STATEMENT OF DUNCAN McLAUGHLAN TO THE HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE INQUIRY

1. Introduction and career history

1. My name is Duncan McLaughlan. In 1969 I had been an assistant governor in the England and Wales Prison Service (referred to as the English service in this statement) before being seconded to the Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS) for a period of two years. I was posted to the Borstal at Millisle and took up duty on 1st November 1972.

2. The secondment came about because the NIPS had been unable to recruit suitably qualified prison staff to be trained as members of the governor grade. The NIPS had decided that its future governors would be trained at the English service staff training college but suitable candidates could not be found within the ranks of the prison officer grades in NI that satisfied the criteria set by the English service for entry to the staff college. The English service recruited its future governors from both outside and inside the Service but the NIPS had a policy of only recruiting from its prison officer ranks; I believe that this remains the position.

3. The NIPS asked the English service to second two assistant governors, preferably with experience of Northern Ireland (NI), for two years to allow time to find suitable in-service candidates.

4. I had been a social worker in NI employed by the County Londonderry Welfare Committee from 1962-69 before joining the English service as a direct entry

assistant governor and therefore I had never been a uniformed prison officer. My professional qualification in social work was the National Institute for Social Work Training's Certificate in Social Work.

5. I attended the Assistant Governor Class II training course at the Prison Service Staff Training College from 1969 to 1970 and was then posted in that rank to HM Borstal, Hindley near Wigan and remained there until my secondment to Millisle Borstal on 1st November 1972.

6. The conditions of the secondment were that at any time I could with the agreement of the NIPS transfer on a permanent basis to that service. I did transfer on a permanent basis and the formal transfer took place sometime in 1974.

7. I served as an assistant governor at Millisle from 1st November 1972 until 15th January 1973 and returned as governor-in-charge on 16th December 1974 and remained in that position until the Borstal closed on 31 December 1980.

8. I served in the NIPS until my retirement in April 2000, and worked in the following posts:

1972-73	Assistant Governor, HM Borstal Millisle
	Deputy Governor, HM Prison Armagh
1973–74	Assistant Governor, Long Kesh Internment Centre
1974-74	Deputy Governor, HM Prison Magilligan
1974–81	Governor in charge, HM Borstal Millisle until its closure.
1981–82	Deputy Governor, HM Prison Maze (Compound)
1982-84	Deputy Governor, HM Prison Maze (Cellular)
1984-86	Governor in charge HM Prison Maze (Compound) until its closure.

1986-87	Prison Service Headquarters – Personnel Division
1987-91	Governor-in charge, HM Prison Maghaberry
1991-93	Governor in charge, HM Prison Maze
1993-97	Prison Service Headquarters – Deputy Director of Prison Operations
1997-1999	Governor in charge, HM Prison Maghaberry
1999-2000	Prison Service Headquarters Policy Division.
April 2000	Retired

9. Since retirement:

1999-2005	Lecturer in Criminal Justice Management, Institute of Criminology, Law School, Queens University, Belfast
2000	Member of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission Bill of Rights Criminal Justice Working Group
2002	On behalf of the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office as prison advisor to the joint United Kingdom and United States of America monitoring team at the prison in Jericho.
2003	Member of a Penal Reform International mission to Afghanistan to support justice, effective management and the introduction into the prison system of international norms and standards for the treatment of prisoners...
2004-2007	Advisor to the International Criminal Court on the rules of detention for the Court's detention unit and to write the units operating procedures. In 2007 appointed, and remain so, to the Courts "List of Experts" for detention matters.
2005	Solo mission for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to advise on the request by the Rwandan government on the reform of its prison service.
2005-2010	Advisor to the ICRC on detention matters; to assist in the drafting of a "workbox" on detention matters for its country delegates; to assist in the training of new delegates, and participate in training seminars for prison staff from China.
2011	ICRC mission team member to China to advise on the management of tuberculosis in prisons.

10. In addition:

- Founder member of the NI Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (NIACRO).
- Founder member of Extern; an organisation established to introduce alternatives to imprisonment and crime prevention programmes.
- Visiting Professor of Criminal Justice Studies, Department of Sociology, University of Minnesota. USA.
- Introduced the formation of the Victim Support in NI.
- Founder member of Kairos, a now defunct organisation that aimed to enable people to tell their stories about living through "the troubles".

Background of Borstal Training[1]

11. In 1895, the British Departmental Committee on Prisons – what became known as the Gladstone Report – recommended that a special penal reformatory be established. The reformatory "*would have penal and coercive sides....but it should be amply provided with staff capable of giving sound education, training the inmates in various kinds of industrial work, and generally to exercise the best and healthiest kind of moral influence*". In essence that remained the philosophy of Borstal training at Millisle until its closure at the end of 1980.

12. The history of Borstals in Northern Ireland is provided at paragraphs 7 - 39 of the Department's general statement on Millisle dated 18 December 2015 (referred to as the "Millisle general statement").

[1] Taken from *Borstal in Ireland* – Nial Osborough. Published by the Institute of Public Administration. Dublin 1975

The Buildings

13. From 1977 there were two sections to the Borstal at Millisle; an open unit that had once been a large country house and the second, a purpose built secure unit. Both sections were on the site same site and under the control of one governor.

14. The open section did not have any physical devices or barriers to prevent a trainee from absconding. An illustration of how "open" that section was can be understood from the fact that the entrance to the building was controlled by a trainee who had achieved what was known as Special Grade. I recall that trainees in that grade spent their leisure hours and slept in a separate building with only occasional staff supervision. The open section was intended to house 75 trainees but as sleeping accommodation was in dormitories more could be accommodated (Exhibit 1)[2]

15. The closed section had all the appearance of a secure prison and had the locks, bars and a perimeter fence that would be found in a prison designed to hold medium risk prisoners. All sleeping accommodation was in cells and the section was intended to house 75 trainees but with doubling-up more could be accommodated.

The Borstal Population

16. Borstal trainees were sentenced for a wide range of offences and for many the level of educational attainment was low. The last available report on the administration of the Borstal in 1979 (Exhibit 2)[3] showed offences ranging from

[2] Exhibit 1 - Report on the Administration of the Prison Service 1977
[3] Exhibit 2 - Report on the Administration of the Prison Service 1979

minor motoring offences to rape, firearms offences and arson. Of the 149 committed in 1979, 100 were considered to have special learning needs.

17. Paragraphs 41 – 42 and Figure 1of the Millisle general statement submitted to the Inquiry on 18 December 2015 provides further information on population statistics.

The Millisle "System"

18. The philosophy espoused by Gladstone in 1895 as referred to at para 11 existed in Millisle. Whilst the style of language may have changed, in essence that aim remained the philosophy of Borstal training at Millisle until its closure at the end of 1980.

19. My philosophy was based on the hope that trainees would leave the Borstal in no worse condition than when they arrived and hopefully better equipped to lead a meaningful life after release. In my final entry in the Governor's Journal dated 31 December 1980 – the date when Borstal was abolished – I expressed the hope that we "*have shown what can be achieved when one attempts to establish a humane regime that treats both staff and inmates as human beings.....we have tried to show that imprisonment need not be a totally negative experience*" That aspiration was expressed in a Notice to Staff on the opening of the closed section " *there is one management, one staff and one task which is to provide Borstal training in the best and most humane manner possible*".

The Training Regime

20. All new committals were held in the closed section for a period of assessment for suitability for open conditions. The nature of the offence committed was not a

factor in the assessment process, since transfer to the open section was determined by a trainees behaviour and attitude. Nearly all trainees were eventually transferred to the open section but some remained and others returned from the open section when their behaviour demonstrated a need for more secure conditions.

21. Common to both sections was the grade system. There were four grades, 1 to 3 and Special Grade – a grade that gave the trainee freedom to move around the site and to live in largely unsupervised accommodation. It was expected that each trainee would spend an average of three months in at grades 1 to 3 and remaining on special grade as long as their behaviour permitted; some spent more and some spent less. Promotion was gained by the assessment of staff and ratified by a board which had a representative of Prison Service Headquarters amongst its membership. Recommendation for release was again based on an assessment conducted staff and had to be approved by the Visiting Committee (VC) and agreed by Prison Service Headquarters. It is my recollection that once a young person had been promoted to Special Grade he would have been released after three months in that grade. It had been a requirement for release that a trainee had a job to go to but it became apparent that many job offers were fictitious and that requirement was therefore abandoned in the mid 1970's.

The Training Programme

22. On committal each trainee was assessed for his educational and vocational needs. Those needs could be met by a variety of educational and vocational training opportunities. See also paragraphs 49 - 55 of the Millisle general statement.

23. Formal education ranged from remedial education to what was then known as the General Certificate of Education.

24. Vocational training opportunities were met by courses in painting and decorating, bricklaying, woodwork, metal work and horticulture. All of those courses led to recognised qualifications. In addition, if a trainee was received who had already started an apprenticeship for a trade that Millisle did not have the facility attendance at a local technical college was possible. I recall this arrangement being put in place for one boy who had come in as an apprentice electrician, a trade that Millisle did not cater for.

25. Trainees could also be employed in the kitchen, laundry, cleaning tasks and grounds maintenance.

26. In addition to sporting activities on the football field and in the gymnasium, the open section included a range of leisure activities such as first aid training, motor maintenance and adventure pursuits.

27. The closed section regime operated on the basis that all trainees would eventually be transferred to the open section and therefore only offered some educational programmes and limited work opportunities.

28. The Monday to Friday daily routine resembled that of a normal working week with evenings spent relaxing and taking part in group activities, such as snooker, television, etc. Weekends were spent in group activities generally within the confines of Millisle Borstal, with an emphasis on sports such as football and cricket. On occasion, external excursions to take part in activities such as

Mourne rambling and canoeing were organised. On Sunday morning the boys attended local churches.

Medical and Dental Care

29. Medical care was provided on a part-time basis by a local doctor and community dental services were utilised. The doctor attended each day and on demand as required. The Borstal had a full-time medically qualified matron who ran daily sick parades and treated minor non-emergency ailments.

Welfare Services

30. Welfare support was a traditional role for the assistant governors following the housemaster role that was introduced at the very start of Borstal training in England. The probation service did not have a presence in the Borstal but the Welfare Officer employed at Rathgael Training School in Bangor was available to the Borstal when support in the community was required.

Staffing Structure

(See also the Millisle general statement at paragraphs 56 – 57).

31. The staffing structure reflected that was in place across all prison establishments at the time in that there was a Governor in charge with one or more Assistant Governors (referred to as House Masters in Borstal), prison officer grades were headed by a Chief Officer; there was an Education and a Chief Vocational Training Officer, a Physical Training Officer as well as ancillary staff responsible for grounds and buildings maintenance, catering and laundry.

Food and Clothing

32. Meals in both sections were provided by the kitchen in the open section and comprised three main meals and supper. Trainees wore a uniform supplied by the prison that was cleaned in the laundry and maintained by a full-time seamstress. These consisted of denims and clothing required for work.

Complaints, Requests and Allegations

33. Whilst a trainee could make a complaint, request or allegation at any time there was no formal system in place to deal with such matters. Complaints and requests were generally about issues such as work allocation, not getting promotion to the next grade or requests for an extra visit. I do not now recall any allegations from trainees about abusive treatment from staff during my time as Governor in Millisle although I note that there is an entry in the Governors Journal from 8 November 1975 (Exhibit 3)[4] when a ML 47 complained that her son had been assaulted on 7 November 1975. The Governor's Journal shows that I met with ML 47 in relation to the alleged assault the day earlier. The entry in the journal at the time shows that ML 48 had been examined by a Medical Officer on 7 November to assess his fitness for punishment and that there was no evidence of injuries at that time. I then interviewed ML 48 and could see no injuries myself; the Medical Officer also attended and confirmed this on 8 November. I note further that there is no formal paperwork to evidence if this matter was taken any further following my intervention. See also the Millisle general statement at para 94.

[4] Exhibit 3 - 08 November 1975 - Millisle Governors Journal

34. A trainee could make an approach to the governor or an assistant governor or could ask to see a member of the Visiting Committee if they wished to make a complaint or a request. An interview with a member of the Committee was conducted out of sight and hearing of a member of staff. A trainee could also submit a petition to the Department on any matter although that petition was open to the scrutiny of the governor. There was no formal system for recording complaints. I am not aware of the Visiting Committee producing annual reports but I did attend their monthly meetings at which they raised issues with me. I am aware that minutes were produced from these meetings (Exhibit 4)[5].

Discipline

35. Trainees were subject to a formal disciplinary code. There was an annual Report on the Administration of the Prison Service and the available reports show the kinds of offences that could be committed, and the nature of the punishments which might apply.

The Report's available show:

Offences
Violence
Escapes and attempted escapes
Insubordination
Other breaches

Punishments
Cane
Loss of grade or privilege
Stoppage of earnings
Confinement to a room
Extra work

[5] Exhibit 4 – Examples of Minutes from Visiting Committee monthly meetings (Dec 1979 - Sept 1980).

Absconding

36. The open section did not have any physical barriers to prevent a trainee from absconding. When a young person absconded, staff searched the immediate area of the Borstal; if this was unsuccessful, the police were notified and they took over. A returned absconder would be interviewed by an assistant governor. An absconder would face formal disciplinary proceedings involving adjudication by the Visiting Committee. This Committee would decide whether or not a young person was guilty of an offence and if guilty, the sanction which should apply. Such sanctions could have included corporal punishment or loss of grade or privileges. Absconding episodes were recorded in the Governor's Journal.

37. From the records available, it can be seen that absconds or attempted absconds from the open section were a regular occurrence. There were no absconds from the closed section.

38. On return from absconding, the Assistant Governor would have interviewed the young person to find out why he had absconded, where he had gone and what he had done. The level of absconding gradually reduced so strategies in place to manage the issue would appear to have been effective. For example, there was a spike of 38 absconding episodes in 1975 (Exhibit 5)[6] with a steady decrease thereafter down to five in 1979 (Exhibit 2)[7].

Corporal Punishment

39. The cane could be awarded for absconding or attempting to abscond and a range of other serious offences, such as an assault on a member of staff. Its application

[6] Exhibit 5 - Report on the Administration of the Prison Service 1972 – 1976, Table 14, page 63.
[7] Exhibit 2 - Report on the Administration of the Prison Service 1979, Table 16, page 54.

could only be imposed by the Department or by the Visiting Committee following a formal hearing (Exhibit 6)[8]. I recall that it was policy that the cane was applied to the trainee's rear; he wore only his underpants and was held down by two or three prison officers over the end of a bed. The medical officer had to be present at the caning and had the authority to stop it at any point. On my return to Millisle as governor-in-charge corporal punishment was awarded on three occasions. I note that the Governor's Journal on 15 August 1975 records that the Visiting Committee sanctioned the use of corporal punishment but that following referral to the NI and the intervention of Lord Donaldson, this decision was overturned (Exhibit 7)[9]. See also para 79 of the Millisle general statement.

40. I was opposed to the use of corporal punishment and on the second occasion had to stop its administration. I recall that the cane was applied by Officer Skillen and that he did so within the terms required under the Prison Rules (Exhibit 7)[10]. In the course of the caning, the Medical Officer took unwell and would have been incapable of intervening had this been required, which was the role assigned to him under the legislation. Accordingly, I stepped in and stopped the administration of the caning. Some months later the Visiting Committee awarded the caning of a trainee and I refused to allow it to be carried out although I did not have the authority to make that decision.

41. Some months later in conversation with the then Secretary of State – Merlyn Rees, and the Minister for Prisons – Lord Donaldson, I told them what I had done. Not long after that, an instruction was issued to the NIO that caning should

[8] Exhibit 6 - Notice in relation to Prison Rules (N.I.) Part II Rule 34 - Corporal Punishment8, dated 31 January 1962
[9] Exhibit 7 - Governor's Journal, 15 August 1975
[10] Exhibit 6 - Notice in relation to Prison Rules (N.I.) Part II Rule 34 - Corporal Punishment10, dated 31 January 1962

not be implemented. Corporal punishment was subsequently abolished in 1975 by the Treatment of Offenders (Northern Ireland) 1976.

Staffing

42. Other than teachers, instructors and other specialist staff, all members of staff were prison officers. The prison officer rank structure was as it was in other prison establishments as were the conditions of service. Prison officers in the Borstal received whatever training was given to all officers when they joined the service but did not receive specific training in the custody of young offenders.

43. The Governor of the Borstal was supported by two Assistant Governors, who together provided an all hours on call system and every evening one of the three visited all areas where trainees were active and each would visit at irregular hours during the night. The substantial overnight supervision was provided by civilian staff.

44. During the working day, the Governor would visit all areas where trainees were active each morning and afternoon. The purpose of this was to check that what should be happening was happening; it was called management by walking about and enabled the Governor to impose his will on the Establishment.

Relationship with Prison Headquarters

45. Prison Service was part of the Department. Engagement with Prison Service Headquarters, and hence the Department, was mainly in relation to financial and personnel matters. I personally had very little contact with Headquarters although

as a governor-in-charge I was a member of policy and other meetings and discussions that required professional input on general prison service matters.

Inspections

46. In my time as governor there was no formal inspection system. The position regarding inspections is further explained in the Millisle general statement at paras 45 - 47.

47. There was, however, a level of supervision provided by the Visiting Committee (VC). The VC was an independent body made up of approximately 12 members of the community, two of whom had to be justices of the peace. The committee did not have any management functions but was expected to interest itself in the general state of the premises, the administration of the establishment and the treatment of trainees. The VC also had to carry out adjudications in certain circumstances.

Annual Reports

48. It had been the practice for the governor to submit to headquarters an annual report on the life of the Borstal; that practice eventually fell into disuse as it was not a legal requirement. Nevertheless, we continued to provide statistical returns on a range of issues as illustrated in the annual reports on the Administration of the Prison Service (Exhibit 5)[11]. These included information in relation to admissions and releases, previous releases, accommodation, training, education and absconding episodes. The Borstal closed before key performance indicators came into use and other than the production of an annual report for each member

[11] Exhibit 5 - Report on the Administration of the Prison Service 1972 – 1976

of staff, no other measure of performance for the individual or the institution existed.

Dealing with Violent Trainees

49. In a prison officer's initial training, other than the instruction to use only the minimum force necessary I do not recall any specific training in dealing with violent trainees. I do not recall there being any incidents when young people were hurt when being restrained. In later years and after the closure of the Borstal the Service trained staff in what was known as Control and Restraint Techniques.

Transfer of Trainees

50. From the time of the opening of the closed unit at Millisle there was only one Borstal in Northern Ireland and therefore inter-institution was not common but may have been facilitated if, for example, a Borstal boy's family moved to another jurisdiction. Transfers in from Training Schools also took place as already discussed.

Complaints/Allegations of Abuse

51. I was not aware of any allegations of abuse made during the period I was an assistant governor and did not receive any during the period that I was governor-in-charge.

52. Other than a trainee's right for an interview with the governor, speaking with a member of the VC or submitting a formal petition to the Department, there was no formal complaints procedure.

The Allegations being investigated by the Inquiry.

53. I note that allegations of abuse have been made by seven ex trainees. I do not recognise their names and do not have any personal knowledge of any of them. As I have previously stated, I do not recall receiving any complaint of abuse from any trainee, and neither did I receive any such complaint from a trainee's family or from any other source apart from that already referred to in para 33 of this statement.

54. I note that Officer Skillen is the subject of a number of complaints. See paras 95 - 97 of the Millisle general statement. He worked in the laundry and I recall that when I visited there the atmosphere presented as good humoured and relaxed. I also recall that the nickname Punchy came from his external role as a

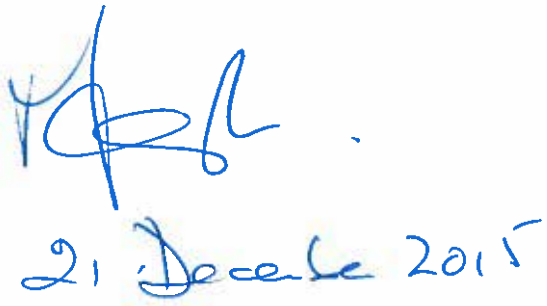
, . As already mentioned in para 40 of this statement, Officer Skillen was responsible for administering corporal punishment; this decision was taken before I worked in Millisle. Corporal punishment was a feature of the sanctions in place at the time and I have no criticism to make regarding his conduct when administering corporal punishment that I witnessed. Further, I was not aware of any allegations being made about his conduct during my time in Millisle.

My View of the Allegations

55. It would be unwise in the extreme for any prison governor to believe that he knew everything that went on in his establishment – I am not an exception to that. It would be unwise in the extreme for any governor to maintain that every member

of his staff was incapable of inflicting abuse on an inmate – I am not an exception to that.

56. I cannot therefore make any informed comment on the veracity of the allegations that have been made. If any one of those allegations is found to have substance then that behaviour was in direct contravention of the policies in place at the time and of my belief of how those under my care should be treated.



MIL-28129

PSC MILLISLE SITE PLAN

KEY

- LISNEVIN SITE
- NIPS PSC HOUSES
- NIPS PLAYING FIELDS

TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS BRANCH
RECEIVED
- 9 JUL 1980
Northern Ireland Office

HM Borstal Institution
Woburn House
Millisle, Co Down

8 July 1980

MINUTES OF VISITING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT HM BORSTAL INSTITUTION, WOBURN HOUSE MILLISLE, AT 2.45 pm ON MONDAY 7 JULY 1980

1. Members present:- Mrs Greeves (Chairman), Mr Donaldson, Mr Coey, Mr Murray, Mrs Russell, Mr Brown, Mr Smyth, Miss Orr (Deputy Governor) and Mr Ross (Sec) were also present.

2. Apologies received from:- Mr Patton, Mr Douglas, Mrs Eves, Mr Eves and Mr Cackett

3. Chairman's Business - Mr Brown informed the Committee that Mr Gault had taken up employment in Brent and it was unlikely that he would be returning. Similarly Mr Quinliven had not attended since February 1979. The Secretary agreed to write to NIO pointing this out.

It was agreed to discuss disposal of the Borstal Association Fund at the September meeting.

4. The following trainees were interviewed and found suitable for release in July:-

5. The minutes of the last meeting and a special meeting held on 16 June, were read. The minutes of a meeting of the Committee with Mr Barry had been circulated.

Copies requested from Mr Kerr in the Secretary's absence 21/8/80

6. Matters Arising

(a) Special Meeting 16 June - Mr Donaldson felt that punishment of 14 days loss of association awarded to trainee might be detremental in some instances. Following discussion members agreed that considerable care should be taken when making such awards.

(b) Mr Barry's meeting 1.7.80 - There was still considerable concern for the welfare of staff. However the Committee could do no more and they were confident that they would be well represented by their association.

The Chairman felt that the Borstal should close on 30 September and not drag out the inevitable. On the contrary Mr Brown saw it as a time for experiment with an Open YOC.

7. Visiting rota reports were read from Miss Borner, Mr Murray and Mr Coey.

The Chairman asked Miss Orr whether there was any substance in trainees alleging that particular Officers discriminated on religious grounds.

The Deputy Governor denied that this was so and added that this sort of thing raised its head when there was an imbalance of religious factions. It also tended to be seasonal - as at present.

8. The following members will carry out Rota Visits:-

JULY	-	OPEN	- Mrs Russell, Mrs Eves
		CLOSED	- Mr Brown, Mr Eves
AUGUST	-	OPEN	- Mrs Price, Mr Donaldson
		CLOSED	- Mr Smyth, Mr Douglas

9. In her monthly review the Deputy Governor returned numbers as follows:-

OPEN = 63 : CLOSED = 44 : TOTAL 107

There were two absconders still at large. In recent weeks there had been some unrest, however this seemed to be settling and she was hopeful that the holiday period would pass quietly.

Sports day was scheduled to span the weekend 12-15 July.

10. Correspondence - An invitation to individuals to attend a Social Study week in Galway was taken as read.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman wished members a pleasant holiday and stated that the next meeting would be on 1 September at 2.45 pm.

Signed: _____
Secretary

_____
Governor

13.

14

Millisle Borstal

15. I was sent to Millisle and for the majority of my time there it was fine. I had been an apprentice bricklayer before I was sentenced and there was a bricklaying shop at the Borstal. I spent my time laying bricks and I did not have to do anything if I did not want to. I only had a problem with one member of staff while I was there. I cannot remember his name but his nickname was Punchy. He was a I will always remember his face. He worked in the laundry and once a week I had to bring my down to be He used to put his arms round me and try to kiss me. I could feel his erection against my body and he bent me over the and simulated sex with me. This was not a joke to him and he meant everything that he was doing.

16. On one occasion I plucked up the courage to tell a senior member of staff what was taking place. This man was sharp dressed, very presentable looking and had black hair and a black moustache. He simply dismissed what I told him and nothing was done. The other boys in the laundry knew what was going on but

nothing was ever said. I never went into a Police Station and made a statement because I thought that the police would not be interested in the matter and did not believe that the RUC as it was then would investigate so I told no one.

Life after Care

17. When I was released I could not cope and I moved to Dublin. I had no place to stay and had to squat in an abandoned house. I had never taken an illegal drug in my life until I got to Dublin and I began to take heroin and became addicted to the drug. I was involved in petty crime to feed my addiction and was sent to Mountjoy Prison on a number of occasions. I also moved to London and lived in squats and my life was a complete mess. I just ran away from my problems and used alcohol and drugs to mask reality. I have attended rehab for my alcohol and drugs addictions. I am [redacted] and I blame what happened to me on the abuse I suffered in the youth justice system.

18. I can talk about the abuse today but in the past I was full of anger. I turned the anger in on myself and out on to other people and just made my own life a misery. I could not report the abuse to the police previously but I did speak to police about the abuse in around 2012. I spoke to officers from Antrim Road and Newtownards PSNI stations but I am not aware of the outcome of my report.

19. I live in a flat by myself and I have trouble with relationships. I found it very difficult if someone told me what to do and that is not the way to try to build a relationship. I tried to work on a fishing boat but I found it really difficult. I have always had trouble holding down a job because I could not cope with anyone in authority telling me what to do.

20. I was married but it only lasted six months. I have a step daughter who lives in Dublin and we visit each other. We are very close to each other, even more than my family. I have serious problems trusting people and I did not really trust my mum. I could not accept her moving on with her life after my father was injured. I trust my brother [redacted] to a certain extent and consider him to be my closest blood relative. My mother died a few years ago and I never told her what had

A. No, not in my time anyway, unless he -- unless he made light of it when I had left maybe. I don't know, but he didn't make light of it in front of me.

Q. And would he have done this type of thing each time that you went?

A. I think nearly every time I went to the laundry there was some sort of motion from him or trying to do something to you. Not just me, but other people as well.

Q. Well, I wanted to ask you about other people, because you were explaining to me that it was talk amongst the boys --

A. Yes.

Q. -- of "Oh, no, not the laundry"

A. "Not laundry day", yes.

Q. Am I right in saying you didn't see him do it to anybody else --

A. No.

Q. -- but it was the talk?

A. Yes, yes, yes. He was talked about.

Q. You explain then in paragraph 16 that there was one occasion you plucked up the courage to tell a senior member of staff what was taking place.

A. I did, yes.

Q. Now you can't remember this man's name.

A. No, I can't.

Q. You don't think it was the governor you told.

A. No, no.

Q. But this person had their own office.

A. I think he had his own little office, yes, yes.

Q. You describe him as being sharp dressed, very presentable --

A. Yes.

Q. -- black hair and you say a black moustache. You said to me earlier you think he had a black moustache.

A. I think he had a black moustache, yes, yes.

Q. You -- can you -- I appreciate you are not going to remember word for word now at this remove, HIA374 --

A. Uh-huh.

Q. -- but can you remember what you told him?

A. I think I was trying to stop making me -- myself getting angry and maybe -- maybe end up fighting with [redacted] **. So I didn't want to be doing that and getting kept in borstal for a longer period of time. So I did go to a member of staff and I told him basically what was going on and he was sitting reading and he just ... (gesturing). Nothing was done, but I did complain.**

Q. So you never heard anything more about --

A. No, no.

Q. -- the complaint?

GOVERNOR'S JOURNAL

Date of Entry	Date of Occurrence	Occurrence	Date of Entry
	5 November 1975	Unlocked 71 ON Outside Hosp. 1 Absconders. 4 Spec. Grade Parole 2 Applications 3 Adjudications NIL	
1st November 1975		Received 2 (from Special Grade Parole)	6th November 1975
2nd November 1975		Discharged 2 (To Special Grade Parole)	
	6th November 1975	Unlocked 71 Outside Hospital 1 Absconders 4 Special Grade Parole 2 applications 2 Adjudications NIL	6th November 1975
2nd November 1975		Received 1 (From special parole base) Discharged 2 (To Special grade parole)	4th November 1975
3 November 75	4th November 1975	Unlocked 70 Outside Hospital 1 Absconders 4 Special grade parole 3 Applications 2 Adjudications NIL	4th November 1975
4 November 75		Received - 3 (From Special Grade Parole). Discharged 9 Released under Supervision	8 November 1975.
4. November 75	8. November 1975.	Unlocked 64 Outside Hosp. 1 Absconders. 4 Applications - nil Adjudications - 2	
5 November 75		Interviewed the matter ML 48 request. Lots / ML 47 alleged that person had been beaten by staff on Friday 7 November 1975. (ML 48 had been examined by Med. Off. on that day for purpose of - no evidence of injuries). I saw ML 48 and could see no marks on	

[redacted]

GOVERNOR'S JOURNAL

NO. 305 (7259—27-4-98)

Date of Occurrence	Occurrence	Date of Entry	Date of Occurrence
	his face. Treated Re Med. off. (Dr Rowbotham - relief) who confirmed this. (Dr. Renewed NIC Discharged NIC.	9. November 75	13 November 75
9 November 1975	Mulcahood 64 Outside Hosp. 1 Absconders. 4. Applications Can. Out. Adjudications NIC Renewed NIC Discharged NIC	9. November 75. 10 November 75	14 November 75
10 November 1975	Mulcahood 64 Outside Hosp. 1 Absconders. 4 Applications 3 Adjudications NIC Renewed NIC Discharged 1 (to Spec. Grade Parole)	10 Nov. 75 11 Nov. 75.	15 November 1975
11 November 75.	Mulcahood 63 Outside Hosp. 1 Absconders. 4. Spec Grade Parole 1 Applications 2 Adjudications NIC Renewed 1 (from Spec. Grade Parole) Discharged 1 (to Spec. Grade Parole)	11 November 75 12 November 75	16 November 1975
12 November 75.	Mulcahood 63 Outside Hosp. 1 Absconders. 4. Spec. Grade Parole 1 Applications 3. Adjudications NIC Renewed 1 (from Spec. Grade Parole) Discharged 1 (to Spec. Grade Parole)	12. Nov. 75. 13 November 75.	

GOVERNOR'S JOURNAL

Date of Entry	Date of Occurrence	Occurrence	Date of Entry
		Authorised - closed NIL Chief Officer on evening duties.	14 May 80
	14 May 1980	Undated 111 Open cells 68 Closed cells 43 S.H.C. NIL O/s hosp. 1	
11 May 1980		Applications. 2 Adjudications. NIL. At approx 1415 hrs was informed by Not on allocated assault had taken place in the closed cells by African ML 49 and ML 50 on transfer ML 51 and ML 52. On making an initial investigation I decided to call in the R.U.C. to investigate the alleged incident later that day & suspended Officer ML 50 from duty; Officer ML 49; left the establishment at the conclusion of duties was made to be contacted. R.U.C. arrived at 15.00 hrs.	
12 May 1980		Received - open NIL - closed NIL Discharged - open 5 - closed NIL	
NIL		A.G. Wilson on evening duties.	15.5.80
	15 May 1980	Undated 106 Open cells 63 Closed cells 43 S.H.C. 5 O/s hospital. 1	
13.5.80		Applications NIL Adjudications NIL Suspended off ML 49 from duty (see entries for 14 March 1980) Prisoner attempted to abscond from R.U. Belfast car area. Received - open 5 (4 from closed 1 from SHC) - closed 1 (from open). Discharged - open 4 (3 to SHC & 1 from open).	

MIL-755

PURDYSBURN HOSPITAL

Department of Clinical Psychology
Telephone No.
Belfast 649191
Ext. 278

Saintfield Road
Belfast BT8 8BH

TREATMENT OF
OFFENDERS BRANCH 1
RECEIVED
27 OCT 1980
Northern Ireland Office

21/9/80.

Dear [redacted]

I enclose my completed expenses claim, which should now include the rota visit which I paid last night to the Closed Section. I understand from [redacted] at N.I.O. that the Borstal Visitors Committee is to remain, in some form, and she has asked me to continue to be a member of it, at least until there is a vacancy at the Hydebank Y.O.C. Committee.

As regards my rota report, it would be as follows.

Date 25-9-80
Time 7/30 PM – 8/30 PM.

I was shown around the Closed Section by S.O. [redacted]

31 trainees in residence.

None in sick bay or absent for other reasons.

Most of the trainees were watching television and one was playing table tennis with a member of staff.

There were general expressions of satisfaction with conditions, meals, etc and the atmosphere seemed more relaxed than I have noted on previous visits, probably because of the reduced numbers, the number of releases due next week and the impending demise of the establishment.

I had discussions briefly, in private with three trainees

1. [redacted] – expressed his relief and enthusiasm for his forthcoming release and for the excellent job opportunity which he has received [redacted] in meat processing. He readily admitted that he had had severe problems of adjustment and interpersonal difficulties in the past, with quite disturbed behaviour, but he expressed his confidence that these were now entirely in the past.

2. [redacted] This trainee had just returned from the court case involving charges against two of the officers. He said that he felt that the court officials and personnel of the service had treated him fairly and that appropriate attention had been given to what he had had to say. He also expressed fears, however that he might be charged with making false accusations against officers if the two men currently being tried were found

to be "not guilty". [redacted] over the result of what some other officers had suggested. I tried to reassure him on this matter. He has [illegible] fears that if he were to receive another custodial sentence (he might still have to face a car theft charge) he would be victimised by the staff of [redacted] prior he was then placed in. Again, I tried to reassure him on this point.

[redacted] – This trainee like the two above, is due for release at the beginning of October. He had no specific complaint but expressed a more generalised opinion that certain officers and some of the trainees, would provoke him or otherwise engineer or fabricate a situation which would lead to further charges and the postponement of his discharge. This expectation, he claimed, was based on several previous experiences of this nature. I gave him what limited verbal encouragement I could, pointing out that he only had four more days to pass, and that this was much nearer to discharge than he had ever achieved before.

After a brief discussion with [redacted] and other officers on duty, regarding the forthcoming closure and its effects on staff I terminated the visit at 5.30.

I trust that the above will serve your purposes.

Best wishes

Jon Carlin

TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS BRANCH I
RECEIVED
27 OCT 1980
Northern Ireland Office

NIO-13-187A - Woburn Visiting Committee, Minutes of Meetings 1980 (67) - PRONI - 1-12-15

H.M., Y.O.C.,
Woburn House,
Millisle.

20th October, 1980.

Minutes of the inaugural meeting of the Visiting Committee at H.M., Y.O.C., at 3 p.m., on Monday, 20th October, 1980.

1. Members present - Mrs. Greeves, Mr. Smyth, Mrs. Eves, Mr. Patten, Mr. Donaldson. Mr. McLaughlan - Governor and Mr. Ross - Secretary, were also present.

2. Apologies were received from Mr. Coey, Mr. O'Driscoll and Mr. Carson.

3. Mr. McLaughlan took the chair for the election of office-bearers which resulted in Mrs. Greeves being elected Chairman and Mr. Smyth being elected Vice-Chairman.

4. Chairmans Business - Mrs. Greeves expressed the concern the committee felt for Mrs. Price whose husband had tragically died yesterday. The Secretary agreed to write to Mrs. Price.

The Committee agreed to continue to meet on the third Monday of the month.

5. Governors Report - Mr. McLaughlan informed members that there were now 39 young offenders in custody. This figure was arrived at thus:-

In custody at 30.9.1980		78	
Received from Hydebank on 13.10.80		6	
		84	
Discharged	1.10.80	24	= 39
Transferred Hydebank	1.10.80	16	
Transferred Belfast	1.10.80	1	
Discharged since	1.10.80	3	
Transferred Hydebank	17.10.80	1	
		45	

Besides 38 Officers transferred elsewhere, all but 1 teacher and 3 V.T. Instructors had also gone.

The P.O.A., had to-day indicated that they would prefer total closure on 1st January, and this was likely to be acceptable to H.I. Office.

There were also indications that Woburn House might become the home of the O.T.S. This was subject to ministerial approval.

Officers ML 50 and ML 49 had been acquitted on the assault charge and subsequently transferred to Belfast Prison.

The Governor explained the slightly different role of the Committee. Its responsibilities were the same apart from authorising release. There were also differences in punishment scales should they be called upon for that role.

Reference.....

Note

Trainees ML 53, ML 51 & ML 54 were Released on 1st October 1980.

Trainee ML 51 has an ongoing CRIMINAL injury claim arising out of an allegation of assault against the two officers who were subsequently acquitted

29.10.80

Note:-

Although the 2 officers were acquitted on criminal charges, there is nothing to prevent the trainees from initiating civil actions for injuries from assault - and possibly have proceedings with same.

ODE 18 78

30/10/80

MIL-10998

1980 No. 341 (C. 10)

TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

Treatment of Offenders (1980 Order) (Commencement) Order (Northern Ireland) 1980

Made . . . . . *30th September 1980*

Coming into operation . . . *1st October 1980*

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by Article 1 of the Treatment of Offenders (Northern Ireland) Order 1980(a) I hereby make the following Order:

Citation

1. This Order may be cited as the Treatment of Offenders (1980 Order) (Commencement) Order (Northern Ireland) 1980.

Appointed day

2. The Treatment of Offenders (Northern Ireland) Order 1980 shall come into operation on 1st October 1980.

Humphrey Atkins
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State

Northern Ireland Office
30th September 1980

(a) S.I. 1980/1084 (N.I. 10)

MIL-10999

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This Order brings the Treatment of Offenders (Northern Ireland) Order 1980 into operation on 1st October 1980.

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE - PERSONAL

10/80

NIO-12-169A - Borstal Visiting Committees - Woburn Visiting Committee - Minutes of Meetings (43) - PRONI - 1-12-15

HM Borstal Institution
Woburn House
Millisle, Co Down

1 July 1980

Minutes of Special Meeting of Visiting Committee held at HM Borstal, Millisle, at 2.30 pm on 30 June 1980

Members present:- Mrs Greeves (Chairman), Mr Brown, Mr Donaldson, Mr Smyth, Mrs Eves, Mr Carson, Mr O'Driscoll, Mr Caul, Mr Barry and Mr Truesdale (NIO), Mr McLaughlan (Governor) and Mr Ross (Secretary) were also present

Apologies received from:- Mr Patten, Miss Berner, Mr Coey, Mr Murray, Mrs Russell, Mr Eves, Mrs Price and Mr Douglas

Mrs Greeves welcomed Mr Barry and Mr Truesdale.

Addressing the members, Mr Barry thanked them for attending at short notice and explained that he had already addressed staff on the future of this establishment.

Provided parliamentary legislation went as planned - and he was confident that it would - closure would take three stages:-

1. (a) 1 October 1980 - Borstal Training would cease to exist and existing trainees would be subject to 2 year YOC sentences.

   (b) Trainees in closed conditions at that date would be transferred to Hydebank and others who would have a two year sentence completed under prison rules would be discharged.

   (c) The open section would continue as a YOC for the remainder (if necessary supplemented from YOC).

2. 31 March 1981 - The open section would close and all prisoners would be transferred to Hydebank.

3. Mid 1981 - Lisnevin Training School would take over the closed section and speculatively Millisle would become the combined centre for juveniles visualised in the Black Report.

He further explained that it made economic sense to use Hydebank to a higher capacity. It would rationalise sentencing and clarify it for the Courts. It would also end the indeterminate sentence which was held as unmerited in some circles.

TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS BRANCH 1
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Members questioned Mr Barry both in matters of Staff and Trainees.

With regard to the former he explained that the shut-down was being phased in order to provide for the best interests of staff and all necessary steps would be taken to ensure fairness.

Prisoners in the YOC benefit from a similar regeime to Borstal and the positive ideas already put forward by this Committee will be implemented.

Members will have the opportunity for a full discussion at the monthly meeting on 7 July 1980.

R K T Ross, Secretary

GOVERNOR'S JOURNAL

NO. 305 (7259—27-4-98)

Date of Occurrence	Occurrence	Date of Entry	Date of Occurrence
28 September 1980	Murdered 84 78 YA Operation 53 47 YA Closed cells 31 Absconder 1 Trainees to Court Service. Received NIL Discharged NIL RICO Team on evening call.	29.9.80	1 October 1980.
29 September 1980	Murdered 84 78 YA. Operation 53 47 YA. Closed cells 31 Absconder 1 Applications 1 Adjudications NIL Received NIL Discharged NIL Mr Ross Orr on evening duty.	30.9.80	2 October 1980
30 September 1980	The last day that Borstal Training will be in existence in Northern Ireland. From midnight today the sentence will cease to exist. Murdered ~~84~~ 78 YA ~~trainees~~. Operation ~~53~~ 47 YA ~~trainees~~ Closed cells 31 ~~trainees~~ Absconder 1 ~~trainee~~. Applications NIL Adjudications NIL Received NIL Discharged NIL My only comment on the abolition of Borstal Training is related not to the sentence but to the regime at Hillsborough. We have shown that both trainees and staff can experience meaningful relationships — the heavy hand has not been needed — This service has chosen to close its work successful established Gov. on evening call.		3 October 1980 4TH OCTOBER, 1980

GOVERNOR'S JOURNAL

NO. 305 (7259—27-4-98)

Date of Occurrence	Occurrence	Date of Entry	Date of Occurrence
30 December 1980	Unlocked 12 Absconder 1 In R.U.C. Custody 1 Received Nil Discharged 12 (on transfer to Hydebank Y.O.C). " 1 (on transfer from R.U.C custody to Y.O.C). The premises at Millisle will no longer be used to house prisoners under Prison Department control. The Institution will cease to be a prison establishment at midnight 31. Dec. 1980	31.12.80	
31 December 1980	Unlocked 0 Absconder 1 We no longer have inmates and on 1 January 1981 this institution becomes the N.I. Prison Service Staff Training College. This is therefore the last entry in the Governor Journal and whilst I welcome the demise of a penal establishment it is a matter of deep regret that Northern Ireland no longer has an open institution. There is no doubt in my mind that we at Millisle have shown what can be achieved when one attempts to establish a humane regime that treats both staff and inmates as human beings. We have not set out to rehabilitate inmates as such an aim is based on myth and wishful thinking, we have tried to show that imprisonment need not be a totally negative experience. It is a matter for regret that our Service has convinced itself, by listening to its own propaganda, that we have the most progressive regimes in Western Europe. Such a position stifles effective thinking and action - we have not established progressive regimes, we have arrived at a situation accidentally that can be interpreted, by the unwise and foolish, as progressive but in fact is as penal and negative as it always was. Our Service is bankrupt of ideas and vocabulary and there is little light at the end of the tunnel.		

7. Rota Reports - These were read from Mr. Carson, Mr. Patten and Mr. Donaldson. Mrs. Greeves apologised that family circumstances had prevented her from visiting. Two main points of discussion arose -

(1) Mr. Donaldson's concern that the culinary nicities he felt desirable and not being practiced in the closed section was echoed by some members. Miss Orr explained that the equipment was there and it was largely up to boys to use it.

(2) Mr. Patten felt there was a need for tea to be provided for visitors in the closed section. Miss Orr outlined the problems here, but members urged that the Governor be asked to look at this point again.

8. The following members will carry out rota visits in January -
Open Section Mr. O'Driscoll and Mr. Gault.
Closed Section Miss Berner and Mr. Coey.

9. Governors Monthly Review - The Deputy Governor returned the following numbers - Open Section - 83. Closed Section - 60. Outside Hospital - 2. Total - 145. There were 6 absconders.

There had been 2 absconders since Christmas and 2 boys had failed to return from parole. One boy had since been recaptured. Two brothers - - had returned early from parole at their own request. These boys would present an accommodation problem on release.

10. Correspondence - There was none outstanding.

11. General - There being no further business the meeting was closed.

12. The next meeting will be at 2.45 p.m., on 4.2.1980.

Secretary.

Submitted.

Governor.

N.I. Office,
Dundonald House,
Belfast BT4 3SU.

Absconding

36. The open section did not have any physical barriers to prevent a trainee from absconding. When a young person absconded, staff searched the immediate area of the Borstal; if this was unsuccessful, the police were notified and they took over. A returned absconder would be interviewed by an assistant governor. An absconder would face formal disciplinary proceedings involving adjudication by the Visiting Committee. This Committee would decide whether or not a young person was guilty of an offence and if guilty, the sanction which should apply. Such sanctions could have included corporal punishment or loss of grade or privileges. Absconding episodes were recorded in the Governor's Journal.

37. From the records available, it can be seen that absconds or attempted absconds from the open section were a regular occurrence. There were no absconds from the closed section.

38. On return from absconding, the Assistant Governor would have interviewed the young person to find out why he had absconded, where he had gone and what he had done. The level of absconding gradually reduced so strategies in place to manage the issue would appear to have been effective. For example, there was a spike of 38 absconding episodes in 1975 (Exhibit 5)[6] with a steady decrease thereafter down to five in 1979 (Exhibit 2)[7].

Corporal Punishment

39. The cane could be awarded for absconding or attempting to abscond and a range of other serious offences, such as an assault on a member of staff. Its application

[6] Exhibit 5 - Report on the Administration of the Prison Service 1972 – 1976, Table 14, page 63.
[7] Exhibit 2 - Report on the Administration of the Prison Service 1979, Table 16, page 54.

The Governor, whilst accepting the value of Mr. Cauls discourse questioned the hypothesis that treatment and training programmes could bring about behavioural changes in the trainees.

All members agreed that this regime reflected well on the methods and personal influence of the Governor.

8. The following members will visit in March -

Open Section Mr. Brown and Mr. Eves.
Closed Section Mr. Quinliven, Mrs. Price, Mr. Carson.

9. In his monthly review the Governor returned numbers as follows:-

Open - 95. Closed - 45. Total - 150.
There were 3 absconders still at large.

The Lisnevin study group had paid one visit and the Governors impression was that the closed section would be their most likely objective.

This aroused further discussion on the futility members feel on this issue.

10. Correspondence - A reply had been received from Mr. Barry to the Chairmans letter on Lisnevin. This was discussed but the Committee felt that no further correspondence or debate was necessary unless firm propositions were framed by the membership.

11. There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 4.40 p.m.

Secretary.

Submitted.

R. Wilson (M&D)
for Governor.

N.I. Office,
Dundonald House.
Belfast BT4 3SU.

TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS BRANCH 1
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12 MAR 1980
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