

## Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

HGN [REDACTED]

Support person present: No

1. My name is HGN [REDACTED] My date of birth is the [REDACTED] 1962. I am 59 years old. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

### Life before going into care

2. I was born and brought up on the north side of Glasgow. I was part of a big family and I had three brothers and three sisters. I was the second youngest. [REDACTED] was the oldest and it went [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], me and then the youngest [REDACTED]. There was fourteen years between the oldest and the youngest. My parents were called [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].
3. We did not have a lot when I was growing up and my parents were always scrimping and scraping to make ends meet. There were two bedrooms and the boys slept in one and the girls in another. My parents slept on a "pull down" bed in the living room.
4. My father was a coal merchant. There were a lot of arguments in the house. I started to go to school at Rosemount Primary School but I spent most of my time "dogging" it. In those days your parents could go to jail for their children dogging school. I started to become involved with an older crowd of boys who I preferred to hang about with.

5. I recall that I used to go to school on a Monday and get a dinner ticket. I would turn up at school to eat dinner and then I would bolt again to my older friends. I also played football for the school but I only turned up on a Saturday morning to play for the team I very seldom attended school. It was the janitor who ran the school team.
6. I felt that the school couldn't teach me anything that I didn't already know. In fact the first day I went to school I went in the front door and out the back. My father would give me the odd thick ear for not attending school.
7. I was about ten when I attended the first Children's Panel. I remember they said that they would review my case in three months' time. They also warned me that my father could go to jail for me dogging school.
8. At that time I had a social worker from Ayr Street Social Work Department in Springburn called Mr Smith and he was dealing with me and my family. I used to have to visit Mr Smith at his office.
9. I think I made three appearances before the Children's Panel and I was given at least two chances to change my behaviour and go to school before they took the decision to send me to Balrossie List D School in Kilmalcolm. My mother was with me at the Children's Panel when I was sent to Balrossie.
10. I remember I was driven to Balrossie in a Rolls Royce or a Bentley which was a car used by the local council for normally driving dignitaries about. It had a coat of arms on the side of it. I was accompanied by Mr Smith my social worker and the driver of the car. I think I went straight to Balrossie from the third Children's Panel meeting.

**Balrossie List D School, Kilmalcolm.**

11. To me it felt like an adventure and I was looking forward to it. I had been told by the older boys that I was hanging around with that it was a good place. When I arrived I immediately knew that I was not going to like it. I was told that there would be a review of the decision of the Children's Panel every thirteen weeks.

12. Balrossie reminded me of a castle with turrets. It was a very wide building. There was a red ash football pitch in the grounds. There were also large grassy areas to play on. I think I was about eleven. Most of the boys were aged between ten and twelve and there must have been thirty boys. There were no girls it was boys only.
13. The boys stayed in dormitories and there were about six boys to a dormitory. I think that I was to remain at Balrossie for about a year.

#### *Staff*

14. I would estimate that there were about ten members of staff. The staff would take you for PT and also take you to the classrooms. There was also staff on during the night and at weekends.
15. There was a man who covered the weekends, and was the only one on duty. Most of the boys went home on a Friday night and returned on a Sunday. I very rarely got home at weekends and would spend most of the weekend on my own in Balrossie. I would describe the man as being a bit younger, he had a bad leg and walked with a limp. I don't know this man's name.
16. The man who was on at the weekend would often take me swimming and he would let me sit in his room where he gave us fags and coffee. The other two boys who were often in Balrossie at the weekend also followed this routine with him.

#### **Routine at Balrossie List D School**

##### *First day*

17. I think that it took about forty minutes to make the journey from the Children's Panel to Balrossie. I was taken into an office in front of SNR [REDACTED] Mr GKF and SNR [REDACTED]. I was told at that meeting that after being assessed for six weeks and if I behaved I would be allowed to go home on leave. After two days there I felt homesick.

18. I was to run away so often that during my spell at Balrossie I never managed to earn weekend leave. All the boys were brought together on a Thursday and sat down in a semi-circle. We were told what leave we had qualified for depending on our behaviour. Most of the boys went home for the weekend but there were two boys who like me regularly spent the weekend in Balrossie. They were called [REDACTED] whose surname I don't know and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is deceased after committing suicide some time ago.

*Mornings and bedtime*

19. I think that we got up at about eight o'clock, we had a wash and then went down stairs for breakfast. We all ate together in the dining hall which was downstairs. All the tables were set ready for a meal. I remember at breakfast time we got a cereal and a cup of milk, a roll with jam or marmalade and a pot of tea.
20. I think that after breakfast we got split into groups of about six and we went for lessons. There were also workshops where you could learn practical skills. There was an old boy came in to teach painting and decorating. The old man was popular with the boys because he let you have a smoke.
21. I was in Balrossie because of my lack of education so I spent most of my time in the classrooms. I think that we had lunch there and after lunch we would sit in the classroom and watch television. The dining room had a full sized snooker table in it as well as table tennis. There was also a gym where you went for your PT.
22. Most evenings after dinner and before going to bed you would be able to go outside and play football with the rest of the boys. You were always supervised by a staff member and I was always being watched because of the number of times I absconded.
23. I think that we all went to bed at about eight thirty or nine. There were wash rooms with showers and toilets where you could perform your ablutions when you woke up and before you went to bed.

#### *Mealtimes / Food*

24. The meals were alright and I don't recall having any problems with the food there. I didn't eat there often because I was either planning to run away or had managed to run away.

#### *Washing / bathing*

25. There were washrooms with cubicles for showers, toilets and wash hand basins. You had privacy to shower and you showered most days.

#### *Chores*

26. We didn't have to perform chores when I was there although I do recall some of the older boys sweeping up leaves in the grounds. I don't know if they were being made to do that.

#### *Clothing / uniform*

27. I went to Balrossie wearing my own clothes. When I arrived I was given a uniform of grey flannels and a shirt. We had denims and plimsoles to change into out of school. There was a room where you could keep the clothes you went home in at the weekend and also where your football boots were kept.

#### *Schooling/religion*

28. The school was just like any other school I had been at. I just had no interest in school and didn't want to learn. The Children's Panel were worried about my education but at one of Panel meetings I demonstrated that I could read perfectly well by reading out loud from one of their leaflets. I don't recall attending church or being taught religious education.

### *Birthdays and Christmas*

29. I think that I was in Balrossie over the Christmas period and that I wasn't allowed home because I had run away so often. I can't be sure about this as I spent so much time locked in the small room next to SNR study. I don't recall any Christmas celebrations at Balrossie.

### *Visits / Inspections/ Review of Detention*

30. My mother and older sister came to Balrossie on one occasion to visit me. They missed the train to Kilmalcolm. The normal practice was for a staff member from Balrossie to go to the train station meet the visitors and give them a lift to Balrossie for their pre-arranged visit. When the staff got to the station there was no one there. I ran away because I didn't get my visit. My mother and sister arrived later in a taxi but by that time I had run away. I remember my mother complaining that it had cost her six pounds for a taxi and that was a lot of money in those days.
31. Mr Smith my social worker never came to visit me on any occasion during the entire time I was in Balrossie. I don't recall any official inspections of Balrossie.
32. I never attended a meeting at Balrossie when my detention was being reviewed and I never had any input into what was said. They just told me that there was to be a further thirteen week assessment. It was the Headmaster who would tell me this and that it would not change while I continued to run away.

### *Healthcare*

33. There was a matron at Balrossie but I didn't have much to do with her until I . She was always there in case you needed some medical attention but I had very few dealings with her.

### *Running away*

34. I was only in Balrossie for about a week when I did a runner. I was running away at every opportunity. The first time that I ran away I was eventually traced to my own neighbourhood where I was dodging about sleeping in empty houses or under bushes. When I was taken back to Balrossie I was given six of the belt across my bottom as a punishment. I was being watched after that.
35. When the weekend man was sexually abusing me I became very confused and decided to run away. Running away from Balrossie was known as "shooting". This usually resulted in being punished by SNR [REDACTED] Mr GK [REDACTED]
36. When you ran away you could be put into a locked room which had bars on the window. I spent a lot of time in that room which was next door to the SNR [REDACTED] study.
37. I ran away on every occasion I could. When I was on the run I started drinking with the older boys I kept company with. I eventually became an alcoholic. Most of the boys who were staying at the weekend had also run away and were being punished by not getting weekend leave.
38. Most of the times when I ran away I would make my way to the railway station at Kilmalcolm and jump on a train to Glasgow Central. I would hide under the seats to avoid paying the fare. I remember on one occasion [REDACTED] and I who ran away quite a lot together walked on the railway line all the way into Glasgow Central.

39. I realised that I was being caught too easily because I always went to Kilmalcolm Railway Station and they knew where to find me. I thought that instead of going there I would go in the opposite direction to Greenock and get the train to Glasgow from there. It was a night of thunder and lightning and so I knocked on a house door and told a lady I was lost. I only had on a tee shirt and trousers along with my plimsoles. She took me into her house, dried my clothes, gave me an old jacket and my train fare to Glasgow. She was so nice to me I wanted to ask her if I could stay with her.
40. We managed to get out of Balrossie by removing the plasterboard under the sinks in the washroom and crawl through to get out of the building. Sometimes I would jog out onto the football park to play football and just keep jogging until I managed to get away. I didn't usually get very far until I was caught.
41. Mr <sup>GKF</sup> used to take three or four boys out in a van to search for you after you had run away. He would get the boys to chase you and catch you and take you back to Balrossie. When I left Balrossie, I recall being told that I had run away on fourteen occasions.

#### **Abuse at Balrossie list D School**

42. The man who worked at the weekends and who's name I cannot remember used to invite me and the two other boys, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to his room in Balrossie. He would give us cigarettes and coffee. The other two boys knew what would happen after that as he had another motive for doing this. I was only eleven and this man got all of us to perform sexual acts on him.
43. I regularly ran away and was aware that if I was caught and brought back I would be punished. It was always Mr <sup>GKF</sup> who gave me six of the belt across my backside. He would also hit me across the back and regularly punched me. Mr <sup>GKF</sup> called this "capital punishment".

44. SNR [REDACTED] who was an older man with a bald head, also gave me the belt for running away. He never punched or kicked me, I can't recall his name. He always belted you over your backside when you had your trousers on.
45. As a punishment I would be locked in a room which had bars on the window. It was situated next door to SNR [REDACTED] room. At the weekend the man with the limp would come down to my room and give me cigarettes and coffee. He would expect me to perform sexual acts on him and he would try to perform sexual acts on me.
46. This came about because of the time that I spent with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in the man's room and had to watch [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] perform sexual acts with the man. After a while he turned his attention towards me and I was subjected to the sexual acts. The man was very nice to me and took me swimming and looked after me. I was too young to understand that he was "grooming" me. When he performed these sexual acts it made me feel ill. This abuse started after I had been at Balrossie for about three weeks.
47. I am fairly certain that the man with the bad leg had been sexually abusing boys for a long time before I came. I only witnessed him sexually abusing [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] but I suspect there were a lot more. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] seemed to consider this to be normal, I think that they were both about a year older than me. I was sexually abused by this man on more than a dozen occasions.
48. I remember that the man used to take [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and me to the swimming baths in Johnstone. Sometimes it was just me if the others had got home at the weekend. When we were in the van he would try and kiss me. It made me feel ill and I was very confused about what was going on.

### **Reporting of abuse at Balrossie list D School**

49. On one occasion I was so upset about what was happening to me I tried to commit suicide by [REDACTED]. The matron on duty dealt with me and while she was treating me I told her what was happening and that I was being sexually abused by the man with the limp.
50. The matron did not believe me and called me a liar. She said that if anyone asked I was to say that I [REDACTED] while I was "shooting" and climbing over a barbed wire fence. I think the matron reported it to SNR [REDACTED] and the next thing that happened was that I was locked in the room and told that I was unruly and because I had [REDACTED] I was a danger to myself. There was no action taken against my abuser as far as I know.
51. I also told my social worker about what was happening but he didn't seem to believe me either and told me to stop making things up. He didn't really ask me the reasons why I was running away and he just didn't want to know. He knew that I had run away on fourteen occasions. He told me that if I continued running away I would be sent to another List D School called Rossie Farm where I would be locked in.
52. When I ran away I would often go back to my parents but I knew that they would just tell me to go back to Balrossie. My father would tell me that he would get me out in the next thirteen weeks when my case would be reviewed. I was never able to tell my father about the abuse I was suffering at Balrossie. I just felt that everything was my fault and that what was happening was frowned upon by other adults.
53. I am very keen to see my records from my time in care to find out what the social worker said about me and what was reported after I made him aware of the abuse I was being subjected to.

**Leaving Balrossie List D School. Kilmalcolm.**

54. It was quite soon after my attempted suicide and the complaints I made to the Matron that I left Balrossie as they didn't want me there. I was accused of being unruly and a danger to myself. I was spending most of the time in the locked room at Balrossie.
55. I was due to start secondary school. Out of the blue my social worker Mr Smith arrived at Balrossie and took me to a Children's Panel meeting. It was decided at this meeting that I could go back home and start secondary school education at Alan Glen's School, Townhead in Glasgow.
56. It wasn't long after I started at Alan Glen's that I started dogging school again. I was back living at home. I think that at least two of my older siblings had left home and were married by this time. My younger brother [REDACTED] was my father's favourite child because he was a good footballer and won a lot of medals. I was jealous of him because he had a good relationship with my father. I was the black sheep of the family as none of my siblings ever got into trouble with the authorities.
57. I had developed a drinking habit when I was Balrossie. When I was running away I was spending my time drinking. I ended up in detox units on at least twelve occasions spanning my childhood and adult life.
58. When I was dogging school I was also stealing cars and got involved in petty criminality. I was involved with the police. This resulted in me being back in front of a Children's Panel. The decision this time was to send me to The Kibble School in Paisley. I was now about thirteen or fourteen. I attended at least six Children Panel's and they were always trying to find an alternative to locking me up again.

### Care at the Kibble List D School, Paisley.

59. As far as I remember I went directly from the Children's Panel to Kibble. I think I was taken there by my social worker Mr Smith. I don't have memories of my first day there.
60. I was shown where I was sleeping in a dormitory where there were two beds partitioned off with a Perspex screen. There must have been twenty boys in each dormitory. The dormitory did have a lock on the door. There was a sitting area which had a television you could watch and formed part of the dormitory.
61. I was to stay at Kibble for over a year. My social worker was still Mr Smith but I only saw him when I was appearing before a Children's Panel. I can't remember the name of the man who was SNR but he was nicknamed by the boys as GHK GHK. He used to smoke cigarettes using a cigarette holder. He was a fair man and would dole out the weekend leave on a Thursday. He also allowed the boys to smoke and you would get four cigarettes a day. You would have to queue up to get your cigarettes. Most boys brought cigarettes back with them when they came back from home leave.
62. The boys ranged in age between twelve and sixteen. There must have been at least two hundred boys at the school. It was a school for boys only. It was a secure unit and I remember a football park and an indoor five aside football pitch.
63. You started off in the old part of the building and graduated to the new built area. When you got to the new built area it was much more relaxed and the staff left you much more to your own devices. After three months I was moved to the new part of the building. I think that the new part of Kibble was called Mossvale.

### *Staff*

64. There was a lot of staff at the Kibble. They were both male and female. Most of the staff working at the new part of the building were female and the atmosphere there was much more relaxed.

### *Routine*

65. We would be woken up at about eight in the morning apart from a Sunday when we had a long lie until ten. You used to get a brunch which was a "fry up" on a Sunday morning at eleven o'clock although you were not served lunch that day.
66. During the week a member of staff would put the lights out at about ten o'clock but if you were there at the weekends they were much more relaxed and you could sit up and watch television. You didn't perform any chores like cleaning as there was staff to do that.

### *Showering and bathing*

67. I think that each part of Kibble had its own areas for washing and doing your ablutions. There were showers and baths but they were open and offered no privacy. You could use these facilities any time you wanted.

### *Food*

68. The food was the same as Balrossie with a cereal or porridge for breakfast. I think that there were different dining rooms for the different dormitories. The food was fine and I think it was cooked by the staff that manned the kitchen. I think we could help ourselves to what we wanted from a hot plate. It was food that I was used to at home. I remember that everyone wanted chips with every meal.

### *Uniform*

69. You were provided with a pair of jeans and a sweat shirt. If you were learning in the workshops they would provide you with overalls. There were plenty of spares if you needed them.

### *Schooling*

70. You were given mechanical courses where you learned to fix motor cars or you would learn painting and decorating. There was some school work but they mixed it up with the days you spent doing practical courses. I probably knew more about motors than they did because of the amount that I stole.

### *Leisure facilities*

71. There was a gym which had an indoor five a side football pitch and in the grounds there was a full sized outside pitch. I was into football and spent most of my time playing football with the other boys. I recall that we had matches against other schools. We also had a large grass park. We could watch television which was in the dormitory.

### *Healthcare*

72. I don't remember much about that and I don't think I needed any healthcare when I was there. There wasn't a matron but I know that they had access to Doctors.

### *Religion*

73. I think that you said Grace at mealtimes but I didn't go to church when I was there.

### *Trips and holidays*

74. I don't remember going on any trips. If they did go on trips I didn't know about it because I would be in the good books for a while until I ran away and got back into the bad books.

### *Birthdays and Christmas*

75. I don't remember celebrating my birthday or Christmas at Kibble.

### *Running away*

76. I ran away a couple of times when I was at Kibble and when I got back I got six of the belt from SNR as a punishment. He would belt you across the backside but you kept your trousers on.
77. When you ran away the staff at the Kibble would come and look for you in the area where you lived. Unlike Balrossie they would never lay hands on you or try to force you to go with them back to Kibble. They would ask you to go with them and sometimes I agreed to go and sometimes I said no so they just left me alone. My father would persuade me to go back.
78. One of the main reasons that I ran away was because my mother would write to me every week and send me some money. I had not heard from her for four weeks because I had not been allowed home. It turned out that my mother was in hospital but they made the decision not to tell me in case I got upset. I immediately ran away to go and see her.
79. I was away for a while and was staying with a lassie who had a house in the scheme I came from. It was a house used by many different people as a place you could doss down. She was about nineteen years old. I was about fifteen at the time and was on the run for about three months from Kibble. My father eventually persuaded me to go back but when I did Kibble no longer wanted me to stay there.

80. I think that because of what happened to me to Balrossie I didn't want to be at Kibble. The staff at Kibble were very fair with me and I don't have any bad feelings towards them. I was drinking a lot and mixing with the wrong crowd.

#### **Abuse at Kibble List D School, Paisley**

81. There was no real abuse happened at Kibble. The only time I was ever hit was when I got six of the belt across my clothed backside for running away. It was always given by SNR [REDACTED], GHK [REDACTED] whose name I am unable to remember. I was only belted on about six occasions and it was always for "shooting". Kibble was never a problem to me.

#### **Leaving Kibble List D School, Paisley**

82. I had been on the run for about three months from the Kibble. I was mixing with an older crowd and drinking heavily. I was also involved in petty crime. Kibble told me that I was unruly and they no longer wanted me to stay there.
83. It was decided by Mr Smith and the Children's Panel that I would be moved to a boy's hostel called Lochaber in Clevedon Drive, Glasgow. This suited me perfectly because it meant that I could get a direct bus back to the area I was brought up in and I was much closer to home.

#### **Care at Lochaber Boy's Hostel, Clevedon Drive, Glasgow.**

84. I remember that Mr Smith took me to the hostel from Kibble. It was just like a house in the west end of Glasgow. I was fifteen years of age and stayed there for about a year until I was sixteen. I was enrolled in the local school secondary called North Kelvinside.

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### **Leaving Lochaber Boy's Hostel, Glasgow**

90. Mr Smith told me one day that when I turned sixteen I would have to leave the hostel as they only dealt with juveniles who were under sixteen. My sixteenth birthday was due very soon and that was the day that I left the hostel. I never saw Mr Smith again after my sixteenth birthday. I don't know if he made that decision or that I made it myself. I have no bad memories of the hostel.

### **Life after being in care**

91. I went back to stay with my parents. I was drinking heavily but managed to get a place on a course for painting and decorating at the Community Industry College in Glasgow. I ended up going to prison for offences which all involved my alcoholism and behaviour when I was drinking.
92. I was in borstal at Polmont, and Glenochil Young Offenders. I ended up at age 22 in Saughton prison where I served a three year sentence. I was released at age 25 and have not been in prison since. My mother and my sister were the only people that ever visited me when I was in jail.

### **Impact**

93. When I was in my twenties I ended up on three occasions in Woodilee Hospital which was a psychiatric hospital in Glasgow. I was drinking a lot but I had these feelings about my younger brother [REDACTED] and his relationship with my father. I was very jealous and it played on my mind. It badly affected my mental health.
94. I attended a lot of detox centres to try and help with my alcoholism. I always had my time at Balrossie in the back of my mind. I was also jealous of the relationship my youngest brother [REDACTED] had with my father. I only went into the detox to get off the drink and don't recall much about my time there. I think that there was aftercare but I would probably not attend the appointments and be back on the booze.

95. I started having episodes and ended up in the Woodilee Mental Hospital. I was sectioned under the Mental Health Act. I was having flashbacks to my time at Balrossie. I was diagnosed with psychosis. I couldn't stay with my father and younger brother because of the way I was feeling. I blamed my father for promising but failing to get me out of care after the thirteen week assessment period at Balrossie.
96. I was in Stobhill Hospital detox unit called Eriksay House and between them and Woodilee I was in one place or another on fifteen different occasions. The last detox I had was five years ago and I have not drunk alcohol for two years. They would give you vitamins to try and stimulate your appetite. You were usually in for ten to fourteen days.
97. My adult life has basically been a mess and I blame Balrossie for that. I have held a lot of jobs but never managed to hold them down because of my issues with alcohol. I worked on the building sites in London where there was no requirement to produce papers. Every time I built up money I would go back on the booze and lose my job.
98. I also worked as a painter and decorator in Sheffield and would go back and forward between there and Glasgow. I had a partner in Sheffield but we eventually fell out and it turned out that she was also an alcoholic and we were not helping each other.
99. My father passed away and my mother was on her own so I moved back in with her. I was hitting the booze a lot. I was in and out of the detox units. I finally managed to get my own house but nothing really changed. My mother passed away six years ago. She was living in the house below me in the new builds we were allocated. I was able to keep an eye on my mother when she was getting older.
100. I've had relationships and have two daughters and twin grandchildren which I am not allowed to see because of my behaviour when I was drinking. My daughters are called [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. I communicate through the computer with [REDACTED]. They traced me about six years ago but didn't like what they found.

101. I talk to one of my sisters [REDACTED] but have no contact with the rest of my siblings. They do not like the fact that I have been in jail and my behaviour when I was drinking. I have never told my siblings about what happened to me in care.
102. I think that Balrossie has ruined my adult life. I would wake up every morning and have a knot in my stomach. The only thing that would fix it was to have a drink of alcohol. I didn't realise it at the time it is only when I think about it now. I was blaming myself for what happened at Balsossie and didn't understand what was happening to me.
103. I had a heart attack when I was 46 and they managed to put in stents. I also suffer from COPD. I am on medication for these ailments. I also take tablets for my mental health condition.
104. I have now spoken to the psychiatric unit at The Anchor Centre and they have diagnosed me with PTSD and recommended that I receive trauma therapy. I am waiting to speak further with them. I am taking the anti-psychotic drugs to help with my mental health.

#### **Reporting of Abuse from my time in care**

105. I have never reported to any one out with the care system about the abuse I suffered in care. I did report the abuse I suffered at Balrossie to my Social Worker and the Matron there. They did not believe me. I suspect that SNR [REDACTED] was also told and he dealt with that by giving me a beating and locking me in a room.
106. It is however very interesting that after I made the reports of the abuse I was very quickly released from Balrossie and sent back to live with my parents. I was also threatened by my social worker that if I didn't behave I would be sent to Rossie Farm Approved School.
107. I feel that since I have contacted Future Pathways I have been able to talk to people about the abuse and I feel that this is having a good effect on me.

## Records

108. I need to see my records to help jog my memory about what happened when I was in care and what was written about me by the likes of my social worker Mr Smith. I applied for my records in March 2021 and am waiting for them to be sent. I have been told that there is a backlog because of the COVID pandemic.

## Lessons to be learned

109. There should be a mentor for every child that is put into care. The children should have someone who will listen to them and be able to hear their concerns. They should have someone they can report abuse to.
110. I could accept getting the belt at these places but there is no excuse for the abuse that I was subjected to. I have questioned why it happened to me and I am sure other children feel the same way. I feel that back in my time in care I would not have been able to tell my father about the sexual abuse because it was frowned upon and I felt guilty that it was my fault.
111. I do not want what happened to me to be the experiences that other children have in the care system. I think that the Inquiry must protect children in care and ensure it never happens again. It is as simple as that.

## Other information

112. I have no objection to my witness statement being published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

HGN

Signed.....

Dated... 30-08-2021 .....