

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

FCY
[REDACTED]

Support person present: Yes

1. My name is FCY [REDACTED] My date of birth is [REDACTED] 1991. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

Life before going into care

2. I had two spellings of my name as a child, FCY [REDACTED] FCY [REDACTED] appears on my birth certificate. My surnames as a child were FCY [REDACTED] FCY [REDACTED] FCY [REDACTED] FCY [REDACTED] and FCY [REDACTED] at different times. I was quite confused by the time I got to primary school.
3. My mother's name was [REDACTED] She was in and out of care herself when she was growing up. When she was fourteen, she disclosed sexual abuse but she wasn't believed by her family. She was placed in care, possibly some kind of secure unit. She then had a brief liaison with a young man called [REDACTED] and had me as a result when she was sixteen years old. She was struggling with alcohol and poor mental health at that time.
4. My mother was allowed to keep me. We lived with my grandmother, who was an alcoholic, my mother's step-father and my aunties at [REDACTED] in Edinburgh from my birth until I was six months old. My grandmother had also been sexually abused in foster care. It was a very chaotic family. My grandmother kicked my mother out when I was six months old because my mother's half-sister, [REDACTED]

died of an [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was blamed for her death because she had apparently supplied [REDACTED] with [REDACTED]

5. My mother and I then went to live with my mum's aunty, [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Edinburgh until I was ten months old. After that, my mother and I moved in with her boyfriend, [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] in Edinburgh. He murdered somebody whilst I was in the flat and was put into prison. We were only there for a short time and we then moved to the Oxfangs area of the city from August to October 1993. After that, I returned to live with my grandmother, [REDACTED] My mother wasn't really around by then because she was heavily involved in intravenous drug use and prostitution. I think she may also have been serving a sentence in Cornton Vale Prison at that time.

6. [REDACTED] had a social worker called Dena Croy. She was based at Stenhouse and she worked with [REDACTED] and me when I was born. I went into foster care and stayed with Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] in Edinburgh for a few months. I then went to a foster family in Livingston, Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] I was going to stay there long term, but my mum fell pregnant and decided to keep the baby. Between my birth and becoming pregnant with that baby, she had had three terminations. The social work department wanted to keep me and my brother, [REDACTED] together and we couldn't stay together at the [REDACTED]. We went to stay with James Farquhar (JF) and FPH [REDACTED]

JF-FPH

Family, [REDACTED] Edinburgh

7. I was placed with James Farquhar (JF) and FPH [REDACTED] by my social worker, Freda Bleakley. I didn't like her. I found her quite difficult to be around. She had taken over my care from Dena at that point and I missed Dena.
8. My brother was born when I was two and a half. There was an order of the court before he was born. [REDACTED] was forced to have a caesarean section because she was taking so many substances. She hadn't been turning up for any appointments and was working as a prostitute around the time he was born. [REDACTED] and I were

taken to JF-FPH together, but I don't remember who took us. [REDACTED] was discharged when he was four days old, despite withdrawing from opiates and having being born prematurely. After he was discharged, we were moved straight into the JF-FPH care.

9. The foster father was James or Jimmy Farquhar, who was in his early forties. The foster mother was FPH who was a similar age. I think Jimmy and FPH had been fostering for about sixteen years before I went to them. FPH helped to train other foster carers about the signs of sexual abuse in children. Neither Jimmy nor FPH worked so I knew they were given money for fostering us. Their son, [REDACTED] who was seventeen lived in that flat as well, along with their adopted son, [REDACTED] who was fifteen and a long term foster son called [REDACTED] who was also fifteen. They had two ten year old foster children, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who came at the weekends. [REDACTED] had Downs Syndrome. They also had [REDACTED] living with them at times. Sometimes [REDACTED] baby son, [REDACTED] stayed in the flat too.
10. The flat was a third floor flat in Wester Hailes. It wasn't a nurturing home for children. As you went in, there was a hallway and then there was a set of stairs. At the top of the stairs was a bath and shower room and next to the bathroom was FPH and Jimmy's bedroom. The next room was the boys' bedroom, which must have had five boys sleeping in it at times. The rooms were tiny. There was then a very small box room, where [REDACTED] and I stayed. The next room was the living room, which had a playpen in the middle of it. Behind that was a cupboard with a mattress in it, which was where [REDACTED] slept. They had three pitbull dogs.

Routine at JF-FPH

First impressions

11. I remember being very, very upset about leaving Livingston. The [REDACTED] family lived in a house with a garden. I was taken to a dinghy little council flat in the middle of

Wester Hailes. It was on the third floor of a four storey building. James Farquhar (JF) and FPH were both chain smokers and the flat stank of smoke. I still hate the smell of smoke. There were four teenage boys and three dogs living in a three bedroomed flat. It was in stark contrast to the [REDACTED] home. I could see that, even as a child, but I was going to get to be with my baby brother, which was a great joy to me.

12. There was a lot of shouting between Jimmy and [REDACTED]. They were always having arguments. Jimmy often argued with [REDACTED] as well. [REDACTED] was really soft. I have an image of him trying to protect me all the time. He would let me drink out of his cup.
13. I didn't like Jimmy to begin with. That's documented in social work reports that were within the Child's Profile provided to my parents when we were adopted. They state, *"A great deal of attention is being given to FCY [REDACTED] emotional well-being, encouraging her to express feelings and become dependent. She was extremely cautious of Jim Farquhar and seemed not to have any perception of a stable father figure. She has looked for a great deal of reassurance regarding the situation."*
14. It's really hard to look back on FPH [REDACTED] without my experience of being a young woman now. In hindsight, I do think that FPH [REDACTED] was aware of what was going on. I don't think she couldn't have been aware. She was a frail old lady. She probably wasn't that old, but she looked old. To me, she looked a bit like a witch. I never had a feeling of her being my mum. Mr and Mrs [REDACTED] had been very caring of me. When I was with FPH [REDACTED] there was a lack of care. There was a lot of neglect. There wasn't that bonding for her to be like my mum. There was no motherly instinct there.

Food

15. FPH [REDACTED] Jimmy, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] used to eat meals together. I didn't usually eat with them. [REDACTED] used to give me milk from his cup, secretly. I remember having Scotch pies a lot and thick, white, heavy bread. We didn't have fruit and vegetables. We didn't eat fresh food. I don't think we were fed that much.

16. JF-FPH used to put loads of salt in their food. I hated salt because the taste of it reminded me of semen. I would gag and I wouldn't eat. I hated sausages, but they made me eat them. I knew I couldn't explain why I didn't like all the salt because Jimmy was at the table.
17. I started school when I was at JF-FPH, so I also got a meal at school. I was starving by the time I got to school.

Washing and bathing

18. I remember had a baby bath in the living room. We used it for dunking apples at Halloween when the social worker came round. I must've been washed, but I can't remember it.

Clothing/hair

19. FPH dressed me in boys' clothes, which wasn't how I was. All the documents state that I was a little girl who wanted to wear baubles in my hair and play with dolls, but she didn't allow me to be like that. Even when it came to doing my hair, FPH tied it back tightly. It was scraped back with gel and it was horrible. She used a lot of force when she brushed my hair and it was painful. It was so tight that I complained of having a sore head.

Leisure time

20. We were never taken out. I went to school and that was it. The only time I was taken out was when Jimmy would take me to his friend's flat in Wester Hailes. They took photographs of me without my clothes on there, but I liked going because there was a girl of a similar age to me and I used to play with her. We never went to the park. I didn't even know how to run when I was adopted. My parents had to teach me. I hated the grass because I'd never felt it on my legs.

21. There was a chair as you went into the living room that was my chair. I wasn't allowed to get off that chair all weekend. WWF wrestling was always on the TV. I hated it. I wasn't allowed to play with my brother. [REDACTED] used to cry, but I wasn't allowed to get up and help him. I just had to sit on that chair.
22. We didn't have any toys until we were about to be adopted. The Christmas before I moved in with my mum and dad, we were suddenly given a lot of toys. I was given a dress. I loved my dress.
23. I remember one trip out, but it was also just before we left to go to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] my adoptive parents. We were taken to Bonaly, which is in the Pentland Hills. I think it was all part of the story they wanted us to take to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] because we didn't have trips otherwise. The trips I did go on were with the social worker.

Schooling

24. I attended Hailesland Primary School. It was close to the flat. I loved going to school. I really liked my teachers. I remember that I used to cry a lot at school. I remember I swallowed my lunch money. I was scared that I would get into trouble and that I wouldn't get my lunch. I couldn't read or write by the time I was adopted. I couldn't even write my name or count to ten. I used to enjoy painting and art. I think I just went to school for a bit of a play and food.
25. I made a friend at school called [REDACTED] I remember walking home with him. He used to come into our flat. He lived in the same block as us and had been adopted by friends of Jimmy's, [REDACTED] FKC and [REDACTED]. He was mixed race. My foster brother [REDACTED] told me recently that he was HIV positive.

Visits/inspections

26. I drew a family tree with my social worker, Freda, when I was at [REDACTED] JF-FPH. I was four or five. I think it was to take to my adoptive parents. I coloured Jimmy and [REDACTED] in black. I've done a bit of child protection in my time. I'd be asking why Jimmy

and [REDACTED] were coloured in black and everybody else was in beautiful colours. But no one asked.

27. A lot of social work contact took place outside the flat. The social worker would take [REDACTED] and me to soft play places when we had contact visits. We went to visit my birth mum at Stenhouse Children's Centre. We'd be taken there to play. I think there was a lot of failed contact with our mother. I remember she brought me a banana once. I think they had to stop contact altogether because she was showing no interest in [REDACTED]
28. I remember Freda coming to the flat. I think Jimmy and FPH [REDACTED] were incredibly good liars. When I look back at documentation, they always had a story and they always had a reason for our behaviour.
29. The social workers spoke to me about my mum, [REDACTED]. She wasn't making any of her appointments with us. They told me that she was very unwell. I can't remember being asked if I liked living at JF-FPH [REDACTED]. When social workers came round, I was allowed out of my chair, I was allowed to chat to the adults and I could hold my baby brother. Any photographs I have from my time in care were taken by social workers. The social workers knew that I had been sexually abused by [REDACTED] but they never spoke to me about that. I was very delayed with my speech development and my speech wasn't very good.

Healthcare

30. I had really sore lips when I lived with Jimmy and FPH [REDACTED]. They were really dry and puffy. They were still red when I moved in with my adoptive parents. There were obvious signs of abuse that nobody picked up on.
31. I used to complain of a sore knee all the time. Whenever I walked, I was really achy. It was probably because I wasn't using my muscles and I sat in the chair all the time. I used to have a sore head and a sore tummy. I would tell FPH [REDACTED] but she didn't do anything about it.

32. I was never taken to a doctor. When we moved in with our adoptive parents, our immunisations were all behind. I was in foster care. That shouldn't have happened. My mum and dad had to get me and [REDACTED] up to date with our immunisations. Before we got adopted, we went to see a man with a white coat at Stenhouse. I think that was my adoption medical, shortly before I moved. In the Child's Profile my parents received when I was adopted, there was a medical but it was very limited. I think the only information came from the medical before we were adopted.

Special occasions

33. I can't remember having a cake for my birthday. I don't have any birthday cards or anything like that. The only time I can remember there being a celebration was at Halloween when we dunked for apples with the social worker. We did get toys the Christmas before we got adopted.

Abuse at JF-FPH [REDACTED]

34. The dogs were horrendous. They were used to punish us. If I did anything wrong, they used to put the dog right up to my face. They would keep it on the lead so it wouldn't bite me, but it would bark at me. I have a baby myself now and it's awful to think of this, but [REDACTED] used to sit in the playpen and the dogs would run around it, barking at him.
35. Sometimes, I wasn't allowed to eat with the family at the meal table. I had to eat from the dog bowl on the floor. There would be potato peelings in the dog bowl that I could eat or I was allowed to lick water from the dog's bowl.
36. I was terrified of FPH [REDACTED] and Jimmy. There was arguing and violence between Jimmy and the older boys, but I never knew what that was about. I never misbehaved. It was such a stark contrast to the [REDACTED] There was so much control. I was dressed in boys' clothes. I wasn't allowed to get off the seat. I was locked in a

room. I wasn't allowed to go and nurture my little brother when he was crying. I wasn't a little girl at all.

37. In the evenings or at the weekend, FPH and Jimmy made me sit in the chair in the living room. They didn't talk to me. I didn't have a book or anything. I just had to sit there and be quiet. If I got off the chair to go and touch my little brother or if I spoke, Jimmy would make me sit between his legs whilst he was watching the wrestling. He would really strangle me with his legs. I wasn't allowed to move from there. Either that or they would make the dog bark in my face.
38. was in the play pen all the time. My brother was 7lb 10oz when he was born, despite being born at 37 weeks to an IV drug user. He failed to thrive when we were in the foster home. He hardly put on any weight over the first six weeks we were there. When he was adopted at two years old, the medical reports said he was the weight of a one year old. It was put down to him being born to a drug user, but his weight was fine when he was born. JF-FPH didn't feed him.
39. By the time my brother moved into my room with me, I used to feed him the inside of pillows because he was screaming so much in our bedroom. He was still very young when he moved in with me. Frequently, we were locked in our room all weekend. The door handles were taken off the door and the light bulb was taken out. We weren't allowed out. They didn't give us anything to eat and drink when we were in there. I used to urinate in a bowl and give it to to drink. I had little cups. It was raining one day and I put them outside the window to catch the rain, so we had something to drink. I used to wake up during that time to play with me, just because I was bored.
40. I was sexually abused by JF-FPH It happened frequently. I would be in my bedroom with my brother in the cot. My brother was one and a half to two at that time. It was always at night time. It was always vaginal penetration. He would lie on top of me. I remember knocking on his door sometimes, asking him if he was going to come in that night. It must have been so regular for me to do that, at the age of four. That's how normal it was to me.

41. The abuse by Jimmy used to happen when FPH was downstairs or out of the flat. It always happened in the bathroom. Jimmy would ask me to suck on his penis. He would sit on the side of the bath and I would be on the floor. It happened most Saturday mornings. I used to sit at the bottom of the stairs and say to Jimmy, "Is it time to come up yet?"
42. Jimmy had a friend who came to visit with his dog. His name was FKC He was the adoptive father of my friend, He wasn't very nice either. Jimmy would take me to a house where I thought FKC lived. I would stand on a piece of newspaper and they would take photographs of me. I wasn't wearing any clothes. I don't remember being touched there. I never knew who those friends were at the time. We would walk to their house, under a tunnel and they lived in Wester Hailes. It was a similar flat to the one Jimmy and FPH lived in.
43. There was a girl at the flat who was my age, but I don't know if she was FKC daughter. I used to play with her. I loved going there because I got to play with the girl. Other than that, we were never taken out. Those were the only times I had with Jimmy. The only time I spent alone with Jimmy, abuse was taking place. My adoptive mother later reported this to the police, but at that time we didn't have names or anything else to go on so it was never taken any further. I subsequently discovered that two to three girls made allegations of sexual abuse against FKC. I don't think it went to court because Jimmy and FPH provided him with an alibi.

Reporting of abuse whilst at JF-FPH

44. One of the social workers asked me what I had done over the weekend. I think it was Freda. I told her I had been in the bedroom. I told her about the light bulb and door handles being removed. She went to check and the door handles and light bulb were there. They were only removed at the weekends. She tried to blame it on the trauma I'd experienced as a baby and a toddler. She suggested to me that it had happened in my old house, rather than Jimmy and FPH. Nothing came of it.

45. FPH found [REDACTED] on top of me in my bedroom, raping me, when I was about three and a half, four. FPH had seen [REDACTED] on top of me, but I think one of the other boys had told her to go in. FPH reaction wasn't nurturing, but she also didn't seem shocked. [REDACTED] went out of the room and I was left on the bed, crying. I think I just went to sleep and then the police came.
46. This all happened when my parents were trying to adopt me. It was a tiny flat and I now wonder why that was the time FPH chose to find [REDACTED]. In hindsight, I think it was set up to hide the other sexual abuse that was happening because she knew I was about to be adopted. She must have heard the abuse before. It was a very small flat and the abuse was happening frequently, right above the living room.
47. Social work notes were given to my adoptive parents before they adopted me. They outlined a history of what had happened to [REDACTED] and me and included reference to the involvement of the police. It stated: *FCY has developed a clear concept of the need to be protected, which was illustrated in the joint interview by social work and police, which took place following an incident of a young person behaving inappropriately towards FCY within the foster home. FCY perception of this incident was that the young person has exceeded the boundaries and was clear about her own right for protection. It is important to note that this was an isolated incident and steps were taken to ensure that such an incident did not reoccur. The whole incident was well handled by the carer and FCY has continued to be clear about her rights.*
48. That was absolute rubbish. It wasn't even what happened. When the police interviewed me, I said nothing had happened that was anything to worry about. They interviewed me in the house in the presence of Jimmy. It was never followed up. I remember being interviewed and I remember being scared. I felt this dread that I'd done something wrong. The carer was Jimmy. I wasn't going to say anything because I was terrified. I can't remember a social worker being present, but there must have been one there. I just remember crying. The whole time I was crying. The abuse had been on going. [REDACTED] had been coming into my room at night. I suddenly felt I was causing [REDACTED] to get into trouble. It was so confusing for a three year old. I

was also being abused by another person in the home, who was my foster father. I was being interviewed by the police, but I thought what had been going on was right.

49. I had no medical examination after that. I wasn't taken to the doctor's. They would have found semen inside me, but I wasn't checked over. I had abdominal pain as a child but it was never investigated. I remained at Jimmy and FPH [REDACTED] for about a year after that. [REDACTED] had to stop living in the flat because of the investigation, but he continued to visit. I don't think he carried on abusing me, but nothing else changed. Jimmy continued to abuse me. [REDACTED] has never been arrested for what happened to me.

Leaving foster care

50. [REDACTED] refused to give us up for adoption. She couldn't get any Legal Aid. That was delaying the court process because she wanted to fight it. It took quite a long time for it to go through. I think people had been doing work with me, telling me that I might not be adopted. They asked me how I would feel about my brother, [REDACTED] living with one family and me living with another family. I think they thought that [REDACTED] might be adopted separately. Then Freda told us that we were going to stay together and that I had a new a mummy and a daddy.
51. I was excited that I was going to have a mummy and daddy. I think I was more excited when I got to see them and go to their house. It was all done quite quickly in the end. We went to Saughton Park with FPH [REDACTED] and Jimmy and with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] before visiting their house. I didn't really know how to act. I remember going to visit for a half day. Their house was massive and it had a garden. Very soon after that visit, we went to stay there permanently.
52. I remember being in the car and going to my parents' FPH [REDACTED] was upset about us going. She said she would come and see us. I think there was an expectation that we'd find it hard to leave FPH [REDACTED] and Jimmy and that we'd attached very well to them. Mum and dad had to set up contact visits for FPH [REDACTED] and Jimmy to visit us in

our adoptive home. We were adopted at Easter time and they were supposed to come to my brother's birthday party in [REDACTED]. By that time, I hadn't told mum and dad about the abuse. I was so naughty on the morning of the party. I told them that I didn't want Jimmy to be there. I was sent to my bedroom because they thought I was tired. I was terrified about them coming. I knew I was secure with my mum and dad and I didn't want them around.

Life after leaving care

53. When [REDACTED] and I left foster care to live with our adoptive parents, we didn't have anything with us. The things we did have were given to us by my birth mum, like my big teddy bear. My hair was stuck to my head when I lived with [REDACTED] FPH [REDACTED] I hated it. My mum ended up only brushing my hair when it had conditioner in it and then plaiting it. I thought I was a fussy eater when I was with my foster family, but when I moved to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] I wasn't fussy. I had never had grapes before. They brought us grapes. I was amazed by them. I thought they would make a beautiful Christmas tree.
54. It was lovely at my mum and dad's. It was in stark contrast to where I'd come from. It wasn't just because mum and dad were quite wealthy, it was because it was light and airy. It was freeing. We had a lot of space. We were allowed to do a lot of things. Family traditions started. We went swimming and went to the park. I had a climbing frame. I started a new school. There was a lot of change. I had grans and granddads. People were visiting. We were part of a church and I had a lot of new friends. There was also a lot of me just bursting into tears spontaneously and getting angry and confused.
55. I had a lot of fear as a five year old. If you asked me what my surname was when I was five, I couldn't tell you. My mum used to give me a bottle when [REDACTED] was getting his bottle. I hadn't had that and I wanted to be a baby again. There was a lot of confusion and a lot of chaos. I was excited to be at my new mummy and daddy's,

but there was also a lot of confusion in me about how different things had been. That's when things started to come out.

56. I started school at [REDACTED] Primary School. It was really close to where I'd been in foster care, but things were so different. I went into primary one. My next door neighbour was my primary school teacher. My mum's a primary school teacher and my parents really pushed for me to have extra help. I had two special needs teachers. Within a year, I was developing quite quickly. I was still in the bottom sets, but by the time I got to primary three I'd moved up. I was house captain and volunteered for everything. I enjoyed the house corner. I used to get really frustrated when I couldn't understand things.
57. We used to get up really early. We used to have pancakes with raisins on a Saturday morning, then we would go and do a big food shop. We went swimming and I went to drama. We used to have bath time every night and there were loads of bubbles. We both had little wooden chairs, higher than normal chairs, that we used to sit in. Dinner was really fun, apart from [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] hadn't eaten anything so he had no ability to chew different textures. We got to watch cartoons on TV. We had toys and I had a wendy house outside. My mum took me to Laura Ashley and I suddenly had about twenty gingham dresses. She threw out all the clothes I'd had in foster care. Life was just so unbelievably different.
58. When I was in primary three, I told my teacher that my mum had left me in the house to take my brother to nursery. I was left in the garden, but the next door neighbour opposite was looking after me. She had just gone to drop [REDACTED] off. It was a safe garden. My teacher completely blew it out of proportion. She called the social work department. It was the first time that my mum got incredibly angry with me. I think she felt that I had made a big thing of it because I had been a victim. I wasn't. I think I told my teacher because I thought I'd been really grown up. I was so scared that I was going to be taken away from my parents. Up until the age of thirteen or fourteen, I had a fear that my parents would leave me every night.

59. I continued to thrive at school. I was a people pleaser. I probably tried to please a bit too much due to insecurity and the constant feeling that people would walk away. I enjoyed art. I moved from [REDACTED] Primary School to St. Margaret's School for Girls when I was in primary six. That was a real challenge because the girls there spoke a foreign language and played two instruments. My dad is incredibly musical and the head of music knew that. She really wanted me to play an instrument. For the first week of every term, she tried to get me to learn a new instrument. By the end of it, she accepted that I wasn't musical at all. I enjoyed drama and history. I did very well in my exams.
60. I left school at the end of fifth year because I knew I wanted to be a nurse. I moved to York to study nursing. I chose York because it was the best place to do nursing. I loved university. I got kicked out in my first year because I failed an exam twice. Nursing was really strict because of the time limits. At that time, my brother had just been put in prison for the second time and I wasn't really concentrating. I also failed because I had freedom and I was doing everything except for my studies. I was part of every society going. I was part of the Jewish Society even though I'm a Christian.
61. My younger brother had very traumatic early years and he'd never really had any help. His behaviour was managed at primary school, but when he got to high school it became unmanageable. He was expelled from Boroughmuir High School then he was expelled from Firhill High School. He then went to Merchiston Castle School and he was expelled from there too. He was finding things difficult to the point that he got a social worker from Scottish Adoption.
62. His behaviour was incredibly challenging. At times, my parents probably didn't deal with it in the best way. They didn't have a lot of support and they dealt with it as best they could. Despite the fact he was a little boy who had been completely neglected and had not been fed and was low on the percentile and had missed his developmental milestones, nobody came along and said, "No wonder he has issues." Nobody offered help. It was just put down to his behaviour. My dad is very different from [REDACTED]. He's academic and has a PHD and is very successful. The social worker thought it would be a good idea if [REDACTED] started to meet his birth family

to give him more of an identity. I was sixteen and I strongly disagreed with that. I thought it was a stupid idea. We'd been adopted for a reason and I felt that [REDACTED] had to be protected.

63. [REDACTED] found his birth father himself through Facebook. He was in Wester Hailes at the time. His name is [REDACTED] It resulted in [REDACTED] suffering from a serious head injury. He tried to steal his dad's motorbike and his dad took the engine off. [REDACTED] was about fourteen at the time. His life started to spiral out of control. He became part of Young Teams in Edinburgh. He ended up in secure unit at Howdenhall and St. Katharine's. [REDACTED] Secondary Institutions - to be published later
- [REDACTED] Secondary Institutions - to be published later

64. He used to see a Community Psychiatric Nurse in St. Katharine's. They would ask him what he enjoyed doing and he told them he liked sailing in the Caribbean Islands. He told them that he'd once crashed a ship in Antigua. They couldn't understand that his life was such a contrast and they found it difficult to deal with him. Intellectually, he was so much further on and had a sense of who he was, but he was involved in all this crime and an opposite kind of life.
65. [REDACTED] continued to run away. At that point, there were Children's Panel meetings. They were saying that [REDACTED] needed to have contact with his birth mother. I spoke at the Panel meetings and said that they shouldn't let him have contact with her. He was granted contact with her and they had arranged visits. [REDACTED] ended up running away to her house. He [REDACTED] after our mum gave him methadone.
66. I told the Children's Panel that they couldn't give responsibility to a chaotic fourteen year old boy to keep his sister safe from contact with her birth mother. I told them that if they granted contact to [REDACTED] they were also opening it up for me. It was also around that time when my brother told [REDACTED] that I'd been sexually abused in care. She had never been told that. We had never told [REDACTED] that I'd been sexually abused, but he was told by social workers at St. Katharine's Secure Unit. [REDACTED] got

my phone number from [REDACTED] She wanted to talk to me about the abuse I'd experienced in care.

67. It was a horrible time for us as a family. It was very broken. I felt again that social work were letting down my brother because nobody was helping him. It was all about his behaviour and it wasn't about what had happened to him. Nobody was listening to what we felt was the best thing for him. [REDACTED] Secondary Institutions - to be published later

[REDACTED] Secondary Institutions - to be published later

[REDACTED] Secondary Institutions - to be published later I wanted to get away from Edinburgh.

68. [REDACTED] ended up in Polmont Young Offenders Institute. He had a lot of previous convictions and they deemed it safe for the public that he was there. Initially, he went for a few months. He was released and within 48 hours he had committed 78 new offences. He was getting into a lot of trouble. He had a lot of misdiagnoses. He spent a further two years in Polmont. I was at university, but I continued to visit him in Polmont and see him when he was out.
69. It was a hopeless experience. My brother and I were taken out of a cycle and adopted, but that adoption wasn't supported. When that adoption was breaking down due to trauma that [REDACTED] had experienced and hadn't had his voice heard about, we weren't given support as a family for that adoption to work. We had a boy who was asking for his birth family. That's not what he was asking for. He was asking for security. It just seemed that this wide door was opened to [REDACTED] and it spiralled out of control.
70. When I failed my exam in first year of university, I appealed to the university to let me back in. I wrote to them and explained what had been going in my life, but also that I needed to stop doing so many activities like hockey. The university asked why I hadn't explained what had been going on in my life earlier. They allowed me to come back. I managed to complete my degree and I got a 2:1.
71. After he served his sentence, [REDACTED] came to live with me in Cambridge. He was twenty. I wanted to help him sort his life out and get out of Edinburgh. I had started

my job as a nurse. Dad had helped me to buy a house in Cambridge. [REDACTED] was still wanting to use different substances. He only lived with me for three months until he moved out, but he actually did quite well. We helped him to find a private let. He got a job and trained as a chef. He had a great group of friends and we continued to meet up. He got into a bit of bother, but nothing like before.

72. His psychiatric help wasn't good in Cambridge. That's when it started to transpire, what had actually been going on for him. He started to see a little girl following him and he was hearing voices. He felt somebody was taking over his body and he wanted to stab his housemate. I took him to hospital and then I became the worst sister in the world for trying to section my brother. He was asked to stay in hospital, but he refused to stay. He was seen by a forensic psychiatrist rather than a normal psychiatrist because he'd just been released from prison. The psychiatrist decided that he just needed anger management.
73. About eighteen months ago, [REDACTED] ended up being homeless. He had been the victim of domestic violence. He came to live with me and my husband when I was pregnant. Social work put me down as a vulnerable adult and my son as a child in need because [REDACTED] was living with us. I spoke to the duty social worker on the phone. She told me that I had had social work involvement before and it was all highly derogatory. I told her to look up the date and that had been in 1990, when I was in care. She apologised. [REDACTED] had to move out, but he now has accommodation. He's such an intelligent boy. He's doing quite well at the moment and he's in a stable place.
74. [REDACTED] mental health is currently too significant for him to work. He also self prescribes his depression and anxiety with street drugs. Our relationship is stable and I see him regularly. He's enjoying being an uncle. I think that's been a real blessing for him, that he can see that he can be a role model for somebody. If he had more support and somebody to sit down and listen to him, I think he would improve. But he's better than he has been.

75. I worked in accident and emergency and intensive care in Cambridge. I specialised in A and E and trauma. I took on the role of the safeguarding link nurse. I became involved in a serious case review there, which involved a four year old who had been sexually abused in an Asian family. That was quite challenging. I then worked in public health and school nursing in London. Child protection was one of the things within that. I realised that I really enjoyed the social work aspect of nursing rather than the clinical work. I enjoyed the people and the talking and the supporting.
76. After about two and a half years in Cambridge, I decided to move back to Edinburgh. I worked at Her Majesty's Prison, Addiewell. I then worked for Bethany Christian Trust and team [REDACTED] I moved into practice nursing and currently work at [REDACTED] Medical Practice. This winter, I've continued to work nights at the homeless shelter as well as working as a practice nurse and being a mum. It's been a busy time.
77. The Bethany Christian Trust has a few different remits. One of them is [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Some of my clients are some of my birth family who don't realise I work there. My brother's birth father uses it. They don't know who I am. I would never exceed my professional boundaries, but Edinburgh is a small place. In that kind of circle, everyone is connected to everyone in a certain way.
78. My husband and I knew each other before I went away to university. We attended the same church, [REDACTED] Edinburgh in Newington. We met again when I came back to Edinburgh. We got married in [REDACTED] 2016 and have a one year old son.

Reporting of abuse after leaving [REDACTED] JF-FPH

79. My behaviour was sexually inappropriate. I'd do things with my dolls. My mum hadn't really picked up on it, but it continued. I didn't tell her what had happened, but I behaved inappropriately to my brother when we were having a bath. My mum noticed. The night I disclosed what had happened to me, my mum wrote down what

I'd said straight away. It was [REDACTED] 1998, so I'd just turned six. I still have what she wrote. She gave me a cuddle and tried to reassure me.

80. The police came round. I was panicking because everyone was telling me that what had happened to me was wrong. I knew what I'd done to my brother was wrong so I was worried that I might go to prison. The police lady was really nice. She sat on the sofa with me. She said I was brave for telling people what had happened and that I hadn't done anything wrong. I told the police lady about Jimmy and [REDACTED]
81. My first contact with a lawyer was when I went to her room, near the museum. It must have been the Procurator Fiscal's office. I was with my mum. She showed me a red telephone and said that it was yellow. I told her it wasn't and that it was red. She kept saying it was yellow and I said it was red. She then said, "So you know the difference between lying and not lying." I remember I didn't get it. I felt so confused. I didn't understand why she was saying that the telephone was yellow because it wasn't yellow.
82. They told me that I wouldn't need to see Jimmy. By that time, I knew that Jimmy had abused other people. I had been told that it wasn't just me and that other people were going to be giving evidence. I remember asking repeatedly why FPH [REDACTED] wasn't getting into trouble. I kept being told that there was no evidence of anything that FPH [REDACTED] had done. I had a real sense of right and wrong and I knew that FPH [REDACTED] had known what was happening.
83. I gave evidence at the High Court when I was in primary two. It was on the Royal Mile. I went to school in the morning. My dad picked me up from school in a taxi. My parents had given me a little toy to take to the court room with me. We went upstairs. There were dodgy posters on the wall, like "Where's Wally", but they were "Find the Teddy Bear", in frames. I could see the court on a video. They told me Jimmy was coming in and I could hear his voice, but I wasn't able to see him.
84. Mum and dad weren't allowed to sit with me when I gave my evidence. There was a lady who sat with me, but I had never met her before. I didn't know who she was. It

wasn't as if they brought Freda or a social worker that I had a relationship with. She sat behind me. I remember saying that I wanted to my mum and dad, but I wasn't allowed them in the room.

85. I remember the judge talking to me. I remember saying what I had to say and getting emotional. Then the defence had to talk to me and I just couldn't handle it. The advocate suggested that it wasn't Jimmy who had done this to me and that it had happened to me when I lived with my birth mum. I said it had been Jimmy. They made me say penis and willy in court. They asked me to tell them exactly what had happened. I didn't want to say. I said, "Jimmy put his willy in my mouth." They asked me if it was his willy in my mouth. I just broke down. It was so rude for a little child to have to say that in front of everyone. I had to stop. I went out of the room to get hugs from my mum and dad.
86. I went back in. They kept asking me about it. It felt awful. I was terrified. Because people had spoken so much about the truth and lies, it was so confusing because then the adults were not telling the truth. I kept on saying, "But that's not true, what you're saying." For about an hour before I gave evidence, people had told me that it was so important to tell the truth, then adults were telling me lies.
87. The jury was allowed to hear my evidence but they were told to ignore it because of corroboration. I was the youngest witness to give evidence. There were others that he had abused who didn't want to give evidence in court. Some had committed suicide. He was only charged for what he did to a boy, a girl and [REDACTED] In 1999, Jimmy Farquhar was sentenced to six years imprisonment. My parents told me that even though Jimmy didn't go to prison because of what he did to me, I'd done a really good job and that the trial had come about because of what I'd told them. There had been many allegations about Jimmy before I was put into care, but those girls and boys hadn't been believed. Allegations had been made against him as early as 1987. Why he was still allowed to foster children, I don't know. It was the first time that someone had been believed.

88. My mum and dad received a letter from Lynsey Anderson at the Procurator Fiscal's office, dated 3rd March 2000 in relation to the case against [REDACTED]. It stated that Crown Counsel had decided not to take any proceedings against him. It was really confusing for us because nobody explained why that had decision was taken. I was very upset. I didn't understand why he was allowed to get away with what he'd done. I remember saying to my mum at the time that what [REDACTED] had done was worse than what Jimmy did. I was well aware that what [REDACTED] had done was really bad. All throughout my childhood, I didn't understand why [REDACTED] wasn't in prison. I just hope he isn't around children now.
89. I contacted the police at one point as an adult. They told me that it was the Crown Office that decided not to proceed with the case against [REDACTED]. They also said that the witness statement I gave when it happened and the witness statement I gave later on didn't add up. Of course they didn't because I was initially interviewed next to another person who was abusing me. The police advised me to contact the Procurator Fiscal Service. My baby son was quite young by the time they got back to me and I knew I was going to give evidence to the Inquiry. I just didn't want to do it at that time. I am so healed as a person. I don't go over what happened and I'm not a victim to it. What terrifies me is the fact that [REDACTED] isn't even on the Sex Offenders Register.
90. After I met with the Inquiry team, I provided consent for the police to contact me. Two uniformed community police officers from Bonnyrigg attended at my home address. When I asked if they were specialist officers, they were patronising and dismissive. The female officer said I shouldn't have contacted the police if I didn't want to speak to them. I knew they weren't the right people and I didn't want to have to share my story again.
91. A month later, at the end of May, an officer from the public protection unit contacted me. He apologised about the length of time it had taken. He said my file had been left on his desk and it had been at the bottom of the pile. He also said that they'd been very busy and he'd been working on a case involving a baby. I thought that was inappropriate, as Edinburgh is a village.

92. He came out to see me at my house. I had my records in front of me. Prior to his visit, he had been unaware that I was going to speak about [REDACTED] as well as James Farquhar. We spoke about what had happened and the dates. The officer said that the case was a lot bigger than he had realised, given it involved physical abuse and neglect as well as sexual abuse. He said that he would need to pass the case on to somebody else.
93. He had a file of papers with him. There was a photo of James Farquhar on the papers, which was visible to me. I hadn't seen Jimmy since I was five years old. If I had been in any way vulnerable or in the midst of abuse or if I had not healed, I could have been triggered by that image. If an officer is coming to take a statement from somebody in their safe place, that is not okay.
94. After that officer left, I didn't hear anything for three to four weeks. At that time, somebody called me from Fettes. She said that she had received my statement from the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry. I was confused because I hadn't seen my statement yet. I think she was mistaken in the language she used. The officer told me that she would arrange for me to give a statement, but there was a lot to go through and that she would speak to her senior and get back to me.
95. The officer told me that I should try and get hold of the statements I gave to the police when I was a child. I think she thought it would help me to remember what had happened and what I had said at that time. I'm not sure what benefit there would be in that. After talking to other people, I became concerned that any it could undermine my statement. I remember what happened to me. It may be that if I read my previous statements before giving a new statement, the statement could then be criticised for being based on what I'd read rather than my current recollection. I'm aware that the statements I gave as a child were different and I'm aware of the reasons for that. I now feel that I would only be willing to give a statement to the police if I have a solicitor present.
96. The officer contacted me the following day to say that there was a delay. That was a month ago and I have heard nothing since. It has made me feel like I don't want to

give my statement. I think that kind of delay makes people think that what they have to say is not worthwhile. They lose trust in the system. If my lifestyle was chaotic, I would feel let down again. It feels like another closed door and that there is nothing else you can do to have your voice heard. I think the police should not delay scratching the surface of what was going on in Wester Hailes police at the time.

97. My recent contact with the police made me go from feeling that I would give my statement and it would have an impact to feeling that it's not worthwhile. There is a website called Edinburgh Exposure which is a vigilante website about paedophiles. I can understand why people who don't have stable lives would take matters into their own hands.
98. The longer I have to wait for the police to get in contact with me, the less I feel that I want to provide another statement. I ask myself why I would put myself through that. A part of me doesn't want to pursue contact with the police because I don't want to be seen as attention seeking and a victim.

Impact

99. After I was adopted, it was quite difficult for my mum and dad. I was terrified of a lot of things. All the wardrobe doors had to be closed in my room and the bedroom door had to be wide open. I was convinced they were going to leave me in the middle of the night and not come back. I was quite fussy about the way they looked after [REDACTED] My parents had a nice girl's bedroom for me downstairs and [REDACTED] had a room with blue sails. I remember my parents trying to encourage me to stay in my room. It was lovely. It was pink and it was next to the garden, but I didn't want it. I wouldn't stay in the room by myself. [REDACTED] bedroom was tiny, but I had to be with [REDACTED] I wouldn't go to sleep unless I was holding [REDACTED] hand through the cot.
100. I always had a fear that my parents would leave or that I would be taken from them. I think it went away when I was about twelve in the house, but it continued when we went on holiday. It took me a while to settle into any new place we were staying. I

would be very scared. I wouldn't sleep properly. I had to have the door open and I would wake up at any noise. I still find it hard to settle in new places at night time. I moved to a new house recently. Up until a few months ago, I was terrified of being alone at night. I was convinced that somebody was going to break in and attack me. Because safety wasn't instinct to me, my instinct is not to feel safe when I'm in a new situation. Whereas that sometimes used to take months to settle, it now settles within a few hours but it's still there.

101. My foster mother, ^{FPH} [REDACTED] continued to live in Edinburgh. She worked at [REDACTED]. We bumped into her when I was eight or nine years old. I didn't really want to go to [REDACTED] again, which was a shame because there was a Disney shop there. I recognised her straight away. She scurried away. Jimmy was released early from his sentence. My mum always told me that he wouldn't be living nearby, but I subsequently learned that Jimmy returned to Wester Hailes. .
102. The court process was very confusing. I knew my voice had been heard, but I still don't understand why [REDACTED] wasn't arrested at the time it happened and why my evidence wasn't taken into account. The court experience was very dark for me as a child. Hopefully it's changed a bit, but it wasn't an easy place to give evidence. They didn't get the best evidence from me because of the environment that there was. Even if my mum and dad had been allowed to sit with me, saying rude words in front of strangers would have been hard. I didn't want to say those words. It was a hard place for me to talk.
103. In the course of my work with homeless people, I ended up crossing paths with Dena Croy professionally. I told her that I used to be in Stenhouse and she asked me how long I had worked there. I told her I used to be there as a kid. When she found out that I'd been sexually abused, she took early retirement for medical reasons because she felt so awful about what had happened. She'd worked with me from such a young age. She told me she'd fought to have me taken away from [REDACTED] earlier. There were three [REDACTED] a man was murdered and a man was torched in the bath in the flat where we stayed. I was a witness to all of these things as a toddler. The police attended, but I was never taken away from my mum at that point. She

had obviously invested in fighting for me to be put into care. Then she found out what had happened to me and it was too much for her.

104. I danced a lot when I was younger. I found that to be incredibly healing. I did a mixture of free movement dancing and I did ballet too. As a child, that was where I received a lot of my healing and I managed to get rid of a lot of anger. I still dance now, but not as much as I used to. Dance is really important to me. It allowed me to be a child.
105. I found school really hard. At primary school, there was so much emotional stuff going on and living and growing and saying yes and saying no. There was a big secret that I knew about myself that nobody else knew. I didn't want to share it with other people, but I knew how different I was and that it shouldn't have happened to me. I lied to cover things up about myself.
106. I never wanted to fail. If I thought I was going to get into trouble, I would already have a whole story of lies ready. I couldn't allow myself to do anything wrong. Right up until being a teenager, I could not be seen as not being perfect. I think that's normal for a child who's been moved so much. You think it's because of you. You think that all these things are happening because you're not good enough.
107. I think the abuse has had some impact on my mental health. It was stressful, trying to be perfect all the time. As a child, I was also trying to protect my brother. If I knew he had done something naughty, I was hyper vigilant at covering up his tracks for him. By the time I got to university, it was more the question of who am I and who do I want to be? Am I ^{FCY} or is there a part of me who is the person from my birth family? When I went to York, I was completely cutting off everything from home so I could try and be who I wanted to be. I managed to meet this middle ground.
108. I've had times of feeling incredibly angry and low about what happened to me. I had significant nightmares as a child. I walked out of the house and ran around the garden and couldn't settle. I couldn't do all the developmental things of children

being left to play alone. I needed somebody to be there. Even at the age of ten, I had to know where the adults were. Despite that, I would say that I've been incredibly blessed that my mental health has been so okay. That's because I had a lot of consistent love and I chose to take that. I also wasn't allowed to be a victim of my circumstance.

109. Maybe I needed to talk about it more sometimes. My mum perhaps minimised what happened, but I think she was showing me that I didn't need to live in that past and that I could move on from it. I would've tried to push things further in relation to [REDACTED] going to court. I would've wanted the conviction of Jimmy to be pushed further too. At the time, my mum was a young lady who wanted children. She'd spent years doing IVF and then years doing adoption preparation. She thought that she'd got this beautiful little girl and this little boy and then there was all this trauma. She just wanted that to be over and to start life. I completely understand that, but knowing who I am, I would have wanted more to come of it.
110. I had counselling when I was fourteen or fifteen because I wanted it. I went to Hope Counselling, which is at the Kings Hall in Edinburgh. I didn't find it helpful and I stopped it. I thought it was bringing stuff up. I knew the counsellor too, so it wasn't good for me and I wasn't in the right place. I got more when I was at university, but that was more to do with what was going on with my brother at that point in time. It did pick up on the abuse I experienced in care as well. I then had more counselling about two and a half years ago, just before I got married.
111. I think being in care has impacted upon me in that I know I have this story and it's a completely different story compared to how my life is now. I'm in a place where I know I'm incredibly healed. I'm not a victim to what happened to me. But I do feel that it hasn't left me because I don't want it to keep happening. I feel that my voice is quite strong when it comes to looking after children or getting alongside the forty year old alcoholic man in the homeless shelter who has been in the care system. There is that drive within me to love those who haven't had the chance to be adopted or have a go at things. That's never going to leave me. I can do it safely now because I've had counselling and left things behind.

112. However, there is a childhood that I'll never get back. That's gone and it was taken away from me. It affected my worth when I was a young lady in sexual relationships. I just didn't feel that I had that worth. It wasn't something that's romantic, it wasn't something that's loving, it wasn't something that was supposed to be the way that it is. I didn't respect myself and why would I? That's hard to explain to people who think you're a middle class girl, but they don't know my story. Counselling helped me to deal with that too. It ensured I could have love and physical contact that was safe. My husband was great at helping me with that. He's so gentle compared to any other man that I've been in a relationship with.
113. It affected me as a mother when I gave birth. Never was I asked about any experience of trauma I'd had previously, by my midwife or anybody else. As soon as I had a sweep to see how dilated I was, all of a sudden that trauma came back to me. I hated it and I closed up. It was as if my body fully remembered what had happened. I had a panic attack. That continued to happen.
114. When I was in labour, I did tell my midwife that I'd been through trauma but she just didn't get it. It didn't change the way I was treated. I ended up having an emergency caesarean section. I read a book called, "Your Body Remembers." It was about how much your body does remember, even though you have been healed. If I had another baby, I would make sure I had a doula or someone with me. I would want them to know about the trauma. I think it's a question that's worth asking but people don't like to do that. Everyone has experienced different trauma. I know now that if I have another baby, I'd want a woman alongside me that could deal with those emotional needs, encourage me and talk through that.
115. I was quite physically unwell during my pregnancy. I got septic. I had a really good consultant. He referred me to a psychiatrist because he found out that I was adopted. He had done a research project that showed that adoptive mums over parent because they want to succeed at absolutely everything. The psychiatrist said he didn't expect to see somebody that was so sorted and self-aware. He said he didn't think that I would over parent. That was the only time in my pregnancy that somebody picked up on the fact that I might need extra help.

116. I've been shown great compassion. I know that's got me to the place I'm in. I can see how much compassion people need to be able to get over stuff. I can see how much love it took for me and the years of love and the years of consistency. It's not a six month programme and it's not a quick counselling session, it's consistent love and support. That is who I am and who I want to be. I have put myself into jobs where I get to show that, but I think there have been situations where I've been asked to take on roles that I won't take on. I know that they might be too close to home. I would find that I may be acting out of a place of wanting to save everyone. I really wanted to do health visiting. I knew that because of what I've been through I would find that the most challenging role. I would want to save every single child, which you can't do. I knew a lot of that would be because of my experience rather than the professional stuff I'd learnt.
117. After I met the Inquiry team, I was impacted upon about how much [REDACTED] had been the only light at a dark time. I wanted to reach out and thank him. I managed to get in touch with him through Facebook. [REDACTED] disclosed a lot about what he had gone through at the time, including being given potato peelings to eat and being physically assaulted by Jimmy. He remember [REDACTED] being brought back from hospital, addicted to heroin. His birth father had complained about him turning up for contact visits without adequate clothing when his sister was dressed in new clothes. He also disclosed his father had tried to get him removed from JF-FPH [REDACTED] care. Each time [REDACTED] father complained, it resulted in him being treated worse, so it stopped.
118. [REDACTED] also shared that he knew that [REDACTED] had been abusing me. He spoke of another girl called [REDACTED] being abused, but I don't know her. When Jimmy got arrested, he said his life became very difficult because he was fifteen or sixteen and told to leave and fend for himself. He was given a house, but he had no other support. The feelings he had about being in care mirrored mine, without me having shared anything previously. It's the first time that's happened to me. I realised I wasn't the only child going through absolute torture in that house. It makes me angry. Services knew what was going on with [REDACTED] and I. They also knew what was happening with [REDACTED]. They still failed to intervene. Its staggering.

Records

119. When I left JF-FPH my parents were given a Child's Profile which contained some social work records, some information about my birth mother and her relationships, some information from the pre-adoption medical and some background information about my character. It disclosed that I didn't really like men and that was something they were working on.
120. When I was trying to get a mortgage for my first house, I had great difficulty because they wouldn't accept my adoption certificate. The lender said that they needed a birth certificate. My parents had already tried to obtain my birth certificate without success. I approached the records office on the Royal Mile. They told me that they didn't have it and it was still held at the High Court in Edinburgh. I still don't have my birth certificate.
121. I tried to get hold of my full social work records so they could help me prior to giving a police statement. I approached the council in writing in terms of the Data Protection Act. The council told me that don't have them anymore. They found out that some of my records are still at the High Court. They advised some were at Scottish Adoption. I've written to Scottish Adoption but am still waiting for a response.

Hopes for the Inquiry

122. I think a child in care is not from nought to eighteen. A child in care is a child in care from when he's put in care and for the rest of his life. I don't think the support ends at eighteen. Once you've been in care, I think you need support throughout all of these major milestones that you then go through. Whether it be marriage or having a baby, the things that happen to you come back. I think we need to get rid of this mind-set that a child stops when he's eighteen. Your experience of care continues throughout your whole life at different times. It's unnatural to be taken away from your family and put with other people. You don't have that natural mind-set of how family life

develops. You need somebody to walk you through that when your own life develops.

123. I look back on how many times I told my story when I was in care in a way that wasn't verbal. When I drew the family tree or when I burst into tears when I was with Jimmy, that was a child trying to tell her story without words. It's very unusual for a child not to tell his story. I find that in my line of work. Children are very good at drawing pictures. Children don't sit on the knees of people they're scared of. Children will tell what's going on.
124. We can get entangled in policy and documentation and looking after this and looking after that. At the end of the day, if foster parents aren't that loving and nurturing type then we really shouldn't be placing children with them. I don't think compassion is something we can teach, but I think it's something that you can see in people. My brother was given help up until he started to break the law. Then it was punishment. For so many young boys and girls, that's when they need the care and the compassion and the love the most. Teaching of how to love children and how to keep giving them chances and keep showing them their worth is so important. So many children in care don't know their worth. I see that in the homeless shelter, they don't think they're worth it. They think they're a child in the system. They don't think they're worthy of love and consistency. I think love should be the standard, not anything else. Every child is deserving of love.
125. I have no objection to my witness statement being published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed.....

FCY
[Redacted Signature]

Dated.....

17/8/2018 .