

22 JUL 2013

HIA REF: 92
 Witness Name: **HIA 92**

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF **HIA 92**

I, **HIA 92** will say as follows:-

Personal Details

1. I was born on [REDACTED]

2. My family lived in the [REDACTED] area. I was at home one evening with my [REDACTED] IA 86 and [REDACTED] SND 291 when a knock came to the door and a [REDACTED] SND 465 came in. I did not know who this lady was so I had told my brother and sister to hide away. I was [REDACTED] than both of them. We were living at home at the time with my mother and father. My parents were [REDACTED] They took the three of us away that day and placed us in care in Termonbacca. I was about [REDACTED] years old at the time.

3. [REDACTED] and I were sent to [REDACTED] SR 1 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was only about one then so she went down to the nursery to [REDACTED] SR 17 [REDACTED] and we didn't see her at all for quite a while. [REDACTED] and I knew we were being taken off our parents at that stage and kept in the care system. From what I remember being at home with my parents was alright. There was a lot of fighting between my parents but I was able to put that down to drink.

4. I only had one [REDACTED] who tried to foster me when I was about [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] but my mother wouldn't allow it. My parents separated shortly after I went in to care and my father went to live in [REDACTED]. My parents and my aunt are all deceased now.

St Joseph's Children's Home, Termonbacca [REDACTED]

5. Termonbacca was tough, I always remember it being especially tough for the first two years we were there. I was [REDACTED] SR 1 [REDACTED] and she was a great woman. We had lots of people in [REDACTED]. There were bigger boys as well. Girls were there only very rarely.
6. You got fed in the home but I remember I hated the lumpy porridge. The nuns tried to force me to eat it a few times but they eventually eased off because I think they got the message that I wasn't going to eat it. I would rather take a slapping than eat it. [REDACTED] SR 6 [REDACTED] ed to force my mouth open to get me to eat it. She was an animal. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] She would have disciplined us by using her knuckles with her fist closed. It would have been a crack on the back or side of the head or whatever side she came at you. She could have hit you every morning for a week or over a period of days. The beatings mostly occurred from [REDACTED]
7. She would also hit us for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. I was kept along with [REDACTED] HIA 86 [REDACTED] when I went in to the home but I remember when I was about [REDACTED] they moved me over to the [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] SR 1 [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] SR 6 [REDACTED] and I was always trying to get over and see [REDACTED] HIA 86 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] HIA 86 [REDACTED] would be trying to get over to see me but they wouldn't allow it. I think they separated us because we were always carrying on together. [REDACTED] HIA 86 [REDACTED] was only [REDACTED] years younger than me and we were very close and we were over protective of one another. [REDACTED] SR 1 [REDACTED] got me moved back over, she sort of knew what was going on. [REDACTED] SR 1 [REDACTED] could have scolded you but

she would not have hit you. **SR 6** could have hit you with anything that came to hand and I got hit several times by her, I got hit with brush shafts and with a dustpan brush as well. **SR 6** left the home in/around **SR 6** and I do not know where she went but the beatings eased after her departure.

8. The nuns had an old school house where they used to take us on holiday in Shrove in Donegal. All the boys were in one room with mattresses on the ground. **HIA 86** and I were small and we had one mattress and our own sleeping bags but **HIA 86** had a problem with bed wetting. I remember we received two main whippings from **SR 6** for bedwetting. **HIA 86** had wet the bed and although we were trying to hide it **SR 6** caught on she whipped us with the top of a fishing rod. She grabbed the springy bit at the top of the rod and walloped us with it. It left marks on my legs, it was the first time I ever saw white and red marks along the back of our legs where we had been hit.

9. The other occasion I recall where we got a whipping was when we were playing down in our playground at Termonbacca in an area that we called the forest. We were playing a game of soldiers and **HIA 86** was up a tree and he broke a branch off the tree but we thought nothing of it. We later saw **SR 6** **SR 6** coming with the branch and she was pointing in the window at us. She beat both of us hard with this branch once she had stripped it of leaves and then we were sent to our room. **HIA 86** couldn't get up the stairs to the room. He told me years later that he wanted to sit on the cold tiles rather than go up the stairs as the cold tiles were easing the pain he felt from the beating.

10. Every day after school I polished my shoes and did my homework then I got changed into my shorts and slippers and went down to the pitch to play football. That is what I was wearing when **SR 6** gave me the beating. I am sure other members of lay staff saw her do this but they had no control over that woman, she was a law unto herself. She was an evil, evil woman.

11. **SR 1** could have been older than her but **SR 6** was hard. She would have hit you and called you a brat even if you were just walking past her. I remember the time I turned to her and I told her to "f**k off" when she was hitting me and I think I was only about [REDACTED] at the time. I know it wasn't long after [REDACTED]. She battered me more then for using bad language.

12. I was sexually abused in the home by an older resident called **HIA 69** think he was about [REDACTED] years older than me. [REDACTED] a dormitory with **HIA 69** and [REDACTED] other boys and my bed was up against the wall and **HIA 86** bed was [REDACTED]. My brother has a better memory than I do and he recalls that there were a couple of boys holding me down when **HIA 69** abused me and I was kicking and screaming but I have blocked that from my memory and do not recall the identity of the other two boys. They abused **HIA 86** as well but I have blanked it out. I put it to the back of my head but I always remembered it. I always remember that I lost my breath and I don't know if I passed out. **HIA 86** and I discussed it and he said that they had me and they had him as well but he was screaming his head off as he tried to get me free from them. I recall being held down. I don't know if I screamed but I just blacked out somehow. **HIA 69** subjected me to anal penetration and although my brother will not talk about it I know **HIA 86** was also raped by him. I think he got even worse treatment than I did. I recall him saying on a rare occasion that he needed a small marble to cool his rectum down but the matter has remained a taboo subject between us.

13. I remember following this incident **SR 1** actually coming to both of us later on that night, getting us out of bed and taking us out into the corridor and asking us had any of the boys touched us. We were scared so we said "No". That is when it clicked with us and we knew we were going to have to stick together and we were going to have to fight our own corner. I was about [REDACTED] and **HIA 86** was about [REDACTED] at the time. **HIA 86** would describe that as time passed he turned on and I turned off. He would say that is when I

shut down. I put it away and I think that is why I was so aggressive as a teenager and I was [REDACTED]

14. I have heard that [REDACTED] HIA 69 as [REDACTED] An ex-resident, [REDACTED] HIA 60 [REDACTED] HIA 60 now works as a [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] and he told me that about [REDACTED] HIA 69 the last I heard was that he was living in [REDACTED]

15. There was a lot of bullying by the older lads also but that made us tough. We took our beatings. We also used to get thrown into the big dryers and these were turned on and we were spun around. The older boys would have done that to you. This was always done out of earshot and away from the sight of any staff. It was easy for this bullying by the older boys to take place without the staff noticing. There were never very many staff on duty, only two were on at any one time and there were over two dozen boys. I recall one boy called [REDACTED] SND 35 and we used to call him [REDACTED] SND 35 and he was bullied severely by the older boys.

16. After a while a lot of the bigger boys responsible for the bullying disappeared and life became more normal. There was a bigger boy called [REDACTED] HIA 60 (now known as [REDACTED] HIA 60 and [REDACTED] HIA 86 and I would always refer to [REDACTED] HIA 60 as our protector. If he found out any of the other bigger boys were messing with us or hurting us he would have sorted it out with them. He was a gentle soul.

17. Over the years my mother visited me and my brother and sister. She might have been [REDACTED] sometimes and they wouldn't allow her to see us but we would have always tried to see her. She did her best. I hold no grudge whatsoever against my parents. I do however hold a grudge against the care system because at the end of the day we should have been looked after, cared for and protected but we suffered and especially during the first two years in Termonbacca.

Nazareth House, Bishop Street [REDACTED]

18. Whenever we moved to Nazareth House [REDACTED] SR 18 was in charge of the [REDACTED] and SR 19 and SR 15 were in charge of the [REDACTED] dorm. This was a different SR 15 not SR 1 SR 15 was "old school" and strict on discipline but SR 18 was just another gem. Thankfully I was [REDACTED] with SR 18. This was a different SR 18 to the Sister of the same name at Termonbacca.

19. It was a totally different regime from Termonbacca. We moved because Termonbacca was closing down. I remember when I moved to Nazareth House it was around the time of my [REDACTED] birthday. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stage. I did not see SR 6 after that and I don't know where she went. When they moved us to Nazareth House I didn't see SR 1 until a year or two later and at this stage they had made [REDACTED] of Nazareth House. We were looked after by SR 18 and she was a brilliant woman. SR 18 was supposed to move to [REDACTED] but she was moved to [REDACTED] instead and she is now a [REDACTED] SR 20 SR 20 replaced SR 18 and she eventually became [REDACTED] school.

20. We were in Nazareth House up until either the [REDACTED] exam in [REDACTED]. We had been going on weekend visits to a foster family called [REDACTED] in the city centre from before [REDACTED]. I recall the day I was leaving Nazareth House to go to long term foster care was the day [REDACTED] and I could not concentrate at all. [REDACTED]

21. HIA 86 and I were fostered out then and we went to a family where I stayed for between [REDACTED] months. I left because I was getting disciplined hard there as well. The foster father was [REDACTED] so the discipline was severe and we took hidings from him. I remember grabbing HIA 86 and pulling him over to me to protect me from the belt. HIA 86 took it and stayed on for a year or two after I left but I left as I just got sick of it, basically I got sick of taking hidings. I was no angel. They discovered that I had stolen some pound notes and it was fair that I got beaten for that reason but other times it was something petty and it was not fair. One example is when we were out on a summer day and I got tar on the bottom of my white slippers from the boiling hot road and we got a severe beating just for that or if you were caught smoking you got another hiding. I ran back to Nazareth House and I told SR 18 that I did not want to go back. They sent for HIA 86 and SND 467. My foster family came to the home and they had HIA 86 and my SND 291 with them. They wanted me to go back with them but I was afraid of being beaten again and I would not return. My foster parents are still alive. [REDACTED] SND 291 was never beaten by my foster father. She was young when she was placed in foster care and basically they were the only parents that she knew.

22. I went to school in [REDACTED] in Derry and then when we moved to Nazareth House I left [REDACTED] and went to Nazareth House Primary School. I then went to [REDACTED]. There were civilian teachers in that school but they were also fond of hitting you with a leather strap. For the first three years of school I was a model pupil and then I heard that I could leave school in fourth year and that is when I changed as I knew they no longer would have a hold over me. I wouldn't work hard or study for exams and I wouldn't listen to anyone.

23. When I was about [REDACTED] I got drunk with some other boys who played on the streets near the home. They brought me back to the home drunk and left me at the front door, rung the bell and ran away. I think the nuns took me upstairs to my room. I had been keeping a "Rambo" style knife

and I had it under my pillow that night and I tried to stab myself with it in the chest. **SR 19** found me and stopped me from hurting myself.

24. They sent me to Harberton House for an assessment then after six or eight weeks they sent me back to Nazareth House again.

25. I was in Nazareth House then until I was **SR 18**. We had gone through a series of nuns and after **SR 18** left that is when I became very unsettled. **SR 18** had been a stabilising influence on me. My head just totally went and I think the reason that they moved me was because they couldn't control me so they shifted me to a place called Fort James in Tullyalley. There were no religious or clerical staff looking after me in Fort James. My life was in turmoil then.

26. The staff used to take us for a walk along the banks of the Faughan River but there were parts of the river where you could jump in and there was gravel. We used to go in the summer and we would have walked up the middle of the river. Other boys on a bank up ahead were throwing stones down at us so I lifted one stone out and threw it up at them but it ricocheted off a wire fence and hit a young boy on the head and he started crying. **SR 18**

SR 18 and they sent me to St Pat's in Belfast. I remember having to attend at Woodburn Barracks in Belfast for questioning about this incident. I was just defending myself but **SR 18** at St Patrick's Training College.

27. I was then brought back to Fort James again and at this stage I was totally uncontrollable. The Fort James staff did not like me as I would not appease them or adhere to what they wanted. They could not handle me **SR 18** and I loved it but then they made me return to Fort James. By this time I was **SR 18** Fort James had put me into one of their training flats where they try

to prepare you for independent living. I did not like the way the key workers interfered with your privacy and independence and for that reason they were going to send me back over to St Pat's yet again. The [REDACTED] at Fort James, a guy called **FJ 33** was going to take me there so I said I was going to get my coat and that is when I ran away. I ran to my mother's and I knew they would come looking for me right away. Later that night I heard a knock on the door of my mother's house and I saw **FJ 33** standing at the door so I never answered it. After that I had to appear in court and the judge said I could live with my mother. I was never put under a training school order. [REDACTED] I think I was [REDACTED] coming on [REDACTED] hen.

Life after care

28. Since leaving care my life has been terrible. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] **SR 18** came once or twice a week to visit me when I was [REDACTED]. She calls to see me when she comes home from [REDACTED] and we go for a meal together. I still think a lot of the nuns. My main source of complaint was with **SR 6**

29. I left [REDACTED] when I was [REDACTED] and I went over to my father in [REDACTED]. I spent eight months with him in [REDACTED] and then I came back home and I met my girlfriend. We have [REDACTED] now, they are [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. My partner knows everything about me. She has gone through hell. I keep nothing away from her but in relation to Termonbacca she only knows about

the physical punishment and I have not told her anything about the sexual abuse.

30. I can't work now since I sustained an ankle injury after an accident and I have a [REDACTED] injury that has not improved after two operations on my [REDACTED]. I had a placement in [REDACTED] when I was about [REDACTED] and I worked for about three to six months in the [REDACTED] but I got paid off and I have never really worked since my time in care.

31. I am on medication for [REDACTED] and I also take [REDACTED] medication ever since [REDACTED]. I still need a drink every day even though I am on medication. I have been on medication for many years now and cannot cope without it. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] when I was in Fort James and had [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] FJ 29 found me in my room. I felt low again when I was [REDACTED] a few years after my mother passed away and [REDACTED] I [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I have learned to put these thoughts to the back of my mind.

32. I went to counselling when I was in Fort James. It did not help me at all. Sometimes I will try to have a laugh with [REDACTED] HIA 86 about some aspects of our time in care but we try not to talk about the painful memories.

33. I am affectionate with my children. I wanted to make sure that I was a good parent and that my children were not taken from me. My partner and I have been together for [REDACTED] years.

34. I made a statement to the police when I was about [REDACTED] about the abuse I had suffered in the home when I was [REDACTED]. I had moved to Nazareth House at that stage and was trying to cope with my anger. I had spoken to the nuns there, either [REDACTED] SR 20 [REDACTED] SR 19 after the

"Rambo" knife incident and they took me to report the matter to Strand Road police station. I made a statement and one of those two nuns accompanied me as I was under age. As far as I know nothing happened as a result of my complaint. I was still in care at the time and I heard nothing further from the police in relation to my complaint. The police did speak to me over ten years ago in relation to a complaint that **HIA 60** lodged about him being abused in Termonbacca. They asked **[REDACTED]** and I if we knew anything about that particular allegation but I never heard anything further from them.

35. The police also questioned me as to whether or not I had ever been abused by **SND 33** **[REDACTED]** of the home, but he never abused me. I **[REDACTED]**

36. I have no complaints about any institution other than Termonbacca. Neither my mother nor my father ever lifted a hand to me and I was put in to Termonbacca where I took beatings and then was abused when I was supposed to be protected. Those first few years at Termonbacca were the worst and had a negative impact on my life thereafter. Also, I was in **[REDACTED]** **[REDACTED]** and that should not have been allowed to happen. I had potential as a student but I was never given time to settle anywhere and that had a very dramatic impact not only on my life within these institutions but my life post care.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed

HIA 92

Dated

2nd July 2013.

and would undoubtedly become anxious in the event of not seeing her regularly.

SND 239 tends to confide in **HIA 92** and their relationship is particularly close. **HIA 92** certainly expects to eventually rejoin his mother.

Comment on the Parent(s)' and/or other Relative(s)' attitudes to the Child being in Residential Care – are they making an effort to visit as often as possible, or has the Social Worker always to initiate the arrangements? What efforts are the Parent(s)/ Other Relatives making to re-establish a home for the Child – do they make promises to her/him in this regard, and do nothing to effect the necessary change to carry them through?

SND 239 as already indicated, visits with great regularity. She is very anxious to have the children out of care. Has always accepted decisions of social worker and of caring staff. Has been pressing N.I.H.E. for housing transfer, with a view of re-establishing a home for the children. Very strong bond of affection between **SND 239** and her children. It is however difficult to assess her reliability, and there are continual doubts about her general life-style.

Child in Residential Unit

Comment on all aspects of Child's development (physical, emotional, social etc.) since last Review:

HIA 92 appears well adjusted emotionally, and physical and social development has been satisfactory. Is very close to his brother **HIA 86** and sister **SND 291** and is quite protective towards them. As with **HIA 86** and **SND 291**, **HIA 92** has made significant progress since coming to Termonbacca.

Does Child talk to the caring Staff about his background and previous experiences?

Relationship with caring staff is good. **HIA 92** is a very bright child who communicates freely and openly.

Planning

Indicate short term arrangements and comment on their appropriateness, in the light of the Child's situation at present:

Decisions about **HIA 92** future have to be taken in the light of assessment of his mother's life-style and general stability. Suggest that the options are:-
 (a) Return to mother, initially on a week-end basis. Would involve considerable and consistent supervision by social worker. Difficulties are doubts about changes in **SND 239** life-style, and uncertainty about the intentions of **HIA 92** when released from prison in August.

MEMORANDUM

From... SND 466 [REDACTED]

To... [REDACTED]

Ref.: [REDACTED]

Date: [REDACTED]

Ref.: [REDACTED]

HIA 92 [REDACTED]

, D.O.B. [REDACTED]

HIA 86 [REDACTED]

, D.O.B. [REDACTED]

SND 291 [REDACTED]

, D.O.B. [REDACTED]

I wish to apply for birthday money for the above-named children.

The [REDACTED] children were admitted to care under Section 99 on [REDACTED] and F.P.O.'s were granted in respect of them on [REDACTED]. These children are at present in Termabacca Children's Home.

SND 466 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WESTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD

MEMORANDUMFrom... **SND 468** [REDACTED]To... **TL 19** [REDACTED]

Ref.: [REDACTED]

Date: [REDACTED]

Ref.: [REDACTED]

HIA 92, D.O.B. [REDACTED]

I refer to **SND 466** accompanying memo. requesting approval for a grant of £75.00 to allow the above child in care to participate in his [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] On the grounds that this presents an opportunity for **HIA 92** to broaden his horizons, participate in the social intercourse involved, and to have a potentially enjoyable holiday on equal terms with his peers outside who are not in care, I would recommend strongly that this grant is approved.

SND 468**SND 468**
[REDACTED]Enc. [REDACTED]



INTERNAL CASE REVIEW

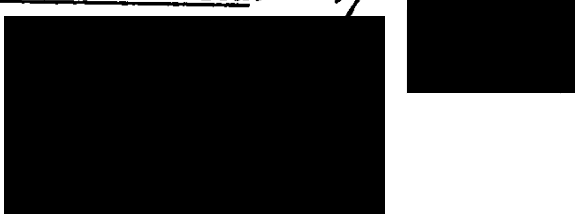
To be completed by member of staff responsible for the child
Name of Child: [Redacted] **HIA 92** **HIA 86** **SND 291**
Date of Birth: [Redacted]

Date of Admission: [Redacted] Responsible Local Authority: **W.M.S.S.**
[Redacted] Dist.

Sex: - House or Group: [Redacted]

Referred by: **SND 465** Responsibility: **SND 465**

1. Contact and relationships with child's own family:
 - a) With parents: *Frequent contact with mother at least twice weekly*
 - b) With siblings or other relatives: *Regular contact with siblings.*
 - c) With other outside contacts: *Outings, Day trips, etc.*
2. Emotional Development and behaviour
See comments.
3. Relationships in the children's home:
 - a) with residential staff: *Good. willing to please.*
 - b) with other children: *Quite good. **HIA 86** can be somewhat aggressive*
4. Health:
 - a) General health and physical development: *Good: **SND 291** may however be displaying physical reaction to emotional upset.*
 - b) Record of any serious illness: *None.*
 - c) Date of last Medical Examination and findings
5. Education
 - a) Education progress and school reports: ***HIA 86** and **HIA 92** making good progress.*
 - b) General comments and relationships with teachers and pupils: *Generally good. **HIA 86** noted to have an aggressive streak.*
6. Religious Development and Education:





INTERNAL CASE REVIEW

To be completed by member of staff responsible for the child

Name of Child: **HIA 86** **HIA 92** **SND 291** **HIA 92** **SND 291**
 Date of Birth: **HIA 86** **SND 291**
 Date of Admission: **[REDACTED]** Responsible Local Authority: **[REDACTED] Dist.**
 Sex: **[REDACTED]** House or Group: **[REDACTED]**

Referred by: **[REDACTED] SNOWHOLLOW DIST.** Responsibility: **[REDACTED] SND 466**

1. Contact and relationships with child's own family:
 - a) With parents: *Very FREQUENT / WEEKLY*
 - b) With siblings or other relatives: *- NONE*
 - c) With other outside contacts: *School, Outings.*

2. Emotional Development and behaviour
SND 291 *Still showing some signs of distress.*
HIA 92 and **HIA 86** *progressing very well*
HIA 86 *can be quite aggressive.*

3. Relationships in the children's home:
 - a) with residential staff: *Good.*
 - b) with other children. *Very good.*

4. Health:
 - a) General health and physical development *Good.*
 - b) Record of any serious illness *NONE -*

c) Date of last Medical Examination and findings
SND 291 19/2/79 ✓
HIA 92 11. 12. 78 ✓
HIA 86 14/5. 77 ✓

5. Education
 - a) Education progress and school reports *Satisfactory.*
HIA 86 *CAN BE AGGRESSIVE.*
 - b) General comments and relationships with teachers and pupils
Satisfactory.

6. Religious Development and Education: **[REDACTED]**
Good.

find her one one occasion when she didn't visit at usual time. Has indicated
that he wants to stay with mother. **SND-2731**

3. Comment on the Parent(s)' and/or other Relative(s)' attitudes to the Child being in Residential Care – are they making an effort to visit as often as possible, or has the Social Worker always to initiate the arrangements? What efforts are the Parent(s)/ Other Relatives making to re-establish a home for the Child – do they make promises to her/him in this regard, and do nothing to effect the necessary change to carry them through?

Very frequent visiting (see above DI), although **SND 239** constantly talks of eventual reunification with the children, there are doubts about her ability to sustain adequate care. Has asked Social Worker to help provide housing accommodation with a view to settling with the children. However it should be noted that Mrs. **SND 239** has already changed address three times in the past year.

E. Child in Residential Unit

1. Comment on all aspects of Child's development (physical, emotional, social etc.) since last Review.
HIA 92 is well adjusted emotionally and his social and physical development has been very satisfactory – despite the traumatic circumstances of his reception into care and the problems in family background.

2. Does Child talk to the caring Staff about his background and previous experiences? Good relationship with **SND 332**

F. Planning

1. Indicate short term arrangements and comment on their appropriateness, in the light of the Child's situation at present:
HIA 92 will remain in Termonbacca for the immediate future. Mothers progress will be assessed over the next 6 – 12 months, after which firm decisions will be made about whether it is appropriate or not to discharge care order.

Londonderry Limavady & Strabane District

Our Ref.

Your Ref.

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

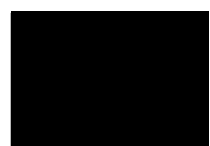
NAME: **HIA 92**
DATE OF BIRTH: **[REDACTED]**
DATE OF ADMISSION: **[REDACTED]**
SOCIAL WORKER: **SND 467**
KEY WORKER: **HH 11**

HIA 92 was admitted to Harberton House for a period of formal assessment on the **[REDACTED]** under a Fit Person Order, which was granted on the **[REDACTED]** at **[REDACTED]**

The **HIA 92** family have been known to Social Services in Northern Ireland since **[REDACTED]**, when **SND 239** returned from **[REDACTED]** with her family. Since then the family have spent a number of years in care both in Fort James and Termonbacca Children's Home. In **[REDACTED]** **HIA 92** and his brother and sister were placed with foster parents, Mr and **SND 238**

On the **[REDACTED]**, **HIA 92** presented himself at Nazareth House Children's Home and refused to return to his foster parents, saying that he was unhappy there. **SND 467** felt that it was necessary to determine if the foster placement had broken down completely and, if so, the reasons why.

On the **[REDACTED]**, **HIA 92** was accepted for a period of formal assessment at Harberton House. **HIA 92** himself was very unwilling at this stage to leave Nazareth House, but after visiting the unit he became more accepting of the decision and was admitted on the **[REDACTED]**



5 Social Report This report should contain all available relevant information about family relationships, previous admission(s) to care and full details of events leading to the child's admission to care.

SND 239/293 were married in [redacted]. The child [redacted] was made the subject of a F.P.O. in [redacted] after severe bruising was found all over the body of the [redacted] SND 239 alleged at the time that the injuries were inflicted by her husband. SND 293 Since that time [redacted] has lived with his paternal grandparents in [redacted].

In [redacted] the family moved to [redacted] until [redacted] during which time the family were known to [redacted]. There were allegations of N.A.I. to one of the children (unsubstantiated) and the family received support regarding housing and financial problems. In [redacted] SND 293 was convicted of [redacted]. Since that time he has been [redacted].

SND 239 and the three children, HIA 92, HIA 86 and SND 291 returned to Derry in [redacted]. SND 239 was temporarily accommodated at Clarendon Street night shelter. The children were placed voluntarily in care in [redacted] in Fort James Children's Home where they remained until their mother was allocated a house by N.I.H.E. on [redacted].

F.P.Os. were granted in [redacted] in respect of HIA 92, HIA 86 and SND 291 following evidence of N.A.I. to HIA 86 and SND 291 inflicted by SND 293, HIA 92 and siblings. The children remained in care at Termonbacca and Nazareth House, Bishop Street, until placed with the SND 226/238 family in [redacted].

Events Leading to Admission:

Although HIA 92 has been with the SND 226 family for [redacted] problems as such did not arise until the Summer of this year. In particular HIA 92 has indulged in frequent bouts of stealing from the SND 226 home and there is evidence to suggest that he has been stealing outside of the home as well. This has brought him into conflict with foster parents and the other children within the home.

Unfortunately, despite being given every possible opportunity to discuss any problems or pressures which he may have been under, HIA 92 has remained extremely uncommunicative. HIA 92 failure to explain his behaviour and to discuss any difficulties he may have been experiencing have resulted in the foster parents becoming frustrated and at a loss to know how to work with him.

On [redacted] HIA 92 left the SND 226/238 home around 5 p.m. giving no indication whatever to his foster parents of anything being amiss. He was requested by SND 226/238 to be home at 7:30 p.m. and certainly no later than 8 p.m. HIA 92 arrived at Nazareth House, Bishop Street shortly after 5 p.m. He remained there until around 7.30 p.m. during which time he gave no indication of anything being wrong. When advised by SR 17 that it was time to be going home HIA 92 stated that he did not wish to return to his foster parents. The Standby Social Worker was subsequently contacted.

Signed: **SND 467**

HIA 92

Date: [redacted]

Londonderry Limavady & Strabane District

Harberton House Assessment Unit,
106 Irish Street,
Waterside,
LONDONDERRY, BT47 2ND
Telephone 48490

Our Ref.

Your Ref.

Initial Case Conference

Subject: **HIA 92**

Date and Place: [REDACTED]; Harberton House

In Attendance: **SND 467** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
HH 11 Senior Houseparent

At this meeting we hoped by discussion to decide what we ~~mentioned~~^{intended} doing during **HIA 92** period of assessment.

SND 467 gave an update on the reasons for **HIA 92** admission and what had taken place to bring about the Foster placement breakdown. **SND 467** felt unclear as to whether or not there was any possibility of **HIA 92** returning to the care of Mr and **SND 238**. In the light of this it was felt that a meeting should be organised with the family as soon as possible to give some indication of the direction we should intend going.

HH 11 spoke of how **HIA 92** had settled into the unit and her contact with him to date. **HIA 92** has a strong bond with staff and children from Nazareth House and is quite adamant that he wants to return there - although is not against being fostered again. He sees the placement with the **SND 226** family as being over and has spoken very negatively about his foster father. Already **HIA 92** has shown himself to be quite capable of playing one person off against another. It is felt that he has done this quite successfully in the situations he set up between his foster parents and Nazareth House.

Contact has also been made with the school regarding how **HIA 92** has been during this period of unrest. They found him to be very unhappy and continually asking for tablets for various pains. He has not caused any management problems within the school but is definitely underachieving in his school work.

Since **HIA 92** admission staff and children from Nazareth House have been in regular contact, with someone visiting almost every day. It was felt that this contact should be decreased to give us more opportunity to get to know **HIA 92**. **SND 467** agreed to pass this request on to the staff from Nazareth House. He also agreed to meet with **SND 239** to set up weekly visits - Sundays being the day suggested.

It was agreed that we would hold the meeting with Mr and **SND 238** as soon as possible and in the light of this discussion - proceed from there - Either to re-establish links with the foster family or work with **HIA 92** to find a placement best suited to his needs.

HH 11**HIA 92**

WESTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD

Londonderry Limavady & Strabane Unit of Management

Please use this reference in your reply

Our Ref: [REDACTED]

Your Ref: [REDACTED]

Date [REDACTED]

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPT.
RIVERVIEW PARK
ABERCORN ROAD
LONDONDERRY BT 48 6S.B
Telephone 266111

22. MAR 1997

FROM: TL 4 [REDACTED]

TO: SND 469 [REDACTED]

RE: UNTOWARD INCIDENT REPORTS IN RESPECT OF HIA 92 D.O.B: [REDACTED]
C/O NAZARETH HOUSE

I enclose for your information, a number of reports which I have received in respect of the above named boy. Two of the reports dated [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] refer to occasions when staff were aware that he had been drinking. This issue was focussed on by both the boy's primary worker and Social Worker.

On [REDACTED] HIA 92 returned from a visit to his mother which obviously distressed him. He had [REDACTED] as a result but no medical attention was necessary.

On [REDACTED] HIA 92 was returned to the Unit in a very drunken state. He became extremely aggressive and threatening, [REDACTED] from under his mattress attempting to injure himself. The Sisters had to restrain him. An ambulance was summoned and HIA 92 was taken to the Accident and Emergency Unit at Altnagelvin Hospital. Because of his aggression there, no medical attention was given. HIA 92 was returned to the Unit and slept off the effects of the drink.

On [REDACTED] HIA 92 absconded from the Unit with another resident and returned at 2.00 a.m.

A review was held on [REDACTED]. It was noted then that when staff were following up the incident of [REDACTED] HIA 92 made allegations about frequent sexual interference by a named [REDACTED] year old, HIA 69 HIA 69 when he was resident in Termonbacca, approximately [REDACTED] years ago. As a result of this information, it was agreed that SND 467 [REDACTED] would refer the matter to the R.U.C.

There were serious concerns about HIA 92 incidents of drinking which seemed to become a problem after his father spent a couple of weeks in Derry [REDACTED] early in [REDACTED]. As stated, this issue is being dealt with by the relevant workers. Nazareth House, however, expressed serious concerns about their ability to accommodate HIA 92 during these outbursts. It was agreed to seek a place for him in Fort James. As this may take a period of time, future incidents of disruptive behaviour would result in HIA 92 transfer to St. Patrick's Training School on a Place of Safety Order.

TL 4

TL 4

Enc.

WESTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD

Our Ref: HEL/JT

Your Ref:

DATE: [REDACTED]

15 GRANSHA PARK
CLOONEY ROAD
LONDONDERRY BT47 1TG
NORTHERN IRELAND
PHONE: CAMPSIE 880086 (11 lines)

[REDACTED]
Social Services Inspectorate,
Department of Health and Social Services,
Dundonald House,
Upper Newtownards Road,
BELFAST
BT4 3SF

Mr Wilson
To see and retain.
The allegations referred to
were detailed in reports
received and passed to
[REDACTED] on [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

HIA 92 [REDACTED] c/o NAZARETH HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOME

You will recall the allegations made by the above named. **HIA 92** has refused to co-operate with the police in proceeding with the complaint he made against another boy during the period he was in Termonbacca, and, in fact, when he was last to meet with the police he reacted by putting his fist through a bathroom cabinet in Nazareth House and his social worker had to bring him to hospital where he received appropriate treatment.

X | It may well be that the police will be unable to proceed with the allegations which you will recall were extremely serious.

Yours sincerely,

H. E. Lennox

HEATHER E. LENNOX (MISS)
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES (AREA)

Miss Wilson for
for annotation
with previous papers.
No further action
required. [REDACTED]

AN

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF: _____ HIA 92 _____

AGE OF WITNESS [if over 21 enter "over 21"]: _____

OCCUPATION OF WITNESS: _____ STUDENT _____

ADDRESS: _____ C/O NAZARETH HOUSE, BISHOP STREET, LONDONDERRY _____

TO BE COMPLETED
WHEN THE
STATEMENT HAS
BEEN WRITTEN

I declare that this statement consisting of 2 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this _____ day of _____

S Smyth, D/Con _____

_____ HIA 92 _____

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER by whom
statement was recorded or received

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

This happened when I was a wee boy of about _____ years old, when me and _____ were staying at Termonbacca Childrens Home, Londonderry. There was a big boy there called HIA 69 he was about _____ years old and he was one of the boys that used to bully us wee ones. He also used to come over to my bed and lie on top of me and bump up and down on me until I told him to clear off. He did this a whole lot of times over about a month. I would be in bed and would let on to be asleep and he would come over and pul the bed clothes down. I always sleep on my stomach and I would lie still and pretent to be asleep. He pulled my pyjama trousers down and got on top of me, bumped up and down on top of me. He never hurt me and I never felt his 'dick' touch me. I just turned round in the bed and shouted at him to clear off. He then got off and ran over to his own bed before anybody saw him. He tried it a time or two with _____ but I told him to leave him alone and I knew he never touched him at all, it was just me. HIA 69 did this to me a lot of times, maybe about ten or eleven times but at no time did he hurt me, he just lay on top of me when I was on my stomach and bumped up and down on me. That's just

Form 38/36
(Plain)

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS: _____ HIA 92 _____

STATEMENT CONTINUATION PAGE

STATEMENT OF: [redacted] HIA 92 CONTINUATION PAGE NO: 2

about all I can remember about it. [redacted] SR 1 came up to our room one time and asked us if [redacted] HIA 69 had ever done anything to su but I didn't say anything. [redacted] HIA 69 ever came back near me after that, I think they must have caught on to him, he left after that.

[redacted] HIA 92

Certified a true copy of the original. Duff of constrable

MEMORANDUM

SND 468 [REDACTED]

To... SND 469 [REDACTED]

Ref.: [REDACTED]

Date: [REDACTED]

Ref.: [REDACTED]

LPC 5/85/048

Subject of F.P.O. HIA 92, D.O.B. [REDACTED]c/o Fort James Childrens Home.

I refer to the allegations made by this boy in [REDACTED] against one HIA 69 and your subsequent enquiries about the case. You will recall that the allegations concerned possible sexual abuse of one child in care by another while both were resident [REDACTED] ago in St. Joseph's Home, Termonbacca. As you know, the allegations were reported to the police who have been investigating. SND 467's accompanying memo now indicates that as a result of the police enquiries the D.P.P. has decided that no further action should be taken in the case.

SND 468
[REDACTED]SND 468
[REDACTED]copies to: SND 425 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] TL 4 [REDACTED]

035

MEMORANDUM

From..... **SND 467** [redacted]

To..... [redacted]

Ref.: [redacted]

Date: [redacted]

Ref.: [redacted]

LPC 5/85/048

RE: [redacted] **HIA 92**

I refer to **HIA 92**'s allegations against **HIA 69** about incidents which allegedly occurred when both boys were resident in Termonbacca Children's Home. The matter was passed to R.U.C. Strand Road, for investigation.

Detective Constable Stanley Smyth, C.I.D. has subsequently contacted this office [redacted] and informed me that he has now received information from the D.P.P. office to the effect that no further action is to be taken regarding the [redacted] case. Apparently the D.P.P. feel that there is insufficient evidence to warrant pursuing the matter further and the case is to be dropped.

SND 467
Social Worker.

036

Report on incident by Miss

FJ 28

HIA 92 had been in the flat downstairs and he came up in good form. I was in the living room and [redacted] came in and said "Will I go on to bed now?" I said you might as well." HIA 92 said, "Is FJ 13 not going to her bed?" I said "That's not your business!" He went into FJ 13 room very aggressively and pointed his finger at her and said, "You get into your bed." I told him I did not want any bullying. He hit me a slap on the face and pulled me around and then slapped me on the other side of the face. I pushed him off and he stumbled over a bed and then he kicked me. He got up and still pushed me about and cut on to the corridor. He sat down on a chair there. I said to him, "Don't you ever lift your hand to me again," and he still continued to swing his arms at me so I slapped him once on the face to restrain him. He then ran out and said he was going to his mother's flat. I told SR 19 who was in the other end of the flat in another bedroom. She got the car and followed him down and met his mother bringing him back."

Neither HIA 92 nor his mother made any complaint here regarding this incident. It has been reported in the Day Book and in the Incident Book.

I would seriously question the authenticity of both FJ 13 and HIA 92 version. HIA 92 is known to bully the other children and FJ 13 would be afraid to say anything that might have repercussions afterwards from HIA 92. FJ 28 seems to have been under severe provocation from HIA 92.

I would like to point out that this was a one-off incident. We do not use corporal punishment here. FJ 28 was helping in a voluntary capacity at the time and since then she is no way involved in working with the children.

SR 15

Review held at: [REDACTED]

On [REDACTED]

Subject: **HIA 92** Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Date of Admission: [REDACTED]

Legal Status: F.P.O.

Attended by: **TL 4** [REDACTED]

SND 467 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Nazareth House

Apologies: **SND 468** [REDACTED]

CONCLUSIONS:

- 1) **HIA 92** was transferred to Fort James from Nazareth House because of difficulties with his behaviour e.g. incidents of drinking, aggression (generally toward himself). The objective in Fort James is to help prepare **HIA 92** for adult life in the community with use of the independent living unit from the age of 16½ years.
- 2) In respect of the allegations previously made by **HIA 92** regarding his home in Termonbacca, he has now given a statement to the R.U.C.
- 3) **HIA 92** is due to leave school in two weeks time. He will be supported by **SND 467** in his application for a youth training scheme to start in June/July.
- 4) **HIA 92** will be permitted access to his mother as he wishes, but he must arrange this with staff.
- 5) The next review will be held at 12.00 noon on [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully

TL 4

TL 4

SIGNED: [REDACTED] DATE: [REDACTED]
SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER