
HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE INQUIRY

being heard before:

SIR ANTHONY HART (Chairman)

MR DAVID LANE

MS GERALDINE DOHERTY

held at

Banbridge Court House

Banbridge

on Thursday, 10th September 2015

commencing at 10.00 am

(Day 141)

MS CHRISTINE SMITH, QC and MR JOSEPH AIKEN appeared as
Counsel to the Inquiry.

1 Thursday, 10th September 2015

2 (10.00 am)

3 CHAIRMAN: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. As always,
4 can I remind everyone to ensure that they have turned
5 off their mobile phone or at least placed it on
6 "Silent"/"Vibrate", and again remind you that no
7 photography is permitted either here in the chamber or
8 anywhere on the Inquiry premises.

9 Yes, Ms Smith.

10 MS SMITH: Chairman, before I start this morning there is
11 an appearance to be announced for SPT5.

12 CHAIRMAN: Yes.

13 MR FOSTER: Mr Chairman, I appear on behalf of SPT5
14 instructed by MacDermott McGurk Solicitors in Derry.

15 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

16 WITNESS HIA219 (called)

17 MS SMITH: Chairman, Panel Members, ladies and gentlemen,
18 our first today is HIA219. HIA219 is "HIA219". HIA219
19 has given evidence before on Day 65 of the Inquiry. On
20 that occasion he was sworn and he waived his anonymity
21 and I have confirmed with him this morning that you are
22 quite happy for your name to go into the public domain,
23 HIA219. Isn't that right?

24 **A. That's right, yes.**

25 CHAIRMAN: There is need for him to be sworn or make

1 affirmation again.

2 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

3 MS SMITH: On the last day, as I said, he gave evidence the
4 transcript for that can be found at 40213 to 40265.

5 HIA219's witness statement is SPT139 to 149.

6 The De La Salle Order's response is at 384 to 386
7 and at 748.

8 There is a Health & Social Care Board response with
9 Social Services material. The response at 614 to 629
10 and the material is at 73119 to 73208.

11 There is a response statement from the Department of
12 Justice, which is at SPT1425 to 1432, and there is
13 a bundle of Department of Justice material at 47848 to
14 48077.

15 There is also police material at several places.

16 CHAIRMAN: Go more slowly, please.

17 MS SMITH: Sorry. There is police material, first of all,
18 at 25797 to 25817; there is material at 26126 to 26132;
19 further material at 25540 to 25796; and 25286 to 26293;
20 and at 24950 to 25201; 25202 to 25208.

21 I believe I have actually inadvertently given the
22 transcript of HIA219's brother's evidence. HIA219's
23 evidence can be found in the transcript at 40265 to
24 40305.

25 Now, HIA219, as we explained, you are already sworn

1 and you gave evidence on the last time you came to the
2 Inquiry, which was in November of last year, and at that
3 time we spoke about your time in Rubane. Now I am not
4 going to go over any of that, and I have made the Panel
5 aware of a couple of issues you have when you looked
6 over the transcript of what you said, and they are well
7 aware of the points that you want to make. So I am not
8 going to go over that, because today we are here to
9 concentrate about you, your time in St. Patrick's
10 Training School.

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. Now paragraph 2 of your statement you had said that you
13 were taken from St. Pat's to Rubane because you were
14 absconding from St. Pat's, and then after you were in
15 Rubane for a period of time you went back to St. Pat's?

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. You recall, because I know you read over the
18 transcripts, that I showed you documents on the last day
19 which suggested that that was not, in fact, what
20 happened.

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. What, in fact, happened was you and your brother were
23 taken, first of all, to Rubane. You were there for
24 a while and, as you say, were absconding from there and
25 then went into St. Pat's.

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. And I have also advised you this morning that we have
3 received even further documentation to confirm that
4 sequence of events, and the records that we have got
5 suggest that you went to Rubane on .
6 You went there on a Fit Person Order, and you were
7 removed from there to St. Pat's on a Place of Safety
8 Order for , which can be seen -- I don't
9 think -- because you now accept, having spoken to me,
10 that you may well have made a genuine mistake, because
11 you know there was -- there was a period of time when
12 you came out of St. Pat's --

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. -- before going back in again. Isn't that right?

15 **A. There was a break in -- sorry -- there was a break in**
16 **it, like you said, and I could be getting confused about**
17 **that, but it's like I say, Christine. It doesn't matter**
18 **whether I got that wrong. It is about the abuse we**
19 **suffered. So that's totally irrelevant to me.**

20 Q. But just so that I can let the Panel know what the
21 sequence was --

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. -- of events, and I am going to refer them to pages, but
24 I am not going to open them, because you do accept you
25 probably got the sequence wrong?

1 **A. Wrong, yes.**

2 Q. If we look -- we don't need to look at it, but at 47853
3 to 47855 it shows that on you went
4 into St. Pat's on a Place of Safety Order and then there
5 was a Training School Order made the following month on
6 , and that was as a result of you and
7 your brother absconding from Rubane and being committed
8 for taking and driving away a vehicle, and that was at
9 Belfast Juvenile Court that that happened.

10 It then appears that you were licensed to return to
11 on , and you were then
12 subsequently sent to prison on , and from
13 there you were reprimanded back to St. Pat's on
14 for a period before going back to prison on
15 , and then on to borstal on 2... --

16 CHAIRMAN: Go a bit more slowly, please.

17 MS SMITH: Sorry. Sorry.

18 CHAIRMAN: Just take us through those dates again. You were
19 licensed to on --

20 MS SMITH: Yes.

21 CHAIRMAN: -- ?

22 MS SMITH: And then --

23 CHAIRMAN: And when back to St. Pat's?

24 MS SMITH: they went to prison briefly before

25 being remanded back to St. Pat's on , and

1

.

2

CHAIRMAN: I understand that. So about months

3

altogether.

4

MS SMITH: Ultimately on you went back to

5

at that time. Sorry. You went to

6

borstal, and then you went back to

7

a year later on .

8

Again just for the benefit of the Panel there are

9

documents that show this course of events at SPT47852,

10

47854 and 47878.

11

Now, HIA219, as I said, paragraphs 3 to 16 of your

12

statement, which starts at 139, covers what you told us

13

the last day about the time that you and your brother

14

spent at Rubane in Kircubbin. As I have indicated to

15

you, I have made the Panel fully aware of the issues

16

that you have about some of the evidence that you gave

17

us the last day.

18

If we go to paragraph 17 of your statement, which is

19

where you start to talk about your time in St. Patrick's

20

Training School, and that's at page 144, please -- sorry

21

-- paragraph 18, 144, the top there, you say there that

22

you were placed in St. Patrick's along with your brother

23

when you were . You say:

24

"It was good to start with. They looked after you

25

and you were treated properly. You were all in single

1 rooms along a long landing. There were doors across
2 from each other but just all single rooms."

3 Your brother's room was just a few doors away from
4 your own. You say:

5 "In the mornings you were being woken up and the
6 Brothers opened your door, gave you a call or a shake or
7 something like that."

8 You thought you were woken about 6 o'clock, but when
9 I pointed out that the Order said you would never have
10 been wakened that early, you would accept that?

11 **A. I would accept that, yes.**

12 Q. "... and sometimes they turned the radio on really loud
13 at the top of the landing to wake the boys up."

14 **A. Uh-huh.**

15 Q. Paragraph 19 you go on to tell us what it is that you
16 are complaining about about your time in St. Pat's and
17 you say the first thing that happened to you is when you
18 were lying in bed and you weren't on your side. You
19 were facing up. A Brother walked into the room. He
20 came in you say to waken you that morning?

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. He put his hands on your genitals and shook you
23 and walked out. You say that went on for about a week.
24 It was the same thing with the same Brother. You don't
25 know his name, but you describe him as in his with

1 a . He wore ,
2 had hair, which was , and you think he
3 was about ' " or ". Then that stopped as the Brother
4 changed.

5 So if I am right in understanding what you are
6 saying, there were different Brothers on duty at
7 different times?

8 **A. That's right, yes.**

9 Q. Then when he came on duty again, it started. Then he
10 progressed to putting his hands under the blankets and
11 sheets. That lasted for a couple of minutes. It
12 carried on where he was putting his hand down your
13 underpants, actually touching you. You say you didn't
14 know what was going on. You think you were given
15 pyjamas, but not many boys wore them, because it was
16 very warm in the building. You didn't wear any pyjamas.

17 In paragraph 20 you go on to describe how
18 a different Brother, who you say had , came on
19 duty, and he also started touching you under the sheets.
20 That lasted for about a week, and then he progressed
21 from fondling to abusing you in the morning to abusing
22 you at night. That happened when he was doing his
23 rounds about 9 o'clock to tell you to put lights out.
24 He started coming into your room. He masturbated you
25 and then lifted up his robe and tucked it in round his

1 waist and started to masturbate himself at the same time
2 as masturbating you. He ejaculated all over you and
3 then left the room. You say that none of the Brothers
4 wore anything below their robes. They weren't wearing
5 trousers or anything like that?

6 **A. No. These two particular Brothers didn't. You know,**
7 **I am not saying other Brothers walked around naked under**
8 **their robes. I am just saying that these two --**

9 Q. These two did?

10 **A. -- these two when they were coming round at night times**
11 **didn't.**

12 Q. So you say that the first Brother who you named in
13 paragraph 19, he then started to abuse you at night-time
14 as well, coming in, and you describe there how things
15 went on for a while before they progressed, and you
16 describe in paragraph 22 whereby -- I am not going to go
17 into the details -- but essentially the second Brother
18 then started to perform oral sex on you. He tried to
19 get you to do the same. He then got into the bed and
20 had anal sex with you and you describe how you felt he
21 was able to --

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. -- carry out that act.

24 Paragraph -- sorry. I should say that De La Salle,
25 as you know, and from the last time you gave evidence

1 they gave us a response statement on things that you
2 have said in your statement. They have said that there
3 was night supervision by lay staff and not by the
4 Brothers, although the Brothers might have helped out,
5 and you would accept that there were nightwatchmen. Is
6 that right, HIA219?

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. And that -- but you say that this was after lights out
9 that these Brothers came into your room?

10 **A. Yes, yes.**

11 Q. And you also I think said that -- I was asking you --
12 you describe there how you were in the main training
13 school and they were all individual rooms at this stage.
14 You also recall that at one stage you and your brother
15 were separated and he was put in a chalet?

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. And you said that that was to keep you apart, because
18 the two of you kept absconding together. There were no
19 dormitories in the main training school at this time.
20 They were all single rooms.

21 **A. No, they were all single rooms.**

22 Q. As you say, you might be wrong about the details about
23 being wakened up at 6 o'clock in the morning.

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. But you weren't wrong about what you say was done to

1 the police -- and I am not going to call this up, but it
2 is at SPT25685 -- you told the police that he was
3 abusing you as well as Brothers. You don't remember
4 telling the police that?

5 **A. I don't -- I can't remember that.**

6 Q. Then in paragraph 25 you go on to talk about another
7 incident that occurred. You say that one day you were
8 called to the storeroom by the Brother with the
9 to be fitted for a pin-stripe suit:

10 "... which is what we wore. He was measuring me for
11 the suit and he said to me, 'Right. You need to strip
12 off'."

13 You didn't think there was anything inappropriate
14 about that. You stood in your vest and underpants and
15 he said that you had to take your underpants off as well
16 because he had to measure from your groin to your ankles
17 for the suit to fit properly, and as he was measuring
18 you, he was touching your genitals.

19 You then had to go in for another measurement for
20 jeans or something like that and he tried the same
21 thing.

22 "He told me to strip off and he was trying to
23 masturbate me."

24 You say that a boy who you name here and is given
25 the reference SPT5 -- I am just going to use the first

1 name, SPT5, but I remind everybody that even though you
2 have waived your anonymity, HIA219, the names of other
3 people are not to be used outside of this chamber. You
4 say:

5 "He was an older boy and he was there at the same
6 time", I think that should be, "that this was happening.
7 He sat at the back having a cup of tea. I said to the
8 Brother, 'Hang on a minute. I don't want you to be
9 doing that'. Then SPT5 walked up to us to try to grab
10 hold of me, but I kicked him. Then the Brother said,
11 'Get your clothes on and go out. Your jeans will be
12 sorted at dinner time'. I ran out of the store and
13 straight into the kitchen. I opened the drawer and
14 grabbed the first thing which came into my hand, which
15 was a fork. I ran straight down to SPT5 and stabbed him
16 in the stomach with the fork. My punishment was that
17 I was not allowed to go home at weekends. The police
18 were not involved. The Brother was in St.
19 Pat's and SPT5 was a The Brother didn't come
20 near me again."

21 Your brother and you were locked in a room for a few
22 hours after this incident as punishment. You say that
23 SPT5 was taken to hospital --

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. -- because of this incident.

1 Now I am going to look at a couple of things about
2 that. First of all, you were explaining to me that the
3 room that you and your brother were taken in was what
4 could be described as a recreation room?

5 **A. That's right, yes.**

6 Q. It was down by the dining room. It was a TV room, and
7 the reason -- I was asking how your brother came to be
8 put into it with you, and you say that he heard the
9 commotion and was nearby and came to see what was
10 happening, and you were both bundled into this TV room
11 and the door was locked, and you were left there for
12 a few hours until, as you put it to me, you calmed down?

13 **A. Uh-huh.**

14 Q. Now I should say that the De La Salle Order have no
15 record of any stabbing incident in the home, and they
16 say that if there had been such an incident, that would
17 have resulted in the boy going to hospital. You say
18 that he was taken to the hospital?

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. You know that he has made a statement to the Inquiry as
21 well --

22 **A. That's right.**

23 Q. -- which is at SPT60001 to 60004, and he in his
24 statement gives some details about his name in
25 St. Patrick's, but at paragraph 10 of the statement he

1 deals with the allegations that you made. He says that
2 he didn't know you or your brother

3

4

5

6 He says he never worked in the and doesn't
7 even remember there being a other than when he
8 was first admitted and had to go and pick up his
9 clothes. He says the housemaster, if he recalls
10 correctly, always took the order of his new clothes if
11 they were needed, and he doesn't remember any of pupils
12 or indeed staff wearing suits. He doesn't recall being
13 measured or being present or ever hearing of anyone
14 being measured for a pin-stripe suit, and said that
15 pupils would have had jeans and shirts on from his
16 memory. He will state that he would only have started
17 to drink tea when he was in his 20s and would have drunk
18 milk before that.

19 He doesn't remember any Brother with and
20 he denies that he was present or participated in any
21 alleged sexual activity as you have described, and he
22 said that he knows that you spoke to the police as well
23 about this and named him in the police interview that
24 you had, and he said that he denies both what you say in
25 your Inquiry statement and what you said to the police.

1 He said no incidents ever occurred. He says he was
2 never abused by anyone and did not assist or participate
3 with a Brother in a sexual act against you.

4 He also goes on to say that he was never stabbed by
5 you, and he is willing to undergo a physical examination
6 if so required, because you do think that --

7 **A. I believe that -- I mean, it was a fork. I don't know**
8 **how deep it went in or what not, but I would have**
9 **thought that would have left some sort of a mark on him.**
10 **So I can't understand what -- I mean, if he -- maybe it**
11 **didn't, but I know for a fact that I stabbed the bloke.**
12 **Do you know what I mean? And the De La Salle have no**
13 **records of this, no records. How appropriate for the De**
14 **La Salle Order to lose records like that!**

15 Q. Well, you say -- you said in your statement to us --

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. -- he was taken to hospital?

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. That's your memory --

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. -- of what happened?

22 You go on in paragraph 26 here to talk about
23 a camping trip. You say that:

24 "Civilian workers came into St. Pat's to help out.

25 They were called housemasters."

1 There is a man who you give a description of in your
2 statement, and you see we have blacked that out, because
3 that description might identify that person. As I have
4 explained to you, we try to protect everybody's identity
5 in the Inquiry.

6 "He went camping with us in a big tent. All the
7 boys were in rows",

8 and your brother was beside yours. The civilian
9 worker was on the other side of you.

10 "On our first night ...",

11 you woke up and he was rubbing himself up against
12 your back. He was under your blankets naked and he had
13 an erection and had his arms around you.

14 "When I realised what he was doing, I got straight
15 out of my blankets and jumped in beside [your] brother.
16 It didn't go any further than touching, because I moved,
17 but it was inappropriate and he shouldn't have done it.
18 He knew what he was doing."

19 You say:

20 "The man lived in a dormitory and would have been
21 around the association and the snooker room ..."

22 I think that's the association room you are talking
23 about?

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. "... TV room and places like that."

1 taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital because of
2 a problem. Now we talked about this earlier and

3 --

4 **A.** .

5 **Q.** --

6

7 **A.** .

8 **Q.** Isn't that right, HIA219? The records suggest that the
9 De La Salle staff tried very hard --

10 **A.** **Uh-huh.**

11 **Q.** -- to help you with that.

12 **A.** **Yes.**

13 **Q.** I am not going to open these records. The Panel Members
14 are aware of them. They are at SPT47883 to 47892 and
15 there are further records at 47926 to 47939. They
16 clearly show that the level of care that you were given
17 to try to deal with this issue --

18 **A.** **Uh-huh.**

19 **Q.** -- included one-to-one care --

20 **A.** **That's right, yes.**

21 **Q.** -- and one-to-one supervision to try to help you.

22 **A.** **Yes.**

23 **Q.** You accept that they --

24 **A.** **Yes.**

25 **Q.** -- did do that for you?

1 **A. They did, yes.**

2 Q. But what you told me was that you were deliberately
3 making the problem worse in an attempt to try to keep
4 these two Brothers away from you?

5 **A. That's right, yes.**

6 Q. In paragraph 30 you go on to talk about how you and your
7 brother started to self-harm so that you wouldn't be
8 abused. You knew it would be okay in the hospital wing,
9 you say, which was staffed by nuns.

10 **A. Uh-huh.**

11 Q. You describe how you self-harmed. You say you did it
12 about five or six times. You particularly remember
13 an incident where you cut the -- your leg and you were
14 taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital. You told them
15 that you caught it on something out in the yard. Now
16 I have said so far the Inquiry certainly has seen no
17 medical evidence to support this. We haven't seen any
18 records --

19 **A. I can show yous the scar.**

20 Q. You have got the scar on your leg?

21 **A. I have got the scar on my leg.**

22 Q. Paragraph 31 you go on to talk about the physical
23 punishment in St. Pat's. You say that it involved the
24 strap.

25 "If they deemed you did something wrong, you were

1 given the strap. You were hit with the strap on your
2 arm and legs by different Brothers depending who was on
3 duty."

4 I was asking if you remembered any of the Brothers,
5 and you talked about one. You say you thought he might
6 have been an ?

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. But he was somebody high up in St. Pat's, and you do
9 remember being sent to effectively the
10 office to be punished by the strap?

11 **A. That's right, yes.**

12 Q. You remember that, but in addition to that, there were
13 other times that you would have been strapped --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- when it wasn't being sent to the office.
16 Is that right?

17 **A. That's right, yes.**

18 Q. You do go on to say that apart from the two Brothers who
19 abused you there were others in the home who were
20 fantastic --

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. -- and would do everything and anything for you and
23 treated you with respect. I am assuming you would
24 include in that those who tried to help you with the
25 problem that you had.

1 **A. That's right, yes.**

2 Q. You say you and your brother never went into details
3 with each other about what was happening, but you knew
4 what was going on, just accepted it and got on with it.

5 We talked on the last occasion and this morning
6 before you came into the chamber about the fact that you
7 made several police statements --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- and you didn't recall making these when we spoke the
10 last day and you still --

11 **A. No, I don't.**

12 Q. -- have no memory of the fact you spoke to police in
13 when you were in Millisle, or on 20th July 1995, or
14 on 6th February 1996, and on those occasions -- each of
15 those occasions you were talking about what happened in
16 Rubane.

17 You did, however, speak in the month of March on
18 three occasions to police .

19 **A. Uh-huh.**

20 Q. I am not going to go over those what we call -- the
21 lawyers call an ABE interview --

22 **A. Uh-huh.**

23 Q. -- where the police officers chatted to you and the
24 whole thing was tape-recorded, and the transcript of
25 that is at SPT25681 to 25792, and it was -- that was the

1 first time that you started to speak to the police about
2 what had happened to you in St. Pat's.

3 **A. That's right, yes.**

4 Q. In your statement what happened to you after you left
5 the various institutions is recorded there and you
6 account for your life afterwards in paragraphs 35 to 37,
7 and again I am not going to go into the details of that,
8 HIA219, but on the last occasion I asked you the
9 question that we ask everybody, which was about Inquiry
10 recommendations.

11 **A. Uh-huh.**

12 Q. It is there in the transcript what you said on that
13 occasion. What you told me this morning is that you
14 felt you needed to come forward, but you felt that you
15 didn't -- you had nothing to gain by doing so and that
16 was not your reason for coming to the Inquiry.

17 **A. No. I will come to the Inquiry to tell the truth**
18 **because of what happened. I have got no -- this Inquiry**
19 **has destroyed my life, and it can't finish quick enough,**
20 **because I want to get away from it. Like I say, I come**
21 **to the Inquiry not to try and deceive anybody or lie.**
22 **I come here only to tell the truth, which I have done up**
23 **to now. I haven't accused anybody of abusing me. Who**
24 **is the two people that represents De La Salle Order**
25 **here? Can I speak to them?**

1 Q. Well, if you just speak to them, they will hear what you
2 say.

3 A. I come to the Inquiry to tell the truth. I didn't have
4 information on the people that abused me. I gave
5 a description of those people, a good description, and
6 the De La Salle representatives know who these are.
7 Every single person that I have accused of abusing me
8 has been --

9 Q. Take your time, HIA219. Just take your time. Do you
10 need to take a break? We are really quite near the end.

11 A. I am all right. I come to tell the truth. I have given
12 descriptions of the Brothers who abused me, who you all
13 know, and the representatives, whoever they are, of the
14 De La Salle Order. Every single person I have accused
15 of abusing me have been found guilty in a court of law
16 not once, not twice, not two times, not three times.
17 They have been convicted for abusing other children.
18 I am not the liar here.

19 De La Salle Order have come to this Inquiry and all
20 they have done since they have come to the Inquiry --
21 every single transcript I have read that's come through
22 this Inquiry, not one of those bastards have sat in this
23 chair and admitted what they've done. They have sent
24 an apology, which I don't accept. If they came here and
25 put their hands up to the abuse that they made us

1 suffer, I would accept the apology, because I would
2 understand maybe they were genuinely sorry for what they
3 done to children like us. I don't accept the apology
4 while the De La Salle are coming to this Inquiry and
5 deliberately telling lies and making statements that
6 aren't true, and I will prove that if it's the last
7 thing I do. When this Inquiry is over and everything is
8 done, if the De La Salle Order think --

9 Q. HIA219, I see that you are getting --

10 A. If the De La Salle Order think I am living the rest of
11 my life like I am now, it's not happening. I will
12 fucking tell the press everything. I will give the
13 names of the people that abused me. They don't deserve
14 to be protected. I understand what's going on here, but
15 I am not living the rest of my life protecting people
16 that completely fucking destroyed my life. It's not
17 going to happen, and I don't accept that apology,
18 because it's not true. If the De La Salle Order were
19 going to be truthful about what happened to children in
20 institutions, I would accept the apology. The De La
21 Salle Order have denied every single allegation that has
22 been put to them to this Inquiry, and when they're going
23 to sit here and tell lies and make people like me suffer
24 even more because they can't tell the truth, I have got
25 a problem with that. I haven't come to the Inquiry to

1 **lie. I come here reluctantly, as you know, to tell the**
2 **truth, and as long as I can do that, that's all that**
3 **matters.**

4 Q. Well, HIA219, I can see that you are upset. There's
5 nothing else that I want to ask you. I hope that you
6 have had the opportunity to say all you want to say
7 about your time in St. Patrick's, and the Panel Members
8 may have some questions for you.

9 **A. Don't get -- I am sorry for getting upset. That just --**
10 **I haven't been able to take medication --**

11 Q. Don't worry. You don't have to apologise.

12 **A. -- because of the De La Salle Order's lies, because the**
13 **last time things went over my head at once.**

14 Q. We appreciate it is difficult, HIA219. We do appreciate
15 it is difficult, and the Panel Members may have some
16 questions for you.

17 CHAIRMAN: HIA219, I am sure you be relieved to hear we
18 don't have any questions for you. It is the second time
19 you have come to speak to us. We are very grateful to
20 you for doing so, because we can see it has not been
21 an easy experience for you.

22 **A. I am sorry, your Honour, for swearing.**

23 Q. No. You don't have to apologise. Thank you very much
24 for coming today.

25 **A. Thank you.**

1 (Witness withdrew)

2 Q. Yes. We will rise just for a short while.

3 (10.55 am)

4 (Short break)

5 (11.10 am)

6 WITNESS HIA218 (called)

7 CHAIRMAN: Mr Aiken?

8 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

9 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, good morning.

10 The next witness today is HIA218, who is "HIA218". He
11 is aware that you have just heard from his brother,
12 HIA219. HIA218 previously gave evidence to the Inquiry
13 on Day 65, when he was sworn in. That was 5th
14 November 2014, and the relevant part of the transcript
15 for HIA218's evidence of that day is at page 118 through
16 to page 169. HIA218, like his brother, waived his
17 anonymity previously and he has returned now today to
18 speak about St. Patrick's.

19 If we can bring up on --

20 CHAIRMAN: Does he wish to continue to waive his anonymity?

21 **A. Yes, I do, yes.**

22 MR AIKEN: If we bring up on screen, please, HIA218's
23 witness statement at 132, HIA218, I am just going to get
24 you to look at the one on the screen and confirm that
25 that is your witness statement still appearing. You

1 will recognise the language, save for the black marks?

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. And if we look at the last page at 138, you will
4 recognise the last page of your --

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. -- witness statement, and you have signed that, and you
7 adopted it as your evidence previously, and you do that
8 today in respect of St. Patrick's?

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. It is paragraphs 11 to 18 of HIA218's witness statement
11 where he talks about St. Patrick's Training School and
12 his experiences there. That runs from page 135 to 137.

13 HIA218 is aware, Members of the Panel, that the
14 Inquiry has obtained a lot of documentation about his
15 progress through initially care with --

16 **A. Uh-huh.**

17 Q. -- and then movement to Rubane, then to St. Patrick's
18 and then to borstal and then to the Young Offenders
19 Centre. I explained to him that I am not going to open
20 all or very much of that material, but I will give the
21 Panel the references to that which is relevant to the
22 evidence about St. Patrick's. So, HIA218, just bear
23 with me for a short while I do that.

24 HIA218 first spoke to the police on .

25 That police statement can be found at 2493. He was

1 actually in St. Patrick's at the time he made that
2 statement. He was talking about Rubane at that stage.
3 If we look at 2493, please. If we just take that down
4 for a moment, please. If you bear with me, Members of
5 the Panel, I will come back to that statement.

6 You spoke to the police again then, HIA218, on 20th
7 July 1995. If we can look at 25644, please, you are
8 explaining at this stage, HIA218, you are in 1995,
9 and you say then about when you were , you were put
10 into St. Patrick's.

11 "I was there for about months. The only thing
12 that happened to me while I was there was one night
13 I was in bed in the dormitory -- in the dorm. It was
14 the weekend and there was only myself and this other
15 bloke. I think his name was SPT5."

16 We will talk a little bit more about that from our
17 earlier conversation this morning.

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. "I was awakened and found he had my penis in his mouth.
20 I jumped out of bed and gave him a hiding. One of the
21 Brothers came running up because he had heard" -- if we
22 scroll down, please -- "he had heard the racket. When
23 I told him what had happened, he told me I was only
24 dreaming. As punishment I lost my pocket money for two
25 or three weeks and Was moved to a single room in another

1 part of the building."

2 Then you go on to talk about your time in Rubane.

3 At that stage, HIA218, you were talking about a boy --

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. -- that you believed was called SPT5 --

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. -- and you said, "I think his name" --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- "was SPT5".

10 **A. Uh-huh.**

11 Q. Obviously none of the names we use in here are to be
12 repeated beyond the chamber --

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. -- whether you have waived your anonymity or not.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. You have then repeated that name --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- to the police in 2010, as we will come to see, and
19 then to the Inquiry.

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. I was saying to you that we have been able to track this
22 individual down.

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. He was in the home --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- around your time. He was --

2 A. Uh-huh.

3 Q. -- slightly less than a year older than you --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- but the description you give of him --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. -- was of a --

8 A. , yes.

9 Q. -- boy --

10 A. Uh-huh.

11 Q. -- and I was explaining to you that I have seen
12 a photograph of SPT5 --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- and he was a --

15 A. Yes. Quite fit, yes.

16 Q. -- and, the way my mother might have used to describe
17 me, a thoroughbred, thin as -- thin as a rake.

18 A. Yes. Uh-huh.

19 Q. So he wasn't a -- boy, and on reflection you
20 were concerned --

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. -- that perhaps you had got the surname wrong.

23 A. Like I say, it's -- whenever I was in St. Pat's --
24 right -- the name SPT5 came straight to my head, because
25 I knew SPT5. I came to this Inquiry --

1 Q. Take your time, HIA218. I think the point you were
2 making to me --

3 A. -- to tell the truth.

4 Q. Yes. The point you were making to me earlier --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- is that you didn't want anybody --

7 A. And I'm not --

8 Q. -- to be branded --

9 A. -- I'm not going to sit here and tarnish the name of
10 an innocent man. Right? If the surname's wrong, if
11 they can -- I don't know who can check it, but it would
12 be easy to check, because, like I said, there's got to
13 be a report when he got stabbed. Yes? So there's got
14 to be -- there's got to be evidence on that, and like
15 I say, if this man hasn't been stabbed and there's no
16 evidence of going to see a doctor, or of a police
17 report, or if nothing's been filed like that, like
18 I say, I came here to tell the truth and I'm not going
19 to sit here and tarnish a man's name if the surname is
20 wrong.

21 Q. The point you are making, HIA218 --

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. -- is that what you remembered in 1995 was this incident
24 happening?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. You believe it was a boy called [name redacted].

2 A. [Name redacted], yes.

3 Q. There was a boy called SPT5 --

4 A. Exactly.

5 Q. -- but you may have got the name of the person --

6 A. Exactly. If I have done that, like I said, I came here
7 to tell the truth, and I'm not going to mention the
8 name. If the surname is wrong, I'm not going to sit
9 here and tarnish an innocent man's name, but if it can
10 be checked, because there's got to be medical evidence
11 when someone gets stabbed. All right, it was with
12 a fork, but he would have had to go and see the doctor
13 or something, and if there can be -- that record can be
14 checked, then you will get the name of -- the surname.
15 Like I say, I want to make that clear.

16 Q. Yes, and the chronology of this, HIA218 --

17 A. Yes, yes.

18 Q. -- was that you go on to speak about Rubane then.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. This is what you say about St. Patrick's --

21 A. Uh-huh.

22 Q. -- and you go on to talk about Rubane. Then you make
23 another statement to the police on 6th February 1996.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. That's at 25646. We don't need to bring that up. That

1 talks more about Rubane --

2 **A. Uh-huh.**

3 Q. -- and doesn't talk any further about St. Patrick's.

4 You explain at the start of that statement why you

5 didn't include everything in the '95 statement --

6 **A. Yes.**

Then it is not until 2010 --

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. -- when you give the video interview --

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. -- to the police --

15 **A. Yes, yes.**

16 Q. -- when you talk about -- the interview, Members of the
17 Panel, runs from 25652 through to 25680. Again you talk
18 about what SPT5 did --

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. -- or [name redacted], if we use that word --

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. -- for the person --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. -- or what that boy did by oral sex.

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. And then -- but you also then go on to talk about
2 Brothers getting into bed with you.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. You mention -- although you don't know the names of any
5 of the Brothers --

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. -- when you are talking to the police, you say five
8 Brothers were involved in sexually abusing you every
9 other night.

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. You describe --

12 **A. Uh-huh.**

13 Q. -- as you've mentioned to the Inquiry, as we'll come to
14 see, that ranging from masturbation through to oral sex
15 through to anal rape?

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. And the Panel have that material --

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. -- and they're able to read that statement. You do
20 mention in the 2010 police statement that your brother
21 stabbed --

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. -- the boy you believed was SPT5 --

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. -- with a fork.

1 **A. Uh-huh.**

2 Q. Just bear with me while I give the Panel the rest of the
3 references, but I know you wanted to clarify that right
4 away.

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. The criminal record for HIA218 that allows the
7 chronology to be understood of the movements through to
8 St. Patrick's and beyond St. Patrick's runs from 25818
9 to 25840, and then the series of response statements
10 which produced the material that I have discussed with
11 HIA218 runs -- the De La Salle response is at 382, with
12 an addendum response at 736.

13 The Health & Social Care Board response is at 592 to
14 594, with exhibits from 595 to 613.

15 Then the Department of Justice response is at 1420
16 through to 1421, with exhibits from 1422 to 1424.

17 Then the Department of Justice material, HIA218, as
18 I was explaining to you, the personal file from
19 St. Patrick's ended up held by the present Department of
20 Justice.

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. They produced that file to the Inquiry. It is at 47654
23 to 47847.

24 Then, as I said to you, we managed to track down
25 SPT5.

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. He has made a statement to the Inquiry, which is at
3 60001 to 60003. In addition to pointing out --

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. -- that he was not a kid in St. Patrick's,
6 he also denied knowing you, or being involved in
7 sexually interfering with anyone, and also that he had
8 never been stabbed by anyone with a fork. So if all of
9 that is right, then it may well be it's a different
10 person.

11 **A. Like, if it's right or if -- like I say, because of**
12 **[name redacted] -- yes -- like -- right. We have been**
13 **told that St. Patrick's have gave a lot of records**
14 **forward -- yes -- but I've just had a discussion with my**
15 **brother and all the records haven't been given forward,**
16 **because there was no mention of me and HIA219**
17 **self-harming in St. Pat's. There was no mention of**
18 **whenever had to come up to St. Pat's**
19 **because me and my brother --**

20 Q. Just --

21 **A. -- because we OD'd. Yes? I have got a problem, like**
22 **I said, with -- yes, the records have been brought**
23 **forward and you've got them, but not all the records are**
24 **here.**

25 Q. Well, HIA218, in fairness to -- it is not the De La

1 Salle Order that have the records. It is the Department
2 of Justice, and they have produced records that include
3 that type of material that you are talking about.

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. But it is not necessary for us to go into the medical
6 records that relate to you and those type of things.

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. And it is not necessary for the Panel to -- for us to go
9 into those in public.

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. But they are there and, for instance, you and I were
12 discussing --

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. -- a particular medical problem --

15 **A. Yes, of course.**

16 Q. -- of your brother.

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. It was originally not clear whether it was you or him.

19 **A. Uh-huh.**

20 Q. And the work that was gone into to try and help that.

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. And the Panel are aware of that reference, which is at
23 47882 to 47892. There are diaries that are available
24 that show you going for medical care to the nurse --

25 **A. Uh-huh, yes.**

1 Q. -- and that type of interaction.

2 HIA218, as you know, there is a long chronology, and
3 I said to you I am not going to go into that in any
4 detail --

5 **A. No. Yes.**

6 Q. -- but the sequence of events are that you and your
7 brother were involved in a lot of burglaries?

8 **A. Uh-huh.**

9 Q. And your was not able to look after you?

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. And the Eastern Health & Social Services Board placed
12 you in Rubane?

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. And you and your brother went to Rubane. We were
15 talking as a -year-old you and your brother were
16 involved in arson at your school --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- and thefts from chapels and warehouses --

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. -- and an extreme level of difficulty that your
21 couldn't cope with?

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. And you were placed then in Rubane between

24 --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- when you were , until . So you
2 were there for about months?

3 **A. Uh-huh.**

4 Q. And the same pattern --

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. -- of behaviour, as you know, continued. You would run
7 away back to your , but it would also include then
8 --

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. -- burglaries and break-ins and abscondings.

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. That then would result in you being picked up and
13 brought back to Rubane, but eventually the Eastern
14 Health & Social Services Board rather than the De La
15 Salle Order went back to court to say, "It is not
16 working in Rubane", because of the running away and the
17 criminality --

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. -- and they asked the court to send you to St.
20 Patrick's.

21 **A. Uh-huh.**

22 Q. You went to St. Patrick's on . I was
23 discussing with you that you were there essentially
24 until the , and during that months --

25 **A. Yes.**

1 Q. -- there continued to be a lot of absconding --

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. -- and break-ins that were taking place and taking and
4 driving away. I was also drawing to your attention
5 that the records show the Brothers being very concerned
6 that some of those night-time running aways, given the
7 Troubles that were taking place, especially in West
8 Belfast, that the army and police were involved in
9 trying to recover you at times --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- and they were concerned that something much more
12 serious could happen?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And in the end, rather than it being the Brothers, the
15 sequence of offending resulted in you coming before the
16 court in , when you were

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And the psychologist who was involved in assessing you
19 and your brother concluded that training school was not
20 going to work for you and that a totally secure
21 environment was what was necessary.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. The Panel have the reference for that at 47752 through
24 to 47754, and ultimately then as the sequence of
25 offending continued that's what happened. There was

1 a period in borstal --

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. -- and then subsequently in Hydebank.

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. On each occasion I was saying to you that the records
6 show that in this -- --

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. -- even though your Training School Order was for one to
9 three years --

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. -- and that a lot of offending had occurred during the
12 time in St. Patrick's, that they still tried licensing
13 you to your , but unfortunately then, because, as
14 you know, there was a major string of offences in ,
15 , it resulted in ultimately
16 borstal --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- and then Hydebank. So it was some indication of the
19 efforts to try and --

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. -- integrate, but you appreciate at that stage you and
22 your brother were --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. --I think the layman's term is you were off the rails,
25 as it were, and unfortunately that's -- that's what took

1 place.

2 You explain to the Inquiry, if we look at
3 paragraph 12 of your statement at 135, please, this
4 occasion whenever this boy is interfering with you and
5 then you come out and one of the Brothers is there. Now
6 you are not sure who that Brother was.

7 **A. Well, I gave a description that he looked like -- a bit**
8 **like , the same height and the same kind of**
9 **face in the description that I gave.**

10 Q. Yes. This was an incident that happened in the
11 dormitory?

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. You come out of the dormitory and then he begins
14 interfering with you?

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. And then the next day you tell the head Brother and the
17 head Brother doesn't really accept what occurred. Now
18 you appreciate that's a different --

19 **A. Yes, yes.**

20 Q. -- sequence of events --

21 **A. Uh-huh, yes.**

22 Q. -- from the 1995 --

23 **A. To the other statement.**

24 Q. -- where you talked about the event occurring --

25 **A. Yes. Uh-huh.**

1 Q. -- with the boy and then the Brother that you come out
2 to speak to encouraging you back to bed?

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. You are saying to the Inquiry that that Brother actually
5 interfered with you as well?

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. And then it was the head Brother --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- who tried to persuade you it was just a nightmare,
10 and you lost some privileges as a result?

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. And what -- I have dealt with the identity of the boy
13 issue --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- but the Order has said to the Inquiry that the head
16 Brother at that time was BR95 --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- and while he didn't deal with approp... -- deal
19 appropriately --

20 **A. Uh-huh.**

21 Q. -- with the DL137 --

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. -- he nonetheless did take steps to deal with him when
24 abuse was made known or the suggestion of abuse was made
25 known --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- and therefore they don't accept that he would have
3 treated you differently if you had been telling him
4 about abuse, but your position is that's what happened?

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. And the -- you -- that was one incident that you talk
7 about, HIA218. The second incident that you refer to is
8 in paragraph 14 of your statement, when you explain that
9 you were moved to a single room and this time a Brother
10 would come in and masturbate and ejaculate on you --

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. -- and as a result they'd just get up and walk out.

13 **A. Walk out, yes.**

14 Q. And you've a particular recollection of this person's
15 ?

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. And they wore , and -- but you don't know
18 the person's name?

19 **A. No.**

20 Q. The Order has said that those Brothers who are still
21 alive --

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. -- there's no person they can think of that matches that
24 description --

25 **A. Matches that.**

1 Q. -- but that's your rec... -- you remember --

2 **A. If somebody's got something distinctive -- yes -- like**
3 **the way he --**

4 Q. Yes.

5 **A. -- right -- well, I can relate to that, even from the**
6 **age that I was, because it stood out. It's**
7 **a distinctive thing that you can remember, but, like**
8 **I say, whenever you're getting told that there's no such**
9 **person, you know what I mean, but --**

10 Q. That's your recollection of the particular features --

11 **A. Yes. That's --**

12 Q. -- of this person?

13 **A. Exactly.**

14 Q. And in paragraph 15 of your statement then you refer to
15 . Now you don't remember him by name --

16 **A. No.**

17 Q. -- as such, but whoever this was --

18 **A. Uh-huh.**

19 Q. -- propositioned you?

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. He never actually interfered with you --

22 **A. No.**

23 Q. -- or abused you, but he propositioned you?

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. And your belief is he wanted to do that?

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. Then there was an altercation between you about him
3 threatening you and you threatening him and you never
4 had to see him again in effect?

5 **A. No.**

6 Q. You then explain in paragraph 16 of your statement,
7 HIA218, that you were -- you say "we"; I presume that's
8 -- you're referring to you and your brother --

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. -- were sexually abused as frequently as every other
11 night at St. Patrick's.

12 **A. Uh-huh.**

13 Q. Made to perform oral and anal sex and masturbation on
14 the Brothers. I was asking you about that. So that's
15 the three gradations --

16 **A. Uh-huh.**

17 Q. -- as it were.

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. They came into your room --

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. -- for this to happen?

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. And -- but you're not sure of who the Brothers were who
24 were involved in it?

25 **A. It's not that. It's because the difficulty that me and**

1 HIA219 have is because of the type of abuse that we had.

2 Yes?

3 Q. You are all right. You just take your time. The --

4 A. I had great difficulty -- we both did -- on growing up.

5 Why were we targeted the way that we were, and I used to

6 turn round to myself and go, "It didn't happen. It

7 didn't happen", and I've suppressed a lot and I have got

8 difficulty in remembering faces and I've got -- because

9 I put it away out of me, but sometimes -- well, me

10 and HIA219 have names -- names and we've give

11 descriptions or tried to -- do you know what I mean --

12 and, like I say -- but I have got difficulty with that.

13 Q. And you were pointing out to me when we were speaking

14 earlier --

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. -- the medical research --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- and the American doctor --

19 A. Uh-huh.

20 Q. -- that victims don't always release --

21 A. No, they don't.

22 Q. -- all of the information at the beginning.

23 A. No.

24 Q. You were pointing out to me --

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. -- that that's your experience?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And you explain then in paragraph 17 of your statement
4 that you would have seen Brothers playing with
5 themselves?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And they would have watched you in the bath?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And again you don't remember --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- you just remember that happening. You don't remember
12 who was involved in it.

13 That's -- those are the memories that characterise
14 your time in St. Patrick's. You were saying to me that
15 you regard that as worse than when you went to Hydebank,
16 where there was much more physical --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- interaction with you --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- but it was more these events that stick in your mind?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And you gave as much information as you could to the
23 police in 2010 --

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. -- and then to the Inquiry. In 2010, for instance, you

1 mentioned to the police about the bathing?

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. And you identified -- you named a BR50 --

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. -- who taught you how to --

6 **A. Wash yourself.**

7 Q. -- wash yourself.

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. And you were then concerned about whether he -- you
10 don't accuse him of abusing you --

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. -- but just he was there in the bathroom --

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. -- teaching you that.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. And the -- whether there was a BR50 at the time --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- and they spoke to that BR50, and he made a -- he was
19 interviewed by the police -- I will just give the Panel
20 the reference -- in October of 2014 at 26292 to 26293,
21 and asked him about that and he explained he wasn't
22 involved in bathing boys, but it's a Brother for you you
23 remember --

24 **A. Yes, yes.**

25 Q. -- teaching you how to wash yourself --

1 **A. Uh-huh.**

2 Q. -- in your private area.

3 HIA218, I am not going to ask you any more questions

4 --

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. -- now other than we asked you before about

7 recommendations. The last question that we ask each

8 witness is just whether there's anything else about

9 their time in St. Patrick's -- maybe I haven't

10 encapsulated it in the summary, or something else that

11 maybe I've missed out or not got quite right -- if

12 there's anything else you want to say about that.

13 **A. Well, for me personally it's like whenever I said about**

14 **the . Whenever you deal with this Inquiry, I mean,**

15 **yous deal -- have to sit here and listen every day of**

16 **Brother such or Brother such. We, the victims, we don't**

17 **know until you put whatever you put on your -- on your**

18 **site, you know, the transcripts, and like I said, I have**

19 **already said about the . Whenever me and HIA219**

20 **have mentioned other Brothers' names -- yes -- they have**

21 **already been in court and been charged with abuse. The**

22 **, he was charged with abuse, and I found out**

23 **that he is dead. Ever since me and HIA219 -- my**

24 **brother came into the Inquiry, like I said, the names**

25 **that we have mentioned, they have already been in front**

1 of a judge and been found guilty of child abuse. We
2 don't know -- we don't know the outcome of St. Pat's
3 until you finish with the Inquiry, but, like I said,
4 any names or descriptions that I give, because I'm here
5 to tell the truth, that that's what I'll do.

6 Q. Yes. You accept from the discussion you and I were
7 having earlier --

8 A. Yes, exactly.

9 Q. -- looking after you at that time in your life would
10 have been a very difficult --

11 A. Exactly. It would have been, but then again even in
12 saying about our criminal record and about -- yes, me
13 and my brother were terrors, yes, but I said it
14 that whenever we ran away from St. Pat's, we used to run
15 straight to my . Within a couple of hours the
16 police knew we would go straight to my and pick
17 us up and we would be took straight back to St. Pat's
18 again, and then we had to -- we cottoned on to that,
19 that we couldn't just go to my 's. So we were
20 running away. Like I say, we were burgling to feed
21 ourselves, because we were basically living on the
22 streets, and we were trying to stay away as long as we
23 possibly could. That's why, like, even, like, I am
24 saying -- I am not saying all the offences that we did
25 -- I'm not going to sit and say that for one second --

1 WITNESS SPT141 (called)

2 MS SMITH: Good afternoon, Chairman, Panel Members. Our
3 next witness today is SPT141. He is "SPT141". SPT141
4 wishes to take a religious oath and he also wishes to
5 maintain his anonymity.

6 WITNESS SPT141 (sworn)

7 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, SPT141. Please sit down.

8 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

9 MS SMITH: SPT141 has given a witness statement to the
10 Inquiry, which can be found at SPT1226 to 1227, and we
11 have obtained some material from the Department of
12 Justice in relation to his time in St. Patrick's, which
13 can be seen at SPT19696 to 19717.

14 Now, SPT141, you see on the screen here that the
15 statement you gave to the Inquiry is there. Can I just
16 reassure you that, although I see that your name has not
17 been blacked out, before that is published on our
18 website --

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. -- or is in any other way seen outside this room your
21 name will be blacked out and your reference number will
22 be there instead, as is the case.

23 So, SPT141, you were resident in St. Patrick's
24 Training School for months in .. -- --
25 sorry. You were aged at the time and you had been

1 placed there on remand --

2 **A. Right.**

3 Q. -- awaiting trial on a serious offence. You say you
4 went straight into the senior section and you had an
5 individual room. When we were talking earlier, I was
6 asking you, "Did everyone have their own room in
7 St.~Pat's?" and you believe that was the case.

8 **A. As far as I know, yes.**

9 Q. You were in the main school; you weren't in one of the
10 chalet?

11 **A. No, the main school.**

12 Q. You go on to describe it as -- you say you were all well
13 fed there in paragraph 4. You can safely say you got as
14 much food as you liked, and you described it as being
15 like a hotel.

16 "Even before bed you could grab a glass of milk and
17 a bun."

18 In paragraph 4 you go on to describe the teaching.
19 You were taught by lay staff. You received painting and
20 decorating training and some additional classes in
21 religion and a few other subjects.

22 **A. Correct.**

23 Q. You remember that there were two civilian nightwatchmen
24 who patrolled the dorms. By the dorms -- were there
25 rooms off the dorms or what exactly was the layout?

1 **A. Where we were it was just a corridor and then there was**
2 **rooms in the corridor.**

3 Q. Well, I wondered what happened or did you remember what
4 happened if any of the boys were messing about at night?
5 Did the watchman -- nightwatchman do anything, or can
6 you remember?

7 **A. No. When we were there, to tell you the truth, there**
8 **wasn't much messing about at all.**

9 Q. You said you also saw some Brothers at some point during
10 the evening at some times.

11 **A. Once, what I would say in a blue moon, they would have**
12 **just called in and asked you how you were. I remember**
13 **one of the Brothers coming in about the sports day**
14 **and asking you what -- what you wanted to do, which**
15 **activity. That's about it.**

16 Q. So they would have just called into your room, had a
17 chat with you and gone on and then the nightwatchman
18 would have looked after you after that. Is that the
19 position?

20 **A. Yes. Well, you wouldn't even really have seen the**
21 **nightwatchman, because once you went into your room, you**
22 **didn't really go out of it. Do you know what I mean?**

23 Q. Uh-huh. Well, in paragraph 7 here you describe the
24 Brothers that you remember when you were there. They
25 were Brothers -- and I'm going to use the names, but, as

1 I've indicated to you --

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. -- these names can't be used outside the chamber, SPT141
4 -- BR26, BR94 and BR91. You always found BR94 to be a
5 real gentleman, just a genuinely nice person. BR26 was
6 similar, but slightly more strict, and BR26 was

7 --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- the school when you were there. You say you remember
10 BR91, who was fine as well.

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. Now we were discussing this earlier, because in
13 paragraph 8 you say you never absconded from
14 St. Patrick's.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. "Other boys may have absconded or misbehaved, but the
17 older boys would have discouraged them, telling them to
18 stop causing trouble for the Brothers, who we considered
19 were good for us."

20 Now I am going to look at some documents that you
21 know we have got which suggest that, in fact, there were
22 two times when you did abscond --

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. -- but you think it was only for a short period of time
25 and you came back the same day.

1 So if we could look, first of all, at 19716, you
2 will see that this is what's known as an Occurrence
3 Sheet. It shows you going in on . Then
4 on it says you absconded with a name, and I asked
5 you if you remembered that boy's name, but you have no
6 recollection.

7 **A. No, I did not know.**

8 Q. It says there that it was reported, but then on the same
9 date:

10 "Returned at 10.40 pm on his own"

11 and the reporting was cancelled. So you did step
12 out for some period of time during that day.

13 **A. St. Pat's was a big place, like. You could have been**
14 **away up on the farm or somewhere, which meant you just**
15 **weren't in the school. You were still on the premises,**
16 **but I can't remember ever absconding.**

17 Q. Uh-huh, and I am going to look at another -- if we can
18 just scroll backwards, please, to the next page, this is
19 something -- just go to the top of that -- this is
20 what's called a Conduct Mark Sheet. Now we have heard
21 from a number of people who have spoken to us about
22 there was a point system, and if you got the right
23 number of points, you got the right number of pocket
24 money and you were rewarded by getting out at weekends
25 and things, although, as you say, that wouldn't have

1 applied to you, being there on remand. You wouldn't
2 have been allowed out.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. You will see here again on it has you down
5 as absconding, and you got no points because you
6 absconded. If we just go down on the same page there to
7 , I made the point to you that you got no
8 points for talking at 10.20 pm. So talking after lights
9 out seemed to have been treated as severely as
10 absconding in your case?

11 **A. I don't recall that. I find that hard to believe.**

12 Q. You were saying to me that once you went to bed you
13 didn't really have the opportunity to talk to anybody?

14 **A. Well, maybe I was shouting or something. I was maybe
15 shouting to somebody next door or something, but ...**

16 Q. But you don't -- I mean, you had -- the other remarks
17 that caused you to lose any marks there:

18 "Messing in the corridor.

19 "Slow to rise and bin",

20 I think that might be, and:

21 "General noisy behaviour."

22 Then if we could go again backwards, please, you
23 will see there that the behaviour after certainly
24 seems to have been exemplary. You were always -- almost
25 always getting full marks apart from some time when you

1 were behaving badly in the dining room. I was wondering
2 what that -- the full marks translated as in terms of
3 pocket money, for example. Can you remember?

4 **A. Well, I remember to this day even some of the -- some of**
5 **the masters who -- who worked in the home, I would still**
6 **say to them like, "10 and 10: 120". You know, that's**
7 **what you got, £1.20.**

8 Q. £1.20 for getting full marks?

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. There's -- if we can just scroll to the next page,
11 backwards again, please -- sorry to -- this is
12 a continuation of this. It is recorded there that from
13 -- sorry -- yes, and the week of
14 you are given full marks, but it is said that
15 you are on holidays.

16 **A. No, I do not recall ever going on holidays.**

17 Q. You think you weren't allowed out on holiday because you
18 were on remand?

19 **A. No, I never was on holidays. I don't know why. It must**
20 **be a mistake.**

21 Q. Now one of the things that you were saying was that the
22 older boys discouraged the younger boys from absconding
23 by saying, "The Brothers are good to us. Don't be doing
24 this". You said to me that the hardest part of being in
25 St. Pat's was that the gates were open.

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. You recall BR26 telling you after -- presumably after
3 this early unsettled period that you needed to knuckle
4 down and you took him at his word and you did do that,
5 SPT141.

6 **A. As regards behaviour, like, the way we behaved, like,**
7 **kids would behave worse in school. Do you know what**
8 **I mean? It was not -- it wasn't bad behaviour as such,**
9 **but to stay in St. Pat's and the gates open and there**
10 **was boys getting out for weekends, and because you are**
11 **on remand, you weren't allowed out, full stop, as far as**
12 **I remember, that was the hard bit.**

13 Q. Well, if we can just look at this at 19709, now this --
14 you were there on remand and your court date was coming
15 up and there were various reports being prepared. This
16 is . You will see this is to
17 Mr Sterling, who is the Assistant Secretary in the
18 Northern Ireland Office. It is written by

BR26 at

20 that time. It says:

21 "With reference to the above named and the attached
22 enclosures, I have the following observations to make.

23 SPT141 was admitted on remand and was jointly charged
24 with another youth and . The

25 other youth absconded repeatedly and initially this had

1 a somewhat unsettled effect on SPT141.

2 His marks for vocational training and from the
3 caring staff speak for themselves. In our opinion this
4 youth exercised a good influence in the school and we
5 would be quite prepared to have him back in
6 St. Patrick's, should the authorities see fit to grant
7 it. We have no doubt that the training school has
8 a considerable amount to offer this youth."

9 Now that is -- suggests that you were one of these
10 older boys who was maybe discouraging the others from
11 absconding, because you are recorded there as having
12 a good influence in the school. Did you tell other boys
13 off for running away? Can you remember, SPT141?

14 **A. I can't. It was years ago. I can't really remember,**
15 **but it was -- it was either if you run away, you run up**
16 **in Crumlin Road or you stay in a hotel -- do you know**
17 **what I mean -- compared to what the Crumlin Road was.**
18 **It was wise to stay.**

19 Q. Okay. Well, if we look at 19707, this is -- sorry --
20 yes -- sorry -- the next -- this seems to be the
21 report -- a copy of the report that was sent that BR26
22 was talking about. If we look at the second paragraph,
23 you are described as:

24 "...good-humoured, reasonably intelligent and
25 cooperative in all aspects of school life. He did have

1 some difficulty settling down when he first arrived. He
2 absconded on two occasions during his first week here
3 but these were for very short periods, one hour
4 approximately, and he returned to the school on his
5 own."

6 Now they were keeping a record of your absconding
7 and they have obviously recorded it as two occasions
8 when you did -- weren't found. You say you may have
9 been up on the farm or something.

10 **A. Well, I do not recall absconding ever.**

11 Q. That would account for you telling us in your statement
12 that you never absconded --

13 **A. No.**

14 Q. -- because these were such short periods and obviously
15 you didn't think you had gone anywhere.

16 "However, the remainder of his stay, months,
17 has been trouble-free. He participates in recreational
18 activities, swimming, football, and has a good
19 relationship with the other boys and staff."

20 Then it goes on to talk about your school work and
21 being involved in the Painting Department and help --

22 "We have no doubt that the training school has
23 a good deal to offer this youth and that he would
24 benefit from a period of residential training."

25 Now it is correct to say that you didn't, in fact,

1 get sent back to St. Pat's. You ended up in the

2 .

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. Isn't that correct? I'm going to come on to talk about
5 that shortly, but if we could just go back, first of
6 all, to your statement at paragraph 9, which is on 1226,
7 please, in paragraph 9 you say that you never saw anyone
8 get slapped or strapped and you were never in receipt of
9 corporal punishment. Certainly you didn't -- by ,
10 when you were there, you weren't aware of any corporal
11 punishment in the training school?

12 **A. No, never.**

13 Q. We certainly know that in , three years earlier,
14 there was corporal punishment in the school, but you
15 didn't experience that or witness it in any way?

16 **A. Never.**

17 Q. In paragraphs 10 and 11 here you say that both BR91 and
18 BR26 may have come into your room in the evenings, as
19 you were explaining. BR26 would have called to check on
20 you. BR91 was often calling to get names for the
21 various activities the next day. You say:

22 "I am aware that serious allegations have been made
23 against BR26. I don't believe those allegations. If
24 anything like that had been happening, whether from BR26
25 or another Brother, you would have heard something."

1 I was asking you: was there ever any talk amongst
2 the boys about other Brothers --

3 **A. Never.**

4 Q. -- or slagging other boys off, for example? Nothing
5 like that --

6 **A. Never, never.**

7 Q. -- that you heard? When you were talking to me earlier,
8 you said that the first you heard about anything
9 untoward was when you heard about BR1 a few years ago --

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. -- as having been involved in something involving
12 children. You say that yesterday for the first time you
13 learned that there was a teacher sacked for behaving
14 inappropriately --

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. -- towards children.

17 **A. That's right.**

18 Q. Now paragraph 12 of your statement you talk about in
19 terms of activities you mainly went swimming, to the TV
20 or snooker room. Generally lay staff who supervised
21 those activities.

22 You vaguely remember BR1 as working in the office.
23 He took little to do with the boys.

24 **A. Well, I never seen him.**

25 Q. You never saw him at all?

1 **A. I seen him round at the office. I never seen him in our**
2 **part of the school.**

3 Q. It was suggested that he -- you know, if he'd spent any
4 time, for example, watching TV, that would have been in
5 the senior school. You don't remember him ever being in
6 the senior school?

7 **A. I don't remember him.**

8 Q. You recall your dad coming to see you perhaps every
9 night, and you didn't get out at weekends, but on the
10 odd occasion one of the lay staff would bring you home
11 for a few hours.

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. Your experience, as you recall it, of St. Patrick's was
14 a very positive one.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. The Brothers and staff were very supportive of you. In
17 fact, we can see -- we are going to look at a couple of
18 documents now that show that they spoke on your behalf
19 at court and obviously wanted you to come back to
20 St. Pat's rather than being sent on to the borstal wing
21 in , which -- if we can look at 0... --
22 sorry -- yes, there are two letters. They are letters
23 between BR26 and the Northern Ireland Office. If we
24 could look at these, please, at 19698.

25 This is a letter that's written to BR26 on

1 and it is from a Mr Stevens I think in the
2 Northern Ireland Office. He is saying:

3 "This boy's case has now been thoroughly examined by
4 the Department. If all goes well, he is due for release
5 on remission on next and in the meantime
6 has settled well in the ."

7 Now I am going to pause there, SPT141, because
8 I know that you told me that you experienced a very
9 difficult time --

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. -- that you would describe as abusive --

12 **A. Hell, hell.**

13 Q. -- in the .

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. I have explained to you that we are not looking at what
16 happened to young people there, but that's another
17 reason why you describe St. Pat's as a hotel compared to
18 what went on in

19 **A. Correct, a 5 star hotel.**

20 Q. It says that:

21 "In the circumstance, and as the court has recently
22 dealt with his case, it would seem as well that he
23 should serve out his sentence where he now is."

24 Now what that suggests to me is BR26 was writing to
25 see if there was any chance instead of you being in the

1 that you could be sent back to St. Pat's.

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. The Northern Ireland Office are saying, "No, that's not
4 possible", although they go on to explain that where
5 someone is being -- under the age of that steps
6 should be taken to try to -- it was an option. It was
7 an option that you could go back to St. Pat's, a child
8 could.

9 If we can just scroll on down through that, please,
10 it is saying there too -- it says somewhere -- yes --
11 that -- yes. It is said that:

12 "The boy's case was fully presented in court ..."

13 and it does seem that SPT141 was well represented,
14 and I think you explained to me it was Miss McDermott,
15 who is a colleague of many of ours --

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. -- who represented you in court.

18 You also -- there is a letter then -- if we just
19 scroll down to the next page, please, this is BR26's
20 reply to Mr Sterling. I said Stevens; Sterling.

21 "Thank you for your letter of . I note
22 that, all going well, this youth could qualify for
23 release on next. In the circumstances
24 I quite agree that there would be no point whatever in
25 making any further representation on his behalf.

1 I appreciate your interest in this case."

2 What that suggests is that BR26 was trying to help
3 you. Even after you had been sentenced --

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. -- he was trying to look after your interests.

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. That would be your memory of the man?

8 **A. Yes. BR26 and BR94 actually came down to the**
9 **and I told them about the hell I was going through,**
10 **because it was hell, and I think that was the reason why**
11 **he must have wrote the letter.**

12 Q. Okay. I am going to look -- you actually wrote yourself
13 to BR26 from prison, and I will just look at that at
14 19705. In fact, this is -- yes, this is a letter, in
15 fact, that you wrote to the staff. You seem to have
16 written to the staff before you wrote to BR26 or the
17 date of seems to suggest that anyway. Just
18 scrolling down:

19 "I am writing this letter to you all because I want
20 to thank you for all that you have done for me while
21 I stayed in St. Pat's. I am sorry that I am not still
22 with yous, but don't worry. As soon as I am out I will
23 be up to see you all. The first thing I will do is to
24 beat SPT52 in a game of table-tennis and I hope there
25 will be no excuses this time. Then I will give

1 Mr 40 up in the snooker, because the last five
2 games I played him he was defeated and I hope he can
3 take the truth. I wonder who has got SPT13 's
4 ? I hope he never took it with him. If he comes
5 up, tell him I was asking about him. I want to thank
6 St. Pat's barrister for the wonderful job you done at my
7 trial."

8 In the next letter we've seen that was SPT52 rather
9 than Ms McDermott you were talking about.

10 **A. I don't even remember writing the letter, to tell you**
11 **the truth.**

12 Q. You also want to thank others, and so it goes on. Just
13 scroll on down through that, please, to the end. You
14 say:

15 "Please excuse the bad writing and the spelling.

16 Yours faithfully,

17 SPT141",

18 which is I presume how you were known rather than
19 SPT141.

20 "My regards to BR26, BR91 and the motorman, BR94."

21 There is another letter that you wrote then on 19th
22 November at 19702. This was to BR26:

23 "Dear sir,

24 I am writing this letter because I am most grateful
25 for you and BR94 coming up to visit me and most of all

1 for the wonderful job you and all the members of the
2 St. Patrick's staff are doing for the boys. BR26, when
3 I first went to St. Pat's, I didn't realise what you
4 were trying to do for all of us, but now I know that it
5 wasn't -- if it wasn't for you -- for all you good and
6 kind people, most of your inmates up there would be in
7 borstals or even in prison. Brother, would you please
8 tell all of the staff that I was asking for them and
9 also the boys?

10 I heard on ..."

11 Then you go on to talk about boys in the rest of
12 that letter. If we can just scroll down, there is where
13 you say:

14 "SPT52 done a very good job at my trial, even though
15 I never got back. To tell you the truth, he done
16 a better job than my barrister.

17 Well, that's about all for now, sir. I hope to hear
18 from you soon. All the best.

19 Yours,

20 SPT141."

21 I take it you were also known as "SPT141"?

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. You continued, as you say in your statement at
24 paragraphs 15 and 16, to keep in touch with the Brothers
25 and the teachers in the school, particularly after you

1 got out of . Is that correct? You regularly
2 see BR94. You say --

3 **A. I live across the road from him.**

4 Q. In paragraph 15 of your statement, which is at 1227, you
5 say:

6 "I can safely say I have never met a nicer person in
7 my life, a real gent."

8 You go on to say that you do live in close proximity
9 and you hadn't heard anything negative, as you say,
10 until you heard some time ago about BR1.

11 "I never heard a bad word said about the others."

12 You were shocked and saddened to hear that BR94 and
13 BR26 are facing allegations. You say that neither of
14 them, nor any other Brother, slapped or interfered with
15 you, and you didn't hear the slightest whisper of it
16 happening to anyone.

17 **A. Uh-huh.**

18 Q. When we were talking, I wondered, SPT141, whether you
19 accepted that others might not have had as positive an
20 experience as yourself when they were in St. Pat's and
21 you do accept --

22 **A. Well, it is bound to have happened some time, like, but
23 not when I was there, never.**

24 Q. And you made the point that you felt there was rougher
25 treatment meted out to you in secondary school than in

1 St. Pat's.

2 **A. Yes. Well, there was nothing done to us in St. Pat's,**
3 **but secondary school you got caned and strapped and**
4 **slapped. You know what I mean?**

5 Q. Well, the only other question that I'm going to ask you,
6 SPT141, is that we do ask people who come to speak to us
7 -- and you said you accept some people may have had
8 a bad time perhaps in St. Pat's and perhaps in other
9 children's institutions -- but we wondered from
10 people -- the Inquiry has to make recommendations at the
11 end of its work about what should happen to recognise
12 the fact that some children were abused. Is there
13 anything that you want to say about that or any views
14 that you hold?

15 **A. Well, as regards -- when I was at St. Pat's -- well,**
16 **when I got arrested at the start, as I said to you, yes,**
17 **we were beat, slapped, punched, kicked, and then when**
18 **I went to St. Pat's, there was nothing happened**
19 **whatsoever -- whatsoever. Then when you were brought to**
20 **jail, you were actually taught to hate people because of**
21 **the abuse you got. Like, what happened to us in thing,**
22 **like, I am not crying about it. It happened, but there**
23 **was no comparison whatsoever. If -- if the institutions**
24 **and the borstals or Hydebank or anywhere were the way we**
25 **were treated in St. Pat's and the way them people were,**

1 **it was like unreal. I would actually class some of the**
2 **Brothers and the staff at St. Pat's as saints compared**
3 **to some of the people I've met.**

4 Q. Well, SPT141, thank you very much for coming to speak to
5 the Inquiry. I have nothing further that I want to ask
6 you about --

7 **A. Yes. Thank you.**

8 Q. -- but the Panel Members may have some questions for
9 you.

10 Questions from THE PANEL

11 CHAIRMAN: Could we have 19713, please? We had it earlier.

12 SPT141, we looked at this a few minutes ago. I just
13 want to ask you you were in St. Patrick's on remand and,
14 as you explained, you wouldn't have been allowed to go
15 out because you were on remand. You were there it seems
16 obviously over the July period. Were you aware of other
17 boys going off to the Glens of Antrim, for example, for
18 a couple of weeks there?

19 **A. There was a holiday house down there. I was actually in**
20 **it once, but it was a wreck. We just went down I think**
21 **to do a bit of painting in it.**

22 Q. Yes, but would you have been left with other boys who
23 were on remand on your own in St. Pat's when the other
24 boys all went off to the Glens? Maybe you don't
25 remember.

1 **A. Well, I know it was like there was boys went down for**
2 **weekends and all, as far as I understand, and still do,**
3 **like different clubs and -- but --**

4 Q. It is just we heard from some boys that children went up
5 to a particular house for about a fortnight or so during
6 the summer for a summer holiday. You, because you were
7 on remand, I sure would not have been allowed to go --

8 **A. No.**

9 Q. -- but I just wanted to know were there others like you
10 who were kept back when all the other boys went off?

11 **A. I can't really remember, like, but I remember they had**
12 **a place where they brought boys down to. Yes,**
13 **I remember that.**

14 Q. Yes.

15 **A. But when I was there, I would say it wasn't -- it was**
16 **only getting done up, because it was an absolute wreck.**
17 **When we went down, it was like -- you couldn't even have**
18 **stayed in it.**

19 Q. So you and others went to do some painting --

20 **A. I was only in it once, once.**

21 Q. Just the once?

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. Thank you very much.

24 MR LANE: In terms of the junior and senior schools did you
25 ever have any dealings with the junior part at all, the

1 junior unit?

2 **A. You would have seen some of the children, but we didn't**
3 **really frequent the junior part.**

4 Q. You were really like -- almost like two separate groups
5 on the same premises in a way?

6 **A. More or less.**

7 Q. If there were Brothers were in the two, would they have
8 a chance of meeting up?

9 **A. I am not 100% sure, but I would say the same Brothers**
10 **that were in our side were in the -- were in the junior**
11 **side.**

12 Q. The two staff teams were separate as well, were they?

13 **A. Well, the Brothers wouldn't have been separate, no. The**
14 **Brothers more or less run the place.**

15 Q. Yes, but would it have been one team of staff working
16 with you and one team of staff working with the others?

17 **A. Yes, yes, yes.**

18 Q. Right. Okay. Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN: Well, SPT141, thank you very much for coming to
20 speak to us today --

21 **A. Right.**

22 Q. -- to give us your recollections of your time in
23 St. Patrick's. We are very grateful to you --

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. -- for taking the trouble to do so. Thank you.

1 **A. Thank you.**

2 MS SMITH: Thank you, SPT141. As I explained to you, I have
3 to go on to do another piece of work here. So --

4 CHAIRMAN: But if you would like to leave now, you are free
5 to do. We will get on with our next piece of evidence.
6 Thank you.

7 **A. Thanks very much.**

8 **(Witness withdrew)**

9 **Evidence of WITNESS HIA282 presented by COUNSEL TO THE**
10 **INQUIRY**

11 MS SMITH: Chairman, Panel Members, the last piece of
12 evidence to be presented today is the evidence of
13 HIA282. He was due to give evidence in person this
14 week, but the Inquiry has received medical evidence that
15 indicates that he is unable to attend in person, and it
16 has been agreed that his evidence can be summarised.

17 If I can tell you that his statement is at 041 to
18 046.

19 The Order's response is at SPT303 to 304.

20 The Health & Social Care Board put in a response at
21 763 to 764 indicating that Social Services had not been
22 involved with respect to HIA272 -- I am going to use his
23 name -- HIA282's stay in St. Patrick's.

24 The Department of Justice response is at 1497 to
25 1503, and they had no knowledge of the allegations being

1 made prior to seeing his statement made to the Inquiry.

2 They provided material, which can be found at 49422
3 to 49527, and there is an entry in the remand register
4 showing that he went to St. Pat's initially for 31 days
5 -- well, he went there for 31 days on the -- that's at
6 SPT49425.

7 There is police material at 26255 to 26357. The
8 record would show at 26255 that he was sentenced at
9 Belfast Juvenile Court on for the
10 offence of being found on premises for an unlawful
11 purpose.

12 The Inquiry has also received a statement from BR94,
13 BR94, which is at SPT2175 to 219... -- sorry -- 2179.

14 If we can just pull up the statement of HIA282,
15 please, at 041, personal details are set out in
16 paragraph 1. Paragraph 2 records how he got into
17 trouble and ended up in St. Pat's for one month in .
18 You will see there that he was there from

19 to He talks about the home being
20 run by the Christian Brothers when we know, in fact, it
21 was the De La Salle Brothers, but that appears to have
22 been a common misunderstanding by some of the boys.

23 CHAIRMAN: Well, the proper term is The Brothers of the
24 Christian Schools. Isn't that right?

25 MS SMITH: That's correct, yes. He talks in paragraph 3

1 about the first night that he was there and thinking the
2 Brothers were okay at first, because they got him
3 something to eat and because he had missed dinner
4 earlier by the time he had arrived.

5 "However, after a few days I started to get smacked
6 on the back of the head or kicks on the backside when
7 the Brothers were walking past me. These were for no
8 reason whatsoever. The Brothers simply hit you
9 and walked on without saying a word. This happened to
10 me and to other boys frequently. I literally became
11 afraid of them and was terrified of one in particular.
12 He was of a man. As far as I remember he was
13 of the Brothers at the time I was in
14 St. Patrick's."

15 He said:

16 "The Brothers carried leather straps and I would
17 have got a thump with the leather strap basically for
18 nothing. The Brothers were really vicious. I cannot
19 remember any of their names, as it was so long ago."

20 Now the Order in their response have indicated that
21 they accept that corporal punishment was administered
22 and they accept that boys did receive a clip around the
23 ear at times for bad behaviour or for cheek, but they
24 deny that boys were struck or kicked at random as
25 described, and they say the Brothers didn't routinely

1 carry straps, that it was in the tuck shop.

2 The Brother who is referred to there has been
3 identified we believe as BR94.

4 Paragraph 4 he said:

5 "There was one Brother who looked after a class in
6 the school and he was okay compared to the others.
7 I never remember him having a strap or hitting anyone.
8 Once I was fighting with another boy and he broke the
9 fight up. He told both us off but he never raised
10 a finger against us. He was the exception to the rule.
11 He appeared to be an old man and I recall that he walked
12 very slowly and never got angry. He was kind to me and
13 the other boys. Education in St. Pat's was poor,
14 because I learned absolutely nothing whilst I was there.
15 You would have spent the normal school day in a
16 classroom and there were around twenty boys in the
17 class. We did not change classrooms as you would in
18 secondary school but stayed in the same room all day
19 like in primary school. I liked the Brother who taught
20 me, although I cannot actually remember his name.
21 I felt that going into his class was a way of getting
22 away from the rest of the Brothers, because when you
23 were in class, they never came in."

24

25

1 Paragraph 5 he describes there as being:

2 "... a set routine in St. Patrick's and it was
3 extremely regimented. One of the Brothers put the
4 lights on in the dormitory and hit the bedframes with
5 his strap. This was usually around 7.30 or 8 o'clock.
6 I had to wash, dress, make the bed and tuck up my
7 pyjamas before going for breakfast. I then went to
8 school and after school I could play in the yard, go to
9 the games room, play handball or go to my dormitory. I
10 do not remember if we had any homework. Tea was at the
11 same time every day and all the boys went to the canteen
12 and ate our meal. It always seemed really rushed. Then
13 there was free time until around 8 o'clock. All the
14 boys had to be in their dormitory by then and had to be
15 in bed by 9 o'clock, which was when the lights were
16 turned out.

17 Brothers would come round to turn the lights out,
18 but you could hear the Brothers walking up the corridor.
19 Once we knew a Brother was coming you could have heard
20 a pin drop in that dormitory and before he turned to go
21 into that dormitory everybody was in bed and 90% of the
22 boys were lying on their side with their eyes closed
23 pretending to be asleep. That's how terrified they were
24 of the Brothers. We would have been sitting on
25 somebody's bed talking away and we were like rockets

1 getting into the bed. If you were not in the bed, he
2 would have used the strap to slap your leg."

3 I make the point that the Order has said on a number
4 of occasions that lay staff supervised the dormitories
5 at night rather than the Brothers.

6 "At weekends there was always cleaning to be done
7 and there was always a trip to Broadway cinema. Any boy
8 who wanted to go was allowed to go and all the boys
9 walked down to the cinema in a group. There was
10 a Brother who was at the head of the group and another
11 couple at the rear. There were always a number of
12 Brothers who went in case anyone tried to abscond. I do
13 not remember anyone trying to run off whilst I was in
14 St. Patrick's. I used to look forward to the trip,
15 because it was the only time I was allowed outside of
16 the school site."

17 The De La Salle have said that there would have been
18 one or two Brothers and they didn't remember anyone
19 trying to abscond, although you will recall, Chairman
20 and Panel Members, that we heard from one of our
21 witnesses this week that he did, in fact, try to run
22 away when he was at the cinema.

23 Paragraph 8:

24 "I remember that the food was a bit scant and there
25 were no extras. To my recollection you could not go up

1 and ask for more. The place was clean and the
2 bedclothes were changed. I believe my mum would have
3 taken my dirty washing home, washed it and brought it
4 back again on the next visit."

5 The Order make the point that the laundry was done
6 in the training school and we seem to have heard
7 evidence that there were nuns who were there
8 specifically to help with such tasks:

9 "I think there were visits twice a week, but I am
10 not 100% certain. There was always a visit on Sundays
11 and I believe that the second visit was on Wednesdays.
12 To be honest, my mum would have been up every day if she
13 could have been. She always brought me sandwiches,
14 biscuits and sweets so that I never went hungry. My dad
15 travelled all over the country and he would have rung my
16 mum and then -- when she had to come up to visit me.
17 I do not remember any social workers coming to see me,
18 but things were different back then and the Christian
19 Brothers answered to no-one as far as I was concerned."

20 Paragraphs 9 and 10 he talks about a particular
21 incident. He says:

22 "A week or so before I got out -- it was a Saturday
23 afternoon -- we had sausage rolls and beans for tea.
24 I took my sausage roll and I went outside and sat on the
25 main steps leading up into the reception hall. The

1 crumbs from the sausage rolls were dropping all over the
2 place and a particular Christian Brother who terrified
3 me was walking past. He started to go on about the
4 crumbs falling and then he began to hit me on the head
5 with a leather strap. I must have received ten or
6 fifteen thumps with the strap on my head and back and it
7 was really vicious. He would have hit me the same way
8 as you would hit a man if you were fighting with him.
9 I ran away up the steps to get away from him. There
10 were no witnesses and the Brother never spoke to me
11 about what he had done.

12 I was released around a week later and there were
13 marks all over my back caused by his strap and there
14 were a couple of lumps on my head where he had hit me.
15 One evening I was getting a wash and I had my shirt off.
16 My dad walked in and I remember him telling me to behave
17 myself when I went out, because I was only out of the
18 home. He then saw the marks on my back and I told him
19 what had happened to me. He contacted his friend and
20 both of them went up to St. Patrick's to find out what
21 had happened. I cannot remember the name of the Brother
22 he was speaking to and he told me that the Brother
23 threatened to call the police and that half a dozen
24 Christian Brothers came out to confront my dad and his
25 friend."

1 Now in respect of that the Order have no
2 recollection of any incident involving this man's father
3 coming up to the home.

4 The Brother, who is identified through the
5 Inquiry work as BR94, has given a statement at SPT2175.
6 If we could just go to that, please, paragraph 3, you
7 see there that he says:

8 "Discipline at the school was maintained with
9 a system of rewards and privileges. There was a marks
10 system and at the end of the week, depending on what
11 marks they got, the boys would be told what pocket money
12 they were to receive. Use of the swimming pool and
13 various other activities were also used as part of the
14 reward system. For more serious misbehaviour corporal
15 punishment was administered, particularly in the earlier
16 years, when it was permitted. A strap was used for this
17 purpose and it entailed usually two or three slaps on
18 the open hand. I did not hit the boys anywhere else.
19 If it was more serious, the boy would be referred to the
20 principal of the school, the manager, to decide what
21 punishment they should get."

22 If we can scroll down to paragraph 8, please, he
23 deals with HIA282's Inquiry statement complaint at this
24 paragraph. He said:

25 "HIA282 made a statement to the Inquiry on 17th

1 September 2015. I do not believe he has made
2 a statement of complaint to the police. I do not recall
3 this person and I note he has stated he was resident in
4 St. Patrick's Training School for a four-week period in
5 . He was unable to name me, but identifies me as
6 . I am assuming this is a reference to
7 myself, since I would have been Brother in
8 St. Patrick's at that particular time, although I know
9 of one other Brother", whom he names, "who while not as
10 was certainly . While
11 I accept a leather strap was used by the Brothers,
12 including myself, it was used sparingly as far as I was
13 concerned, and I deny using the leather strap basically
14 for nothing.

15 HIA282 has also referred to one particular incident
16 when he was struck repeatedly on his head and back with
17 the leather strap because of crumbs which had fallen
18 from some food he was eating. Whilst he does not
19 identify the Brother who allegedly beat him, he states,
20 'It was the particular Christian Brother who terrified
21 me' and I believe he could therefore be referring to me.
22 I deny this happened. I have no recollection of the
23 confrontation which he states happened after this when
24 his father and a friend went up to St. Patrick's to
25 complain about the beating. If this had occurred, then

1 I believe I would have heard about it. The impression
2 that I or the other Brothers were violent in this
3 sporadic, unreasonable fashion is totally at odds with
4 my perception of life in the school at that time."

5 If we could just go back, please, to HIA282's
6 statement at paragraph 11 on page 044, please, HIA282
7 says that there wasn't any sexual abuse at St. Patrick's
8 as far as he was aware. His complaint was just about
9 the viciousness of them and the assaults he sustained.

10 "I probably would have got smacked on the head --
11 back of the head up to six times a day and that wasn't
12 unusual for other kids who were in there as well.

13 The abuse never stopped and I really pitied anyone
14 who had a longer sentence to serve there."

15 He knows that a cousin of his was there for two
16 years:

17 "... and came out a completely different person
18 altogether. He was a happy-go-lucky kid when he went
19 in, but when he came out, he was" -- scroll on down,
20 please -- "withdrawn and would hardly have spoken
21 and kept himself to himself. He hardly ever came out of
22 his own house."

23 HIA282 goes on to describe his life after care in
24 paragraphs 13 and 14. With regard to the Inquiry
25 recommendations, he says at paragraph 15:

