

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	Response
b)	Name of abuser or alleged abuser	Kevin Gillan
c) i	Dates known or alleged to have abused children	De-registration panel minutes from October 2014 show that the allegations against the carers' son, Kevin Gillan, came to light in June 2013 at the time of the offence.
c) II	If they were foster carers, or if not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the	Kevin Gillan was the son of foster carer and the son of foster carer . A carers' report from June 2006 states that Kevin Gillan joined in with activities his mother planned for children in the placement, and that he was very helpful with the children in placement. A further carers' review report from January 2012 states that Kevin Gillan supported his mother in

	period of abuse and/or alleged abuse	her fostering role and took a keen interest in the children in placement despite taking his own steps towards independence.
c) iii	The knowledge sought or received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter	s initial foster carer application form is held within the carer file, and shows that the local authority was aware that Kevin Gillan was part of her household as her birth son. As part of the initial assessment, this application also shows that the responsible social work professional interviewed Kevin Gillan to ascertain his views on his mother's caring ambitions.
		Within carer review minutes from June 2005, the foster carer Liaison Social Worker noted that Kevin 'brings something to the table. He gets on well with the childrenKevin made a point of including [child in placement] in their activities.' Further to this, within a carers' review report from July 2006, it is stated that shows awareness of safe caring practices and Kevin Gillan's vulnerabilities to an accusation being made given his age. In order to mitigate this, states states within her report that she ensures any girls in placement would always wear their housecoats around the house when appropriate, and remain downstairs if Kevin Gillan was bathing, and vice versa.
		Fostering panel review minutes from October 2006 show that the local authority was aware of Kevin Gillan's potential vulnerability in relation to the placement of adolescent girls in the home and that careful matching should be considered before any female over the age of 12 be placed with
		Once Kevin Gillan reached 16 years old, a memo from May 2007 shows that he underwent a Disclosure Scotland check in line with departmental policy and no criminal convictions or concerns were found. Kevin Gillan also underwent statutory medical checks, with no contra-indicators noted.

c) iv	Any information (including regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided to, third parties or future employers at any point after the allegation was made	The allegations made against Kevin Gillan were reported to the Police and the Procurator Fiscal. An undated carers' report shows that and Kevin Gillan sought legal advice from the Fostering Network at the time the allegation was made. The same report further notes that the local authority gave their full co-operation to the police and the Procurator Fiscal during their investigations.
d)	Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children permitted to continue as foster carers?	An undated carers' review shows that no children were placed with the from the time the allegation was made against Kevin Gillan in June 2013 until her de-registration in 2014. The review notes that, even after the allegation was found to have some truth in the initial stages of the investigations, two boys in the placement at the time were initially allowed to stay with Section 1 . The child who made the allegation was removed from the placement. The social work professional writing the review states "both boys advised that they felt safe and that they wanted to stay with Section , which then their respective social workers agreed. Despite the initial decision it was later decided to move the boys in order to lessen the impact on them of the events and also to allow Section and her family time to process the same events." A retainer fee was paid to Section during the investigation and trial, but no children were placed with her.
e)	If so, why was this considered to be appropriate?	N/A
f)	If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?	N/A
Kn	<u>own / Alleged Abuser</u>	
	Question	Response
b)	Name of abuser or alleged abuser	Ful and Fuo

c)	Dates known or alleged to	Allegation 1:
	have abused children	An allegation of physical and emotional abuse was made against the foster carers in February 2008. It was alleged that the carers struck the children in placement, had been mentally cruel to them, made the child sit still for up to 8 hours as punishment, pinned a child against a wall, used derogatory language in front of the children when discussing their birth families and made the children clean their soiled underwear.
		Allegation 2: An allegation of physical and emotional abuse was made against the carers which was said to have taken place between 3 – 19 April 2008. It was alleged that FUI slapped a child, pulled his hair and made him wash his soiled underwear. A child in placement further alleged that FUO laughed when she bumped her head and threw her dinner across the room when she would not eat it. This disclosure was made by the children to their responsible social work professional at the time it occurred.
C) II	If they were foster carers, or if not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the period of abuse and/or alleged abuse	FUI and FUO were both local authority foster carers.
c) III	The knowledge sought or received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter	As part of the fostering application and assessment process, a fostering assessment record from 2002 shows that the local authority asked the FUI-FUO to provide them with information relating to their own birth children, personal histories and family background information for both carers, information about their own childhoods and education. FUI is two children provided statements about their parents' caring capacities and what they thought about their parents becoming foster carers. Social work professionals also sought personal references for both carers from their nominated friends. FUI

		professionals as part of the process and his views on FU FUL becoming a carer for the department were sought. The local authority was also aware of FU s position as a Scout Leader.
		Fostering panel minutes from July 2004 show that all statutory police, medical and local authority checks were carried out for both carers at the time of their registration. No contra-indicators were noted in any of these checks. The same minutes show that the FUI-FUO had a Safe Caring policy in place, and the local authority was aware of this. Further panel minutes from January 2007 show that FUI was considered by their responsible social work professional to be a well-respected carer.
c) iv	Any information (including regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided to, third parties or future employers at any point after the allegation was made	<u>Allegation 1:</u> An investigation report from 2008 shows that and IRD was initiated and professionals from the Amethyst service and the police were involved in the investigation. The responsible social work professional for the children who made the allegation as well as the police felt there was not enough evidence to determine if there was any substance to the allegations. Further, the police felt they could not proceed with an investigation as the person alleging the abuse refused to be interviewed.
		Allegation 2: A social work report from April 2008 shows that an IRD was initiated, which included input from the police and professionals from the Amethyst service.
d)	Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children	Allegation 1: In this case, the FUI-FUO were allowed to continue in their fostering role. The investigation report from 2008 shows that the

	permitted to continue as foster carers?	responsible social work professional felt that, as there was neevidence to substantiate the allegations, the children should remain in their placement with the FUI-FUO . Following the conclusion of the IRD, the other child in placement, who was removed at the time the allegation was made, was returned to the FUI-FUO as there were no concerns raised.
		Allegation 2: After the investigation into these allegations, steps were taken to de register the carers. The carers' de-registration panel minutes from 2008 show that the children in placement were to be removed an alternative care arrangements were found for them. The carers' were de-registered at this point and no further children were placed with them.
e)	If so, why was this considered to be appropriate?	<u>Allegation 1:</u> The inspection report from 2008 shows that the local authority follower its Child Protection procedures and then took the view that there were no indicators supporting the allegations.
		Allegation 2: N/A
f)	If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?	Allegation 1: There is no evidence within the carer's case file to suggest that ther were any additional monitoring or supervision arrangements in place <u>Allegation 2:</u> N/A

	Question	Response
b)	Name of abuser or alleged abuser	FTV-SPO
c) i	Dates known or alleged to have abused children	A risk assessment from July 2007 shows that an allegation against FTV was made by a professional in relation to concerns around FTV so consumption of alcohol. It was alleged that FTV often attended meetings smelling strongly of alcohol, and concerns were raised around her being too drunk at night to cope with any emergencies or care needs, and that she was potentially too drunk in the mornings to manage the safety of children in the placement.
		Allegation 2 A chronology of the carers' time with the department shows that an allegation of historical abuse was received by the Family Based Care team in June 2015 in which a child previously placed with the FTV-SPO alleged that she was physically and emotionally abused by the carers between August and September 2012. The child alleged that FTV Solution
c) ii	If they were foster carers, or if not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the period of abuse and/or alleged abuse	were local authority foster.

(c)	The knowledge sought or	An undated carers' profile shows that, at the point of registration, the
	received about them by the	local authority sought information about the carers, such as
1.00	local authority at the point of	information about their birth children, the type and size of their house,
	approval/registration of foster	the local amenities available in their local area, what schools were
	-2024	
	carers and thereafter	close by, the shift patterns worked by
		coached junior football teams, information about their lifestyle and
		about FTV s smoking. Police, medical and local authority
		checks were also carried out at the point of approval and updated
		periodically as required. In relation to health checks, correspondence
		from April 1993 shows that the local authority was aware that FTV
		FTV attempted to take her own life following the death of her child
		shortly after birth.
		Annual carer review minutes from September 2002 show that statutory
		health and safety checks were carried out on the carers' house, and
		the local authority sought information around their ability to care for
		children, provide a safe and caring environment and their ability to
		3/122
		work as part of a caring team. Further panel minutes from February
		2008 show that the social work department were aware that
		had been made redundant from his job with Royal Mail. Panel
		minutes from March 2015 show that their birth son had received a
		speeding conviction. These minutes show that the social work
		professional working with the carers was aware of this and informed
		the panel that he did not transport any children in placement.
	Any information /including	Allogation 1
c)	72	
iv	regarding abuse or alleged	A risk assessment from July 2007 shows that the allegation was
	abuse) sought by, or provided	discussed between the responsible social work professional and the
	to, third parties or future	department's medical advisor. A report by the medical advisor from
	employers at any point after	November 2007, which was submitted as part of the carers' review of
	the allegation was made	the same date, shows that they had involvement in investigating the
		allegation, and concluded that there was no evidence to show
		FTV had a chronic alcohol problem.
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		Allegation 2
		The carers' chronology states that an IRD was initiated, and that the child in placement gave a statement to the police about the abuse.
d)	Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children permitted to continue as foster carers?	Allegation 1 On this occasion the carers were permitted to contoniue as foster carers, however the Practice Team Manager expressed a view that the child in placement at the time should be removed as FTV FTV was putting him at risk with her drinking as noted in the risk assessment from July 2007. Panel minutes from February 2008 show that the child remained with the carers after the allegation was made as it was assessed that removing them would cause unnecessary upset to the child. However as FTV stress caused by the allegation, the child in placement was moved to an alternative placement.
e)	If so, why was this considered to be appropriate?	Allegation 2 The chronology shows that the police could not take matters further as there was not enough evidence. An undated review report shows that, at the time the allegation was made, no children were in placement with the FTV-SPO Allegation 1 The risk assessment from 2007 shows that the social work department did not have evidence that FTV had a problem with alcohol consumption, and the medical advisor stated in her report that there was no medical evidence of FTV having a long-standing problem with alcohol.

		Allegation 2 The carer chronology shows that senior social workers met with the carers to discuss the allegation and the Child Protection investigation, and no further concerns were raised.
f)	If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?	Allegation 1 The risk assessment from July 2007 shows that social work professionals felt that further investigation of alcohol addiction and close supervision was required of FTV however evidence of addiction could not be proven. The usual carer reviews and fostering panel continued to take place as and when required.
		<u>Allegation 2</u> No evidence within the carers' file was located to suggest that any additional or alternative monitoring or supervision was put in place as a result of the allegation or subsequent investigation.

Known / Alleged Abuser

	Question	Response
b)	Name of abuser or alleged abuser	FRZ-FSD
c) i	Dates known or alleged to have abused children	Allegation 1 A medical report from April 2000 shows that concerns were raised by A&E staff when the carer presented at A&E with the child in placement due to the child's reluctance to weight bear following a fall when playing. The carer states that she administered first aid to the child at the time, but that the child continued to be in discomfort. Medical investigation found that the child had a greenstick fracture at the tibia, and doctors felt the explanation given by the carer in relation to this injury was consistent. However, non-recent bruising on the child's

		thigh was found that was not thought by professionals to be consistent with the explanation provided. Professionals felt the non-recent
		bruising was more likely to be slap marks than bruising sustained when
		falling onto toy bricks during play. They also felt that the bruising did
		not match the timing of the most recent injury.
		Allegation 2
		Carer review minutes from October 2009 show that there had been an
		allegation made against the FRZ-FSD in relation to neglect that took
		place between September 2007 and April 2008. The minutes show
		that the allegation was made by another carer after the child in
		placement went on holiday with them with inadequate clothing and that
		the child was scared of the FRZ-FSD. A further allegation in relation to
		the FRZ-FSD leaving the child alone to bathe was also made.
c)	If they were foster carers, or if	The FRZ-FSD were registered as full-time foster carers on 9 August
II	not, their relationship with the	1996 with the City of Edinburgh Council.
	foster carers or what other	
	role they had during the	
	period of abuse and/or	
	alleged abuse	
c)	The knowledge sought or	Notes from a screening visit from June 1995, which took place as part
iii	received about them by the	of the fostering approval process, show that the local authority took
	local authority at the point of	note of the 'well presented' carers' home, as well as its condition and
	approval/registration of foster	size in relation to fostering requirements. In addition, these notes show
	carers and thereafter	that the local authority were interested in the FRZ-FSD relationships
		with their own parents and their own childhoods. Various fostering
		panel minutes from throughout the carers' profile demonstrate that the
		local authority carried out the required statutory checks for both carers,
		including health checks, police checks, local authority checks and
		health and safety checks on the carers' house and car. The multiple
		panel minutes show these checks were carried out periodically throughout the FRZ-FSD time as carers as required.

		A carer's profile from c. 1996, which formed part of the initial fostering application, shows that the local authority were aware of the family history and background, health issues for both carers, education background for both carers, their early careers and working lives, information about personal values and beliefs, how they coped with stress as individuals, their relationship with each other, their daily lifestyle and their motivations for fostering.
c) iv	Any information (including regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided to, third parties or future employers at any point after the allegation was made	Allegation 1 Meeting notes from April 2000 show that social work professionals initiated an IRD in line with Child Protection procedures, and a joint paediatric forensic medical examination was carried out. The child was removed from the placement with the FRZ-FSD and the information about the suspected non-accidental injury was passed to the police for investigation. Both radiologists who carried out the investigation believed the fracture to be accidental and in line with the explanation provided by the carer, however they felt that the bruising on the child's thigh was around two weeks old and was not consistent with the information provided by the carer. They noted that they could not rule out that the bruising was the result of a slap.
		Allegation 2 Carer panel minutes from October 2009 provide evidence that the allegation against the carers was referred to the police-run Amethyst Team as per the authority's Child Protection procedures, but that professionals decided a single agency response was more appropriate.
d)	Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children	In both cases The carers were permitted to continue as foster carers. Please see below for further information.

	permitted to continue as	
	foster carers?	
2)	If co, why was this considered	Allogation 1
e)	If so, why was this considered	Allegation 1
	to be appropriate?	Panel minutes from October 2001 state that, after investigation, the
		police accepted the carers' explanation of the child falling onto toy
		bricks as the reason for her injuries. The minutes also allude to the
		professionals involved in the IRD medical examination also accepting
		the carers' explanation later. As a result, no further action was taken.
		Allegation 2
		<u>raiogatori z</u>
		Panel minutes from October 2009 show that once the allegation had
		been received by professionals, the social work professional
		responsible for the child in placement met with the carers to address
		the issues raised in the allegation, and the carers were able to give an
		explanation as to the events. The social work professional noted that
		the carers were upset that their approach to the child's care was
		perceived by the child to be neglectful, particularly in relation to the
		carers giving the child a measure of privacy and independence when
		bathing. The social work professional does note that this approach by
		the carers was outlined in their Safe Caring policy. The outcome of the
		social work investigation was fed back to the responsible Practice
		Team, with the situation being viewed as a practice learning
		experience.
		and an
f)	If so, what process of	Allegation 1
	monitoring/supervision	
	followed?	There is no evidence within the carers' file that additional monitoring
		or supervision was agreed or required following the conclusion of the
		joint investigation. The usual carer reviews and fostering panel
		continued to take place as and when required.
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		Allegation 2 The local authority provided the carers with additional training and acknowledged that their skills were better suited to younger children.
<u>Kn</u>	own / Alleged Abuser	
	Question	Response
b)	Name of abuser or alleged abuser	FTS
c) i	Dates known or alleged to have abused children	Minutes from a social work professionals meeting dated 9 July 2008 show that the FTS adopted son made an allegation against his father that he had hit him with a belt on 1 May 2008.
c) II	If they were foster carers, or if not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the period of abuse and/or alleged abuse	Records within the carers' file show that the FTS were approved as foster carers in June 2000 for the City of Edinburgh Council.
c) III	The knowledge sought or received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter	Panel minutes throughout the carers' file shows that the local authority sought information about the carers at the point of their application such as the size and location of their home, if children in placement would have their own bedroom or share, the health and safety aspects of the home and information about the suitability of the family pet in relation to fostering. Opinions were also sought from the FTS children about their parents' fostering career, and how they felt about the process. Police, health and identity checks were also carried out at the point of approval, and reports and minutes within the carers' file provide evidence of police and health checks being carried out periodically as required during the length of time the FTS were carers for the authority.

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		Disclosure consent forms dated 2002 show that police checks were carried out for all identified babysitters and significant adults, with statutory health, local authority and police checks also being carried out in 2011 for the FTS children living in the household when they reached 16 years old
c) iv	Any information (including regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided to, third parties or future employers at any point after the allegation was made	 reached 16 years old. A request from Harmeny School, dated May 2008, held within the carers' file shows that they approached the social work department for an employment reference for social in particular, they asked for information on: His values and attitudes His ability to manage stress His ability to work in a team His ability to accept guidance and direction His skills, knowledge and experience relating to working with children The department's view on the applicant's ability to carry out the tasks described in the job application A copy of the response from the responsible social work professional is held within the carers' file and states: Given that all foster carers are self-employed, I do not feel it would be appropriate for me to complete the questionnaire which is for employees. In respect of the reference of Mr. has been that he demonstrates a positive attitude towards foster caring and supporting young people in need. He appears well able to manage stressful situations including when being challenged or confronted by young peopleThere is nothing that I'm
		aware of that would lead me to believe that Mr FTS would not be able to fulfil an of the duties as described in the job description. He appears well able to listen and respond appropriately to situations involving young people in need, to work as part of a team within set parameters and

abuser

have abused children

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c) Dates known or alleged to Allegation 1

C) II	If they were foster carers, or if not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the period of abuse and/or	Undated detailed records show that a child in placement accused FUH FUH of punching him. Due to the records about this incident within the carers file being undated, it has not been possible to provide a date range for this allegation. The child was placed with Ms. FUH in 2008, so it can be assumed that the alleged abuse took place during this time. <u>Allegation 2</u> Correspondence between social work professionals show that an anonymous complaint against the carer was received in September 2006. It was alleged that in June 2006 the carer was verbally abusive to the child in placement and treated him in a demeaning way. It was also alleged that the carer shouted and swore at the child as a matter of course and that the child spent a lot of time in his bedroom. FUH was a foster carer registered with the City of Edinburgh Council.
c) III	alleged abuse The knowledge sought or received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter	A memo from July 2002 shows that the local authority was aware that the FUH-SPO were originally carers for Lothian Regional Council, and then East Lothian Council at the point of disaggregation. The carers were noted as being unhappy with the arrangements in place at this time and wished to be registered as foster carers with the City of Edinburgh Council rather than East Lothian Council. The memo recommended that they be registered with Edinburgh with the caveat of further assessments to be carried out in relation to their suitability to be specialist foster carers.
		approval as a carer, the local authority sought various information

		about FUH including the size and location of her home, if
		about FUH including the size and location of her home, if children in placement would have their own bedroom or share, information about pets in the home and their suitability for being around children, education and employment histories for both carers, hobbies and lifestyle choices. The authority also noted that FUH was a smoker, but that she would not smoke in the house. Statutory checks were also carried out at the point of approval for both carers including health, police and local authority checks. Minutes and reports throughout the carers' file show that these checks were carried out and updated periodically as required.
c)	Any information (including	Allegation 1
iv	regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided to, third parties or future employers at any point after the allegation was made	Undated detailed records show that the child in placement requested that FUH call the police on his behalf so he could relay his allegation to them about FUH punching him. The police and responsible social worked attended FUH home and the child in placement was interviewed under Child Protection procedures.
		Allegation 2
		No evidence has been located within the carers' file that information about them was sought by, or provided to, third parties or employers at any time after the allegation was made.
d)	Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children permitted to continue as foster carers?	In both situations FUH was permitted to continue as a foster carer. Please see below for further information.
e)	If so, why was this considered to be appropriate?	<u>Allegation 1</u> The undated detailed records state that, once the child in placement was interviewed by his responsible social work professional and police officers, FUH was informed that no further action was being taken as they believed it to be an accident. FUH felt this was not the right course of action, as she stated that she had not touched the child at all. As a result, she asked the Social Work

		<u>Allegation 2</u> The liaison social work professional discussed the allegation with the carer and stated that support would be available. There is no evidence within the carers' file to show what further process of monitoring o supervision was followed The usual carer reviews and fostering pane
f)	If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?	<u>Allegation 1</u> No evidence has been located within the carers' file to suggest that there was any additional monitoring or supervision in place as a result of the allegation. The usual carer reviews and fostering panel continued to take place as and when required.
		<u>Allegation 2</u> As the complaint was made anonymously, the Social Work Complaints Handling Procedure could not be followed fully and was instead followed informally. The allegation was handled as a practice learning issue.

c)	Dates known or alleged to	Allegation 1
i	have abused children	Detailed records from June 2003 show that the child in placement made an allegation that Mr. FUE the had hit him .
		Allegation 2
		Minutes from a home visit dated June 2005 show that an allegation was made by a child in placement where she alleged that Mr.FUE offered her cigarettes if she took her top off and propositioned her with alcohol. A memo within the carers file show that this took place c.1998.
		Allegation 3
		An Emergency Social Work Service notice from 26 September 2008 shows that Mr. FUE birth son disclosed to a teacher that his father had thrown him across the floor.
c)	If they were foster carers, or if	FUE-SPO were foster carers for the City of
1	not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the period of abuse and/or alleged abuse	Edinburgh Council.
c)	The knowledge sought or	Panel minutes from 2002 show that, at the point of registration, the
	received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter	local authority sought information about the FUE-SPO motivations for fostering, the strengths they would bring to fostering and how their birth son would cope with the process. They also note that WAN was a care leaver herself. The application form, submitted as part of the registration process, notes the educational and employment backgrounds of both carers, including their individual family histories. The application form also shows that the carers were originally carers for Barnardo's, and correspondence from 2002 shows that the statutory local authority, police and medical checks were carried out at

		Correspondence and panel minutes throughout the carers' file
		demonstrate that these statutory checks were carried out at the
		required intervals during the FUE-SPO time as carers for the authority
		An undated carer profile shows that the local authority sough additional information about the FUE-SPO at the point they became carers for the authority including the type and size of the house they owned, if their garden was safely enclosed, if children in placemen would share a bedroom of have one of their own, the schools and loca amenities in their local area and their lifestyle. The authority were also aware that the FUE-SPO birth son lived at home and was part of the household.
c) iv	Any information (including regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided to, third parties or future employers at any point after the allegation was made	Allegation 1 A report by the Emergency Social Work Service shows that that was advised by social work professionals that the police and social work would have to interview the child in placement. Allegation 2
		Minutes of a meeting dated June 2005 provides evidence that the allegation was passed to the police in line with the authority's Child Protection procedures.
		Allegation 3 A notification from the Emergency Social Work Service from 26
		September 2005 shows that a joint interview with police and socia work professionals as per the Child Protection procedures in place a the time.
d)	Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children permitted to continue as foster carers?	In all three cases FUE was permitted to continue as a foster carer. Please see below for further details.

e)	If so, why was this considered	Allegation 1
	to be appropriate?	The child in placement retracted the allegation and the police felt no further involvement was required.
		Allegation 2 Meeting minutes from June 2005 show that there was no evidence to corroborate any of the allegations made. This was further compounded by the child being unwilling to discuss the allegation with police or social work professionals.
		Allegation 3 Case summary notes from September 2005 show that the child retracted the allegation and admitted it was fabricated as he felt he was not getting any attention because of his parents' fostering role.
f)	If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?	Allegation 1 As the child retracted the allegation, no evidence has been located within the carers' file to suggest that there was any additional monitoring or supervision put in place. The usual carer reviews and fostering panel continued to take place as and when required.
		Allegation 2 Minutes of a meeting from June 2005 show that further work needed to be done on the FUE-SPO safe caring policy. The minutes also state that the carers were inherited by the local authority from another organisation and that they had not finished the fostering course, and so this was to be completed and closely monitored. The usual carer reviews and fostering panel continued to take place as and when required.

Due to the child retracting the allegation, there is no evidence of additional monitoring or supervision because of the incident. Case summary notes show that it was recommended to the carers that more space was made for the child to allow him to have more one-to-one time with his parents. The usual carer reviews and fostering panel continued to take place as and when required.

Т

Known / Alleged Abuser

Т

	Question	Response
b)	Name of abuser or alleged abuser	FZC
c) i	Dates known or alleged to have abused children	Detailed records from 1 November 2006 show that a child in placement alleged that Mr. FZC had threatened to slap him following poor
c) ii	If they were foster carers, or if not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the period of abuse and/or alleged abuse	behaviour displayed in a local take away shop. The carers' profile form shows that FZC-SPO were initially approved as respite carers, and then approved as full-time specialist carers in February 2013 as detailed in panel minutes from this date.
c) iii	The knowledge sought or received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter	Fostering panel minutes from November 2002 show that the local authority sought background and personal information about the carers during the assessment process, such as education and employment histories, family and personal backgrounds, their own relationship, and their relationship with their birth children. The minutes also show that the authority was aware that one of their birth children had a learning disability due to being hit by a car when he was a child. Personal references were sought by the local authority and the statutory health, police and local authority checks were carried out at the same time. Panel minutes throughout the carers' file demonstrate

		these checks were carried out as and when required by the legislation.
		The carers' birth son was also interviewed by social work professionals
		to ascertain his view on his parents becoming foster carers, which he
		stated he was fully in support of.
		In relation to the authority seeking information relating to any police
		involvement for both carers, carer review minutes from September
		2006 show that Mr. FZC appeared in the Criminal Records Office
		database. After discussion, this was later revealed to be in relation to
		Mr. FZC providing a DNA sample to the police in the 1970's during
		their investigations into a high-profile murder. It was explained that Mr.
		FZC provided the sample as he was living in the area of the murders
		at the time, and a large number of men in the area were required to do
		this in order to rule them out of the investigation, as was the case for
		Mr. FZC
	A	
(c)	Any information (including	No evidence was located within the carers' file to suggest that
iv	regarding abuse or alleged	information about the carers was provided to, or sought by, third
	abuse) sought by, or provided	parties.
	to, third parties or future	
	employers at any point after	
	the allegation was made	
d)	Were known abusers, or	In this case FZC was permitted to continue as a foster carer.
	alleged abusers, of children	
	permitted to continue as	
	foster carers?	
e)	If so, why was this considered	Notes of a telephone conversation between Mr. FZC and the
	to be appropriate?	responsible social worker from August 2006 show that he was spoken
		to about the use of threatening language, and how it must never be
		used, even if in jest. The social work professional discussed with Mr.
		FZC how best to proceed and they agreed that a period of
		rehabilitation between the carers and the child in placement would be
		beneficial. These notes further show that the responsible professional

		discussed the incident with her superior and they agreed that work needed to be done with FZC-SPO around their commitment to caring and how they work as a couple. Detailed records from January 2007 show that the incident with the child in placement was discussed again and that Mr. FZC took on
		board everything relayed to him by the professionals involved. He pointed out that there had been very little social work support for them in their role as carers, but that they hoped to continue to provide respite for the young person so long as it was needed. Professionals agreed that it was appropriate for FZC-SPO to continue caring for the child in placement.
f)	If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?	Detailed records from January 2007 show that the social work team agreed it was appropriate for FZC-SPO to continue as carers, and that regular visits would be made to them around every two months. The usual carer reviews and fostering panel continued to take place as and when required.
<u>Kn</u>	own / Alleged Abuser	
	Question	Response
b)	Name of abuser or alleged abuser	FTZ

		FTZ
		flirting with her and that he tried to kiss her on several occasions. The
		child in placement disclosed this to her grandmother, who passed the
		information onto the female carer, who subsequently contacted the
		Social Work Department in line with the policy in place at the time.
C)	If they were foster carers, or if	FTZ and were foster carers for the City of
ii	not, their relationship with the	Edinburgh Council.
	foster carers or what other	

	role they had during the period of abuse and/or alleged abuse	
c) iii	The knowledge sought or received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter	Ms. Source of the type of house the carers had, sought information in relation to carer training abedroom or having their own, information in relation to carers. Personal histories to the source of the type of house the carers when both Ms.
c) iv	Any information (including regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided	birth children. As part of the process, the minutes detail that Mr. FTZ previous marriage was explored by the authority, as was Mss, however these minutes allude to that information being sought by the authority in 1994. Police, health and local authority checks were routinely sought and updated for each carer, as well as for Ms's birth daughter as a significant adult. The Removal of Approval form from June 2007 shows that Child Protection procedures were initiated and the child in placement underwent a joint interview with police and social work professionals.
	to, third parties or future	During the investigation both the child who made the allegations a

	employers at any point after the allegation was made	another child in placement were removed and placed with alternative carers.
d)	Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children permitted to continue as foster carers?	Not in this case. The Removal of Approval form from June 2007 show that the police could not press charges as there was no available supporting evidence. The decision was taken to pass the investigation back to the Family Based Care Team, which resulted in the proposa by professionals that both carers attend further training on safe care and being vigilant about leaving Mr. FTZ alone with any child in placement. As a result of the allegation, the carers resigned.
e)	If so, why was this considered to be appropriate?	N/A
f)	If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?	N/A
Kn	own / Allogod Abusor	
<u>Kn</u>	own / Alleged Abuser Question	Response
<u>Kn</u>	Question	Response
	Question Name of abuser or alleged	

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		dated May 2016 shows that the child alleged the carers' son had sexually abused her during her placement, and that she disclosed this to the carers at the time it happened in 2007.
c) ii	If they were foster carers, or if not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the period of abuse and/or alleged abuse	The swere foster carers for the City of Edinburgh Council.
c) iii	The knowledge sought or received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter	An undated application form shows that the local authority sought information about the second 's birth children, their educational and occupational histories, the name and address of two personal references, individual descriptions of each carer, their hobbies, family backgrounds, information about their marriage including the positive things and times of stress, information about what kind of holidays they take and information about their pets. Forms and reports throughout the carers' file show that police and medical checks were carried out and updated periodically for both carers. Carer review minutes from May 2001 show that local authority sought information about second 's capacity as a Cub leader and football coach and noted that both carers had attended various training sessions and had implemented a safe-caring policy.
c) iv	Any information (including regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided to, third parties or future employers at any point after the allegation was made	Allegation 1 There is no evidence within the carers' file to suggest that information about this allegation was sought by or provided to third parties. Allegation 2 Case notes from the electronic client management system dated June 2016 shows that a decision was made by professionals not to hold a joint police and social work investigation as it was felt that the carer's son posed a very low risk to any children in the placement at the time. The child who made the allegation of historical abuse also did not wish

		to give a statement to the police. There is no evidence that information was sought by or provided to third parties relating to this disclosure.
d)	Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children permitted to continue as foster carers?	Allegation 1 In this case and and were permitted to continue as foster carers. Please see below for further details. Allegation 2 In this case and and and a did not continue as foster carers. Please see below for further details.
e)	If so, why was this considered to be appropriate?	Allegation 1 A memo from June 2001 shows that the responsible social work professional discussed the allegation with the carers and no further action was taken.
		Allegation 2 De-registration panel minutes from April 2017 show that the carers' de-registered with the authority on 19 April 2017 by way of resignation. Their resignation letter was submitted to the Family Based Care Team in December 2016. Case notes from August 2016 show that, at the point the allegation was made, the carers were made aware by the authority that no other children could be placed with them as their son was living in the household.
f)	If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?	Allegation 1 No evidence has been located within the carers file to suggest that there were any additional monitoring or supervision arrangements in place as a result of this allegation. The usual carer reviews and fostering panel continued to take place as and when required.
		Allegation 2

		N/A	
Kn	own / Alleged Abuser		
	Question	Response	
b)	Name of abuser or alleged abuser	FUT	
c) i	Dates known or alleged to have abused children	Fostering panel minutes from December 2007 show that an allegation was made directly to the police against Mr. FUT on 21 June 2007 that he assaulted and shouted at a child in placement.	
c) II	If they were foster carers, or if not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the period of abuse and/or alleged abuse	The Mr and Mrs FUT-SPO were registered as foster carers with the City of Edinburgh Council.	
c) III	The knowledge sought or received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter	A fostering assessment report from August 2004 shows that the local authority sought information relating to the occupations of both carers, their pets and hobbies, information about their birth children who were living in the household, the type and location of their house, if children in placement would be sharing a bedroom or have their own and the family, social and educational backgrounds for both carers. Assessments were also carried out on their competencies around caring for children and young people, their ability to provide a safe and caring environment and work together as part of a team in a caring capacity. References were also sought from their birth children's school. In compliance with legislation medical, identity, local authority and police checks were carried out for each carer, as were health and safety checks on their home and car. Various panel minutes held within the carers' file shows that these statutory checks were carried out and updated regularly as required. Correspondence from July 2011 shows that personal references were also updated at this point.	

		were aware of the training courses that both carers had undertaken in relation to their fostering roles and were aware that they had a Safe Caring Policy in place.
c) iv	Any information (including regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided to, third parties or future employers at any point after the allegation was made	A Child Protection investigation and joint medical examination took place, and the children in placement were placed with alternative carers. Carer review minutes from December 2007 show that the incident was referred to the police and Mr. FUT was arrested and kept in police custody that night as a result. Fostering panel minutes from December 2007 show that the children attended the Royal Hospital for Sick Children for a medical examination following the allegation and were found to be fit and well.
d)	Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children permitted to continue as foster carers?	In this case FUT was permitted to continue as a foster carer. Please see below for further information.
e)	If so, why was this considered to be appropriate?	The investigation report from July 2007 stated that, as the Social Work Department had not made a decision regarding alternative transport for the child in placement, knowing his behaviour, that the department would have to take some responsibility for the incident in that they did not act quickly enough to provide escorted transport for the child and as such left Mr. FUT in a vulnerable position. It was accepted that the incident occurred due to the behaviour of the child.
		Carer review minutes from December 2007 show that the Procurator Fiscal decided against prosecution and referred the incident back to the Social Work Department. Investigations by social work professionals concluded that, when the incident occurred which led to the allegation, Mr. FUT showed skill and resource when dealing with the child involved. If he had not done so, there was a chance of the child sustaining injury as the child had freed himself from his car seat whilst the car was in motion and began to climb around the car.

		The minutes further state that the child's parents were supportive of the FUT-SPO during the investigation
f)	If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?	The investigation report from July 2007 into the incident recommended that the carers were offered training in managing children's behaviour as well as courses on children's developmental delays and attachment problems. The recommendations also noted that the FUT-SPO be allocated an experienced liaison worker who could support, advise and help them recover from their traumatic experience and move on with their fostering career.

Known / Alleged Abuser

	Question	Response
b)	Name of abuser or alleged abuser	FVC
c)	Dates known or alleged to	Case notes held on the local authority's electronic client management
i	have abused children	system from June 2007 show that a child protection allegation was made against Mr. FVC by his adoptive son. The allegation states that Mr. FVC hit his son with a garden trowel and that the incident was witnessed by Mrs.
C)	If they were foster carers, or if	Mr. and Mrs. FVC-SP were respite foster carers for the City of Edinburgh
II	not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the period of abuse and/or alleged abuse	Council.
c)	The knowledge sought or	A fostering assessment report from c.2002 shows that the local
III	received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter	authority sought information about each carer such as their occupations, the length of their marriage, the church they attended, their adopted children, the size and type of their property, nearby schools and local amenities, education and employment histories for both carers and their motivation for fostering. An assessment was also carried out which looked at their competencies for caring and if they

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		were able to provide a safe and caring environment for any children placed. The authority was also aware of the sleeping arrangements for any children in the placement and knew if they would be sharing a bedroom or have one of their own. Interviews were carried out with the carers' children by social work professionals in order to ascertain their feelings about their parents going into fostering. The assessment report shows that the authority sought this information prior to the carers being registered.
		Fostering panel minutes from April 2005 show that police, local authority and health checks were carried out for each carer at the point of registration and as required throughout their time as carers. Employment and personal references were also sought by the authority for each carer, and the authority sought information about Mrs. The separate of
c) iv	Any information (including regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided to, third parties or future employers at any point after the allegation was made	Case notes from June 2007 held on the Council's electronic case management system show that a Child Protection investigation was initiated as a result of the allegation. Mr. FVC was interviewed by police in July 2007 in relation to the allegation. After the interview, the police decided that they would not be taking any further action. The social work department also informed Mr. FVC that they felt the concerns raised were not of a child protection nature due to the child's behaviour, so they too would not be taking any further action.
d)	Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children permitted to continue as foster carers?	Fostering panel minutes from October 2008 show that the carers chose to resign to focus on raising their son.
e)	If so, why was this considered to be appropriate?	N/A

f)	If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?	N/A				
<u>Kn</u>	Known / Alleged Abuser					
	Question	Response				
b)	Name of abuser or alleged abuser	FTP-FTQ				
c) i	Dates known or alleged to have abused children	Allegation 1 Correspondence within the carers' file shows that a child placed with the FTP-FTO alleged emotional abuse towards him and his sister. He alleged that the abuse took place around 2001 and stated that the carers refused the children contact with their mother and threw their address book in the fireplace. It was further alleged that the carers persistently told the children that their mother did not love them, which was the reason for her move to Northern Ireland. The child also alleged that, following a Children's Hearing in 2001, both children stated they wished to see their mother, but the carers put so much pressure on them about this this that both children changed their minds regarding contact a few weeks later. The child said that the carers told them they would be removed from the house and left to fend for themselves on the street if they saw their mother.				
		Allegation 2 Foster carer panel minutes show that the child in placement made a number of allegations against the carers following the end of his placement in 2008. These allegations included physical assault where Mrs. FTP held the child down while one of her birth daughters put a cigarette out on his foot. In addition it was alleged that the carers would encourage their dog to growl at the child if he misbehaved, the carers' birth daughter had broken the child's photo frame of his family,				

		he did not get any birthday presents or treats, whereas other in house got lavish presents and that Mrs. FTP had put her fingers down his throat.
c) ii	If they were foster carers, or if not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the period of abuse and/or alleged abuse	The FTP-FTQ were registered as foster carers for the City of Edinburgh Council.
c) iii	The knowledge sought or received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter	The foster carer application form shows that FTP had previous shop lifting offences from 1991 and 1992. This demonstrates that the local authority sought information through statutory police, health and local authority checks. It further shows that the local authority sought information about the FTP-FTO through personal references as part of the application process. Letters from personal references were also included in the initial application pack. The carers profile shows that family background was taken for both carers at the point of registration and included information their childhoods, education and employment history, past relationships and previous marriages, their strengths as a couple, their religious and family life, information about their children and pets, local schools and amenities and their hobbies. An updated carer profile from 2005 shows that information about the FTP-FTQ birth children was included as they were part of the household. Various panel minutes throughout the carers file shows that police, health and local authority checks were carried out for both carers and their children when they reached 16 years old at various required points during their time as carers for the authority.
c) iv	Any information (including regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided to, third parties or future employers at any point after the allegation was made	<u>Allegation 1</u> There is no evidence within the carers file to suggest that details of this allegation were passed onto or sought by third parties. Correspondence from September 2010 shows that a future employer contacted the Social Work Department to ask for an employment

		reference for Mrs. FTP in support of her application for the post of Criminal Justice Support Worker. The social work professional provided a positive reference, and no mention was made to any previous allegations.
		Allegation 2 Case notes from 2008, which are held on the Council's electronic client management system, show that a joint police and social work investigation took place in line with Child Protection procedures. The investigation concluded that there were issues with how the child was managed and treated within the household, but not enough evidence was available to conclude that he had been the victim of an offence.
d)	Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children permitted to continue as foster carers?	In both cases Mr and Mrs FTP-FTQ were permitted to continue as foster carers. Please see below for further details.
e)	If so, why was this considered to be appropriate?	Allegation 1 A social work investigation report from October 2003 shows that the social work professional who investigated the allegations felt there was no evidence to substantiate them and so the allegation was resolved as a practice learning issue.
		Allegation 2 The minutes of a Standards of Care investigation from December 2008 show that no further action was necessary as there was no evidence that the child was the victim of any criminality.
f)	If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?	Allegation 1 The social work report into the investigation of the allegations from October 2003 shows that both the social work professional for the children in placement and the liaison social work professional responsible for the carers would visit the home in the weeks following

the investigation to monitor the situation and see how the placement was going. The usual carer reviews and fostering panel continued to take place as and when required.

Allegation 2

The minutes from the Standards of Care investigation from December 2008 show that no further action was required as a result of the investigation, and no evidence has been located in the carers' file to suggest that there was any additional monitoring or supervision, however the allegation was acknowledged at the carers' next Carer Review Panel as shown in the minutes of June 2010. The usual carer reviews and fostering panel continued to take place as and when required.