Response of Inverciyde Council to Section 21 Notice from the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

1

All records, correspondence, policies, procedures, reports, file notes, minutes and other documents of a similar nature in whatever form in the possession or otherwise within the control of Inverclyde Council on its behalf showing or tending to show any information relating to the migration abroad of children whose care originated in Scotland (i) generally and (ii) in respect of specific children during the period 1 January 1900 to 17 December 2014 including but not restricted to:

(a) Information received about child migration programmes:

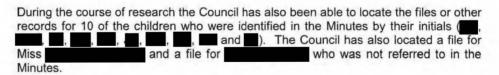
The Council attaches Activity Log A of its designated working party containing all relevant information found following an extensive search of the Burgh Minutes held by Inverclyde Council comprising of Greenock Corporation Minutes, Port Glasgow Town Council Minutes, Gourock Burgh Minutes and Renfrew Burgh Education Minutes. In all, the working party have researched approximately 270 volumes of Burgh Minutes.

Although the Council has found references to individual cases of child emigration we have found no evidence of a child migration programme in operation from 1900 to 2014 in any of the Burghs which formed part of what is now known as Invercible.

(b) Invitations or requests for children to be migrated and responses to any such invitations or requests:

From the research undertaken the Council found only one child in the context of emigration named in the Burgh Minutes, namely Miss The Council has identified the initials of 16 children who were invited to either accompany relatives abroad or to join them abroad. The Council has also found the initials of one child who emigrated to New Zealand with a family with whom she was employed. There is reference in the Burgh Minutes to two further children who have been unidentified and regarding whom we have no information concerning the reason for their proposed emigration.

There is evidence of the Children's Committees of Greenock Corporation and Port Glasgow Town Council considering applications made by relatives abroad in relation to children in the care of the local authority and applications made by relatives who wished to emigrate abroad with children who were in the care of the local authority. The initials of the specific children and names where we have been able to ascertain them and the decisions of the Children's Committee are detailed in Activity Log A attached hereto together with the relevant pages from the specific Burgh minute in PDF form.



In particular the Council has identified the undernoted Minutes which either make reference to the emigration of children generally or refer to specific children. Where the Council has located relevant case files or other records, details are also provided.

- Greenock Corporation Minutes, June 1950, Children's Committee there is reference to the Committee noting an article had appeared in the Glasgow Herald newspaper regarding a scheme where deprived 8-14 year olds might be settled in Australia and receive a trade. (Item 1 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, June 1950, Children's Committee the Committee recommended not participating in the above mentioned scheme in respect of any of the children under their care (Item 2 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, October 1951, Children's Committee the Committee agreed to pay the fare of the child, to migrate to Canada (Item 3 of Activity Log A).

A subsequent search of archived files led to the discovery of the case file for the child born 1936 who emigrated to Canada with her mother's consent so she could continue living with her aunt and family who were emigrating there. (Item 4 of Activity Log A).

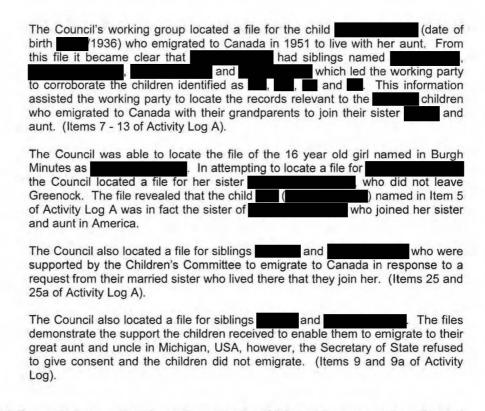
• Greenock Corporation Minutes, June 1952, Children's Committee – the Committee recommended that the Children's Officer be authorised to expend the sum of £37 as a contribution towards the fare of who was leaving the district to reside with her aunt in America. (Item 5 of Activity Log A).

has	been	identifie	d as			. (Case notes were located by the
working	group	within	the	file	of	s sister namely
	, confi	rming th	nat			emigrated to America with her Aunt).

The same Committee of June 1952 also agreed that the Children's Officer should make the necessary arrangements for the children and to be adopted by their aunt in America.

- Greenock Corporation Minutes, December 1952, Children's Committee agreed to recommend that the local authority would pay £45 towards the cost of the fare of the girl to enable her to emigrate to Canada to join her sister there. (Item 6 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, 4 August 1953, Children's Committee the Committee agreed that in connection with the proposed emigration to Canada of and and and the children's Officer was to ascertain the proportion of these Children's fares the grandparents were prepared to meet and report thereon at the next meeting. (Item 7 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, 1953, Children's Committee the Committee agreed that the Corporation should meet the travelling expenses incurred in the emigration to Canada of , , , and and but an endeavour should in the first instance be made to secure assisted passages. (Item 8 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, 1954, Children's Committee the Committee agreed to meet the fares to be incurred in the emigration to Canada of and and separately that subject to the approval of the Secretary of State being obtained, arrangements should be made by the Children's Officer for the emigration to America of and and the fares being paid by the local authority. (Item 9 of Activity Log A). The case notes of and have been located. The children did not emigrate the Scottish Home Department having refused the application. (Item 9a of Activity Log A).

- Port Glasgow Town Council Minutes, 06/12/1954, Children's Committee the Children's Officer submitted a request from the aunt of a boy requesting he be allowed to join her and her husband in Australia. It was agreed by the Committee that the child would be discharged from care prior to emigrating. (Item 14 of Activity Log A).
- Port Glasgow Town Council Minutes, 06/06/1955, Children's Committee there
 is reference to the Town Clerk investigating the position regarding the child
 who had not yet been allowed to emigrate to Australia. (Item 15 of Activity Log
 A).
- Port Glasgow Town Council Minutes, 1955, Children's Committee the Town Clerk reported that the Secretary of State had now conveyed his consent to the emigration of and that he had been handed over to his aunt and would be sailing to Australia shortly. (Item 16 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, October 1956, Children's Committee the Committee agreed that subject to the approval of the Secretary of State being obtained, arrangements should be made for to emigrate to Canada to reside there with his brother. (Item 17 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, 02/09/1958, Children's Committee the Committee gave approval to the emigration of a girl to emigrate to New Zealand in order to accompany a family for whom she had been employed. (Item 18 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, 30/09/1959, Children's Committee the Committee agreed to support the emigration to America of the child to allow her to reside with her aunt there subject to the approval of the Secretary of State. (Item 19 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, 01/12/1959, Children's Committee the Corporation agreed that post-war credit should be paid to the 16 year old girl who was emigrating to relatives in America with Secretary of State approval. (Item 20 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, 05/04/1960, Children's Committee the Committee agreed to recommend that post-war credit should be forwarded to the girl in New York. (Item 22 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, 05/09/1961, Children's Committee the Committee recommended that approval be given to the proposal that and should emigrate to live with their married sister in Australia. (Item 24 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, 06/03/19962, Children's Committee the Committee agreed that the Children's Officer should explore the possibility of and emigrating to Australia through the agency of the Fare Bridge Society. (Item 25 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes, 03/09/1968, Children's Committee the Committee agreed to give £5 to a Quarriers worker who volunteered to escort two children who were being adopted in Canada and to visit them while she was on holiday there prior to her return. (There were no name or initials given for the two children concerned and no other information to enable the Council to identify the children). (Item 26 of Activity Log A).



(b) (sic) Requested or preferred requirements for children who were to be migrated including medical, age and gender preferences:

As outlined above the Council has not detected any evidence to indicate that there was a child migration programme in operation. The majority of incidences of migration were in the context of the relevant Committees responding to specific requests by relatives abroad who wished a child or children to join them or relatives who wished a child, in the care of the local authority, to accompany them abroad.

(c) The selection of children for migration;

We have not found any evidence of a policy of migration and accordingly there was no selection criteria. At Items 1 and 2 of Activity Log A there is reference to the Children's Committee of Greenock Corporation in 1950 noting a report had appeared in the "Glasgow Herald" containing details of a scheme whereby deprived children between the ages of 8 and 14 might be settled in Australia and where they would receive training for a trade or profession. The implications of this scheme were discussed by the Committee, but after consideration it was agreed to recommend that the Corporation should not "meantime" participate in this scheme in respect of any of the children under their care.

We have read all Burgh Minutes for the Corporation of Greenock and Port Glasgow Town Council Minutes from 1900 to 1974 and there is no further reference to this scheme.

(d)	Medical	or other	examinations	of	proposed	child	migrants:
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Not applicable.

(e) Financial information relating to the migration of children;

The Council has found reference to the Children's Committee of Greenock Corporation agreeing to fund the passage of children abroad but this was in cases where applications had been made by family members expressing the desire to either care for or adopt the child.

In particular the undernoted Minutes referred to in Activity Log A are relevant:

- Greenock Corporation Minute October 1951, page 558 the Children's Committee agreed to arrange the passage of money of amounting to £64 4s and 2d (Item 3 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minute June 1952, page 320 the Children's Committee authorised the Children's Officer to expend the sum of £37 as a contribution towards the fare of who was leaving the district to reside with her aunt in America.
- Separately the same Children's Committee considered the case of and and after consideration it was agreed to recommend that the Children's Officer should make the necessary arrangements for these children to be adopted by their aunt and if necessary make a contribution towards their travelling expenses to America (Item 5 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes December 1952 the Children's Committee agreed that the local authority would pay £45 towards the cost of fare to Canada for girl to enable her to join her sister in Canada (Item 6 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes 1953 the Children's Committee asked the Children's Officer to ascertain the proportion of fares the grandparents were prepared to meet for the proposed emigration to Canada of and and and (Item 7 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes 1953 the Children's Committee agreed to meet the travelling expenses incurred in the emigration to Canada of and but an endeavour was to be made in the first instance to secure the assisted passages (Item 8 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes 1954 the Children's Committee agreed that (a) the local authority should meet the fares, estimated at £200, to be incurred in the emigration to Canada of , , and and (b) that subject to the approval of the Secretary of State arrangements should be made by the Children's Officer for the emigration to America of , the fares being paid by the local authority (Item 9 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes 2 September 1958 the Children's Committee
 gave approval to the proposal that a girl emigrate to New Zealand with a
 family with whom she had been working and the Committee agreed to
 recommend a grant of £50 would be made to assist in meeting the expenses of
 the girl (Item 18 of Activity Log A).

- Greenock Corporation Minutes 30 September 1959 the Children's Committee recommended that no objections be taken to the proposal that a girl who had been received into care be allowed to emigrate to America to reside with an aunt who would meet all expenses involved (Item 19 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes December 1959 the Children's Committee considered a letter from the Children's Officer intimating that Miss aged 16 years, was desirous of emigrating to relatives in America and that permission had been given to this by the Secretary of State for Scotland and the girl's present guardian had approached the Children's Officer requesting that a post-war credit amounting to £10 0s 8d should be paid to the girl in view of her proposed emigration and discharge from care and after consideration it was agreed to recommend that although the girl had not yet reached the age of 18, payment should be made (Item 20 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes April 1960 the Children's Committee agreed that post-war credit should be forwarded to New York for a girl (Item 22 of Activity Log A).
- Greenock Corporation Minutes September 1968 the Children's Committee agreed that a gift of £5 should be paid to an employee of Quarriers Homes who had volunteered to escort two children to Canada as she was going on holiday there and had undertaken to visit the children and their adopters before returning (Item 26 of Activity Log A).

(f) Details relating to the obtaining or otherwise of children's consent to their migration:

There is evidence that the relevant Committees sought the views of children before reaching a decision about emigration but this was only in response to specific enquiries from family members abroad or family members who wished to emigrate abroad with children who were in care.

In the course of our receased we have legated files or records for 10 of the children

in the course of t	our research we have located lifes of records for	TO OF THE CHILDREN
identified by their	initials in the Minutes. In particular we have found	I the files relating to
the children	 – see Item 4 of Activity Log A), 	
- see Item 5 of the	e Activity Log A),	, and
	and — Items 7 to 13 of Activity Log A), and
(and Item 9 of Activity Log A) and	and
	and - Item 24 of Activity Log A).	's sister,
	, was named in the Burgh Minutes and her file	was also located.
(Items 20 ar	nd 21 of Activity Log A).	
	the course of searching for a file found the cas	
named	, who is believed to be a cousin of the afor	rementioned
and her	siblings. His file is located within Item 13a c	of the Activity Log.
Although	was over 18 years at the time of his emigr	ration, he had been

There is evidence from the files recovered that the Children's Officer sought the views of children prior to writing to the Scottish Home Department in order to seek the approval of the Secretary of State to any proposed emigration. In particular reference is made to the file of (Item 4 of Activity Log A) where it is clear the Children's Officer sought her views regarding the proposed emigration and the file of

in the care of the local authority prior to emigration and had been assisted by the Children's Officer in his plans to emigrate. File recovered contains a letter from

to the Children's Officer, Mr Kelly, expressing his gratitude for assistance.

	The second secon
	(Item 21), who expressed the view that she wished to emigrate to reside with her sister who had emigrated to America in 1952 to reside with her aunt in Brooklyn, USA.
	also wrote to the Children's Officer once she was settled in America and provided an update. (Item 23 of Activity Log A).
(g)	Details relating to the obtaining or otherwise of parental consent and to child migration:
	As is the position with the answer to (f) from our research there is evidence that in the cases of the kinship placements we found, that the consent of parents was sought. This is apparent from the files recovered for the child (Item 4 of Activity Log A) and the files for her siblings and who emigrated to Canada with their grandparents in 1954 to join and her aunt. (Items 7 to 13 of Activity Log A are relevant).
	In particular in the file of a letter dated 27 July 1961 is present within the file from the Children's Officer to the Children's Branch of the Scottish Home Department in support of the case for the girl being allowed to emigrate to Canada with her aunt and family subject to the approval of the Secretary of State. There is a reply dated 16 August 1951 on file from the Scottish Home Department advising that under Section 17(2) of the Children Act 1948 "The Secretary of State shall not give his consent unless, inter alia, "The parents or guardian of the child have been consulted or that it is not practicable to consult them". In this case the Secretary of State advised unless it was not practicable to consult with the mother her consent should be sought. Ultimately, the mother's signed consent having been obtained the Secretary of State appears to have given permission to the proposed emigration.
(h)	Details relating to the obtaining of consent from persons in authority within an establishment (such as the mother superior or superintendent or management of an establishment, to child migration:
	Not applicable.
(i)	Details relating to the obtaining or otherwise of the consent of local and central government to child migration:
	There is certainly evidence from the Greenock Corporation and Port Glasgow Town minutes that the Councillors, Officials and Children's Officer were aware of an obligation to seek the consent of the Secretary of State. The copy Burgh minutes and files detailed in Items 4, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 21 and 22 of activity log A all provide examples of the Children's Committee only granting approval to the proposed emigration of children where the consent of the Secretary of State had been granted.
	Item 4: There is correspondence present in the case file of showing that the Children's Officer wrote to the Secretary of State for Scotland seeking approval to the proposed emigration to Canada of this girl with her Aunt and family. The files and records recovered relating to siblings, and land land land land land land land

unless "the parents or guardian of the child have been consulted or that it is not practicable to consult them". The Secretary of State had recalled that in relation to there had been difficulty in obtaining the consent of her mother and it was pointed out it would simplify matters considerably if the mother could be found in order to give her consent.

Item 6: There is reference in the Greenock Corporate minutes in 1952 to the approval of the Secretary of State being sought to the proposal that the girl should be permitted to emigrate to Canada for the purpose of residing with her sister.

Item 9: There is reference in the Greenock Corporation minutes in 1954 to the Children's Officer making arrangements for the emigration to America of and subject to the approval of the Secretary of State. Having located the file for the Council notes that these children did not emigrate to America, Secretary of State not consenting because in this case the requirements of Section 39 of the Ad Act 1950 were not satisfied (see file in 9a)

Item 16: Port Glasgow Town Council minutes in 1955 make reference to the Town Clerk reporting that the Secretary of State had conveyed his consent to the emigration of to Australia in order that he may reside with his aunt.

Item 17: The Greenock Corporation minutes 1956 make reference to the Children's Committee recommending an arrangement should be made for to emigrate to Canada to reside with his brother subject to the approval of the Secretary of State.

Item19: The Greenock Corporation minutes 1959 make reference to the Children's Committee recommending there be no objection to the proposed emigration of the girl subject to the approval of the Secretary of State.

Item 20: The Greenock Corporation minutes December 1959 reflect that the Secretary of State for Scotland had now given permission for Miss aged 16 years, to emigrate to relatives in America.

Enquiries have been made by the Council with National Records of Scotland to ascertain if there is any record of individual children's names and details where the consent of the Secretary of State was given to emigration, however, the Council understands no such records have been retained.

 (j) Details relating to arrangements for care of child migrants once at their destinations, including requests made and information received about the situation and environment to which children were to be migrated;

Not applicable.

 (k) Details relating to the establishments abroad to which children were to be migrated, including correspondence, policies, procedures and information relating to inspection and reporting processes of the institutions receiving child migrants;

Not applicable.

(I) Information given to child migrants prior to their migration;

Not applicable. We have found no evidence of a policy of child migration.

(m) Travel arrangements for child migrants;

Not applicable.

 (n) Details of how contact was progressed to be maintained with child migrants' home country and family;

Not applicable.

(o) Information prepared or received relating to children who had been migrated, including post-migration monitoring and information in relation to welfare, supervision and aftercare of children migrated; and

Not applicable.

 (p) Details of communications or correspondence with parents and other family of children prior to or following the child's migration (such as parents requesting to have a child returned or enquiring about a child's welfare);

Not applicable.

Correspondence and other documents in the possession or otherwise within the control of Inverclyde Council in respect of the period 17 December 2014 to the date hereof in relation to past migration abroad of children whose care originated in Scotland.

None.

3. An inventory of all documents falling within paragraphs 1 and 2 above.

We enclose an inventory of items falling within paragraph 1. We do not have any documentation falling within paragraph 2.

 Any record or document indicating, showing or describing the whereabouts of any record or document falling within paragraph 1 and 2 above such record or document is outwith the possession and/or under the control of Inverclyde Council.

All records relevant to paragraph 1 are attached herewith. We have no records pertaining to paragraph 2.

- Failing principals, copies, electronic copies, digital or other medium copies, drafts or duplicates of the above or any of them.
 Please see above.
- A list of all the children whose care originated in Scotland who, to the best of Inverciyde Council's knowledge, were migrated abroad during the period 1 January 1900 to 17 December 2014 including the names, dates of birth, where they were from,

their parental situation, the establishment they resided in prior to migration, where they migrated to (including the name of institution or other carer) and when, whether or not they had siblings in care and whether or not any such siblings were also migrated.

We have located files or other records relating to 10 of the children who have been referred to in the Burgh minutes by their initials. 2 of the children, namely and did not emigrate as Secretary of State approval was not provided. As stated above, we were able to locate a file for and a separate file for and a separate file for all and a separate file for a locate a file for a locate and a separate file for a locate and a separate file for a locate a fi

All the case files located support our understanding that there was no policy of migration in Inverclyde or any of its predecessors. Our investigation has led us to conclude that all, bar one of the children, emigrated abroad in response to a kinship request with the Council responding to that request and assisting passage.

It has not been possible to produce an exhaustive list of all the children whose care originated in Scotland who, to the best of Inverclyde Councils knowledge, may have migrated abroad during the period 1 January 1900 to 17 December 2014. As stated above, we have found no evidence of a policy of migration.

The Council has attempted to locate files for the remaining 7 children who have been mentioned in the Burgh minutes by their initials, ie. [10],

The Council has attempted to ascertain if any other individual search of the hard copy or scanned copy files held by or on behalf of Inverclyde Council would provide any further information about the children identified only by their initials. A physical search of the files is not possible with any degree of accuracy or assurance without the details of any individual name or date of birth.

Gerard Malone

Head of Legal & Property Services

Date: 17th December 2018

Undernote referred to:

Names	Date of birth	Where were the children from	Parental situation at time of emigration	Residence prior to emigration	Where were they migrated to and year emigrated
	1936	Greenock	Father: deceased. Mother: in desertion. Child boarded out with aunt and uncle, Mr and Mrs since child was 3. Mother consented to emigration, 1951		(1951).
	1938	Greenock	Father: deceased Mother: in desertion. Child boarded out with Grandparents Mrs and Mr Mother consented to emigration by signed but undated letter (probably 1954).		(1954).
	1939	Greenock	Father: deceased Mother: In desertion Child boarded out with Grandparents Mrs and Mr Mother consented to emigration by signed but undated letter (probably 1954).		(1954).
	/1942	Greenock	Father:		

		Mother in desertion. Child boarded out with Grandparents Mrs and Mr Mother consented to emigration by signed but undated letter (probably 1954).	Canada (1954).
1945	Greenock	Father: deceased. Mother: in desertion Child boarded out with Grandparents Mrs and Mr Mother consented to emigration by signed but undated letter (probably 1954).	Canada (1954).
1935	Greenock	Father: signed into care in 1948 where he remained until his emigration. Mother: in desertion. was boarded out to his grandma in 1948 until he emigrated after his 18th birthday in	YMCA, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. By agency of Canadian National Railways (CNR) was employed by
1941	Greenock	Father: deceased 1951. Mother: deceased 1951.	Brooklyn, New York, USA, 1952.

		Children boarded out with elder step sister until emigration to USA in 1952.	
1943	Greenock	Father: deceased 1951. Mother: deceased 1951. Children boarded out with elder step sister until emigration to USA in 1952.	Brooklyn, New York, USA, 1952.
1946	Greenock	Father: detained in Renfrew mental hospital. Fit person order made children boarded out. Mother: deceased	Australia, 1962.
1945	Greenock	Father: detained in Renfrew mental hospital. Fit person order made children boarded out. Mother: deceased	Australia, 1962.