

Covering statement

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Covid-19 Restrictions

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, Council staff have been unable to access Council buildings and records. This led to the premature ending of a comprehensive file audit and has limited the research opportunities and materials available to staff in compiling the responses listed below.

Question 5.3	<u>Timing of Disclosure/Complaint</u>
a)	<p><u>When were disclosures and complaints of abuse and/or alleged abuse of children in foster care made to the local authority?</u></p> <p>Edinburgh Corporation (1930 - 1975)</p> <p>The local authority was unable to locate any disclosures or complaints of abuse and/or alleged abuse of children in foster care that were made between 1930 and 1975. The local authority was only able to locate the file of one foster carer who was approved prior to 1975 and the complaint on file for this foster carer was made in 1992.</p> <p>Lothian Regional Council & City of Edinburgh Council (1975 - 2014)</p> <p>The local authority has recorded 126 complaints in its response to Question 5.9 which relate to complaints or disclosures of abuse and/or alleged abuse of children in foster care. The date on which the disclosure was made to the local authority has not been recorded for every one of these complaints as some foster carer’s files did not contain this information.</p>

	<p>The date of disclosure for the 126 recorded complaints of abuse or alleged abuse ranges from April 1984 until June 2016.</p> <p>Further information relating to specific complaints is contained within the local authority's response in Question 5.9.</p>
<p>b)</p>	<p><u>To what extent were complaints and disclosures made while the abuse or alleged abuse was on-going or recent?</u></p> <p>Edinburgh Corporation (1930 - 1975)</p> <p>The local authority was unable to locate any disclosures or complaints of abuse and/or alleged abuse of children in foster care that were made between 1930 and 1975. The local authority was only able to locate the file of one foster carer who was approved prior to 1975 and the complaint on file for this foster carer was made in 1992.</p> <p>Lothian Regional Council & City of Edinburgh Council (1975 - 2014)</p> <p>The local authority has recorded 126 complaints in its response to Question 5.9 which relates to disclosures and complaints of abuse and/or alleged abuse relating to children in foster care. The dates of disclosure of these complaints or disclosures range from 1984 to 2016. Of the 126 recorded complaints, 107 of these were noted as being made while the abuse or alleged abuse was ongoing or recent.</p> <p>The local authority has categorised "on-going or recent" abuse and/or alleged abuse as any complaint or disclosure which was made shortly after the incident took place which could be days and, in some cases, weeks. For an example of what the local authority has deemed a disclosure of recent abuse and/or alleged abuse, please refer to Complaints 4, 5 and 18 within the local authority's response to Question 5.9.</p>
<p>c)</p>	<p><u>To what extent were/are complaints made many years after the alleged abuse i.e. about non-recent abuse?</u></p> <p>Edinburgh Corporation (1930 - 1975)</p> <p>The local authority was unable to locate any disclosures or complaints of abuse and/or alleged abuse of children in foster care that were made between 1930 and 1975. The local authority was only able to locate the file of one foster carer who was approved prior to 1975 and the complaint on file for this foster carer was made in 1992.</p>

	<p>Lothian Regional Council & City of Edinburgh Council (1975 - 2014)</p> <p>The local authority has recorded 126 complaints in its response to Question 5.9 which relates to disclosures and complaints of abuse and/or alleged abuse relating to children in foster care. The dates of disclosure of these complaints or disclosures range from 1984 to 2016. Of the 126 recorded complaints, 19 of these were noted as being made in relation to non-recent abuse or alleged abuse.</p> <p>The local authority has categorised “non-recent” abuse and/or alleged abuse as any complaint or disclosure which was made a year or more after the incident took place which could be days and, in some cases, weeks. For an example of what the local authority has deemed a disclosure of non-recent abuse and/or alleged abuse, please refer to Complaints 2, 86 and 98 within the local authority’s response to Question 5.9.</p>
<p>d)</p>	<p><u>Are there any patterns of note in terms of timing/disclosure of abuse and/or alleged abuse?</u></p> <p>Edinburgh Corporation (1930 - 1975)</p> <p>The local authority was unable to locate any disclosures or complaints of abuse and/or alleged abuse of children in foster care that were made between 1930 and 1975. The local authority was only able to locate the file of one foster carer who was approved prior to 1975 and the complaint on file for this foster carer was made in 1992.</p> <p>Therefore, the local authority has not noticed any patterns in terms of the timing/disclosure of abuse and/or alleged abuse.</p> <p>Lothian Regional Council (1975 - 1996)</p> <p>Based on the information available, the local authority has not noticed any patterns in terms of the timing/disclosure of abuse and/or alleged abuse.</p> <p>City of Edinburgh Council (1996 - 2014)</p> <p>Based on the information available, the local authority has not noticed any patterns in terms of the timing/disclosure of abuse and/or alleged abuse.</p>