

HIA REF: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (In full): **HH 5**

DATE: 12 November 2013

**THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995**

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**WITNESS STATEMENT OF**

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**HH 5** (Insert Name), will say as follows: -

My name is **HH 5** and I was an employee of the Western Health and Social Services Board from **HH 5** until I retired in **HH 5**

In that period I worked as a manager of a number of Children's Homes. From **HH 5** until **HH 5** I was **HH 5** of Fort James Children's Home and from **HH 5** until **HH 5** **HH 5** of Harberton House Assessment Unit. From **HH 5** until my retirement I covered a number of homes in the Trust area for varying period of time namely Chapel Road, Racecourse Road and Harberton House. I also undertook Training Officer duties within the Trust during this time.

In the course of my duties as **HH 5** of Fort James and Harberton House I would have had contact with Termonbacca and Nazareth House.

In the initial stage of my employment I would have linked up with Field Worker Services in helping to set up a system of formal review of children in residential care, this was in 1978.

At that time the Londonderry, Limavady and Strabane District was responsible for Social Services and when I came to work had already been setting up this process. I was aware that in the past there had been very little formal record keeping. This was clear when I went to work in Fort James and particularly when children moved from the voluntary children's homes. There appeared to be very basic information. I can recall some situations where admission information consisted of a freedom from Inspection Form and name and address. Sometimes a date of birth or sometimes just an age. This did change as we began to develop a system for recording information and formal reviews of children both in the voluntary and statutory care sector occurred on a regular, planned basis.

Throughout my time in Fort James and Harberton House were a number of direct admission of children from Termonbacca and others who had previously been there. While some of these children spoke of their experience of care in Termonbacca it was generally of a regimented, structured regime where they had been segregated by age and sex from siblings and where religion dominated their lives. Some spoke kindly about some of the care staff, while others had felt that they had not been protected from other residents in the homes especially Termonbacca. None except one child made specific allegations. His name was **SND 33** and he described how he had been bullied and abuse by older boys. Unfortunately **SND 33** has since died but I do recall his allegations were followed up at the time. He also made allegations of physical abuse by a nun who he alleged used a shower rod.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

**HH 5**

Dated 12<sup>th</sup> November 2013

HIA REF: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (In full): **HH 5**

DATE: 10 March 2014 (second statement)

**THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995**

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**WITNESS STATEMENT OF**

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**HH 5** (Insert Name) will say as follows: -

In making this statement I have attempted to recall events which may have occurred between twenty and thirty years ago relying on my memory.

During my time at Harberton House in the 1980s weekly children's meetings were held in the home and were usually attended by myself, another member of staff and the children. The children could discuss their day to day care and help plan the weeks activities.

The children contributed to the agenda and helped to organise it. There were always lively discussions which sometimes could get quite heated. Children would also talk of their own home experiences. Although this was some years ago I do recall children, including **HIA 352** **HIA 352** speak about living in Termonbacca. They compared living in Harberton House with the former. They described the regime there as being very strict, regimented and controlling with religion playing a big part of their lives. They also spoke of bullying by older residents in the home. I do not recall identifying to the children any particular staff at Termonbacca but I believe I did refer to a former resident who had stated that he had been struck with a curtain or shower rod. Children as a rule would have been advised to talk to someone. A key worker or field social worker if they had any complaints. The procedures where a child made an disclosure or allegation was to inform the field social worker who had statutory responsibility for the child and to senior residential child care staff. I believe that this procedures was followed in respect of this child who I believe was **SND 33**

From **DL 48** until **DL 48** I was employed as **DL 48** of Fort James Children's Home, Ardmore Road, Derry. During this time **DL 48** was admitted to the home. I cannot recall the exact dates but **DL 48** was subsequently discharged. It is my understanding that after this **DL 48** spent some time in Rubane Kircubbin.

I next became involved with DL 48 when he was admitted to Harberton House in, I think, 1982 where I was [REDACTED]. This followed a fostering placement breakdown. DL 48 remained in Harberton for a period of time before he was discharged.

I had no further contact with DL 48 for a number of years until he returned to work for a time in Residential Child Care.

DL 48 at that stage spoke to me of his time in Rubane House and stated that he had been abused by a religious brother. It is my understanding that he had made a statement to the Police about this. After DL 48 tragic death I did speak to HIA 352 about DL 48 as we had both known him over a number of years. I believe that HIA 352 was aware of DL 48 background and we spoke of this. I cannot recall giving her specific details of his allegation.

I was the [REDACTED] in Harberton House when HIA 233 was a residential in the medium/long stay unit. I do not remember the circumstances leading to her admission or her description of events on her admission.

I recall HIA 233 as a very damaged and challenging girl who could be extremely confrontational at times, so much so that her outburst sometimes led to physical confrontations with other residents and staff.

There were occasions when HIA 233 had to be physically restrained. I can recall that HH 15 residential social worker, along with other staff had to use this procedure to prevent HIA 233 from harming herself or others. These incidents would have been recorded, discussed and shared with HIA 233 field Social Worker and other social work staff as this was the procedure to be followed.

I am not clear if HIA 233 allegation about HH 15 related to any of these incidents. If HIA 233 made a complaint it should have been recorded as such and followed up at the time. I would strongly refute HIA 233 allegation that I knew HH 15 had assaulted her and that I did nothing about it.

With regard to HIA 233 allegation of a sexual assault by another resident in the medium/long stay unit in Harberton House, HIA 233 never made such an allegation to me. Again an allegation made by HIA 233 would have been recorded and followed up by residential and field social work staff.

#### Statement of Truth

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

Signed

HH 5

Dated 10.3.2014.

INTERNAL CASE REVIEW.

April 78.

To be completed by member of staff responsible for the child

Name of child:

HIA 69

Date of Birth:Date of Admission:14<sup>th</sup> Nov 1973.Responsible Local Authority:

Western Health Board

Referred by:

Welfare

Responsibility:

Mrs Simpson

House or Group:

St Gerard's

1. Contact and relationship with child's own family:a) With parents:HIA 69 visits his mother, but  
no visits from her to the children.b) With siblings or other relatives:Continual fights  
between HIA 69 and his older sister.c) With other outside contacts:

none

2. Emotional Development and behaviour:Appears to be  
a very disturbed lad. hates any form  
of correction.3. Relationships in the children's home:a) With residential staff:can not bear to be  
corrected. In conflict most of the time  
with staff. (Resident)b) With other children:not liked very much,  
very aggressive unless they fall in with  
HIA 69 wishes4. Health:a) General Health and physical development:

Very good normal

b) Record of any serious illness:

none

c) Date of last Medical Examination and findings:

March 77.

WESTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD  
LONDONDERRY LIMA VADY AND STRAPANE DISTRICT

CASE — REPORT

Name ..... family..... Case Category  
Address .....

DATE	CASE DETAILS-Visitors, Reports etc.,
18.2.78	Took HIA 69 to see his mother as HIA 352 was sick. <span style="float: right;">SND 484</span>
2.3.78	Called with ..... to arrange for a visit from HIA 352 on her own to compensate for the time she was sick. <span style="float: right;">SND 484</span>
4.3.78	HIA 352 left for day's visit - appeared to be very happy with this. <span style="float: right;">SND 484</span>
15.3.78	<p>SND 332 contacted re. HIA 69 running away last Friday. Called at mother's - HIA 69 there but very unhappy at idea of going back to Termonbacca. Has been getting on badly with SR 6 - culminating in an incident where he alleges she caught him by the throat. However eventually agreed to go accompanied by ..... We talked to SR 6 who said that she understood that HIA 69 was unhappy but that she felt he was quite insolent to her and that she had lost her temper with him. .... agreed that we should try to find a placement for him in the family.</p> <p>Called with ..... feel they have enough to be contending with DL 70 - would not be interested in having HIA 69. Called with his aunt ..... has five children and expecting a baby soon so could not do it either. However, she seemed a very sensible woman who said that we needed to be wary of ..... as she was capable of using HIA 69 to meet her own needs and that contact with her might not be the best thing for him. <span style="float: right;">SND 484</span></p>
17.3.78	HIA 69 and HIA 352 spent the whole day with their mother. <span style="float: right;">SND 484</span>
22.3.78	Saw HIA 69 and HIA 352 at Termonbacca to let them know I would be on leave over Easter. <span style="float: right;">SND 484</span>
24.3.78	3.4.78 Annual leave. DL 70 was home on holiday during this period. <span style="float: right;">SND 484</span>
3.4.78	Talked to SR 6 about HIA 69 - feels she still cannot make any kind of relationship with him and that he is still defying her authority, although not overtly. <span style="float: right;">SND 484</span>
11.4.78	Called with ..... thinks the visits are going alright. Asked her why she never called to see all the children at Termonbacca - she said that she did not feel welcome and that the nuns made her feel guilty. Same date - saw all four children. <span style="float: right;">SND 484</span>

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W.C./10/1

**WESTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD**

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT (N.I.) 1968**

**1 - INFORMATION RELATING TO CHILD ON HIS/HER ADMISSION TO CARE**

(a) Surname HIA 69 (b) Forename(s) HIA 69

(c) Home Address Waterloo

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(d) Sex (M/F) Male (e) D.o.B. [REDACTED] (f) Place of Birth Belaham

(g) Legitimate/Illegitimate Legitimate (h) Religious Denomination R. Catholic

(i) Date and Place of Baptism [REDACTED]

(j) Address before Admission (if different from (c) above) Shantallow

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(k) School attended before Admission St. Columba's College, Buncrana, Co. Lond.

(l) Name and Address of Family Doctor Dr. Davlin, St. James St., Hault Cross

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(m) Date of Admission [REDACTED]

(n) Estimated period of time child will remain in care (less than 6 months/6 months plus) 6 months +

(o) Placed in/with (Full Name(s) and Address of Residential Unit or Foster Parents must be stated) Harrietan Home, Court St., H. Derry

NOTE: The following Documents should be obtained:-

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent of Parent(s) or Guardian to Child in Care having any necessary Medical and Dental Treatment and Authorisation for the District Social Services Officer to sign Hospital Consent Forms. | From Parent(s) or Guardian |
| 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent of Parent(s) or Guardian to Immunisation and/or Vaccination  |                            |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Card - <u>Harrietan</u>  |                            |
| 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Birth Certificate <u>Harrietan</u>   |                            |
| 5. Certificate of Health of Child on Admission to Care - from doctor who examined child.  |                            |
| 6. School Transfer Certificate - from principal of school attended before admission.  |                            |

**2 - MAIN PRECIPITATING FACTOR NECESSITATING ADMISSION**

(Tick as appropriate)

**NO PARENT AVAILABLE**

- (a) No Parent or Guardian
- (b) Abandoned or Lost

- (c) Death of Mother
- (d) Deserted by Mother

Father not living with Family or unable to care for child

  


**INCAPACITY OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN**

- (e) Confinement
- (g) Requiring Special Care
- (i) Tuberculosis
- (k) Other Cause (specify)

- (f) Short-term Illness
- (h) Receiving Treatment for Mental Illness
- (j) Long-term illness (specify)

  
  


**OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES**

- (l) T.B. Contact
- (m) Illegitimate and Mother unable to provide
- (n) Parent or Guardian in Prison or Remanded in Custody
- (o) Family Homeless because of Eviction
- (p) Family Homeless through a cause other than Eviction (Specify)
- (q) Unsatisfactory Home Conditions
- (r) Where Parental Rights Order is in Force (Section 105(4))
- (s) Other cause of Admission (Specify) ? *family home breakdown*

  
  
  
  
  
  


**3 - SECTION OF ACT UNDER WHICH ADMITTED**

(Tick as appropriate)

- (a) Section 103 } Short Term
- (b) Section 103(6) }

- (c) Section 103 } Long Term
- (d) Section 103(6) }

  


- (e) Fit Person Order (Non-Offender)
  - (i) Section <sup>95</sup> 98 (Care Protection or Control)
  - (ii) Truant under Section 95 and Schedule 9 of the Education and Libraries (N.I.) Order 1972
  - (iii) Section 97(2) (a) (ii) (Breach of Supervision)
  - (iv) Section 101 (Interim Order)
- (f) Fit Person Order (Offender) Section 74 (1) (b)
- (g) Section 99 (Place of Safety)

Date of Order

3/7/23

  
  
  
  


**NOTE:** If Child's initial admission is effected on a Place of Safety Order (Section 99) or an Interim Order (Section 101), Details of subsequent Fit Person Order should also be recorded above, as appropriate.



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WESTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSON'S (BOARDING-OUT) REGULATIONS (N.I.) 1976

REVIEW OF HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF BOARDED-OUT CHILD - REGULATION 13

NOTE In accordance with Regulation 13 (1) a review of the health and well-being of a boarded-out child must be made:

- (a) Within one month of placement in a foster home; and
- (b) Thereafter, as often as may be expedient, but not less often than once in every six months.

Regulation 13 (2) requires the review to be made by a Social Worker other than the Social Worker engaged in supervisory duties relating to the placement. (It is therefore recommended that the review should be made by the Team Leader to whom the supervising Social Worker is responsible.)

The Bristol Social Adjustment Guides are useful aids in compiling Review Reports.

**A. Child and Foster Parents**

1. Surname: HIA 69 2. Forename(s): HIA 69

3. D.o.B.: [REDACTED] 4. Sex (M/F): Male

5. Full Name of Foster Mother: [REDACTED]

6. Full Name of Foster Father: [REDACTED]

7. Address: [REDACTED] Londonderry.

8. Date of Child's Placement in Foster Home: 13/6/80

9. Date of First Review: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Date of Last Review: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Dates of Social Worker's visits since last Review (Underline dates Child was NOT seen, and comment on Social Worker's explanation as to why she/he did not see the Child):

9.2.81      16.2.81

16.3.81

22.4.81

27.4.81

12. Dates Foster Father was seen since last Review: 16.3.81

27.4.81