking me all round the damn place and offering either tea or excisable liquor as might be appropriate in the circumstances. The same sort of thing applied to the medical inspectors, and I have clear recollections of going round some frightful institution for the blind in Cork with Berry, who was the Medical Inspector for that district, on

/more

more than one occasion. The theory in this place was that as all the inmates were blind there was no particular object in lighting the passages and staircases, and Berry and I on this visit nearly broke our necks half a dozen times. It was a kind of standing jest with us.

From the purely official point of view I would think it a bad thing to introduce the official element. I think the Ministry is rather in the position of an architect or engineer who is in charge of some building in course of construction when a tempest arises; if he goes down and gives his contractor instructions as to what he is to do in the way of taking precautions against the damn place being blown down, then if it is blown down he is responsible; whereas if he keeps well away and does no more than ring up the contractor on the telephone and exchange a little light persiflage on the subject, then if the place is blown down the responsibility is entirely the contractor's and the engineer need only say "Hard luck, old boy!" In other words, I think if a Government Department has any hand in paying grant it ought to display a reasonable interest in how the place is run, but unless there is a definite responsibility on them for ensuring that it is managed in the best and most economical way possible I don't think they ought to undertake this responsibility.

I imagine these are exactly your views on the subject.

However, in the present case, what has been done has been done, and so if I were the responsible person (which thank God I am not) I think my inclination would be just to see that we did not get more deeply involved than we are at the moment.

I haven't read every word of the file, but I think I have picked up the general effect of it all.

Yours sincerely,

A.R.

L. G. P. Freer, Esq., C.B.E.

Copy for T.225

T.582

CHILDREN'S HOMES AND TRAINING SCHOOLSREPORTS BY MINISTRY'S INSPECTORSDEPARTMENTAL ACTION, ETC.

The following information and instructions are issued for the guidance of the staff when dealing with reports by the Ministry's Inspectors or Children's Homes and Training Schools:-

1. Inspectors' Reports are made for the information of the Ministry; they are confidential and are regarded by the Courts as privileged documents.
2. Normally verbatim copies of Inspectors' Reports will not be sent to the authorities concerned. If, exceptionally, it is considered desirable in any circumstances to depart from this rule, the approval of the Asst. Secretary or, in his absence, the Principal, must be obtained before any report is communicated verbatim.
3. Where an Inspector's Report draws attention to any matter affecting the premises, equipment, organisation or management of a Home or School, which, in the Ministry's view, calls for action by the authority concerned, the procedure will be as follows:-
 - (a) Where the Inspector indicates in his Report that the matter has been taken up locally with the authority or its officials, and that as a result he is confident that the desired end will be achieved, no action need at that stage be taken by the Ministry on the particular matter. In these circumstances it will be the responsibility of the Inspector to follow up the matter in due course and report results to the Ministry. Only in the event of failure of the Inspector's endeavours locally will the Ministry pursue the matter officially.
 - (b) Where the matter is not being dealt with locally by the Inspector as indicated in (a) above, consideration should be given by the Branch, in consultation with the Inspector, to an official approach to the authority concerned.
4. Except in the cases referred to above, it should not normally be necessary to make any communication to the authority concerned following inspection of a Home or School by a Ministry Inspector.

A. ALEXANDER.

CHILD CARE SERVICE IN VOLUNTARY HOMES

Margate House
Long

QUESTIONNAIRE

3

- 1.(a) Please give a brief description of how your home is governed, stating in particular whether your governing body is independent or subordinate to a central organisation.

This home is run by the
 Sisters of Maryhill whose head
house is in Hamilton
London

- (b) Give categories of members of governing body (e.g. clerical, lay, male, female, subscribers, non-subscribers) and state whether they are selected as individuals or as representing other bodies.

Superior and Sister Director
and, etc)
All members of the
congregation of the Poor Sisters
of Maryhill

- (c) What relationship (if any) has your home with other children's home(s) or child care organisation(s)?

It has relationship with other
homes under the same
congregation of Sisters

- 2.(a) Do you receive children on transfer from other homes?

Occasionally

- (b) Do you transfer children to other homes?

No

- (c) Have you any link with an adoption society?

We are an adoption society

(NOTE: The word "children" here and in following questions means boys and girls under 18 years of age).

3. From what geographical area are applications for admission normally accepted?

Usually Sister - but from further
field if application is made

Children and Young Persons Act (N.I.), 1968Voluntary HomesReturn at 31st March, 1971

Form to be used for the return of particulars
of children and young persons in the care of
voluntary organisations

Please read the following notes before completing the form:-

- (1) One copy of this form duly completed by the person in charge of the voluntary home should be returned to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Child Welfare Branch, ~~Department~~, ^{Department}, not later than 15 AUG 1971
- (2) Throughout this form the term "children" includes all persons under the age of eighteen who are in the care of the voluntary home.
- (3) The Ministry realises that the information required in item 10 can be no more than an estimate, but hopes that the person in charge of the home will try to give as close an estimate as possible.
- (4) If, because of holidays, or for any other reason, there are no children in the home on 31st March, 1971, the information furnished should be in respect of the last preceding date on which the home was functioning normally.
- (5) In calculating the number of children boarded out (item 13) only those who are in the charge of the voluntary organisation should be included, and not those remaining in charge of parents although boarded out by the parents with assistance from the voluntary organisation.
- (6) In completing this form temporary absences, e.g. on holiday or in hospital should be ignored.

1. Name and full postal address of the Voluntary Home NAZARETH HOUSE
BISHOP STREET
DERRY N.I.
2. Full name of the person in charge of the home MOTHER SUPERIOR
3. Full name and address of the person or organisation carrying on the home SISTERS OF NAZARETH
HEAD HOUSE - HAMMERSMITH
LONDON W6.
4. Full name and address of the Chairman of the organisation REV MOTHER GENERAL
NAZARETH HOUSE
HAMMERSMITH W6.
5. Full name and address of the Secretary of the organisation /

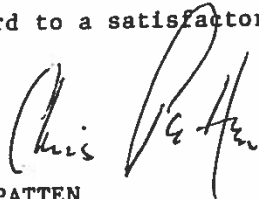
FOREWORD

The important issue dealt with in this paper is the relationship between statutory and voluntary bodies in the provision of residential care for children. Much has already been written on the relationship between statutory and voluntary bodies in the provision of care and on the desirability of, and need for, co-operation between the 2 sectors. This is nowhere more necessary than in the field of residential child care where historically statutory authorities have relied heavily on facilities provided by voluntary organisations in meeting their statutory obligations.

There is now less reliance on the voluntary sector than in the past but it is clearly short-sighted to ignore the experience and potential of voluntary bodies in meeting the needs of children. Government is committed to the retention and encouragement of a vigorous and effective voluntary sector in all areas of care, including residential child care, and is intent on ensuring that the contribution made by voluntary bodies is fully recognised in the planning and provision of services by Health and Social Services Boards. I am therefore concerned that a number of issues which should be capable of resolution appear to be inhibiting the development of partnership in the residential care of children.

The purpose of this paper is to draw attention to these issues and to concentrate the minds of Health and Social Services Boards and voluntary bodies alike in common purpose. The paper and the discussions which will follow provide an opportunity for both parties to express fully and frankly their concerns about any aspects of current residential child care provision as they affect the present statutory/voluntary relationship and to consider how best to work together for the future. I am confident that the desire to ensure that children receive the care they need will transcend any narrower interests and that both statutory and voluntary bodies will confront the issues which divide them in a constructive and positive manner.

I look forward to a satisfactory outcome to the discussions.



CHRISTOPHER PATTEN
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

January 1985

FAHAN ORPHANAGE



The main Nazareth House building at Fahan built in 1871 for the Colhoun family and later it came into the ownership of the Brewsters, who used it as a residence for a number of years. (We could not help admiring those stained glass windows which the latter had put in—and bearing their initials—at the top of the stairway.)

This spacious dwelling had been vacant for a number of years and its introduction to the Sisters of Nazareth came in 1939 when forty babies were evacuated from Nazareth House in Derry and accommodated there during the war years. All this happened through the good offices of Bishop Farren and when it was seen that this manor house was ideally adapted for the

special purposes of an orphanage, both in accommodation and location—overlooking Lough Swilly and amid the loveliest surroundings—his Lordship acquired the former Brewster home and handed it over to the Sisters of Nazareth to establish a foundation in Donegal. The children evacuated from Derry in those war-torn years enjoyed Fahan immensely as a holiday home.

The house was retained by the Order and some years later His Lordship conferred another special favour when he acquired a second house in the same grounds and handed it over also to the Sisters. For some time this was utilised as a

compounded by the fact that Boards may be inadequately informed about the standards of care in some voluntary homes.

- 42.0 Boards have a duty, once a child is placed in a home, whether statutory or voluntary, to ensure that the best possible care is being provided for that child but it falls to the Department, as registering authority of voluntary homes, to satisfy itself that the fabric of a home and the overall quality of care provided are acceptable. This information is obtained through the inspections and visits carried out by the Department's Social Work Advisory Group and through meetings with members of the staff and Management Committees of voluntary homes.
- 43.0 Although Boards are the main users of voluntary homes, an agreement entered into by the Department with the Management Committees of voluntary homes in 1980 means that the reports of SWAG's inspections can be made available to the Boards only with the agreement of the Management Committee. If standards in a voluntary home were totally unacceptable, the Department would withdraw registration. However, voluntary homes can show defects in policy, practice and fabric of the building which can result in a reduced standard of care but which are not serious enough to warrant deregistration. In such circumstances, efforts are made to have the situation rectified through the Management Committee (in the same way as steps are taken to have defects in statutory homes rectified by Boards) but this process can take some time to complete.
- 44.0 While it could be held that the responsible Board's own oversight of each child placed in a voluntary home should have revealed the defects in the quality of care provided within the home, it can also be argued that Boards should rightly expect direct access to the information assembled by the Departmental inspectors. If a home was functioning badly it would be in the interests of Boards and the children in their care for the Department to inform Boards of their findings; if a home was found to be functioning well it would be in the interests of the voluntary organisation to have this information more widely known. The Department would welcome the views of voluntary bodies and Boards on the form of arrangements for sharing the information contained in the inspection reports.

Registration and Monitoring of Voluntary Children's Homes

- 45.0 The Department of Health and Social Services is the registering authority for voluntary children's homes under Section 127 of the Children and Young Persons Act (NI) 1968. Voluntary children's homes are the only homes for which the Department acts as registration authority; other voluntary or private homes for persons in need are registered by the Boards. From time to time Boards have drawn attention to this anomaly and have indicated their preference for the registration function in respect of voluntary children's homes to be delegated to Boards. They consider that this would improve liaison and would strengthen partnership between the voluntary and statutory child care sectors. Voluntary organisations are less confident. They are concerned about the manner in which the Boards might discharge the registration function and point to poor

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Regd. No.

AH 280 / 1965

Nothing should be written on this Cover except as indicated by the Headings

SUBJECT:

COMMITTEE ON STAFFING OF RESIDENTIAL
HOMES + INSTITUTIONS - MINUTES OF MEETINGS,
PAPERS AND ORAL EVIDENCE

FORMER FILE AH178/65

Clear File, A233/66

HSS6

N.B.—Transfer from one Branch or Section of a Branch to another should take place through the Registry. Instructions to "put away" or "bring forward" the file should be initialled by the officer concerned. When not in action, the file should be returned to the Registry. In all references to this file the number and year should be quoted as above.

REFERRED TO	DATE	REFERRED TO	DATE
Mr M Reynolds	5-1-66 ✓		
Dr. Bell	6.1.66 ✓		
Miss Jones			
Mr. Elliott			
Mr M Reynolds			
Mr Barrett MHA			
P.C.			
DPC			
Miss Hill			
Mr. Elliott			
Mr. Health R.S.B.			
Welfare Branch			
R. 925			
P.A. 2A	23.5.6 ✓		
HSS 6	13.3.75 ✓		
Registry	14.3.75 ✓		
QA	14.3.75 ✓		
	25.3.85 ✓		
P.A. PRO	27.3.85 ✓		

Draft report on
staffing in residential
homes 1966.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE
OF NORTHERN IRELAND

1997
OPEN
TO
PUBLIC

FOR	ONLY
YEAR OF FIRST PAPER	65
YEAR OF LAST PAPER	66
FIRST REVIEW	1975
SECOND REVIEW	1985

Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

HSS13/22/10

IF THIS FILE IS NOT FOR YOUR BRANCH PLEASE INDICATE BELOW THE BRANCH TO WHICH IT SHOULD BE REFERRED FOR REVIEW AND RETURN IT TO M MCAULEY MSU ANNEXE 4 CASTLE BUILDINGS

THIS FILE SHOULD BE REFERRED TO _____ FOR REVIEW

FILES/PAPERS OF CHILD CARE BRANCH

A 916/84.

FILE NO	CONTENTS
CR/D1/21	Evaluation of Benefits deriving from Pre-School Playgroups.
A4/34	St Peter's Pre-School Playgroup (St Congalls School).
B11	100% Crash Programme, Mica Drive Pre-School Playgroups St Paul's Parish, Down and connor Pre-School Education Committee.
D1/2/3	Pre-School Playgroups Policy, Miscellaneous Matters.
D1/2	Pre-School Playgroups General Policy.
A11/3/10	Voluntary Service Bureau Playbuses.

TC	CONTENTS OF FILES ETC
124	Tyrone Co. Welfare Committee Appointment of Children's Officers.
125	Grants by Welfare Authorities to Voluntary Organisations.
126	Employment of Children and Performance Regulations.
128	Appointment of Children's Officer - Londonderry Co Borough.
129	Maintenance of Children by other Welfare Authorities.
131	Children's Homes - Transport Arrangements.
132	Antrim Co. Welfare Authority - Clogrennan Children's Home - general.
134	Marmion Children's Home - Staff
135	Antrim Co Welfare Authority - Staff.
137	Armagh Co. Welfare Authority - Staff.
138	Londonderry Co. Welfare Authority - Dhu-Varren Children's Home - genera
139	Londonderry Co. Welfare Authority - Dhu-Varren Children's Home - Staff.
140	Down Co - case of John P P Burns.
142	Emigration of Children - Policy.
144	Bawnmore House Belfast - Alterations and Repairs.
160	Arrangements with Voluntary Homes - general.
161	St Joseph's Babies Home Plans etc.
162	Glendhu Children's Home - Hollywood Road - general.
163	Voluntary Homes - Nazareth House, Ormeau Road, Belfast.
164	Voluntary Homes - Nazareth Lodge Ravenhill Road, Belfast.
165	Voluntary Homes - Rubane House, Kircubbin, Co Down.
166	Voluntary Homes - Macedon, Whitehouse, Co Antrim.
167	Voluntary Homes - Manor House Home, Ballycastle, Co Antrim.
168	Voluntary Homes - Manor House Home, Lisburn, Co Antrim.
169	Voluntary Homes - Good Shepherd Convent, Ormeau Road, Belfast.
170	Voluntary Homes - Nazareth House, Londonderry.
171	Voluntary Homes - Victoria Voluntary Home, Belmont Road.
172	Voluntary Homes - St Joseph's Home, Termonbacca, Londonderry.

FORMERLY	NO	CONTENTS OF FILE (CASE)
	15303/79	C & YP Act (NI) 1968 - Playgroups run by the NSPCC
	15591/79	C & YP Act (NI) 1968 - Distribution of Child Care Circulars, Papers, etc
	15743/79	Child Abuse Individual Cases
	16896/79	Parents' Advice Centre - Ulster Polytechnic - Payment of grant towards Administrative Expenses
	17294/79	Monitoring Visits to Children's Homes - Statutory and Voluntary
	17694/79	N Ireland Pre School Playgroups Association - Payments
	18030/79	C & YP Act 1969 Transfers of Children - Individual Cases
	19935/79	Publicity - Fostering
	19936/79	Publicity - Child Care Legislation
	19937/79	Publicity - Adoption
	19938/79	Publicity - Intermediate Treatment
	19939/79	Publicity - Under Fives
	19940/79	Publicity - Residential Care
	19941/79	Publicity - Childminding
	19942/79	Publicity - Child Abuse
	16205/80	Voluntary Homes - St Joseph's Home, Termonbacca, Londonderry Inspections
	16235/80	Contributions to Publications - Child Care I Branch
	16448/80	C & YP Act (NI) 1968 - Estimates (1) Grants to Voluntary Organisations (2) C & YP Review Group
	16449/80	C & YP Act 1969 - Transfers of Children - Individual Cases
	16487/80	European Social Fund
	16670 80	Voluntary Homes - Macedon Whitehouse (Dr Barnardo's) Inspections
	16691/80	Northern Area Board - Dhu Varren Children's Home - Inspections
	16881/80	Voluntary Homes - Manor House Ballycastle - Inspections
	16893/80	Voluntary Homes - Nazareth House, Londonderry - Inspections
	17225/80	Voluntary Homes - Glebe House Holiday Home - Inspections



Department of
**Culture, Arts
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MINISTRE O
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of Northern Ireland**

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E proni@dcalni.gov.uk

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Senior Researcher
Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry

Your Ref:

Our Ref: DC1-11-35

21st January 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

CHILD CARE BRANCH 'TC' RECORDS

Further to your request for clarification on the status of certain historical Department of Health and Social Services *Child Care Branch 'TC'* registered files (as outlined below):

- TC 96 *Londonderry Co Welfare Authority – Staff*
- TC 170 *Voluntary Homes – Nazareth House Derry*
- TC 172 *Voluntary Homes – St Joseph's Home, Termonbacca, Londonderry*
- TC 222 *Inspection Reports – Londonderry Co Welfare Committee*
- TC 540 *Voluntary Homes – Nazareth House, Londonderry, Inspection File*
- TC 541 *Voluntary Homes – Nazareth House, Londonderry – Legal Documents in Respect of Grants made under Section 118*

The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland can confirm that the specified files are not held in our custody. Furthermore, it would seem that they were not at any stage transferred to our custody under the terms of the Public Records Act (Northern Ireland), 1923.

The scanned copy of a list which you sent to me (by electronic attachment on 10th January 2014) has clearly been obtained from a PRONI held file, reference HSS/13/41/36, *Departmental evidence for Committee of Inquiry into administration at children's homes and hostels.*

HIA Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry
HIA INQUIRY, PO BOX 2080, BELFAST, BT1 9QA, NORTHERN IRELAND
WEB: WWW.HIAINQUIRY.ORG

Eugene O'Loan / Mary McDevitt
Department Solicitor's Office
Victoria Hall
12 May Street
Belfast BT1 4NL

6th February 2014

Dear Eugene / Mary

Re: The Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry and the DHSSPS

MOHA Inspection Files

I refer to the above matter and to a discussion which I understand took place between Mr Aiken BL and Mr O'Reilly BL.

The Inquiry has been trying to find the files containing the MOHA inspections that would have been carried out under section 102 of the 1950 Act and its equivalent under the 1968 Act.

The Inquiry has found some evidence to suggest there were inspections of this type and I attach a list of what appear to be relevant Departmental files that we found in PRONI (in a Departmental file relating to the Hughes Inquiry). There are also a number of what appear to be inspection reports. This material is marked Tab 1. We surmise is that this was a list prepared by the Department to assist the work of the Hughes Inquiry in the 1980's.

We would also refer you to the 6 files in PRONI's letter of the 21st January, 2014 and the two files mentioned in PRONI's letter of the 30th January 2014 (Tab 2). We have



Department of
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3 FEB 2014

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PRONI

Senior Researcher
Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry

Your Ref:

Our Ref: DC1-11-35

30th January 2014

Dear

CHILD CARE BRANCH 'TC' RECORDS

Further to my last letter, I refer to your request for clarification on the status of certain historical Department of Health and Social Services *Child Care* Branch 'TC' registered files (as outlined below):

- 16205/80 Voluntary Homes – St Joseph's Home – Termonbacca, Londonderry Inspections
- 16893/80 - Voluntary Homes – Nazareth House, Londonderry - Inspections

As stated in my last letter, the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland can confirm that the specified files are not held in our custody. Furthermore, it would seem that they were not at any stage transferred to our custody under the terms of the Public Records Act (Northern Ireland), 1923.

The scanned copy of a list which you sent to me (by electronic attachment on 10th January 2014) has clearly been obtained from a PRONI held file, reference HSS/13/41/36, *Departmental evidence for Committee of Inquiry into administration at children's homes and hostels*.

Departmental Solicitor's Office

Victoria Hall
12 May Street
Belfast BT1 4NL
Tel: 028 9025 1245
Fax: 028 9025 1240
DX464 NR Belfast1

Patrick Bulter
Secretary of the Inquiry
Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry
PO Box 2030
BELFAST
BT1 9QA

Our ref: Sol 43890/2014/DHSSPS

11 March 2014

Dear Patrick

I write in reply to your letter of 6 February 2014. My client has investigated the matters raised and has advised that following a search the files have not been found. They advise as follows:

The Departmental Local Information Manager has advised that the Department of Health Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) is required to manage its records in accordance with the Public Records Act (NI) 1923 and the Disposal of Records Order (S.R. & O.1925 No. 167).

In August 1968 the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) issued a Memorandum on New Review Procedures for the selection of Records for Preservation. Files were to be closed no longer than 5 years after opening. The first review took place 5 years after the file was closed. The reviewing officer considered whether there was a Departmental requirement to destroy or preserve the file. Any files retained at that stage were reviewed a second time 20 years after the file was created. At the second review PRONI assessed the file for destruction or preservation in conjunction with the Department. Files selected for preservation were transferred to PRONI.

In 1992 PRONI published the second edition of "A Guide to Records Management". It updated the records management procedures for the Northern Ireland (NI) Departments which constituted the NI Civil Service (NICS). This guidance changed the second review to 20 years after the date of the last paper on the file.

Files prefixed TC were created by the Ministry of Health prior to the creation of the Department of Health and Social Services under direct rule, in March 1972. These files would have been subject to the review procedures outlined in the PRONI guidance of 1968. Given that the TC files requested by the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry are not held in PRONI the Department can conclude that they were destroyed at either the first review (5 years) or second review (20 years).

Files numbered 16205/80 and 16893/80 are old BC files created prior to the computerisation of the file registry within the DHSSPS. With computerisation these

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
INSPECTION REPORT ON
CHILDREN'S HOME

Name and Address *Adam House, Kincubbin, Co. Down*

Telephone No.

Under the auspices of *De La Salle Brothers, Hilltown, Belfast*

Kincubbin 236

Superintendent
(state qualifications) *Brother*

BR 12

Deputy
(state qualifications) *Brother*

BR 17
(Principal of Primary School)

Staff (children's)
(state qualifications) *5 De La Salle Brothers*

(domestic) *1 Cook, 2 maids*

Total number of beds available *56 (44 in main house + 12 in servants' house)*

Statistics (at date of visit)

	Under 2	2 & Under 5	5 & Under 16		16 & Under 18	18 and over
			At school	Not at school		
Boys <i>48</i>			<i>46</i>	<i>2</i>		
Girls <i>.....</i>						

Visited by

Dr. Simpson & Wright

W.N. or N.N.

Without Notice

Date

17/5/55

- (1) (a) Conditions of Admission *3 Boys over 14 years of age who have been in Hospital there, Belfast. 3 Boys of school age in care of Welfare Authorities. 3 Any deserving cases.*
- (b) Fees charged (if any) *\$ 3-0-0 per week. 3 3 10*
- (c) Treatment on Admission *A medical certificate is required from the boy's own doctor before admission. All children are medically examined by Dr Graham, Kincubbin, shortly after arrival.*
- (2) Clothing *A stock of clothing is maintained & when necessary articles are bought for individual children.*
- (3) Diet (Normal meals and times)

Breakfast 8 a.m.

Lunch 12.50 p.m.

Tea 4-0 p.m.

Supper 6-0 p.m.

A diet book is maintained.

We did not see the diet book when inspecting the kitchen, as owing to the holiday the brother responsible was off duty.

Reference

T. 165

Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont, Belfast.

D/P.C.
Miss Miller

De La Salle Boys' Home, Rubane.

On the 3rd October Dr. Simpson and I visited Rubane House, Kircubbin, Co. Down.

There were 65 boys in residence. Twenty-four are the financial responsibility of Welfare Authorities and two the financial responsibility of the Special Care Authority. The school was on holiday for potato digging and the boys were helping to gather potatoes in the fields. We saw them later coming in for lunch. They all appeared happy and in good health.

The present staff at the Home is Brother **BR 17** the Director, who is also Principal of the school, Brother **BR 12**, the Sub-Director, one Prefect, one Housemaster, a Secretary and two Primary Schoolteachers. Brother **BR 17** told me that he is now better satisfied with the housekeeping and domestic arrangements at the Home. There is a full-time daily cook and two non-resident domestics.

Brother **BR 17** has had a considerable amount of improvements carried out during his term of office. The kitchen had been redecorated and a new Aga cooker provided. It is hoped to have the dining-room redecorated as soon as possible. It has also been necessary to replace the roof in the Chapel owing to dry rot. A new office has been erected adjacent to the school building as the former office was required as sleeping accommodation for one of the Brothers.

There are now four dormitories (three with six beds and one with nine beds) in the Steward's House, which has been in use since 1953. Two W.C.s are available for night use, but all boys wash and bath in the cloakroom of the main building. The Chaplain also has his quarters in the Steward's House and two Brothers reside there at night. This leaves a total of 27 beds in the Steward's House, plus 44 beds already approved of in the main building - a total of 71 beds at Rubane Children's Home.

Outdoor play activity at this Home has greatly improved with the provision of a concrete yard between the school and the main building where tennis, basket-ball and rounders are played. There is also a good variety of indoor activity (T.V., radiogram, tape-recorder, billiards, table-tennis). Films are shown weekly and next winter Brother **BR 17** hopes to introduce "boat making" which he feels should prove attractive to boys of this age. One of the main difficulties at this Home is the lack of indoor play space and the Management Committee are at present considering the possibility of extension or the provision of two cottage homes in the grounds.

A teacher has now been appointed for the Special Class at the Primary School. Brother **BR 17**, however, would like to have Rubane registered as an Intermediate School, as he feels that this would give the boys a more practical education and leave them better equipped for jobs on discharge. The Director informed us that he had now reached a satisfactory arrangement with the County Council regarding the water supply to Rubane. The Fire Authority have agreed that a 3" pipe will be sufficient for their needs and the Education Authority are to make a grant of 65% to bring the water supply as far as the school building.

/As

This has been
of urgency (see
from St. John's, London
at 10.10.53)

WAS Ltd
529124
REGIMERS
CODE 1873

Reference T.165

Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont, Belfast.NoteRubane Hoze

Mr. Alexander and I visited this Home on 16th June, 1959. There were 65 boys in residence on the day of our visit -

- 25 sent by Welfare Authorities,
- 5 sent by Education Authorities to receive special schooling,
- 4 ascertained since admission as requiring Special Care and now maintained by N.I.H.A.,
- the rest voluntary cases.

Brother **BR 17** has been trying to reduce numbers and will continue to do so for the next month or two so as to be able to admit the annual intake from Nazareth Lodge in August.

There is a special class for E.S.N. boys, numbering 20. Brother **BR 17** says they are of very low I.Q. and that many of the other boys could almost be classed as E.S.N. also.

Present staff consists of 7 brothers, 3 of them teachers, 3 prefects and Brother **BR 18** in charge of the farm.

The farm appears to be going from strength to strength with new buildings and equipment. A small office has been built between the Home and the School for Brother **Alba** and the former small office made into a sewing room. New storage cupboards for clothing have been built by the handyman.

Four new wash-hand basins have been provided in the ablution rooms and new and better arrangements for towel-racks there instead of in the changing room.

The dormitories in the main building are certainly overcrowded in floor space to a degree that could not be tolerated were they not high, well-ventilated, well-lit rooms. As it is they look uncomfortably full. The rooms in the steward's house are not overcrowded. Two dormitories have been turned into one by the removal of a wall, making a better-ventilated room and additional space.

There is certainly no room for increase in numbers in present accommodation.

(Intld.) K.B.P.

8th July, 1959

Handwritten notes:
 To rec. 8/15
 Mrs. Houston 20/7/59
 Mr. Slattery 20/7/59
 Mrs. Slattery 20/7/59
 Mr. Slattery 20/7/59
 To Mr. Slattery 20/7/59

Reference T.287

Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont, Belfast.

D/PC

Annual Report - Bawnmore Children's Home

On the 6th of June Mr. Simpson and I visited Bawnmore Children's Home, 117 Whitewell Road, Belfast.

Premises: Bawnmore is a pleasant house which is well maintained and in good order throughout. The provision of wooden beds and bedside lockers is a great improvement in the dormitories. The kitchen premises were in excellent order.

Staff: Miss **BM 11**, the Matron, had just returned from the 3-week Residential Course for Staff of Children's Homes held at Bhyll, N. Wales. She had found the lectures and discussions most interesting and helpful although the main part of the time was devoted to the study of younger children than those for which Bawnmore caters. She has been fortunate in having as her deputy a Miss **BM 21**, a former school teacher. I had found Miss **BM 21** in charge on several earlier occasions when I visited the home and was impressed by her capable manner and pleasant way of dealing with children.

Health and Activities: There were 29 children in residence and they all appeared to be happy and well cared for. The older children were enjoying ball games on the lawn. Matron has arranged that one of the playgrounds is available for homework after tea. At present 1 girl attends Belfast High School, 2 Belfast Technical School, 3 Mount Vernon Special School, 9 Star of the Sea Primary School and the remainder the newly-built Primary School at Ballygalan. A younger age group in general have been in residence during the past year. They are friendly, responsive children and discipline is good.

The children continue to enjoy considerable freedom and spend their pocket money in the local shops and go to the pictures and the swimming baths. In the evenings and on wet days a TV set and electric gramophone are available.

Records: We inspected the statutory books. The diet continues to be of a high standard and is suitably varied. Medical records were found to be satisfactorily maintained.

Details of fire drill and events of importance are sent to the Welfare Officer in College Street weekly.

General: We have always found a very happy, homely atmosphere at Bawnmore. There is, however, one improvement which might be considered. For a total of 29 children there is one slipper bath and 2 shower baths on the first floor and one bath with shower on the ground floor. Home Office standards indicate that in a home accommodating this number of children there should be at least 4 slipper baths and showers are not suitable for the younger child. It is possible that a bath could be installed under the showers on the 1st floor.

A.D.C. Wright, The Hon. J.P. Simpson
20th June, 1956.

FA

THE SECRETARY
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

T.287

Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont, Belfast.

D/32

Ramscora Children's Home

I visited this Home on 4th and again on 6th December, 1964. On the first occasion Mr. Fraser, Assistant Superintendent, was in charge, and on the second I was received by Mr. Smyth, Superintendent.

Other members of staff with the children are:-

Housemother - Miss **BM 2**

Assistant Housefather - Mr. **BM 14**

Housemother's Assistants - Miss **BM 16** on sick leave, but a replacement has been found).

- Miss **BM 15**

Miss **BM 16** a student from the Northern Ireland Child Care Course, is doing part of her residential training in Ramscora and, I was told, was being helpful.

There were 26 boys in residence and I saw the majority on their return from school. I was glad to hear that at his usual quarterly medical inspection, held a few days before my visit, Dr. Girvan had been pleased with their standard of general health. Mr. Smyth seems to tackle behaviour problems among the boys sensibly and with understanding.

The Superintendent has displayed his talent for recruiting suitable people to help in a voluntary capacity with the result that the boys have a choice of activities, e.g., Scouts, physical recreation, cookery, woodwork, drama and music, which they can pursue under skilled guidance. The boys appear to have a number of social contacts outside the Home, and friends are welcomed at Ramscora. The production of a magazine is a recent innovation, and pots are kept.

The premises were in good order throughout, and a considerable amount of redecoration has been tastefully effected. Apparently, the question of the most suitable form of central heating is still under discussion. In the meantime, open coal fires, suitably guarded, burn in the play-room and quiet room, while electric convactor heaters are used in the bedrooms before the boys retire. It is proposed to provide the play-room with a new rubber-tile floor, but this plan has been delayed pending the installation of central heating.

Mr. **BM 3**, enthusiastic for his work seems to be unflinching, and under his direction it appeared to me that the Home was running well and making a praiseworthy attempt to cater for the individual needs of the boys.

M. J. O'Neil
10th December, 1964.

Reference

Ministry of Home Affairs
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast BT9 3DU

I visited Linnamore on 20 March 1972 and was received by Mr **BM 1** and Miss **BM 2** in the absence of Mr **BM 3** on holiday. The boys were off school, some because of ordinary Easter holiday, others because their schools were closed by power cuts. There were 23 boys in residence and two more are expected. These are lower numbers than usual. Many will be at home or with relatives over Easter. Outdoor activities, including minibus excursions, are being arranged for the others. Meanwhile boys were having a happy time, building huts and lighting fires (in appropriate safe places and with permission). Swimming expeditions to Grove Baths are useful for wet days.

Material has been delivered to the site for the construction of a recreation hut (the solid parts of former temporary houses). Contact has been made with Mr Campbell (of Community Relations Commission), who is involved in this project, which will provide for other local boys as well as Linnamore. Other bodies, including local Tenants' Associations, are also involved.

There have been considerable problems with some of the boys, but 2 or 3 have recently been committed to Rathgael, including the boy () referred to in Miss Mill's recent report. (Ascertained Special Care but no room for him in their establishments - Commander Mullan reluctantly committed him to Rathgael presumably pending a vacancy). Several boys had quite a harmful effect while there by taking other boys "miting". In the few weeks since their removal there has been a marked improvement in school attendance and behaviour.

The Home is without a Deputy Superintendent since Mr **BM 4** went on leave. Present staff under Mr **BM 3** are: Mr **BM 1**, Miss **BM 2**, Miss **BM 7**, Miss **BM 6**, a Mr **BM 8** and **BM 9** (old boy?) as relief. I have suggested to () that they consider grading this Home as a Group 2 Home in order to be able to offer more attractive salaries. It certainly contains a concentration of "children with physical or mental handicaps or requiring special forms of treatment" (to quote Circular 11/71). A high proportion are boys committed by the Juvenile Court. () has undertaken to look at this (and also Etterville Hostel in the same light as well as considering those in charge of Williamson Houses to be "officers in charge" instead of senior housemothers). Some of the boys are very attention-seeking, some dull, some disturbed, some both. It should be a great advantage, when the new Linnamore finally emerges, to be able to do some segregation in groups of this crowd of boys with very varying needs.

April 1972

A 913/82.

VOLUNTARY CHILDRENS HOMES

NAME OF HOME	DATE REGISTERED	COPY OF CERTIFICATE HELD IN FILE
NAZARETH HOUSE, ORMEAU ROAD BELFAST.	18 June 1950	YES <i>Closed.</i> <i>De-Registered 31.5.84</i>
1) GLENTHU CHILDRENS HOSTEL HOLLYWOOD ROAD BELFAST 4	14 June 1950	NO <i>Closed 21/2/86</i> <i>certificate not returned. De-registered 25/4/89</i>
1) NAZARETH LODGE, RAYNILL ROAD BELFAST	13 June 1950	NO
4) SACRED HEART HOME GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT, ORMEAU ROAD BELFAST	29 June 1950	YES: RE-REGISTERED 7.5.56 AS THE SACRED HEART CHILDREN'S HOME: THE GOOD SHEPHERD GIRLS HOME AND MARIANVILLE HOME FOR MOTHERS AND BABIES. THE GOOD SHEPHERD HOME AND THE SACRED HEART HOME RE-REGISTERED 15.5.63. <i>Cancelled - registered</i> <i>on 14/3/83 as 'Marianville Lodge & Baby Unit' only.</i>
5) MACEDON WHITE HOUSE CO ANTRIM 349 SHORE ROAD	29 JUNE 1950	YES - <i>Cancelled 7/7/82. Re-registered</i> <i>as Sharonmore Ballyduff Road Newtownabbey</i> <i>since registration certificate not returned - could not be found.</i>
1) MANOR HOUSE HOME BALLYCASTLE CO ANTRIM	29 JUNE 1950	YES <i>Closed 31.1.85 De-registered w.e.f.</i> <i>1.2.85</i>
1) VICTORIA HOMES 'SCHUMBERG' BELMONT ROAD BELFAST	1 JULY 1950	YES <i>CLOSED 22 NOVEMBER '83. Registration</i> <i>cancelled w.e.f. 23.11.83.</i>
1) ST JOSEPH'S HOME TERNONERACCA CO LONDONDERRY	1 JULY 1950	YES - <i>Cancelled as home closed on</i> <i>28 May 1982. Cert. not returned - cannot be found.</i>
1) MANOR HOUSE HOME WIGGORN CO ANTRIM	29 JUNE 1950	YES No: LETTER D.D. 15/1/88 FROM SECRETARY OF MAN. COMMITTEE OF HOME INDICATING REGISTRATION CERT. IN HIS POSSESSION <i>Closed. De-Registered 1.11.84</i>
1) NAZARETH HOUSE, BISHOP STREET LONDONDERRY	16 JULY 1950	YES
1) THORNDALE HOUSE DUNGAIRN AVENUE ANTRIM ROAD BELFAST	16 JULY 1950	YES <i>De-registered 30.11.82</i> <i>cert not returned - could not be found.</i>
1) HOPEDENE HOSTEL 55 DUNDOLA AVE BELFAST	11 AUGUST 1950	YES <i>De-registered 1/4/85</i> <i>Cert. not returned - could not be found.</i>
1) GOOD SHEPHERD HOME DUNGUEN ROAD LONDONDERRY	6 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES <i>De-registered 27/2/84</i>
1) CHILDHAVEN, DENNIS HALL RD. MILLISLE	27 SEPTEMBER 1950	YES. <i>Re-registered on 10/7/87 as "Childhaven</i> <i>and Cairnmore Children's Home"</i> <i>cert. dated 5/10/50 not returned - cannot</i>

Reg.No.1-1835
BOYS RECORDS
Year 1907-May1882.

15

St Joseph's Termombaca

GROUP II: (Juvenile Delinquency and Juvenile Courts.) Chairman: Dr. J.M.B. Donaldson. The Group held 21 meetings during the period and completed a report on Juvenile Delinquency which was approved by the Council and passed to the Ministry.

GROUP III: (Adoption, Boarding Out and After Care.) Chairman: Mr. J.P. Murphy. The Group held 7 meetings during the period and made considerable progress on a Report dealing with all the subjects within its terms of reference.

Note: The work of Study Groups I and III was suspended for a considerable time because of the decision of the Council to give priority to the work of Group No. II.

VISITS:

Members of the Council visited the following Children's Homes, Training Schools, etc.:-

Childhaven Children's Home, Millisle. (Study Group No. I.)	3rd September, 1953.
Mountnorris Children's Home, Armagh. (Study Group No. I.)	24th September, 1953.
Clogrennan Children's Home, Larne. (Study Group No. I.)	2nd October, 1953.
Nazareth Lodge Children's Home, Belfast.	2nd November, 1953.
Balmoral Training School, Belfast.	12th November, 1953.
Felden Training Centre (Study Group II.)	27th November, 1953.
Nazareth House Children's Home, Belfast.	24th November, 1953.
St. Joseph's Children's Home, Termonbacca, County Londonderry. (Study Group No. I.)	11th June, 1954.
Nazareth House Children's Home, County Londonderry. (Study Group No. I.)	11th June, 1954.
Welfare Authority Children's Home, Mourne Drive, Londonderry. (Study Group No. I.)	11th June, 1954.
Dhu Varren Children's Home, Portrush. (Study Group No. I.)	29th July, 1954.
Dr. Barnardo's Home, Ballycastle. (Study Group No. I.)	29th July, 1954.
St. Patrick's Training School Holiday Home, Cushendall. (Study Group No. I.)	29th July, 1954.

In addition several members of Study Group No. II attended Children's Matinees at cinemas on various dates.

J. M. J. +

de Paul. Mr. Desmond gave 120. same evening.

The Boys Club reopened at beginning of year, and Mr Hall Inspector visited examined all the books, gave great credit to Mr. Burke and Mr. Scully for their Charitable work and seemed quite pleased with everything.

All had three days special prayer for His Holiness the Pope, and the Children to honour his birthday had a wonderful tea party. Which Dear Mother General gave to all children in our Houses.

Rome, 15th January 1956

Sacra. Congregatio Religiosis.

Very Rev. Mother,

March 2nd 1956 will be the happy occasion of our Holy Father's eightieth birthday.

Even more than others, Religious will feel impelled to gather round him in fervent thanksgiving to God, Who has bestowed on His Church "so great a Pontiff" and in filial supplication for the necessary graces that he

CHILDREN'S HOMES AND TRAINING SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

Room 375,
Parliament Building,
Stormont,
Belfast.

7th May, 1957.

T.477
T.510

My Dear Minister,

St. Joseph's Children's Home,

Termonbacca, Co. Londonderry

My Committee has carefully considered the question of financial assistance from public funds to the Management Committee of St. Joseph's Children's Home, Termonbacca, Co. Londonderry, towards the expenditure, estimated at £1,066, incurred by the recent extensive improvements of the kitchen apartments in the Home.

My Committee has paid two visits of inspection to St. Joseph's Home and has scrutinised its annual accounts in respect of the four years ended 31st December, 1956. As a result we are satisfied that the works carried out were necessary and we recommend Government Grant Aid amounting to 75% of the approved cost of the project.

Yours sincerely,

Fessie H. Macdonald

Chairman of the Committee

The Rt. Hon. W.W.B. Topping, Q.C., M.P.,
Minister of Home Affairs,
Stormont,
BELFAST.

1957

J. M. J. +

had their trip as usual to Buncrana. The weather was good and they had a great day. In the evening they went shopping in the town where they received a very warm welcome, and returned laden with gifts, their purses none the worse.

Later some benefactors & friends of the House presented the boys with music for the Band now reorganised and making great progress. The A. D. M. Rev. Father McLaughlin of the Long Tower parish gave great praise to the boys for the way they answered the Christian Doctrine.

Five boys made their 1st Holy Communion and seven were confirmed.

The different officials who have visited us from Stormont were very pleased with the boys. Thank God they all keep well.

We had midnight Mass as usual at Christmas. Father Boullier, St. Columba College spoke very nicely to the boys and explained about the beautiful Festival of Christmas.

We had the great joy this year of a visit from dear Mother General and Mother Angela who came to us on the 8th of November. Their

COPY (Original on T.172)

T.172

I had already heard of this case via Co. Derry Welfare Authority, earlier this week.

The Home concerned is St. Joseph's Boys' Home, Termonbarroca, run by the Nazareth Order. I understand that two boys were placed out to work on a farm in the Feeny-Dungiven area, from which two sons of the house had been "lifted" by the Police as internees or detainees.

Voluntary Homes are required under sec. 103 of the C. and Y.P. Act, 1950, to inform the Welfare Authority in whose area a child over school age proposes to reside on leaving the Home and the Welfare Authority is required to advise and befriend the child unless satisfied that the Home has its own after-care facilities. For children of school age and under, the Child Life Protection provisions in Part I of the Act would apply. For children over school age, prior approval to the placement is not required.

Homes have of course been made aware of these provisions, but it is the kind of thing that tends to lapse when management of a Home changes. It might be possible to issue a further circular letter on the subject to Voluntary Homes as was done on 16.3.51 in Circ. No. T.C.7.

Miss Wright will be visiting this Home in the near future and could be asked to take up the question of sec. 103 notification with them and in particular the placement of these two boys.

(Sgd.) K.B. FORREST

21.11.58

(See further correspondence on T.172.)

T-510

ST. JOSEPH'S CHILDREN'S HOME, TERMONBACCA, LONDONDERRY.Extract from Joint Inspection Report by Dr. Simpson and Miss Wright (20.2)

"Reverend Mother showed us over the premises.
Central heating by oil, installed last November, is a
great asset to this Home."

C.W.

Please keep with file.

8/23
2
59.

Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont, Belfast.

D/P.C.

St. Joseph's Boys' Home, Tormohanna, Co. Londonderry.

On the 23rd of July I visited St. Joseph's Boys' Home, Tormohanna. There were 87 children in residence, fifteen from 2 to 5 years of age, twelve 3 to 5 years of age, and 60 of school age. Two boys [redacted] and [redacted], who are the responsibility of the Special Care Authority, attend the Day Centre, Northland Road. [redacted] SR 38 told me later that these boys were very difficult to deal with at times, and she thought their presence was detrimental to the welfare of the other children.

[redacted] SR 13 thinks it is probable that she will be transferred from Tormohanna in August as she will then have completed six years in office. [redacted] SR 11 returned to Tormohanna last September, having successfully completed the Home Office Residential Child Care Workers course for houseparents.

[redacted] SR 38 continues to be in charge of the Nursery group. She is at present assisted by three untrained Nursery Assistants. One [redacted] SND 401, is anxious to train as a Nursery Nurse. [redacted] SND 406, who holds a Northern Ireland Certificate in Child Care and who has assisted [redacted] SR 38 for a number of years, terminated her employment at the Home last November.

[redacted] SR 13 showed me over the premises. A considerable amount of redecoration has been carried out recently throughout the house. A new laundry is in the course of erection adjacent to the main building.

It was a sunny afternoon and all the children were out of doors. The older boys were playing football and the younger children were enjoying a variety of activities on the cement at the side of the house. Rev. Mother is disappointed that it has not been possible to have the playing fields levelled during her term of office. She paid tribute to the members of the farm committee and the wonderful assistance they had given her on all occasions. The St. Vincent de Paul had also been very helpful, coming to the Home in the evenings and taking the boys out from time to time. Most important of all they had undertaken the after-care supervision of all boys discharged from the Home. This supervision included boys returned to their own parents. Rev. Mother assured me that in all cases the Welfare Authority had been notified in accordance with Section 103 of the Children and Young Persons Act. Rev. Mother showed me clothing purchased recently for boys attending school - blazers and grey flannel trousers. This deviation from the clothing normal at this Home is a pleasant and commendable change.

I hope to re-visit St. Joseph's in September and [redacted] SR 11, who is responsible for the older boys, was absent at the time of my visit.

H.W.

9th August, 1960.

*see above/nyff's
minute of 6/11/60
on 172. — X*

1960.

J. M. J.

of £4,500. There is a balance still owing which will be paid very soon.

SR 38

nursery)

20th Oct.

The council met and voted to pay the bills. The Child Welfare Council visited on 14th October, they were pleased with the work done for the children. Miss Wright also inspected the children's records and said they were up to date.

It was decided to get linoleum for the nursery floors.

The Sisters are all very faithful to the Rule.

SR 38

nursery)

21st Nov.

The council met and voted to pay the bills. The Rule is well kept.

The children have been invited to a party by the R.A.F. Ballykelly.

Potatoes and corn have been sold for £1,124-16-1. A cheque for £98-18-9 has been received from the Inland Revenue through

SR 129

J. m. J. +

1961 and full of mischief. But always ready to help the Sisters.

Our Retreat was conducted this year by Rev. J. Whelan C.S.B.R. and afterwards the boys by Rev. J. Molloy C.S.B.R.

Miss Wright and Mr. Simpson from the Ministry of Home Affairs called here in July and were very pleased with the children and the work done.

Mother [redacted] left here on August 25th to attend the Chapter held in the Mother House August 29th and was replaced by Mother [redacted] September the 5th.

SR 93

We had a very heavy storm on September 16th much damage had been done to the dwelling house and to all the houses in the farm yard. Dear Mother has given permission for the rewiring of the house at the cost of £8.60 - Words fail to express our gratitude to dear Mother General who paid for this work.

Most Reverend Mr. Lannen called on Christmas Eve to bestow his blessing and best wishes for the Festive Season; he was very kind

March

JmT

20

At the Council meeting, it was decided to get some Blazers, Pullovers, Shirts, Underwear for the Boys, also some white material for the Sisters Habits. A Fertilizer Spreader was bought for the Farm. The members agreed to pay the Bills. The Rule and Religious discipline were spoken of and it was thought it to be observed.

SR 8

SR 1

SR 93

(use as)

17 April

The Council agreed to pay the Bills and to have the exterior of the Nursery painted. Since our last meeting, we have received grant of £174.10.6 for drainage of Quarry Field. This field is at present giving us a lot of trouble owing to people dumping Refuse, Old Cars etc. Mr [redacted] has come in hands through the Council. We engaged [redacted] to do our ploughing @ £1.10.0 per acre, this has saved us another man on the Farm.

On the 10th March, we had our usual Annual visit from DR Simpson & Mrs Hill Stormont officials. Our Holy Rule was spoken of and it was agreed that the Sisters were doing their best.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOME, TERMONBACCA,

Date 5th. Sept. - 11th. Sept.
1962.

COUNCIL MEETING in connection with the Visitation held on 11/9/62.

Presided over by Reverend Mother General.

Members present SR 93 SR 136 The Bursar

was called in. SR 93 SR 86

SR 86 was also present.

Observance of Rule and Religious spirit:-

There are two helpless invalids in this Community of nine members; the

care and attention which the former receive is a striking proof that

a true spirit of charity exists. The Rule is kept; the Spiritual

Exercises are punctually attended; the Office is said with devotion.

Bursar's Remarks & Bursar's Store:-

The Bursar said she is quite satisfied, that she has no difficulty in
obtaining all that is necessary. The food is excellent, plentiful and
well-cooked; the menu is varied.

Sisters' Part:-

The rooms are clean and everything in keeping with the religious life.

Chapel:-

Sacred Vessels, Vestments and Altar Linen are carefully kept. One

28
1964+
J.M. J

them very useful Presents.

The Rule was spoken of and it was thought that it was well observed.

SR 8

SR 1

SR 93

1965

14 January

Since our last meeting we had a visit from his Lordship with his usual Cheque. We were privileged in having three Masses at Midnight. [redacted] our Chaplain

said three also on Christmas Morning.

The Children had a wonderful Christmas got many useful presents, Lennie's Labels etc. The Vincent de Paul members were more than generous with Parcels for each Child on Christmas Morning.

The Council voted to pay the bills.

The Rule and Religious discipline were spoken of and all thought both were well observed.

SR 8

SR 1

SR 93

16 Feb

Dr Simpson & Miss Hill paid us a visit and stayed for about 3 hours discussing the proposed new building and said they had every hope that we would get the grant from Stomont. A grinding mill was

1965

J.M.J

purchased for the Farm at the cost of £285.
 This will save a lot of the men's time going
 to and from the Town with cereals etc.
 The members voted to Pay the Bills.
 The Rule was spoken of and all thought
 the Sisters were doing their best.

SR 8

SR 1

SR 93

16 March Since our last meeting, [redacted] had word
 from Stormont saying that they would give
 grant of 25% of the cost of the Boys New
 building. We got a small legacy of £100
 from [redacted] (deceased) Co. Deny.

The Rule was spoken of and it was remarked
 that the Sisters were very faithful.

SR 8

SR 1

SR 93

23 April

The Council met and voted to Pay the Bills.
 Our holy Rule and Religious discipline were spoken
 of and members thought both were well observed.
 The Knights of the Round Table presented a cheque
 for £90.

SR 8

SR 1

SR 93

24

+

1964

J. M. J.

13th Feb.

The Council met and voted to pay the Bills. Since our last meeting Mother General has granted permission to erect a building for the Boys at the cost of £25,000. and also granted permission to transfer £3,000 on deposit and to transfer £1,000 from Farm to B.I. of this money is to help for proposed building.

For the first time we have received a cow subsidy of £240. The subsidies are a big help to the Farm.

The Rule was spoken of and all agreed that the Sisters were doing their best

SR 1

(unsan.)

SR 136

SR 93

20th March

The Council met and voted to pay the Bills. The new porch is now near completion at the cost of £486 which Mother General kindly gave permission for.

Since our last meeting we had a visit from [redacted] and [redacted] from Stormont who were making enquiries about the proposed building. [redacted] stressed on the fact of suitable temporary accommodation for the Boys.

The Rule and Religious discipline were spoken of and no remark was made.

SR 1

(unsan.)

SR 136

SR 93

Annual Inspections

11. To refer to the Inspections carried out by the Ministry of Home Affairs under Section 102 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1950 and later Section 130 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968.

1950 "Two school Inspectors from Stormont visited the House and they were very pleased with the accommodation for the boys." Page 80

1957 "The different officials who have visited us from Stormont were very pleased with the boys." Page 115

1961 "Miss Wright and Dr. Simpson from the Ministry of Home Affairs called in July and were very pleased with the children and the work done." Page 132

1962 "Miss Forrest from the Ministry of Home Affairs came during night recreation, was pleased to find the children so well and happy, some at band practice, they played for her." Page 134

1963 "Miss Forrest and Mr Parks came to see the boys place from Stormont. Members of the Child Welfare Council came to see the children. They remarked how well cared for the children looked and hoped we would be able to improve this present building." Page 142

1964 "Dr Simpson and Miss Hill paid us a visit, February 4. Both were very pleased with the boys and most anxious that we would build dormitories as more sleeping accommodation was needed, said they would say so at Stormont and hoped we would get a Grant." Page 143

1967 "Miss Forrest and Miss Hill and Mr Blackburn, Ministry of Home Affairs Stormont came on 15 November to visit the children and discuss the proposed new building. Mother **SR 127** Superior Bishop Street and Mr Frank Guckian Chairman of Termonbacca Aid Association were also present. It was agreed that the first step would be for the architect to prepare sketch plans and make an estimate of costs." Page 148

1968 "Miss Forrest Minister of Home Affairs, came on September 10 to see the plans of the proposed new building and to discuss same with the Architect, Mr White. Miss Forrest was pleased with the plans and said she would take them to Stormont to have them examined and to get in touch with us as soon as possible. Miss Hill, Ministry of Home Affairs, telephoned that our plans were acceptable, a few minor alterations were necessary and that they would be sending for Mr G White, Architect, very shortly, for a discussion. Mr White went to Stormont where it was decided that it would be necessary to erect a covered way from our kitchen to the new building and to provide a doctor's room in one of the three houses. He has now to draw a more detailed plan and sent a copy of same to the Ministry." Page 155-6

1969 "On 27 November we had a visit from Dr Simpson and Miss Hill from Stormont. We had a visit also from Mr Hume MP."

"In December, Miss Gillespie, Children's Officer for Tyrone, called to the children in her care. We had another visit from Mr J. Hume, he spent quite a lot of time with the boys." Page 162

1970 "In November 27 we had a visit from Dr Simpson and Miss Hill from Stormont. They were pleased with arrangements for the children under our difficult circumstances." Page 165

14. What opportunities are provided for quiet reading, homework, and/or hobbies?

As far as possible, having regard to our restricted & inadequate accommodation.

15. In what other ways do the children spend their leisure?

In cycling, dancing, Silver Band
Boxing, young children have
Swings
These activities also encouraged

- 16.(a) In the case of children discharged other than to their parents or relatives, what provision is made for after-care by -

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|
| (i) finding employment ... | ... | ... |
| (ii) finding lodgings ... | ... | ... |
| (iii) visiting ... | ... | ... |
| (iv) supplementing earnings? | ... | ... |

We find employment suitable to their abilities & tastes.
In finding lodgings we have very capable people

- (b) Are these services provided by -

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|
| (i) a full-time officer .. | ... | ... |
| (ii) a part-time officer .. | ... | ... |
| (iii) voluntary help? | ... | ... |

By voluntary help only

17. Are your financial resources sufficient to meet your ordinary day-to-day expenses, and to enable you to employ all the staff you think should be employed, and to have premises adequate for modern standards of child-care?

No

18. Are there any desirable developments which you are unable to undertake for reasons of financial difficulty, e.g.:-

- (a) improvement of premises and staffing;
(b) employment of a field worker to investigate applications for admission and after-care work?

Yes - We badly need sleeping accommodation modernised more play space etc
at an estimate cost of
£50,000 to replace old
congested iron structures

19. If your financial resources are insufficient, it would be of assistance to the Council if you would give information on the following:-

- (a) annual running costs of the home;
(b) capital fund;

£11,000 and Subsistence from Farm
None save perhaps the value of the Farm itself.

28
1964+
J.M. J

them very useful Presents.

The Rule was spoken of and it was thought that it was well observed.

SR 8

SR 1

SR 93

1965

14 January

Since our last meeting we had a visit from his Lordship with his usual Cheque. We were privileged in having three Masses at Midnight. [redacted] our Chaplain

said three also on Christmas Morning.

The Children had a wonderful Christmas got many useful presents, Lennie's Labels etc. The Vincent de Paul members were more than generous with Parcels for each Child on Christmas Morning.

The Council voted to pay the bills.

The Rule and Religious discipline were spoken of and all thought both were well observed.

SR 8

SR 1

SR 93

16 Feb

Dr Simpson & Miss Hill paid us a visit and stayed for about 3 hours discussing the proposed new building and said they had every hope that we would get the grant from Stomont. A grinding mill was

March

JmT

20

At the Council meeting, it was decided to get some Blazers, Pullovers, Shirts, Underwear for the Boys, also some white material for the Sisters Habits. A Fertilizer Spreader was bought for the Farm. The members agreed to pay the Bills. The Rule and Religious discipline were spoken of and it was thought it to be observed.

SR 8

SR 1

SR 93

(use as)

17 April

The Council agreed to pay the Bills and to have the exterior of the Nursery painted. Since our last meeting, we have received grant of £174.10.6 for drainage of Quarry Field. This field is at present giving us a lot of trouble owing to people dumping Refuse, Old Cars etc. Mr [redacted] has come in hands through the Council. We engaged [redacted] to do our ploughing @ £1.10.0 per acre, this has saved us another man on the Farm.

On the 10th March, we had our usual Annual visit from DR Simpson & Mrs Hill Stormont officials. Our Holy Rule was spoken of and it was agreed that the Sisters were doing their best.

44

Jm⁺5

The Rule was spoken of and it was agreed that the Sisters were very faithful and most generous.

SR 8

SR 1

SR 93

(urses)

15 Sept. At this meeting the Council voted to the Bills. The Rule was spoken of and it was thought that it was well observed.

SR 8

SR 1

(urses)

16 Octo It was decided to pay the Bills at today's meeting. The Condition of the Boys building was discussed and we agreed to mention same to Brother General as it's now in a very bad condition. The Rule and Religious discipline were discussed and it was thought to be well observed.

SR 8

SR 1

(urses)

18 Nov Since we last had our Council meeting, we requested a visit from the Ministry officials in order to discuss the proposed Children's building. Miss Forrest & Miss Hill. They were very helpful and suggested the location

1968

J. M. J. +

Miss Forrest, Ministry of Home Affairs, came on September 10th to see the plans of the proposed new building and to discuss same with the architect, Mr. White. Miss Forrest was pleased with the plans and said she would take them to Stormont to have them examined and get in touch with us as soon as possible.

It gave us great joy to have a visit from Rev. Mother General and Mother Alphonsus Joseph late in September.

Miss Hill, Ministry of Home Affairs, telephoned that our plans were acceptable, a few minor alterations were necessary and that they would be sending for Mr. G. White, architect, very shortly, for a discussion.

On October 10th one of the children of the O'Barroll family, who occupy our gate lodge, set the house

1969.

J. M. J. +.

receive a donation of £176 from Mrs. Airey.

The children had a very happy holiday in Carronmena, Co. Donegal. It is a blessing to have this lovely holiday house at their disposal for the whole month of August.

We were very happy to get a grant of £500 towards our minibus. The babies are certainly enjoying it, they go to the seaside nearly every day.

We also received a cheque for £150 from the Irish Society. We also got a legacy of £100 from the Will of Dr. Maloney R.I.P. He was always a very good friend.

The children had a great day on the Sea Eagle they were entertained to games and films.

On 27th November we had a visit from Dr. Simpson and Miss Hill from Stormont. We had a visit also from Mr. Hume M.P.

In the month of December Miss Gillespie, Children's officer for Lynone, called to the children in her care. We had another visit from Mr. J. Hume he spent quite a lot of time with the boys.

Miss Black, Derry Children's officer, took Don Brown out to switch on the lights on the Christmas Tree. The children had a wonderful party at the Ballycaine

1970.

J. M. G. +.

On Thursday 27th November we had a visit from Dr. Simpson and Miss Hill from Stormont. They were pleased with arrangements for the children under our difficult circumstances.

December We were very happy to have our Mother Regional pay us a short visit.

Christmas was a very happy time for all of us. Rev. Fr. M^r. Hale put up the crib in the front hall. It was very nice.

His Lordship the Bishop called and gave us a cheque for £100. He gave us his blessing and wished us all the seasons greetings.

Rev. Fr. Boyle C.S.P. home from America for Christmas celebrated Midnight Mass for us the boys sang it in English - it was very nice indeed. Rev. C. Logue said his three Masses here on Christmas morning.

The children had many invitations to parties, films, and also the pantomime in St. Columbs Hall "Cinderella".

Many of them went to spend a couple of days with families during the holidays.

1971

January

The children returned to school on the 6th January.

On the following Sunday Members of S. V. P. brought presents for the children supplied from the workers

1966

1971

J. M. J. +

January

of Dupont factory. Later we had the house party everybody enjoyed it.

The Yumobacca Aid Committee held a dance in the gymnasium for the building fund. It was a great success. One of our boys [redacted] sang during the interval. Many popular stars also sang during the night to the great delight of the audience. [redacted] takes the boys Band every Monday evening, on Tuesday evenings the local teachers take the boys to the Baths.

SND 93

[redacted] succeeded in getting the use of the school gym for the boys every Wednesday from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. He and another teacher supervise them.

February

We had a visit from [redacted] from Ministry of Home Affairs. We received two installments of our grant from the Ministry £5850 + £3425. Eight Senior boys from St. Columba's College have been coming at the weekends to take the boys for hikes and help the boys with homework. Senior girls from Thornhill College also come at weekends and help in the kitchen - also with the boys - also in the Nursery.

The Junior and Senior Committees are working very well on

J. m. j. +.

We received a further instalment of grant for the new wing from Ministry of Home Affairs £4113.

The Derry Development Committee gave us a grant of £150 towards the running costs of the house.

30 leading Catholics withdrew from Public Office in protest against 'Internment' and Repression by British Troops, and for Cessation of Violence.

We were delighted to have Mother Regional for a visit. She was pleased with the work done on the building site, in spite of all the trouble we seem to be able to keep going. It is very inconvenient and even very dangerous for the workers with all the bombing and shooting. We received a further instalment of grant from the Ministry of Home Affairs £2665.

There was a meeting of both Junior and Senior Committees. We hope to have a flag day in September.

There was a special Novena in Long Tower Church in honour of St. Columba - the Bishop presided in the Sanctuary.

Two of the Maynooth Students who work very hard for us were ordained on 18th June. The Sisters and boys were special guests at the ceremony. Fr. Brian

182

1942

J. M. J. +.

September

back. Tension is still high and a lot of damage has been done the centre of the city is almost deserted.

We got a further instalment of grant from the Ministry of Home Affairs £3035.

We had a visit from [REDACTED] she was very pleased with the renovations in the nursery and with the new building.

October

The new building is nearly finished now, we will be delighted to get into it before Winter sets in. The boys were very excited when they saw the new football pitch being started also the ball alley. They are very keen on games. The Christian Brothers allow us to use their beautiful new gym every Thursday afternoon and the Junior teachers supervise the boys at their games and see them home safely. Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] SND 345

Both used to take the children for music. They are still interested in the house and Mrs. [REDACTED] SND 345

has been elected New President of Thornhill Past Pupils Union, they voted to give all their work this year to help us at St. Josephs.

Our flag day this year was a success considering

1972.

J. M. J. +.

November

Mr. J. Keene M.P. - who is at present negotiating with [redacted] office for an increase of grant - visited and brought the family with him.

To fulfill article 297 of the Constitution / came here on the 5th Dec. 1972 to make a Visitation of this House. Remarks on the Observance of Rule and Religious Discipline will be found in the ^{file in} Mother and Regional Houses.

R.

VIS.

9th December 1972.

We were delighted to have a visit from Bishop M^r. Guinness from Nottingham, he looked very well indeed.

December

We were happy to welcome [redacted] and [redacted] from the Ministry of Home Affairs. They were delighted with the New building - thought it was the best they had seen yet.

[redacted] promised we would get a further grant of £12,500 also to help with running costs he promised to write to the Local Authorities to ask them to pay £11-50 per child per week maintenance for children in their care who were admitted to St. Joseph's. We trust this will get a

198

1973

J. M. J. +

SND 15

our boiler man.

We had a visit from [redacted] he knew our house in Limerick in the early days.

December We had a visit from Miss Hill of the Ministry of Home Affairs she was very pleased with all she saw and complimented the Sisters on how well kept everything was in the different houses.

[redacted] and some of the wives from the American Naval Base called and brought sweets for the children.

[redacted] from Beggan formed a little group at his factory in Maydown to contribute towards Christmas gifts for the children. They brought two bicycles, an accordion, a tape recorder and football boots to the children on Christmas Eve. The children had invitations to parties at the Fire Station and at a hotel in Limerick. They enjoyed them very much.

On Christmas Eve Dr. J. Coulter, President of St. Columba's College celebrated Midnight Mass. The children sang beautifully. Dr. Coulter brought his mother, sister and a friend with him. They have been attending Midnight Mass here for years.

74.

J. M. J. +.

by ticket only. The reception afterwards was held in the new college, Penryn, where 1600 were catered for by a group of Sisters from each Convent in the Diocese together with supervisors from the various school canteens. The Sisters of Mercy under Mother Gertrude were responsible for this function, it was a great success the Bishop was very pleased.

Miss Forrest and [REDACTED] from the Department of Social Services, Belfast visited, they were very pleased with everything and congratulated the Sisters.

We were pleased to welcome [REDACTED] from The Deanery, Derry and the Deputy Governor and Secretary of the Honourable the Irish Society. They were very impressed by everything they saw and enjoyed their visit.

Mother Regional came to see us all we were delighted to see her looking so well.

Bishop Hurley and [REDACTED] from California called and offered Holy Mass Bishop Mc. Guinness was also present.

We were happy to receive a Legacy of £1000 from the Will of [REDACTED] passed

210

J. M. J. +

1975

brought Easter Eggs and gifts for all the children.

April

Miss Hill, from the Social Services Department visited and spent the most of the afternoon and early evening with the children. She was pleased with her visit and paid special tribute to the work being carried out by the Sisters.

The results of the First Aid Examinations arrived, and we were delighted to hear that all the Sisters and boys passed with honours. There will be a presentation ceremony of certificates in the near future. A course in Home Nursing is now in progress, and several Sisters from Bishop Street and Yahan are attending; it is most instructive and interesting, and should be of great practical assistance to all.

May:

On the first Sunday of May we had a Procession in honour of Our Lady. The children carried a beautifully decorated statue of Our Lady of Fatima. The Rosary was recited and we sang some of the lovely older hymns to Our Lady. We hope to continue having the Procession through the month.

A group of Red Cross Workers visited the House, and all were impressed with the happy family atmosphere in each group.

We received a donation of £75. from His Lordship, Mr. Daly. The money was presented to the Bishop by the

the 1950s (see paragraphs 54-60) the Department is not aware whether the Sisters of Nazareth availed of this.

Other Departmental information on Termonbacca and Nazareth House of relevance to the HIA Inquiry

12. A comprehensive scrutiny of all relevant Departmental files was undertaken by an independent expert panel of social workers brought together by the Department for the purpose of assisting the provision of evidence to the HIA Inquiry. The members of the panel are listed at Annex A. The information contained in paragraphs 13-19 below was deemed by the expert panel to be of relevance to the remit of the HIA Inquiry in respect of the above children's homes.
13. With regard to Termonbacca, a minute dated 3 June 1980 refers to a visit to the home made by the DHSS's Chief Social Work Advisor (CSWA, see paragraph 35) and an Assistant Chief Social Work Advisor (ACSWA). The visit was prompted by information passed to the DHSS by the Director of Social Services of the Northern Board (DSS, NHSSB). The minute confirmed:
 - The person in charge of the home had reported to the DSS, NHSSB that a volunteer had been barred from the home after being found in a compromising situation with one of the children. The child alleged that homosexual activity had taken place.
 - The CSWA advised the person in charge that the matter should be reported to the police. The ACSWA contacted police headquarters and provided the person in charge with the details of an officer to whom she should refer the matter. The person in charge agreed to make the necessary contact and to the request of the ACSWA that the child's social worker would be present during any interviews arranged with the police.
 - The ACSWA informed the DSS, NHSSB of the outcome.
14. The Department does not currently hold any further information with regard to the operation of Termonbacca Children's Home. However, Departmental correspondence and other records relevant to the home may well be held in the Public Records Office for Northern Ireland (PRONI) or in the institutional care archive of the Roman Catholic Church.
15. Information available within the Department in respect of Nazareth House Children's Home includes the report of an inspection undertaken by the

In Confidence

REPORT
ON
NAZARETH HOUSE
CHILDREN'S HOME
LONDONDERRY

COPY

Nazareth House,
Derry.

9th August, 1955.

Dear Mr. Jackson,

I regret delay in replying to your letter of July 4th regarding fire appliance. The delay was caused by the difficulty of getting tradesmen, as so many houses and schools are in course of erection in this city.

I received an estimate for six Angus Hose Reels supplied with water from the town water supply at a cost of £275: 10: -. After six months of appeals to tradesmen this work is now in progress. Three hose reels are in position and the piping to the town water supply is being laid on. The exit signs are also ready and the Spanish bolts are on order and have not been received yet. Meantime the door in question is not locked at night.

This expense, together with that incurred last year by widening the back entrance and supplying new gate, by the re-wiring of the whole electric plant in the school building, putting in emergency lights on stairs and corridors, building up wall in the furnace room and coal bunkers added, rails of stairs fitted into required position, has all amounted to big expense on our slender income.

I shall be very grateful if a grant can be allowed towards the expenses to be met with regarding fire appliance and so enable us to carry on the work which we are quite willing to have done.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

Mr. E. Jackson,
Secretary,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont, BELFAST.

(Signed) SISTE SR 44
Superior

4.0 COMPLIANCE WITH VOLUNTARY CHILDREN'S HOME REGULATIONS

VOLUNTARY VISITORS

- 4.1 The Sisters of Nazareth are the administering authority for the home and they are represented by the Superior General and her advisers who are based in London. However there is a Regional Superior for Ireland who is the "external visitor" to the home and she has been calling monthly since October 1985. In June 1985 2 local people were invited by the Order to visit the children's home on a voluntary basis. They have provided 2 quarterly reports covering the periods October to December 1985 and January to March 1986. These indicate that regular visits were made to the home and expressed satisfaction to the conditions, atmosphere and relationships found there and to the care and treatment of the children. A visitors book is provided for each unit and these are signed and dated by the Regional Superior and the voluntary visitors when they come to the home.

MEDICAL OFFICER

- 4.2 At the time of the inspection there was no medical officer to the home as required by paragraph 7(i) of the Children and Young Persons (Voluntary Homes) Regulations (NI) 1975. However the officer-in-charge indicated that Dr Martin Devlin, a general practitioner, was considering an offer of appointment. His acceptance of the post was subsequently confirmed at the 13 May 1986.

FIRE PRECAUTIONS

- 4.3 An inspection of the premises was made by the Northern Ireland Fire Authority on 16, 17 and 18 April 1986 and their report has been sent to the home. It advises alterations to the premises replacement of doors, etc. It is recommended that this work be put in hand immediately and completed to the satisfaction of the Northern Ireland Fire Authority.

CONTROL AND DISCIPLINE

- 4.4 Arrangements for the control and discipline of the children are set out as follows in the monitoring report (1 January 1985 - 30 March 1986):-

"The approach to control and discipline is founded on the maintenance of the child's dignity and every effort is made to safeguard their privacy. Such problems as manifest themselves are dealt with sympathetically by reasoning and talking matters out. If this fails then other disciplinary measures would take the form of withdrawal of privileges, time out, or the imposition of some small task. It is the policy of the home that there is no occasion when there is resort to corporal punishment".

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

- 4.5 The home is primarily for the accommodation of Roman Catholic children. They are encouraged to be attentive to their religious duties and are prepared by the staff for receiving their First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation. When children of other denominations are admitted their clergymen are informed and the children are assisted to attend services in their respective churches.

6.0 MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

- 6.1 The Department issued circular 6/63 "Monitoring of Residential Child Care Services" in December 1983 and invited the Sisters' of Nazareth to advise on its proposed monitoring system. This was received and conditionally accepted pending receipt of the first monitoring statement in respect of the Order's children's homes. At a meeting held subsequently it was established that Mother Regional, the voluntary visitors appointed by her and officer-in-charge of Nazareth House were to carry out the monitoring activity in relation to the children's home.
- 6.2 There were initial difficulties relating to the standards to be used but these were resolved when in August 1986 a guide for inspection and monitoring of children's homes was issued to voluntary organisations involved in residential child care by the Department. Following receipt of the 1985/86 monitoring statement for Nazareth House the Department expressed its satisfaction with the home's monitoring system and it was decided that joint meetings with the Sisters' of Nazareth need not be held annually unless a further monitoring statement raised some issue of concern. The monitoring statement for Nazareth House for the period 1 July 1986 to 30 June 1987 is attached at Appendix "A".

dining/living area and a bathroom. It is used presently by 3 young women who are ex-residents of the children's home, but in the future it will be made available to other young persons who are leaving Nazareth House to live independently in the community.

9.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Nazareth House Children's Home continues to operate with full occupancy reflecting the high demand for residential places within the Western Board's Londonderry, Limavady and Strabane Unit of Management. Some of the children placed could have been boarded-out if suitable foster parents were available. However, the Home provides a comfortable living environment and is particularly suitable for younger children and sibling groups.
- 9.2 There is good co-operation between the Western Board and the voluntary home. **TL 4** Assistant Principal Social Worker (Child Care), has regular contact with the senior staff with whom he liaises in respect of admissions/discharges. He also visits the home to chair reviews of children from the Londonderry, Limavady and Strabane Unit of Management and to offer support and guidance to the Sisters as required. The Board has assisted with staff development and training and its financial arrangements with the home are on a sound footing.
- 9.3 As the inspection was being undertaken, it was learned that **SR 15** (Deputy Officer-in-Charge) and **SR 19** (Head of the Unit) were being withdrawn by the Order from the children's home to concentrate on other duties. With 28 and 11 years service respectively, dedicated to the children in Nazareth House, their departure will herald the end of a decade where many changes were introduced which have improved the quality of life for the residents and the professional work of the staff. However, the assignment of **SR 2** to the Home on a full-time basis, following completion of Certificate in Social Service training, is welcomed and should ensure continuity of a high standard of care for the children.
- 9.4 The following recommendations arise from the report:-
 - i. it is recommended that the formation of a local management committee is undertaken by the Regional Superior as soon as possible (para 1.5);
 - ii. the Home should be visited each month by a representative of the administrative authority in compliance with Section 4(2) of the Voluntary Homes Regulations.

8.0 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- 8.1 The Complaints Procedure for Children in Residential Care and Their Parents, is operated within the home. As with other records there are 2 complaints books held ie one in each flat. Each only holds complaints made in the flat where it is kept. This is unnecessary and it is recommended that a single record of all complaints made in the home is maintained.
- 8.2 A boy in Flat 1 had complained to his social worker that he was assaulted on 17 July 1989 by a member of staff. This complaint was thoroughly investigated by the Western Health and Social Services Board. It was concluded that the boy's allegation could not be substantiated, therefore no further action was taken.
- 8.3 There were two complaints made in Flat 2, ie on 9/2/89 and 24/11/89. Both involved the head of unit. In the former case 3 children complained to their social workers that they had been slapped following disorderly behaviour in the flat. This was substantiated following investigation by the deputy officer in charge and the staff member involved was advised that "her action was not acceptable". In the second case a boy complained that he had been "tapped" on the head and this appears to have been confirmed by subsequent enquiries. Following this incident the principal social worker, Londonderry, Limavady and Strabane Unit of Management, wrote to the home, pointing out that such action contravened the Western Board's policy which states that corporal punishment should not be used on children in the Board's care. He also offered the services of his assistant principal social worker to assist with an in-house training course on the control and handling of children. It is recommended that this offer should be taken up by the management of the home.
- 8.4 It was reassuring to find that a complaints procedure appears to be working effectively within Nazareth House children's home. However, the Inspector was concerned that there have been 2 incidents over the past year involving the slapping of children by the head of unit in contravention of the home's policy. She leads a team of staff, many of whom are inexperienced and without training, who will be looking to her for guidance and example in the management of difficult situations involving the children. This situation points to the need for formal professional supervision of the heads of both flats to be instituted, preferably undertaken by an officer in charge with a full time commitment to the children's home and this is recommended.

SHORT COURSES 1991 - 1992

<u>DATE</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>NAME OF COURSE</u>	<u>STAFF ATTENDING</u>
03.06.1991	Belfast	C.S.S. Special Options Preparation Workshop.	SR 2
04.06.1991	N.W.C.T.	Dip in Social Work Information Day.	SR 2 SND 242 SND 342
19-21.06.91.	M.D.U.	Working Together.	SND 242
11-12.09.91.	Omagh	Planning Therapeutic Strategies.	SND 43
25-26.09.91.	M.D.U.	Relate 'Sexual Awareness.	SND 243
6-8.11.1991	"	" " "	SND 39
12-13.03.1992	"	" " "	" "
02.10.1991	M.D.U.	Structured Assessment and	SND 40
13.12.1991	"	Risk Analysis	SND 342
26-28.11.91.	M.D.U.	Workshop on Child Care Legislation	SND 40 SR 2
12.12.1991	M.D.U.	Preparation - Child Protection Course.	SR 2
16-18.12.91.	M.D.U.	Practice Teacher Training.	SR 2
13-15.01.92.	M.D.U.	Workshop on Adolescents who sexually victimise other children.	SND 284
04.02.1992	M.D.U.	Peer Abuse Child Care Symposium.	SND 40 SND 39
Jan - June 92.	M.D.U.	Open University - Caring for Children and Young People.	SND 39

SUMMARY REPORT

Inspection of Nazareth House Children's Home by the Social Services Inspectorate December 1993

Basis of Inspection

The Social Services Inspectorate is empowered to carry out the inspection of children's homes under Section 168 of the Children and Young Persons Act (NI) 1968. Voluntary children's homes are inspected each year, Nazareth House was last inspected in November 1992. In the past year considerable progress has been made in relation to developing staff support systems and involving children in the routines of the home. The home's staff also continue to promote and encourage children educationally. In general children spoke positively of the care they received and their relationship with staff members.

Nazareth House

In December 1993 an inspector spent 5 days at Nazareth House meeting the staff and children and listening to their views and comments. The inspector also examined records and reviewed the home's procedures.

Nazareth House is located on the first and second floor of one wing of the convent building. The internal furnishing and decoration of the children's home is attractive and comfortable. In total the home can care for 23 children, 20 in its two residential units and 3 in its leaving care flatlets. In general the home cares for children who need medium to long-term care.

Inspection Findings

The inspector reported on the following aspects of care:

1. The right to be cared for in a planned way.

Nazareth House is one of three children's homes located in the Foyle Unit of Management, which is the main user of the facility. The availability of a place in Nazareth House and the absence of appropriate alternatives either within the Board's two children's homes or in foster care generally determines the use of this home.

Either before or shortly after admission an admission meeting is convened. Following this a system of reviews is in place to review decisions regarding the child's care. Parents and children are generally invited to attend either all or part of the review and feel their views are considered. Recently the decisions of the review have been confirmed in writing to parents. The inspector felt that children should also receive written confirmation of decisions. This would ensure a clear knowledge of the decisions reached and how these are to be achieved.

2. The right to complain.

Parents and children receive copies of the information booklet on residential care, (the "Pink Book") which also contains information on how to complain. Some sections of the "Pink Book" contain information which is specific to each child. The inspector found that sometimes these sections were not completed on the books sampled. Despite having received a copy of the 'Pink Book' some parents and children stated that they did not know how to make a complaint.

All complaints made are notified to Social Services and investigated either by the home's or Board's staff. The inspector felt it would be helpful if the outcome of the investigation of a complaint was confirmed in writing.

The current location of the home's pay telephones should be reviewed as these are sited in areas of the convent which are not readily accessible to children.

3. The right to education.

Considerable emphasis is placed on education by the residential staff and children are encouraged to reach their full potential. Individual tuition is available to all children.

128

J. M. J.

1981

Sept. 18

A Council Meeting was held and the Members agreed to pay the usual monthly bills.

The Department of Health and Social Services carried out an inspection of the fire equipment and facilities in the children's building. The subsequent report recommended several necessary alterations and additions to comply with required standards. To obtain an estimate of the cost of this work the advice of our architect was sought and we now await his findings.

SR 1

SR 23

SR 93

October 20.

The Members of the Council met today and agreed to pay the usual monthly bills.

The continued fall in the number of children in our care - at the present time there are only eighteen - is causing grave concern. In an effort to find some solution to the problem there will be a meeting held here next week with representatives of the Social Services.

The Rule was spoken of and the Members agreed it is being well kept on the whole.

SR 1

SR 23

SR 93

COPY

J.W.

When I was at Nazareth House last week Mother **SR 44** was very distressed at the latest Fire Authority Report, which she showed me. She says it gives the impression that nothing has been done, when in fact she has spent about £600, mainly on enlarging the gate to let fire engines in (about £176) and on rewiring and emergency lighting (£348 odd).

I don't know if we have got their Report but I made the following notes on the spot:-

- Recommendation 3. Handrails have been extended on front stairs.
- " 4. She is not happy about a panic bolt as big girls might get out when there was no panic! Would it be acceptable if each staff member had a key always with her?
- " 5. Wall to separate bunkers is nearly finished. Men went away and left it; have been sent for to finish it.
- " 6. Bunker has been done.
- " 7. Have made enquiries about hose reels. They are on order.
- " 8. Minimax examine the extinguishers twice a year.
- " 9. Have asked electrician for prices for fire alarms.

She is not happy about putting up big Exit signs. She says it is not homely and I agree. This is the children's home and they know their way out all right. The Fire Authority may not now there is a nun on night duty dozing on couch with alarm clock making rounds at 11 p.m., 1 a.m., and before 4 a.m. This is usually regarded as a good fire precaution in itself.

I am sending this to you without waiting for the Report as am going on leave.

(Intd.) K.B.F.
5.4.55

copy placed in file for precautions in the case of fire in the school house with C.C.S. See 10/10/57

2.170

15th October, 1957.

Reverend Mother,

I am directed by the Minister of Home Affairs to refer to your letter of the 24th January, 1957, in which you state that the part of the work on fire precautions at Nazareth House Children's Home, Londonderry, which had not then been carried out would be commenced without delay, and to request that you will be good enough to state whether the work has now been completed and the accounts paid.

As the grant of £5,830 paid towards expenditure on the playhall and fire precautions at the Home included £830 towards the cost of the fire precautions, a detailed statement, certified by your accountants, should be submitted to the Ministry showing the total actual expenditure on fire precautions. Receipts for items amounting to £859: 17: 10 accompanied your letter of the 27th April, 1956, and the receipts for the remaining items should be sent to the Ministry with the statement of total actual expenditure.

I am, Reverend Mother,
Your obedient Servant,

(Miss) L. MILLER

for Secretary *del am*

The Reverend Mother,
Nazareth House Children's Home,
Bishop Street,
Londonderry.

/mg

13. CONCLUSIONS

13.1 Nazareth House Children's Home is unique in a number of respects, not least in that all the senior staff hold full-time posts in 2 professional settings. One fifth of the residents are not in the care of boards. The advisers noted that this group of young people excel in all that they undertake.

13.2 The standard of physical care is high. The children appear to be settled and a relaxed atmosphere prevails in the home. Young people who were interviewed spoke highly of the standard of care they were receiving and it was evident that their relationship with the staff was supportive and enabling.

13.3 Some board social workers do not provide the level of supervision that is normally expected, nor do they furnish adequate documentation in support of admissions or at subsequent reviews. To this extent they fail to make a contribution to the involvement of a social work service.

13.4 Senior staff react to requests for service from the boards. They appear to make few demands for information, consultation or support. They should do more to raise the level of expectation by insisting that minimum standards of support and supervision are achieved and that documentation and written information are furnished when they should be. Equally, management staff in the boards should ensure that the standards of practice of their social workers improve.

13.5 The type of service required by boards is changing and the Order should enter into consultation with the Western board to consider the longer term future of the home. Change in the type of service

6.0 MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

- 6.1 The Regional Superior of the Sisters of Nazareth responded in writing to Departmental Circular 6/63 "Monitoring of Resident Child Care Services" on 23 December 1983. At that time the Order maintained 4 children's home in the Province and the proposed monitoring system applied to all of them. However it consisted mainly of an empirical statement of the situation pertaining to the home headed by the main elements of the monitoring system. It was unclear who was to be responsible monitoring though the respective officers-in-charge were to be involved in a part of this activity. It was decided by the Department to accept the proposed monitoring arrangements and defer discussion on them until the first monitoring statement was provided by the administering authority for the home. The Department has now received a monitoring statement (Appendix) covering the period from 1 January 1985 to 30 March 1986. A meeting will be arranged between representatives of the Department and the Sisters of Nazareth to discuss it and the monitoring system.

7.0 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- 7.1 Departmental Circular HSS(CC)2/85 requires each children's home to issue guidance to the residents and their parents on what constitutes a complaint and how they may complain. Nazareth House Children's Home has provided a booklet "A Guide for Children in the Home and Their Parents" incorporating a pre-paid contact card which may be sent by a complainant to the Director of Social Services in the event of a complaint not being satisfactorily resolved in the home.
- 7.2 The home has maintained a Complaints Book since July 1985 and 3 incidents have been recorded. One referred to a disagreement between a boy resident and one of the domestic staff. The other 2 were complaints involving allegations of sexual impropriety between resident children. These incidents were investigated and full reports were held on the respective children's files. According to the officer-in-charge the social workers responsible for the children had also been informed.

9.0 COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Almost all of the recommendations made in the 1986 inspection report on Nazareth House children's home have been implemented. The only one outstanding was the completion of alterations to the premises in compliance of the requirements of the Northern Ireland Fire Authority but this work had gone out to tender. The speed with which the Sisters' of Nazareth acted on these recommendations is indicative of the thoroughness of their approach to providing an acceptable standard of care for the children placed in the home.
- 9.2 Western Board staff who are the main users of the home are generally content that the environment in Nazareth House is conducive to the well-being of the children who are placed there. The Board continues to give professional and financial support to the home and it welcomes staff from Nazareth House to its in-service training courses.
- 9.3 The Regional Superior takes the lead in monitoring standards in Nazareth House children's home and recently she has been assisted in this work by 2 voluntary visitors. At the joint monitoring meeting held in June 1987 Mother Regional indicated that she was now considering the establishment of a full management committee for the children's home and this was welcomed by the Department's representatives.
- 9.4 The following recommendation arises from the report:-
- (i) the home should be visited "at least once in every month" by a representative of the Administering Authority in compliance with Section 4(2) of the Voluntary Homes Regulations (para 4.1).



**ADMISSIONS OF CHILDREN TO
CARE INSPECTION**



Department of Health

and Social Services

APPENDIX 3

SR 2 s Unit

SND 283

HIA 86

SR 142 s Unit

HIA 127

HIA 233

SND 324

SND 41

MONITORING STATEMENT - NAZARETH HOUSE, BISHOP STREET, DERRY.PERIOD - APRIL 1st 1990 / March 31st 19911. Aims and Objectives

The principal aims and objectives of the children's home are:-

- to provide a loving, caring and stable environment in which the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of the children are met;
- to assess each child's needs and to decide how best to help the child;
- to ensure that opportunities are provided both within and outside, that each child can realise his / her full potential and gain a measure of independence and make an early return to the community;
- to co-operate with the Department and with Social Workers employed by the Boards in making and implementing appropriate plans for each child;
- to assist young people who are leaving care to live independently, by providing appropriate programmes of care, prior to and over the transition period.

2. Accommodation

The home can accommodate 23 children of both sexes, ranging from 5 to 18 years, in two flats each with ten places and a semi independent unit with three places.

Flat 1:-

- Bedrooms - 4 single, 3 double (children's)
- Living room
- Dining room / kitchen
- Visitors room
- 3 bathrooms
- 1 laundry room
- 1 office / staff sleep in room
- 1 bedroom - Sister in Charge

there is an establishment of 11 residential Social Work staff for a facility registered for 23 children. Two care assistants are employed in unit 1 to assist with the cover of sleeping in duties. The Team Leader (unit 1) is rostered to work a range of duties in addition to undertaking her management duties. The Deputy Officer-in-Charge while not rostered is in effect on 24 hours a day call 7 days a week. The management duties of these staff are inhibited by their work practices, as it reduces the time available for staff supervision, team development and business planning. The existing staffing level, however, requires that the Team Leader and Deputy Officer-in-Charge are available to work as part of the staff team.

10.4 A review of the duty rota demonstrates that cover is provided on the following basis:

- in general one member of staff is on duty in the morning. In unit 2 Sister would also be available;
- staff's shifts commence at 2.00pm and 3.00pm to provide maximum cover when children are at home.

This level of morning cover continues on Saturday and Sunday mornings and during school holiday periods. While Sister's presence in unit 2 provides the potential for 2 staff to be available, given her wider brief this may not always be practical. A review of rosters is required to ensure that 2 residential social workers are available at times when all children are at home.

10.5 Current staffing levels are unacceptably low, particularly when one considers the low level of training within the staff group. As the main purchaser of services the WHSSB, as the corporate parent, is responsible for the standard of care and equity of provision experienced by children in residential care within the voluntary and statutory sectors. There should be comparability of provision across sectors. The current capitation funding for each child prohibits the employment of additional staff and is much below the average costs both within the statutory and voluntary child care sectors. The relative figures are:

STATUTORY SECTOR
Average Cost per resident
per week 1991/92

WHSSB	£522.77
EHSSB	£662.87
NHSSB	£644.61
SHSSB	£588.61
Provincial	
Average	£604.71

VOLUNTARY SECTOR
Capitation Charge
per week at 31.3.92

WHSSB	£318.00*
EHSSB	£498.20
NHSSB	£514.54
SHSSB	£395.00
Provincial	
Average	£431.43

* Now £343

NAZARETH HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOUSE
BISHOP STREET
DERRY

VOLUNTARY VISITOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

MONTH FEBRUARY 1990

DATE OF VISIT 28.2.90

UNIT SR.

SR 21

1. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

A. Children/Young People

Registered number of places.....10
Number of admissions during month.....1
Number of discharges during month.....None
Number of children in residence at end of month: 12
Male...5..... Female...7.....

Age range of children in residence at end of month:
...5.....years to ...14.....years.

B. Staff

Number of Staff currently employed....5.....

Number of Staff on duty at time of visit....3.....

Are supervision arrangements satisfactory? YES/NO

What training courses have staff attended during the month?

C.U. CHILD CARE COURSE

E.U. CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE - SR

IN HOUSE COURSE ON CHILD PROTECTION - N.H.S.S.A

CHILDREN

SND 38

APPLIED FOR C.S.S. COURSE

SND 38

SND 194

SR 21

T.170

27th April, 1955.

Reverend Mother,

... With reference to the enclosed copy of a report by the Northern Ireland Fire Authority following their further inspection of Nazareth House Children's Home, Londonderry, on 16th March, 1955, I am directed by the Minister of Home Affairs to state that, although it would seem that little has been done to implement the recommendations contained in the Fire Authority's initial report on the Home, the Ministry is pleased to learn from its Children's Inspector that the various recommendations are in fact engaging your attention, and that you have succeeded in having the premises re-wired for electricity, provided for emergency lighting and arranged for the necessary widening of the Millar Street entrance at a cost of approximately £525.

It is further learned from the Children's Inspector that additional fire precautions have been, or are being, effected as follows:-

RecommendationAction taken

NO 3 JACKAL 13

5

Handrails extended on front stairs.

6

Work of building up solid partition now nearing completion.

7

Fuel bunker completed.

8

Hose reels have been ordered.

9

Arrangements made for fire extinguishers to be examined twice yearly.

Electrician consulted as to prices for internal fire alarm system.

/1

Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont, Belfast.

D/FC

Nazareth House, Bishop Street, Londonderry.

On the 27th of September we visited Nazareth House, Bishop Street, Londonderry, and were shown over the premises by Sister SR 24. We also interviewed Sister SR 9 Principal of the Primary School. Rev. Mother had just left for her annual vacation.

There were 139 children in residence, 4 under two years of age, 32 in the Nursery Group (11 attending school), 98 of school age and 5 over school age. Five girls are the financial responsibility of Co. Londonderry Welfare Authority. The children under two years of age were accepted by Rev. Mother as an emergency measure, as they are members of families accommodated in other sections of the Home. While we think Rev. Mother had probably little option at the time in accepting the children, this Home is not suitable for the care of children under two years of age. When we discussed this with Sister SR 24 she said they hoped to be in a position to discharge these children quite soon.

The majority of the children in residence attend the Primary School in the Home. Two girls attend Thornhill Secondary School and one Londonderry Technical School. One girl obtained her Junior Certificate examination in June. Two residents are the responsibility of the Special Care Authority. We think it is imperative that [redacted] be removed. She still has to be kept in the Nursery Group and it is obvious that her presence is detrimental to the welfare of the other children in the Home.

The children appeared to be in good health and well cared for, apart from one girl confined to bed, who struck us as being singularly apathetic and unresponsive. We were assured that she had already been examined by the Medical Officer, who was keeping her under observation.

Sister SR 24 showed us over the premises, which were in good order and pleasantly decorated throughout. A new school-meals kitchen and servery is being erected adjacent to the dining room. Rev. Mother General during her visit to the Home last year had recommended the dividing of the older girls into three groups. One sitting-room has already been furnished in a room formerly used as a classroom and it is proposed to build two further sitting-rooms between the new meals-kitchen and the school. The sitting-room already provided is pleasantly decorated and furnished and is equipped with television and radio. We think the provision of two similar rooms will be a great benefit to the children. Work has commenced on the building of the new chapel.

A. We inspected the statutory records. We were concerned that fire drill is being not carried out. Sister said she was awaiting directions regarding this from the local fire officer. We advised her to contact him immediately regarding this matter and we intend to make a further enquiry about this within the next few weeks. The "events of importance" book shows that the girls have enjoyed numerous outings and films during the year. Sister SR 9 also informed us that it had been possible to arrange for all girls of school age to spend their summer holiday with private families.

Although this is a large institution, improvements continue to be carried out to make it as homely as possible for the children in residence.

Signed HW my/s

Date 2/10/60

14. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 Staff meetings should be held regularly and they should be documented (para 4.5.1).
- 2 All staff should receive regular supervision (para 4.5.2).
- 3 **SR 1** ole should be reviewed having regard to the recommendations which are made in the report (para 4.5.3).
- 4 Staffing arrangements should be reviewed to ensure that adequate cover is provided (para 5.5).
- 5 Consideration should be given to the appointment of suitable male staff as and when the opportunity arises (para 5.7).
- 6 Social skills and independence training should start in the early teenage years (para 6.6).
- 7 The home should prepare admission criteria and procedures and advise the boards of them (para 8.2).
- 8 Reviews of each child should be convened regularly and they should be documented (para 8.4).
- 9 Consideration should be given to extending the use of the diaries which are currently being kept by senior staff (para 9.2).
- 10 Records of fire drills should be more comprehensive (para 11.1).
- 11 The Department of Health and Social Services should raise the matter of funding of the home with the Western Health and Social Services Board (para 12.4).



NAZARETH HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOME

Inspection Report

June 1987

SISTERS OF NAZARETH

Inspection of:-

Nazareth House Children's Home

Bishop Street

Londonderry

Telephone (0504) 262180

TYPE/FUNCTION OF HOME

Nazareth House is a voluntary children's home as defined by Section 126 of the Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland) 1968. It provides short or long term care for up to 20 children of either sex. They are accommodated in 2 flats each with 10 places.

RESIDENT CHILDREN BY AGE AND SEX (26 August 1988)

	Boys	Girls
Under 7's	4	1
7 to 11	1	5
11 to 15	3	4
15 to 18+	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
	8	11

DATES OF INSPECTION: 7-8 September 1988.

TIMES OF ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE:

Wednesday 7 September 1030-1900

Thursday 8 September 1030-1300

SOCIAL SERVICES INSPECTOR: D P O'BRIEN



NAZARETH HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOME
BISHOP STREET
LONDONDERRY



Department of Health and Social Services

APPENDIX 2

SHORT COURSES 1989 - 1990

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>VENUE:</u>	<u>NAME OF COURSE:</u>	<u>STAFF:</u>
Jan - June 89.	M.D.E.C.	Open University Course 14 sessions	SND 242 and SND 342
22nd June. 89.	M.D.E.C.	The Role of The M.S.P.C.C. Child Protection Team.	SR 2 and SR 21
23rd May. 89.	Everglades	Residential Work with the Sexually Abused.	SR 2 and SR 21
27/28/29th June.	M.D.E.C.	Direct Work with Children	SND 38 and SND 284
5/6th Sept.	M.D.E.C.	Play and Movement Children	SND 242 and SND 342
19/20/21st Sept.	Fort James.	Working with Abused Child- ren in Care.	SND 43 and SND 243
17/18th Oct.	M.D.E.C.	Child Sexual Abuse.	SND 39 and SND 343
14/15th Nov	M.D.E.C.	Decision Making and Risk Taking.	SR 21 and SND 285
	N.H.	Fostering	Staff Flat 1 & 2
6th Dec.	N.H.	Adoption	Staff Flat 1 & 2
16th Jan.	M.D.E.C.	Decision Making Follow up day.	SND 38 and SND 285
16th Jan.	M.D.E.C.	Direct Work with Children	SR 21 SND 38 SND 285
Jan - June 90.	M.D.E.C.	Open University Course Caring for Children and Young People.	SND 243 SND 284 SND 38 SND 343
Jan - June 90.	M.D.E.C.	New Open University Course For Child Sexual Abuse and Neglect.	SR 21
14/15/16th March.	M.D.E.C.	Law and the Children	SR 2 and SR 21

SND-9830

FEB /4/1 iv



**INSPECTION OF
NAZARETH HOUSE CHILDREN'S
HOME**

171657/4

DECEMBER 1993

the views of the Hughes Inquiry which found that inspections undertaken by the MOHA and the DHSS during the 1960-1980 period were deficient in frequency, nature and scope.

74. The DHSS had in the early 1980s already begun to address these matters (see paragraphs 31 and 32) and over the next decade instituted a rigorous programme of inspection, enhanced monitoring systems and qualifying training initiatives for residential staff, all of which at the time of inception were the most advanced in the UK (see paragraphs 59-60). Northern Ireland has also since maintained the position of having the highest number of residential child care staff in the UK with a social work qualification (paragraph 60).
75. Whilst effective inspection, monitoring and staff training programmes do not of themselves prevent the ill treatment or abuse of children, they nevertheless serve to create a caring environment that minimises the opportunities for abuse to occur.

CONFIDENTIAL.

M. 2

EDUCATION ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1947.

25

LONDONDERRY COUNTY BOROUGH HEALTH AUTHORITY
REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH ON INSPECTION
OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

(1) Name and Address of School..... *hazarett House,*
Bishop St.
Londonderry

(2) Name and Address of School Manager or other person in Charge of School
The Rev Father Maguire, O.S.A.
Parochial House, St. Joseph's Ave.
Londonderry

(3) (A) Date of Inspection..... *29th Nov. 54*
 (B) Date of last previous Inspection..... *16th Jan. 1952*

(4) Number of children
 (A) On School Roll..... *150* (B) In actual attendance..... *150* (C) Absent..... *—*

(5) Reasons (if any) for 4 (c).

(6) Number of children

(A) inspected..... *110* (B) in good health.....
 (C) suffering from *Caris teeth 14* (D) suffering from *Enlarged Tonsils 6*
ESL (E) suffering from *mental defect 3* (F) suffering from infectious illness..... *4*
 (G) suffering from other serious illness.....

H. Defective eyesight 17

(7) Summary of action taken and of advice given to parents, guardians or teachers in respect of several classes mentioned in Query 6.

(A)
 (B)
 (C) *Referred to Dental Clinic*
 (D) *Referred to the Eye & Ear Hospital*
 (E) *To continue at School under teacher's care*
 (F) *See paragraph 8*
 (G)
 H. *Referred to the Eye & Ear Hospital*

T.170

27th April, 1955.

Sir,

I am directed by the Minister of Home Affairs to refer to your reports on inspections carried out at Nazareth House Children's Home, Bishop Street, Londonderry, on 23rd March, 1954, and 16th March, 1955, and to state that the Reverend Mother in charge of the Home has enquired if it would be sufficient for her to provide each responsible member of staff with a key for the door at the bottom of the rear stairway as an alternative to fitting panic bolts. In this connection the Reverend Mother is concerned with preventing certain types of the girls in her charge from absenting themselves without permission.

The Reverend Mother has also enquired if it would not be possible to dispense with the exit signs suggested in recommendation No. 11. She feels that these would detract from the homely appearance of the House and that in any case the children are all familiar with the quickest means of vacating the premises in an emergency.

It would be appreciated if you would advise the Ministry of your views on these matters at your earliest convenience.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

E. JACKSON

for Secretary

For.
To note and B.F. on 27.5.55
No reply as yet. Reminded 27.4.55.
Mr. Martin The Secretary, R.B.F.
& reminded Northern Ireland Fire
should now Authority,
view. 12 Castle Street,
Lisburn, Co. Antrim. *B.F. 10.6.55.*

Dewar

Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont, Belfast.

D/PO

Nazareth House, Bishop Street, Londonderry.

On the 25th of July we visited Nazareth House, Bishop Street, Londonderry. There were 66 children in residence plus 74 girls who had been placed in foster homes for the summer holidays. Three girls attend Thornhill Secondary School.

We saw 32 children in the Nursery group, 28 from 2 to 5 years of age and four from 1 to 2 years of age. They were all attractive lively children enjoying an excellent variety of play material. Sister [REDACTED] Nursery Nurse, trained in Bristol, who is in charge of this group, has an excellent way with the children.

The dormitories and dining-room for this group have been most attractively decorated and there are now three groups of approximately ten children in each. A wardrobe has been provided for each child.

Sister SR 9 showed us over the building. The school meals kitchen and servery has just been completed and work on the new chapel is in progress.

The 34 older girls in the House are healthy and well cared for. Many of these children were being placed in holiday foster homes for the month of August.

X We inspected the statutory records. Fire drill is carried out regularly. The girls continue to enjoy a wide variety of leisure activities. Although inevitably a large institution every effort is being made to make Nazareth House as homely as possible for the girls in residence.

SW WMS
 29th August, 1961.

IN CONFIDENCE

1986

NAZARETH HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOME

BISHOP STREET

LONDONDERRY

SOCIAL WORK ADVISORY GROUP

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

4.0 COMPLIANCE WITH VOLUNTARY CHILDREN'S HOME REGULATIONS

4.1 The Sisters of Nazareth are the administering authority for the home and they are represented by the Superior General and 2 advisers who are based in London. There is also a Regional Superior for Ireland and she has the responsibility for visiting the home monthly on behalf of the administering authority in compliance with Section 4(2) of the Voluntary Homes Regulations. From the records held in the home it would appear that Mother Regional did not visit during July, August and December 1986 and in April 1987. However it was clear that she had called on several occasions during the 12 months prior to the inspection. Nevertheless the Regulation does require the home "to be visited at least once in every month" and this is recommended.

4.2 The children's home is also visited regularly by 2 voluntary visitors at the invitation of the Sisters. They provide quarterly reports on a proforma covering:-

- (i) description of the unit;
- (ii) changes in practice;
- (iii) complaints;
- (iv) observations relating to care and discipline;
- (v) supervision, control and development of staff;
- (vi) admissions to hospital and the reasons;
- (vii) untoward events;
- (viii) comments.

The voluntary visitors are each associated with a particular unit within the children's home so that they may become known by the children and staff. One visitor made 4 quarterly reports in the year prior to the inspection. However the 2nd visitor had only recently been appointed and made one report covering the period between February and June 1987. Nevertheless the introduction of this method of monitoring the standard of care provided for the children and of staff development is to be encouraged.

MEDICAL OFFICER

4.3 A medical officer has been appointed and he calls to the home weekly. All children are given a medical examination soon after admission and before being discharged. The doctor will also attend to any child who is ill.

and by the timescale for dealing with them. For example, 3 staff meetings were held in flat 2 during March 1988 though generally bi-monthly meetings are sufficient. Matters pertaining to the care, control and supervision of the children, good social work practice in relation to recording and report writing and general housekeeping issues are the most frequently discussed topics.

4.0 COMPLIANCE WITH VOLUNTARY CHILDREN'S HOMES REGULATIONS

4.1 The Sisters of Nazareth are the administering authority for the home and they are represented by the Superior General and her advisers, who are based in London. There is also a Regional Superior for Ireland and she has the responsibility for visiting the home monthly on behalf of the administering authority, in compliance with Section 4(2) of the Voluntary Homes Regulations. Records held in the home indicate that the Regional Superior visited monthly from September 1987 to June 1988. However from July 1988 she was assigned to other duties in London and her replacement was not expected to take up office until October 1988. In effect this means that an official visit would not have been made to the home during the months of July, August and September to meet with the requirements of the Regulations. It is recommended that monthly visits are resumed as soon as possible.

4.2 The children's home is also visited regularly by 2 voluntary visitors at the invitation of the Sisters. They provide quarterly reports on a pro forma covering:-

- i. description of the unit;
- ii. changes in practice;
- iii. complaints;
- iv. observations relating to care and discipline;
- v. supervision, control and development of staff;
- vi. admissions to hospital and the reasons;
- vii. untoward events;
- viii. comments.

One visitor had made 3 reports covering the period October 1987 to June 1988 and the other had made 2 reports covering the period January to June 1988. These expressed general satisfaction with the standard of care provided in the home. Copies were made available to the Inspector.

6.0 COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS

VOLUNTARY VISITOR

- 6.1 The Order of the Sisters of Nazareth discharges its responsibility for managing the children's home through its Regional Superior for Ireland. She invited a group of persons to form a management committee and they held an inaugural meeting on 16 February 1990. They met again on 20 April 1990 and, though mainly an advisory and consultative group, agreed to undertake the responsibility for visiting the home as required by Regulation 4(2) of the Voluntary Homes Regulations (NI) 1975. Members were rostered to visit both flats, to inspect the records held there and to report on their visits in writing.
- 6.2 The Inspector found that management committee members had visited the children's home, initialled the statutory records and filed a report on the visit on the following dates:-

17 May 1989	1 October 1989
19 June 1989	2 November 1989
18 July 1989	

Regulation 4(2) requires the Administering Authority "to make arrangements for the home to be visited at least once in every month" and from the above it is clear that this has not been carried out. Therefore it is recommended that the frequency of 'visiting' is increased to the standard required by the Regulations.

- 6.3 Committee members report on their visits using a pro-forma on which there are 10 headings as follows:-
1. Admissions and Discharges;
 2. Staff;
 3. Changes in Practice;
 4. Adequacy of arrangements for Communication between Children and their Parents, Guardians, Relatives and Friends;
 5. Observations Relating to Care or Discipline (Particularly resulting from interaction with staff and children);
 6. Admission to Hospital and Reasons;
 7. Untoward Events;
 8. Complaints (detail) - state if satisfied with remedial action taken;

had sought £287 per resident week for children placed there during the financial year beginning 1 April 1990, but, in December 1990 the Western Board was only paying the home £208 per resident week. Indeed this was the lowest per capita payment being made to any voluntary childrens home within the Province. It was also at least £100 per resident week less than the cost of keeping children in any of the childrens homes provided by the Western Board.

52. According to the officer in charge the delay in agreeing a more equitable per capita rate was creating financial problems for the management of Nazareth House children's home. Some of these were having a direct impact on the service to the children, eg the provision of clothing and the amount of pocket money provided. There is concern also about retaining the services of experienced staff because the home cannot afford to pay them the salaries offered by Boards and other voluntary organisations for similar work. It has proven impossible to attract trained staff to work in the home for this very reason. In view of the foregoing it is recommended that representatives of the Administering Authority for the home and of the Western Board meet as a matter of urgency to agree a more equitable and efficient system for funding the home in the longer term.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

53. The Inspector was impressed by the improvement made to the children's living quarters as a result of recent adaptations. The provision of separate bedrooms in each flat will be beneficial to the children and should reduce child management problems. The accommodation is homely, comfortable and adequately furnished and decorated, with no significant damage to the fabric of the building or to the furniture.

54. A good standard of physical care is provided and exchanges between the staff and children were indicative of appropriate relationships. There was evidence that individual programmes of care are being undertaken by key workers in co-operation with the children's social workers. Some of these were well structured, intensive and time limited. Systems are in place for recording the outcomes and for planning future action.

55. The majority of the staff are untrained but 3 of them have been seconded to Certificate in Social Services training and the home hopes to give some of the others this opportunity when funds can be obtained. However, all staff have been to in-service training courses mounted by the Western Board or have attended in-house seminars on relevant topics.

56. There is excellent co-operation between the home and social services staff. The assistant principal social worker (family and child care) from the Foyle Community Unit of Management has been very supportive and management rely on his advice and judgement, particularly in relation to admissions to the home. However, maintaining a service suitable for the type of children which the Board wishes to accommodate in Nazareth House is costly. Therefore, reaching an equitable financial arrangement between the home as

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INSPECTION REPORT

A168/3

NAZARETH HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOME

LONDONDERRY

NOVEMBER 1992

- each child has a keyworker and the vast majority of children record positive attributes when asked to state what they like about their keyworkers. In general relationships appear to be good. Despite this nearly half of the children (46%) reported that they felt they had no one to tell if they were homesick, worried, upset, lonely, scared or bullied;
- children's house meetings have recently been reactivated and have addressed issues relating to children's behaviour, the home's routines and activities;
- children and staff are aware of the range of sanctions which are permitted or prohibited. In the past year a number of children have complained that staff hit them, on investigation none of these allegations was sustained;
- considerable problems of peer abuse in the form of name calling, bullying and sexual behaviour exist within the home. The former is a source of annoyance to a number of children. 44% of children reported that they felt unfairly treated or were "picked on by others";
- The WHSSB are currently working on procedural guidance to deal with problems of peer abuse, particularly relating to child sexual abuse. The inspector noted that strategy discussions, or child protection case conferences, were convened to deal with 3 of the 9 episodes of peer abuse which occurred during the past year.
- staff are dealing with a range of behaviours which are difficult and challenging. They would welcome regular consultation with the WHSSB's adolescent psychiatric and psychology services to assist them deal with specific children, the residential group and also to support them as they work with children with a range of behavioural difficulties.

8.3 Conclusion

There is no explicit statement of care and control available within the home although there has been efforts at recent children's house meeting to involve children in discussion of these matters and to focus on teaching them self-control. The involvement of children in this process is commended as is the system of having them sign the sanctions book. Progress is required in the following areas:

- devising strategies to deal with name calling and bullying which occurs within the home;
- management of peer abuse, and serious incidents of bullying, where necessary within the child protection procedures;
- support services to staff and children from adolescent and child psychology and psychiatric services;