

1 Wednesday, 6 November 2024

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning, and welcome back to Chapter 10 of  
4 Phase 8 of our case study in which we are looking into  
5 all forms of secure and similar accommodation for  
6 children.

7 Now, Ms Forbes, we are starting with a witness in  
8 person today, I think.

9 MS FORBES: Yes, my Lady.

10 LADY SMITH: Yes.

11 MS FORBES: Good morning, the witness is an applicant who is  
12 anonymous and her name -- she is being known as 'Jane'.

13 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

14 'Jane' (sworn)

15 LADY SMITH: Good morning, 'Jane'. Do sit down and make  
16 yourself comfortable.

17 'Jane', thank you for coming along this morning to  
18 help us with your evidence. I do, of course, already  
19 have your written evidence, both your statements. It  
20 has been really helpful to me to be able to study those  
21 in advance. They are already evidence before the  
22 Inquiry.

23 Don't worry, we are not going to go through them in  
24 great detail this morning, but there are some particular  
25 aspects that we would like to focus on with you, if

1           that's all right?

2    A.   Yes.

3    LADY SMITH: Now, at the outset, can I just say I know this

4           is difficult. I know it's a big ask to have you come

5           here to a public inquiry and talk about your own life,

6           things that happened so many years ago, and some of it

7           might be quite stressful. I get that. And if there's

8           anything I can do to ease the burden and help you give

9           the best evidence you can, you must let me know, whether

10          it's a break or explaining something better than we are

11          doing, just you speak up.

12   A.   (Nods).

13   LADY SMITH: Now, your written statements are in that red

14          folder in front of you. You may find it useful to have

15          them available when you are giving your evidence. We

16          will also bring up parts of it on screen as well and you

17          can see it there, if that's okay with you. Some people

18          don't like seeing it on screen, but you just let us know

19          whether or not that works for you.

20                Anything else I can do to help, you just say. If it

21          works for you, it will work for me, I promise.

22   A.   Thank you.

23   LADY SMITH: If you are ready, I will hand over to Ms Forbes

24          and she will take it from there.

25                Ms Forbes.

1 Questions by Ms Forbes

2 MS FORBES: Thank you, my Lady. Good morning, 'Jane'.

3 A. Good morning.

4 Q. As Lady Smith says, both your statements are in the  
5 folder in front of you. We give your statements  
6 a reference number, just for our purposes, so I am going  
7 to read out both of the reference numbers just now. So  
8 the first one is WIT.001.002.8063. I will get you to  
9 have a look at that in a second, but I think that's one  
10 you signed on 21 August 2019; is that right?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. Then, I think subsequent to that, you got hold of your  
13 records from your time in care from many of the places  
14 that you were. You gave another statement after you had  
15 seen them and that statement's reference is  
16 WIT-1-000001516. And in relation to that statement,  
17 I think you signed it on 29 October 2024; is that right?

18 A. Yes, yeah.

19 Q. If I can ask you -- there is a tab in the folder on the  
20 pages and that marks the start of the second statement.  
21 If I could get you to go to where that tab is and then  
22 one page in front should be the very last page of your  
23 first statement; does the tab take you to the start of  
24 your second statement, 'Jane'?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. It does. If you go a page before that, I think we will  
2 see the bit where you sign your first statement on the  
3 last page; can you see that there?

4 There is a declaration, at paragraph 29, that  
5 says -- oh, sorry, it is not paragraph 29. That's  
6 a different statement.

7 It is at paragraph 110. It might actually go over  
8 to another page. I think it goes from 19 to 20. So on  
9 19, page 19, at paragraph 110, there is a declaration  
10 that says:

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

15 That's where you have then, on the next page,  
16 page 20, signed it and the date is there, 2019; is that  
17 still the position, 'Jane'?

18 A. Yeah, yeah.

19 Q. If you want to go to the very last page, then, in the  
20 folder, that takes us to the back of your second  
21 statement; that should be paragraph 29. And, again,  
22 that paragraph has the same declaration; that you have  
23 got no objection to your statement being published and  
24 you believe the facts are true and, again, that's one  
25 that you have signed and that's the one that was dated



1       this year; is that right?

2   A.   Yeah.

3   Q.   Okay.  If you can just go back to the beginning of the

4       red folder, if you want, so that's the start of your

5       first statement.  It is up to you, 'Jane', you can have

6       it there in front of you if you want, but it will come

7       up on the screen as well as we go through it.

8       So I am just going to start, 'Jane', by just looking

9       at your journey before you got into care, so we

10      understand what happened.  And I think you tell us you

11      were born in 1974; is that right?

12  A.   Yes, yeah.

13  Q.   I think initially you lived with your mum and dad and

14      your older brother when you were quite young, but

15      I think your parents divorced when you were about 5; is

16      that right?

17  A.   Yeah.

18  Q.   And you stayed with your dad; is that right?

19  A.   Yeah, yeah.

20  Q.   Your dad was a policeman and lived in the police house?

21  A.   Yeah, yeah.

22  Q.   It was your mum who had really -- at the time of the

23      divorce, she moved out?

24  A.   Yeah.

25  Q.   And you and your brother stayed behind?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. But I think you do tell us, because of your dad's work,  
3 shift work, you would be looked after sometimes by your  
4 auntie and your brother would be looked after by someone  
5 else --

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. -- is that right?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. But, essentially, you were within your dad's care?

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. I think that you say you stayed with your auntie from  
12 about Primary 1 for three years until you were about 8.  
13 And that's at paragraph 7 we see that; is that what you  
14 recollect?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And then there seemed to come a time when your dad met  
17 your step-mum and, at that point, he moved into a house  
18 with her and then they moved into a house together and  
19 that's when you went to stay with them again; is that  
20 right?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. I think you tell us your stepmother had a daughter who  
23 was about ten years older and, at this time, your  
24 brother also came back to stay in the family home, too;  
25 is that right?

1 A. Yeah, yes.

2 Q. But you tell us that you weren't happy staying with your  
3 father and your stepmother; is that right?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And there were difficulties with the relationship you  
6 had with your stepmother and I think you tell us the way  
7 that she behaved towards you was abusive, really; is  
8 that right?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. She would make you clean in the middle of the night,  
11 when your dad was out working?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Yes. And I think you tell us, as well, that she would  
14 also assault you sometimes?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And as a result of what was going on with your  
17 stepmother you started running away; is that right?

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. I think it was as a result of that that, essentially,  
20 your dad ended up getting a psychologist involved,  
21 I think; is that right?

22 A. Yes, mm-hm.

23 Q. But, really, I think you were running away as often as  
24 you could at that point; is that right?

25 A. Yeah.

1 Q. And I think you tell us, at paragraph 15, that one time  
2 when you had run away and been picked up, you just  
3 refused to go back home?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. You told a police woman that you just didn't want to go  
6 back home. And I think it was perhaps difficult for you  
7 to say what was going on at home because your dad was  
8 a police officer?

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. Did that factor into your worry about whether or not he  
11 would get into trouble?

12 A. Erm, probably not at the time. Not at the time.

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. Erm, probably more worried about the relationship I had  
15 with him.

16 Q. Okay, all right.

17 And I think you say that you did tell that police  
18 officer about your step-mum at that time; is that right?

19 A. Yeah, yeah, but I just wasn't believed. Nobody believed  
20 me.

21 Q. But the decision was made that you would go into care at  
22 that point?

23 A. Erm, yeah, the decision was made that, erm, rather than  
24 go through a child protection order, they would say  
25 a voluntary -- I think it was a voluntary 15 order.

1 Voluntary care.

2 Q. So it was voluntary, at that stage?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. And I think you then tell us about the children's home

5 that you went to.

6 A. Mm-hm.

7 Q. I think you know from your records that perhaps you went

8 to a different children's home for one or two days,

9 first of all?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And then you were moved to the main children's home that

12 you tell us about. And that was in Glasgow; is that

13 right?

14 A. Yeah, yeah.

15 Q. Now, we know from your records, 'Jane', that the date

16 that you actually went to the first children's home was

17 [REDACTED] 1988, so you would have been about 14 or so

18 at that point; does that seem right?

19 A. Yeah, yeah.

20 Q. I think, though, you were there. And I think you tell

21 us -- this part of your statement is redacted out

22 because we are not dealing with that children's home,

23 Secondary Institutions - to be published later [REDACTED]

24 [REDACTED]

25 Secondary Institutions - to be published later But, ultimately, you didn't end

1 up being there very long

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

2 Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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17 Q. And I think this was then when it was decided that you  
18 were going to go to Newfield?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. We know that you were in Newfield a couple of times.  
21 And just while we are at this part here, where you are  
22 about to talk about Newfield, I will just say we won't  
23 worry too much about the dates. But just to get  
24 an idea: I think we know that you were admitted to  
25 Newfield on [REDACTED] 1988, so just before [REDACTED]?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. You were aged, still, 14 at that time. And the first  
3 time that you were there, you were there until  
4 [REDACTED] 1989, so about two and a half months or so  
5 before you then were admitted to Loaningdale. And we  
6 will come to Loaningdale in a little while.

7 Then you were back in Newfield a second time,  
8 I think, for what they called for respite?

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. And that was just a short period for a few days, on the  
11 [REDACTED] 1989. So, again, you are still 14 then; is  
12 that right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. That was just until the [REDACTED] and, again, you went  
15 back to Loaningdale?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So, just to understand, it was two periods in Newfield,  
18 but the second period was quite a short period?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. So I think you tell us that after you were picked up,  
21 then, after running away, you were taken to the police  
22 station and then social work took you to Newfield?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Is that right?

25 A. Yeah, that's right.

1 Q. And I think by the time you gave your statement, you  
2 thought you had been there a bit longer?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. But it is probably quite difficult to remember; it  
5 probably felt longer --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. -- when you were giving your statement?

8 But you say that when you first got to Newfield it  
9 was in the early hours of the morning; is that right?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Yes. And you tell us that when you got there, they took  
12 your clothes and shoes from you and you were given  
13 pyjamas --

14 A. No, I wasn't. I wasn't -- it was, like, erm, like  
15 a shirt thing. It wasn't -- not proper jammies, just  
16 like a shirt thing.

17 Q. Like a nightshirt?

18 A. Erm, yeah.

19 Q. And then you were put into a room and you say it was  
20 just a mattress in that room?

21 A. Yeah. It was just a mattress on the floor.

22 Q. So on the floor; not even on a bed?

23 A. No, nothing in the room.

24 Q. Was this room in -- later on, you were put into  
25 different accommodation there, but where was this room



1           in relation to the other bedrooms?

2   A.   Erm, this room was, erm -- was my room -- ended up being

3       my room.

4   Q.   Right, okay.

5   A.   It was just off the living room.  Erm, it was like the

6       girls, had rooms, but the boys slept in a dormitory.

7   Q.   Okay, so the girls had their own separate rooms --

8   A.   Yeah.

9   Q.   -- but the boys slept together?

10  A.   Mm-hm, yeah.

11  Q.   But the first time you were in it, it just had

12       a mattress on the floor?

13  A.   Erm, all the furniture had been taken out.

14  Q.   Right, okay.

15           And you tell us that you had to stay in that room

16       after you first arrived?

17  A.   Yeah, yeah.

18  Q.   And you weren't allowed out?

19  A.   No.

20  Q.   So this was for a couple of days?

21  A.   Erm, yeah.  Because I remember it so well because it was

22       [REDACTED] and I remember thinking, like, we were [REDACTED]

23       [REDACTED] and I was still in this room.

24  Q.   And you go on to say, 'Jane', that you couldn't even go

25       to the toilet; so there was no toilet in the room?  No

1       toilet facilities?

2   A.  No, no.

3   Q.  And did you know at that time where the toilets were?

4   A.  Erm, no, no, because, erm, I was just -- no, I didn't

5       even know where I was, like, if it was Newfield or --

6       like, I just was taken there by social work and just,

7       like, put in this room.  Erm, so -- and, no, I didn't

8       know where it was, because I ate in this room as well.

9       They gave me my food in this room, as well.

10  Q.  So for this first few days you just stayed in the room?

11  A.  Erm, my step-mum was allowed to come up and see me and

12       bring -- she brought magazines up in like a carrier bag,

13       erm, so, obviously, I had read those magazines.  But,

14       no, I wasn't allowed out of the room, no.  They said it

15       was in case I ran away.

16  Q.  Okay.  And when you were in the room for the two days;

17       were you given anything other than that nightshirt to

18       wear?

19  A.  No, no.  No.

20  Q.  So when your stepmother came to see you; did you see her

21       in your room or did you get to see her somewhere else?

22  A.  No, she come in.  She saw me in the room.

23  Q.  And you tell us that you couldn't even go to the toilet?

24  A.  No, no.

25  Q.  So were there occasions when you would ask to go?

1 A. Yeah, yeah.

2 Q. And what would you be told?

3 A. I was just told that they would tell me when I -- like,

4 the head of the unit would say, 'I'll tell you when

5 you're going to the toilet'.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. So that's why I ended up doing the toilet in a carrier

8 bag.

9 Q. And I think you tell us that, that you used a plastic

10 bag?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. This was part of the magazines that your stepmother

13 brought you?

14 A. Yeah, yeah.

15 Q. To go to the toilet?

16 A. Yeah, yeah.

17 Q. And I think we do see from your records, 'Jane' -- and

18 you have probably seen this in your records -- that

19 there was a reference to urine being found in a bag in

20 your room?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. But the record doesn't say how that came to be. But you

23 are telling us here that the reason for that was because

24 you weren't able to go to the toilet?

25 A. No, no.

1 Q. Okay. So when did things change, then, after those  
2 first few days?

3 A. Erm, probably when I was allowed to go down -- to go to  
4 the school. Erm, but, to be honest, the first  
5 opportunity I got, erm, I ran away.

6 Q. Yes. And I think we have heard some evidence about  
7 there being four units at Newfield?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And you tell us a little bit about that in your  
10 statement. And you have mentioned that this room that  
11 you were staying in was off the living room?

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. Did there come a point when that room then got a proper  
14 bed in it and some furniture?

15 A. Erm, yeah, yeah. Eventually, it got -- they got -- all  
16 the furniture got moved, like, back into it.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. Erm, yeah, towards just when I was about to leave.  
19 Yeah.

20 Q. But you tell us that because you used to run away, they  
21 also took your shoes off you?

22 A. Yes, I wasn't allowed my shoes. Erm, and I wasn't  
23 allowed to go to school. Eventually, they didn't let me  
24 go to school.

25 Q. So, when you finally did get some clothes, if you had

1        been running away then your shoes were taken off you?

2    A.   Uh-huh, yeah.

3    Q.   And I think you tell us, 'Jane', a little bit about the

4        routine.   If we go to paragraph 30 onwards, when you

5        would get up in the morning, go for breakfast and then

6        go to school.   You say the school was within Newfield

7        itself and you describe it as being terrible.

8    A.   Erm, it was terrible, yeah.   And also it wasn't, erm --

9        like, you weren't following any curriculum.   It was just

10       very basic.   Erm, if you see from my records, I wasn't

11       even -- I wasn't even -- like, the teacher when she was

12       giving the reports said she couldn't because I wasn't in

13       the school.   Erm, I was just given a book into my room

14       the majority of time I was there.   Erm, and it was just

15       basic.   It was just, erm -- it was way below what I was

16       used to.

17   Q.   And I think we can see from your records, 'Jane', that

18       you were identified as somebody who was clever and was

19       able to do schoolwork?

20   A.   Mm-hm.

21   Q.   But I think you comment that when you had been at

22       mainstream school, you had been getting all of these

23       different subjects?

24   A.   Mm-hm, yes.

25   Q.   But, at Newfield, they just gave you a book and told you

1       to read it?

2   A.  Yeah.

3   Q.  And you comment that the work was like baby work,

4       really?

5   A.  Yeah, mm-hm.

6   Q.  And we have heard some evidence about this.  You tell

7       us, at paragraph 32, that everybody in the centre went

8       to the school.  It was all different ages and --

9   A.  Yeah.

10  Q.  -- mixed abilities as well?

11  A.  Yeah.

12  Q.  And, really, the daily class would be the teachers just

13       trying to control the children?

14  A.  Yeah.

15  Q.  And this was quite disruptive?

16  A.  Yeah.

17  Q.  Yes.  You talk a little bit about running away, 'Jane',

18       from paragraph 33.  You say that Newfield wasn't the

19       type of place that you could come and go as you please,

20       but it wasn't a secure unit?

21  A.  No.

22  Q.  But you tell us that they watched you?

23  A.  Yeah, yeah, yeah.  Erm, especially if you were known to

24       abscond, just -- yeah, they watched you.

25  Q.  And I think you mentioned there would be outings to ice

1 skating and swimming, where you would have an  
2 opportunity to run away?

3 A. Yeah. At every opportunity to run away, I took it.

4 Q. Okay. And I think you tell us a little bit about when  
5 you did run away one particular time; you said you went  
6 to the train station in Johnstone and then hid in the  
7 forest for a few hours because you knew they would be  
8 looking at the train station?

9 A. Yes, yes.

10 Q. And you went back then to your auntie's house.

11 And you tell us a little bit about why you were  
12 running away at paragraph 35. Why was it that you were  
13 running away so often from Newfield?

14 A. Erm, I was running away because the head of the unit was  
15 bullying me. Erm, he didn't even call me by my first  
16 name, he referred to me by my second name. He  
17 humiliated me in front of other children. Erm, and  
18 I was also getting bullied off one of the girls in the  
19 unit and he knew about it and never done anything about  
20 it. Erm, it was just a horrible place.

21 Q. And you mention his name at paragraph 35. You say that  
22 was the head of the unit; is that right?

23 A. Erm, yeah, he was head of my unit. Erm, but I didn't  
24 even -- I mean, I didn't even know his name. I don't  
25 know if it was because, erm, sometimes you'd forget

1 names. And I don't know why, erm, I thought his name  
2 was different from what I'd said in my first statement.  
3 It wasn't until I got my records through that his name  
4 was on there. Erm, I am not sure, so ... if it's the  
5 one.

6 Q. So the name that you have given, HJZ; is that  
7 the name you think it is or not?

8 A. No, his name was KSX.

9 Q. Right, okay. So, just so we understand, the person you  
10 are talking about, who was a bully who ran the unit, was  
11 not the person who is named in your first statement?

12 A. No, no.

13 Q. And you tell us a little bit about the type of bullying.  
14 This, I think initially, related to this bag --

15 A. Yeah.

16 Q. -- of urine that was found in the room. And you tell  
17 us that he found it and told everybody about it?

18 A. Yeah, he showed everybody. He brought it out and he  
19 showed -- he basically showed the other kids -- in front  
20 of the children.

21 Q. And he also called you names --

22 A. Yeah, yeah.

23 Q. -- about that as well?

24 A. Yeah, yeah. Basically, I was dirty. And how disgusting  
25 I was and, erm, an animal. And, like, doing this all in



1 a bag.

2 Q. And you tell us that there was an occasion -- I'm not  
3 sure if this was after he had done that -- but I think  
4 you say there was an occasion where there was  
5 a rammy happening in the unit, so there was no staff at  
6 reception, so you took your chance and ran away?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. Was that the same day that happened or was it a  
9 different occasion?

10 A. Erm, I ran away that many times. I just -- any time I  
11 just -- any -- even going to a Children's Panel, I  
12 just ran away.

13 Q. And, again, I think you say you ended up going to your  
14 auntie's that time?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. But you had no shoes on, just your pyjamas?

17 A. Yeah, yeah.

18 Q. And she ended up having to give you clothes to wear?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. You tell us about staying the night with her before she  
21 contacted your social worker. And you said to him you  
22 didn't want to go back to Newfield; is that right?

23 A. Yeah, yes.

24 Q. And I think you told him that if you did go back, then  
25 you would be punished. And I think you tell us that

1       your clothes would be taken from you; is that right?

2   A.  Yeah, yeah.

3   Q.  And you would be left in your room with pyjamas on?

4   A.  Yeah, yeah.

5   Q.  I think just a little bit earlier in your statement you

6       do mention food and you say that if you ran away you

7       didn't get fed your dinner; is that something you recall

8       happening?

9   A.  Yeah, yeah.

10  Q.  So that too could be something that you would be

11      punished with after running away?

12  A.  Yeah, yeah.

13  Q.  You talk about then returning to Newfield.  You say you

14      got breakfast, but no lunch and water; does that mean

15      you didn't get any water?  This is at paragraph 38.  It

16      says:

17            'When I returned I got breakfast, no lunch, and

18      water.'

19  A.  Erm, I'm not sure.  What do you mean -- no, you got

20      water -- you got water to drink, but I didn't get

21      anything for lunch.

22  Q.  Okay.  Didn't get any lunch.  And you say you got some

23      dinner in your room on that occasion, but you had no

24      interaction with the other kids?

25  A.  Or staff.  They didn't even come in and ask you if you

1           were all right. You just -- no interaction with anyone.

2   Q. And I think you say you had to stay in your room then

3           for a number of days?

4   A. Yeah, yeah.

5   Q. And I think you say on that occasion it was four days?

6   A. Yeah, yeah.

7   Q. And on that occasion were you able to go to the toilet?

8   A. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

9   Q. So they would let you do that?

10  A. It was only when I first went in they -- I didn't get

11          access to the toilet.

12  Q. And when you were in the room on this occasion for the

13          four days; was it locked or were you able to open the

14          door and go out?

15  A. Erm, it was when -- when I first went in the door was

16          locked but, erm, it could be locked, but it wasn't

17          locked on that occasion.

18  Q. But I think you say you were being watched?

19  A. Like a hawk.

20  Q. In case you ran away again?

21  A. Yeah, yeah.

22  Q. Did that mean that a staff member -- was it close

23          supervision or something?

24  A. Erm, there would always be a staff member in the living

25          room, so that like if you came out the door and they

1        would stand outside when you went to the toilet -- stand  
2        outside the toilet.

3    Q.   And I think you say you ran away four or five times,  
4        just whenever you got the opportunity?

5    A.   Yeah.

6    Q.   And when you returned, you tell us it was the same  
7        routine of locking you in your room?

8    A.   Yes, and just taking everything out. They just -- the  
9        whole room got stripped. All your clothes got took off  
10       you.

11   Q.   So the room would be stripped of furniture?

12   A.   Erm, furniture, posters, erm, if you had posters up,  
13        erm, clothes, drawers. There would be nothing, just  
14        a mattress.

15   Q.   Okay. Would the mattress be on a bed frame?

16   A.   No, it would just be on the floor. You'd have a duvet,  
17        but that would be it.

18   Q.   So a mattress on the floor, with a duvet, but all the  
19        other furniture taken out?

20   A.   Yeah, yeah.

21   Q.   And your clothes would be removed, too?

22   A.   Yeah, yeah.

23   Q.   And what were you given to wear?

24   A.   Just nightclothes. Nightclothes.

25   Q.   And, again, was it this nightshirt you have talked about

1 or was it actual proper pyjamas?

2 A. At that point, I had had -- erm, because when I first  
3 went into Newfield, erm, I didn't get -- my clothes  
4 didn't come from the children's home for about a week,  
5 so, at that point, there was one jammies.

6 LADY SMITH: Did anybody explain why they were taking the  
7 furniture out of the room?

8 A. Erm, no. No, no, but I was -- when I first got there  
9 I was like: 'Well, I've not done anything wrong.  
10 I haven't ran away or nothing, I'm just here'. Erm, but  
11 nobody, nobody -- I kinda -- I kinda knew after --  
12 I knew once I'd been there, that that was obviously the  
13 procedure. Once you'd started running away, that was  
14 like the punishment for it.

15 LADY SMITH: What was the furniture that was taken out?

16 A. Erm, it was like a bed that had the base and then you've  
17 got the mattress on top. So the base would be taken  
18 out. Erm, your bedside cabinet, your drawers, your  
19 wardrobe. It was like a small wardrobe you get and  
20 you've got the two drawers underneath it. And that was  
21 it. That was it.

22 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

23 MS FORBES: And, 'Jane', you say that you came to know that  
24 that was the sort of punishment that you got when you  
25 ran away --

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. -- and you came back.

3 A. Mm-hm.

4 Q. Did you see that happening to other people?

5 A. Yeah, all the time. Yeah, that's why I kinda worked out

6 that that was the punishment. That's what happened and

7 that's what I was told. I told the social worker:

8 'Well, that's what happens when you run away'.

9 Q. And you have explained in your statement, 'Jane', that

10 the days that that would continue for would get longer

11 and longer.

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. I think you explain it went from four to five days and

14 then six?

15 A. Mm-hm, yes.

16 Q. And a week on one occasion?

17 A. Mm-hm, yeah.

18 Q. So that the length of the punishment seemed to increase?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. Was that the more you ran away, the bigger the

21 punishment?

22 A. Yeah, yeah.

23 Q. I think you tell us, 'Jane', that there then came

24 a point when you went to a panel and you were waiting on

25 a placement and you realised at that point that you

1           weren't going to be in Newfield permanently?

2   A.   Yeah, yeah.

3   Q.   And you stopped running away at that point?

4   A.   Yeah, yeah.

5   Q.   But up until around about this time, you had been in

6           care voluntarily, but I think then there was a panel

7           where you were told that you were going to go to

8           a residential school and that wasn't voluntary; is that

9           right?

10  A.   Yeah, yeah.

11  Q.   You tell us a little bit, 'Jane', about your dad coming

12           up to visit you a few times a week. And there was

13           a time when you were in Newfield when your gran was over

14           from Australia and she came and you were able to sit

15           with them in a room?

16  A.   Yeah, yeah.

17  Q.   Was that on your own with them?

18  A.   Erm, yeah, yeah.

19  Q.   Okay. I think you tell us they could visit any time

20           during the day, but just not at night?

21  A.   Yeah, yeah.

22  Q.   Just then going to a part of your statement, 'Jane',

23           where you talk about particular things that happened at

24           Newfield. This is from paragraph 43. You have

25           mentioned there:

1           'HJZ' was the guy in charge.'

2           Now, is this the name that you got wrong?

3   A.   Yeah, yeah.

4   Q.   This is KSX? KSX was the guy in charge?

5   A.   Yeah, yeah.

6   Q.   And you mentioned another member of staff there called

7        HPA; is that right?

8   A.   Yeah, yeah.

9   Q.   But I think you tell us, as you have mentioned already,

10       that KSX was a horrible human being?

11   A.   Yeah, yeah.

12   Q.   And you mentioned that he was a bully. I think you tell

13       us that he would do things to you, at paragraph 43, that

14       he would throw you about?

15   A.   Yeah, yeah. Erm, like, bang into you -- and just -- not

16       just me, other children as well. He was just -- his

17       just whole demeanour, just, erm, very authori -- just

18       very authori ...

19   LADY SMITH: Authoritarian?

20   A.   Yeah, yeah, that word, yeah. But, erm, like in a

21       bullying way, yeah. Intimidating. Intimidating.

22   MS FORBES: So he was physical towards you at times?

23   A.   Yeah, yeah, yeah.

24   Q.   And would you say he was heavy-handed with you?

25   A.   Erm, I would say more, like, maybe, like, banging into



1       you. More heavy-handed towards the boys.

2   Q. And, apart from that, I think you say that he would

3       throw you in your room when you came back after running

4       away?

5   A. Yeah, he would just like manhandle you. Just like

6       basically fling you in the room and shut the door.

7   Q. But he also called you names, as well?

8   A. Yeah, yeah.

9   Q. And I think you told us a little bit about what happened

10      with the toilet bag and what he said about that?

11   A. Mm-hm.

12   Q. Would there be other times, then, after that, that he

13      would call you names?

14   A. Erm, yeah, he would call me LUK . He called me by

15      my -- he wouldn't call me by my first name. He also

16      told -- erm, like, he would play kids off against each

17      other. And kids in the unit found out like my dad was

18      a policeman. They would call me LUK and things.

19      If you didn't, like -- how's the word? -- not conform --

20      erm, if you didn't -- basically wouldn't conform, like,

21      uh-huh, he made your life not too good.

22   Q. And I think you say that he would ask you who you

23      thought you were?

24   A. Mm-hm.

25   Q. And that things were only going to get worse for you?

1 A. Yeah, yeah.

2 Q. And anything to scare you, really?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. We have talked about, 'Jane', the fact that when you  
5 first went there, you weren't given any clothes and  
6 given this nightshirt. And you say that you stayed in  
7 those clothes to begin with?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. But the other children there had clothes, their own  
10 clothes on?

11 A. Yeah, mm-hm.

12 Q. So that meant that you stood out?

13 A. Yeah, yeah.

14 Q. And you say that that made things worse. And when you  
15 say that; what did it make worse for you with the other  
16 children?

17 A. Well, I didn't have my -- because, erm, I was moved from  
18 the children's home, they didn't -- I didn't get my own  
19 clothes at first, like, for, like, well over a week.  
20 Erm, and it was, like, I was different, because I looked  
21 like something out of Oliver Twist. You know, I had  
22 a big, like, nightshirt on and it was something provided  
23 by Newfield. It was just -- you know what kids can be  
24 like, especially teenagers. Erm, I was bullied and made  
25 fun of.

1 Q. And you tell us when you asked K SX when you would get  
2 your clothes and when you would be allowed out of your  
3 room, he told you that you had to earn them?  
4 A. Yeah, yeah.  
5 LADY SMITH: When your clothes arrived from the previous  
6 home; were you then able to wear them?  
7 A. Erm, yeah, yeah. Yeah.  
8 LADY SMITH: Thank you.  
9 MS FORBES: And I think you have told us about what would  
10 happen. This is at paragraph 45, where you talk about  
11 after running away and going back, everything would be  
12 taken out your room.  
13 A. Mm-hm.  
14 Q. But, apart from that, you wouldn't also be allowed to go  
15 to school in the centre; is that right?  
16 A. Yeah, yeah.  
17 Q. So during that period, when you would have to stay in  
18 your room for those four, five, six or seven days, then  
19 you weren't getting any education?  
20 A. No, no.  
21 Q. Okay. Were you given anything to do in your room?  
22 A. Just books to read, like. But, like, as I said from my  
23 records, you will see that one teacher couldn't even  
24 give any -- like, she couldn't even give a -- when I was  
25 going to -- I think I was going to Loaningdale and the

1 teachers were asked, like, for an assessment on me, she  
2 said she couldn't because I hadn't been in the class.  
3 I wasn't also allowed to do PE 'cause I wasn't ever  
4 allowed my shoes. So every time I went to school,  
5 I always had no shoes on and I couldn't take part in PE.  
6 Q. And I think you say that the point when you were allowed  
7 to -- this is just you summarising, really, what had  
8 happened in relation to some examples of things that  
9 happened to you around Newfield.  
10 I think you say, at paragraph 45, that it was after  
11 KSX had found the toilet bag and showed the children  
12 and called you names that you were then allowed to go to  
13 the toilet?  
14 A. Yeah, yeah.  
15 Q. So it took that to happen for you to be allowed to use  
16 the toilet?  
17 A. Yeah, yeah.  
18 Q. You mention a girl, who you have named there, who was  
19 a resident at Newfield like you, and you say she was  
20 a couple of years older than you.  
21 A. Yeah.  
22 Q. You say that you saw her and another member of staff,  
23 who you say you think was HPA, who was night shift --  
24 A. Yeah.  
25 Q. -- and in his 30s -- and what did you see them doing?

1 A. Kissing, kissing.

2 Q. And was that more than once you saw that happen?

3 A. Erm, no. I just saw it once, but I knew that she was --

4 she -- I knew that there was something going on. And

5 I knew, like, obviously, for her, in her eyes it was

6 some sort of relationship. But, erm, yeah, I only saw

7 them kissing once.

8 Q. Did you speak to her about it at all?

9 A. Erm, not so much at the time, maybe. When I moved --

10 actually, she moved in near me, erm, years later and

11 I remember speaking about it then. Erm, but for her it

12 was like, erm, even then, even when I spoke to her years

13 later, it was like a relationship. And I said: 'Well,

14 he obviously took advantage of you. You were, like,

15 vulnerable'. Erm, but she didn't see it like that. But

16 it was -- it definitely was like that.

17 Q. So she would have been about 16?

18 A. She was just coming on for 16.

19 Q. But your understanding is that she thought it was

20 a relationship?

21 A. Yeah, yeah.

22 Q. And you do mention another child that you remember there

23 particularly, who was someone -- a boy with special

24 needs?

25 A. Yeah, yeah.

1 Q. Who was a couple of years younger than you?

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. And you tell us his name.

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. And you say that the member of staff, I think -- this is

6 KSX not HJZ; is that right?

7 A. Yeah, KSX, yeah.

8 Q. Would call him certain things?

9 A. Yeah, yeah, yeah, like ... am I allowed to say them?

10 Q. You can say them, yes.

11 A. Just like 'mongo', 'retard'. He was particularly bad

12 to -- really horrible.

13 Q. And was it just him that would do that?

14 A. Erm, I would say not just him. There was another boy as

15 well. I remember he was quite -- I think the more macho

16 boys, the more, like, maybe, like, more streetwise boys,

17 he wasn't as bad to them. It was more like kids that he

18 could get away with it. Erm, he was particularly nasty,

19 yes.

20 Q. And was it just that staff member that would do that to

21 that boy that you remember?

22 A. Yeah, yeah.

23 Q. Okay. I think you say that this time at Newfield, even

24 though it wasn't that long a period, really, you

25 describe it as the worst time of your life?

1 A. Yeah, yeah.

2 Q. Is that how you see it, looking back?

3 A. Erm, yeah, yeah. I still see it like that, because

4 obviously I've been right through the care system. I

5 was in like a secure unit, residential schools, other

6 assessment centres and that was the worst.

7 Q. And you say it was horrendous, horrible, because of the

8 way K SX treated you?

9 A. Erm, not just treated me, treated other children as

10 well, vulnerable children.

11 Q. And you mention children being restrained?

12 A. Yeah, yeah. Yeah.

13 Q. And you say that they were restrained too roughly?

14 A. Yeah, yeah. It was -- restraint used as a punishment,

15 not -- it wasn't used -- it was used, like, for people

16 who wouldn't comply. If you wouldn't do what you were

17 told. It was used for the wrong reasons.

18 Q. And I think you refer to it as being called a 'pin

19 down'?

20 A. They called it a 'pin down', yeah.

21 Q. So this would be used in circumstances where someone

22 just wasn't doing what they were told?

23 A. Yeah, yeah.

24 Q. It wasn't necessarily circumstances where they needed to

25 be restrained for their own safety or the safety of

1 others?

2 A. Yeah, yeah, definitely.

3 Q. And you describe that when that would happen, that their

4 arms were put up their backs and they were dragged away?

5 A. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

6 Q. Is that what you saw happen?

7 A. Yeah, and just as well, obviously -- because I saw in

8 other places restraint done, like, and just done when,

9 obviously, it was, like, staff safety were at risk and

10 if they were being violent. Erm, but it wasn't done in

11 a way -- like, a controlled way, erm, that I saw in

12 other places.

13 In Newfield, it was just done -- like, you know,

14 like, in -- they'd be, like -- be screaming and their

15 arms just put up their backs until, obviously, the

16 person was screaming and it hurt. It hurt them.

17 Q. And when that happened would there be more than one

18 member of staff involved in doing that?

19 A. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

20 Q. Did you ever see children taken to the ground?

21 A. Erm, yeah, yeah, yeah.

22 Q. And did you see any children with injuries as a result

23 of being restrained?

24 A. Erm, yeah, yeah, yeah.

25 Q. Where would you usually see the injuries?



1 A. Erm, I saw one boy had a carpet burn, like on his face,  
2 just at the side.

3 Q. And this restraint that you saw, that you say was rough;  
4 how often would that happen? Was it a daily basis?  
5 A weekly basis?

6 A. Erm, daily, I would say. Just when somebody -- for  
7 instance, like, maybe if somebody would be watching  
8 something on telly and it would maybe -- like, for  
9 instance, nearly finishing and they wanted to watch the  
10 end and they were told no and maybe they get a bit  
11 stropky, like they would just be restrained, like, and  
12 flung in the dormitory. It was more the boys got  
13 restrained.

14 Q. Did this restraint ever happen to you when you were  
15 there?

16 A. No, no, no.

17 Q. Okay. I think you say that you learned to keep your  
18 mouth shut when you say you realised what --

19 A. Yeah, yeah.

20 Q. -- KSX would do?

21 A. I basically started conforming, if you want to ...  
22 basically, yeah.

23 Q. When you say you learned to keep your mouth shut when  
24 you realised what KSX would do; does that refer to  
25 restraint or something else?

1 A. Erm, I was more scared -- I was scared, obviously, just  
2 the names and like the humiliation he would cause.  
3 I just knew what he was capable of and I just -- I just  
4 knew to keep my mouth shut.

5 Q. And did you ever see K SX involved in restraint?

6 A. Oh, all the time. It was mainly him who would be doing  
7 it, doing the restraint. And then, erm, someone would  
8 be -- like, another member of staff would be, like,  
9 holding the child's legs.

10 Q. Okay. I think, then, 'Jane', you go on to tell us that  
11 you ended up going to Loaningdale?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And I think, as we said earlier, from your records, you  
14 were admitted to Loaningdale on 1989.  
15 Again, you were still only 14 at that point. Apart from  
16 the short few days in Newfield for respite in , you  
17 were, I think, back again in Loaningdale. But I know  
18 you also were transferred to Cardross as well?

19 A. Yeah, yeah.

20 Q. We will come to that as we go down. But I think you  
21 were transferred to Cardross from Loaningdale on the  
22 1989 for three weeks. Then you were back to  
23 Loaningdale on the . Then you were back to  
24 Cardross again on 1989.

25 So you were in Loaningdale, I think, from

1       [REDACTED] to, essentially, [REDACTED], apart from a few  
2       days in Newfield. Then you were back again for about  
3       three weeks in [REDACTED], two or three weeks; does that  
4       sound about right?

5   A. Yeah, yeah.

6   Q. You tell us about Loaningdale, 'Jane', from  
7       paragraph 49. I think it was recommended that you  
8       should go there because the schooling was meant to be  
9       good and this was somewhere that you could benefit  
10      from better education provision?

11  A. Yeah, yeah.

12  Q. And you say, at paragraph 49, you were quite bright.  
13      And we see that from your records; it is referred to  
14      quite a lot that you were capable of a lot. And they  
15      thought you would be able to do your exams there.  
16      I don't think that ended up happening because of the  
17      moves; is that right?

18  A. Erm, well, I actually begged them not to send me to  
19      a residential school, because, erm, that was one thing,  
20      I never, ever played truant, like, that wasnae part of  
21      my issues. I ran away from home, but I always went to  
22      school. Erm, I never missed school and it was something  
23      that was important to me and I knew -- by going into  
24      a residential school, I knew that -- I knew I wouldn't  
25      get the schooling that I wanted.

1 Q. Yes.

2 A. But the reason -- I think you could do your Standard  
3 Grades -- it was called Standard Grades then and  
4 O Grades. You did have the opportunity to do it, but  
5 what happened was, erm, there was a lot of riots and  
6 things towards the end and I think a lot of classrooms  
7 and things get wrecked and things and the material just  
8 got lost or damaged.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. And that's how I never ended up sitting my exams.

11 Q. And you are aware, 'Jane', that what you tell us about  
12 Loaningdale, we have read in that whole part of your  
13 statement previously.

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. And it was read in on 6 June 2024 --

16 A. Mm-hm.

17 Q. -- which was Day 451 of this Inquiry. So I am not going  
18 to go through everything that you tell us there.

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. Not because it is not important, it's just because we  
21 have read it in in detail already.

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. I just will highlight a few things you tell us about  
24 Loaningdale, just so we understand what happened while  
25 you were there.

1 A. Okay.

2 Q. I think you tell us about the routine and the set up at  
3 Loaningdale. Again, we have heard evidence about  
4 Loaningdale already. But I think in relation to the  
5 school aspect, you tell us, at paragraph 52 that:  
6 'If you wanted to learn [at Loaningdale] you could  
7 ...'

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. '... but they struggled to teach you because it was too  
10 rowdy.'

11 A. Yeah, yeah, that was the case. But the -- the teaching  
12 staff were really good, particularly the English  
13 teacher. She used to give me work to do, like, away  
14 with me and things, and take me to the local library.  
15 And she was really good and the art teacher was good as  
16 well.

17 Q. And I think you say that in general the schooling was  
18 good, but there were too many boisterous children,  
19 especially boys?

20 A. Yeah, the facilities were good. They had good  
21 facilities. They had a radio station if you wanted to  
22 learn about, like, sound systems and things like that.  
23 They had the facilities there if you wanted to learn,  
24 yeah.

25 Q. And you tell us, at paragraph 54, that it was structured

1 at Loaningdale at first. I think you go on to describe  
2 how things started to deteriorate whilst you were there?  
3 A. Yeah, mm-hm.  
4 Q. But I think you tell us that you did like some of the  
5 staff?  
6 A. Yeah, yeah.  
7 Q. But there was one person in particular who you didn't  
8 like?  
9 A. Yeah, yeah.  
10 Q. And that was SNR [REDACTED] was it?  
11 A. Yeah, yeah.  
12 Q. What was his name?  
13 A. His name was LUJ [REDACTED], Mr LUJ [REDACTED].  
14 Q. And I think there is where you particularly mention you  
15 liked the English teacher and she gave you some extra  
16 books and work to do?  
17 A. Yeah, yeah.  
18 Q. You explain, and we have heard evidence about this,  
19 'Jane', that Loaningdale was near to the town, but  
20 because of something that had happened before you  
21 arrived there you weren't allowed in the town on your  
22 own?  
23 A. Yeah, that's right.  
24 Q. And you weren't locked in in Loaningdale, but if you  
25 went down the town on your own, you would be reported

1       for absconding?

2   A.  Yeah, yeah.

3   Q.  But I think you tell us, at paragraph 57, that it was

4       quite a frustrating time for you because you wanted to

5       learn?

6   A.  Erm, yeah, I want -- I was -- I kept on asking to go --

7       I was wanting to go, like, mainstream school, and I'd

8       have been quite happy to stay there and just get

9       a letter to go to, like, Biggar High, but it wasn't

10      allowed.  They just said no.

11  Q.  And I think you tell us you even wrote to the head of

12      the Social Work Department to ask?

13  A.  Yeah, yeah I did. I did. I did.

14  Q.  But you say you didn't get a response in relation to

15      that?

16  A.  No, not that time.  But I wrote to him again for

17      something else and I get a response that time.

18  Q.  And the response was it wasn't happening?

19  A.  Well, if you look at my records, it's just all: 'We'll

20      think about it at the next review, we'll think about it

21      at the next review', and just I think -- I don't think

22      it was particularly -- I think maybe -- not my fault,

23      but I think maybe because, erm, my behaviour at the

24      time, because it was just a reaction to being in care,

25      just frustrated.  So by the time the next review came,

1 I'd probably done a multiple of other things, and then  
2 they'd say, 'All right, we'll wait to the next review'.  
3 And it just snowballed.

4 Q. I think you do tell us that you would get out on outings  
5 in Loaningdale, and you set out some of the things you  
6 would get do at paragraph 60. There was the ski centre  
7 in Edinburgh. There was mountain biking, fishing and  
8 ice skating, things like that?

9 A. Yeah, yeah.

10 Q. These were things funded out of the teachers' own  
11 pockets, you say?

12 A. They got a budget. They -- I always remember them  
13 collect the wee brown envelope, it was, like, for kids  
14 at the weekend who didn't get out, like, obviously  
15 didn't go home. Erm, and they would -- whatever they  
16 had, that was what they had. But most of the staff, the  
17 teachers, they used to put money towards it to do  
18 activities, yeah.

19 Q. And you mention, again, SNR [REDACTED] at paragraph 61.  
20 You say that really he was the only member of staff that  
21 could be a bit heavy-handed?

22 A. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

23 Q. But that was with the boys, was it?

24 A. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

25 Q. But your understanding was that he came after you



1 arrived, he was new?

2 A. He was new. He came maybe about a week or something,  
3 maybe a couple of weeks after I arrived. He wasn't  
4 there when I first got there, no.

5 Q. And you say that in relation to you he just really  
6 shouted?

7 A. Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

8 Q. But it was restraint of the boys --

9 A. Yeah, yeah.

10 Q. -- that you think was over the top?

11 A. Yeah, yeah.

12 Q. But you also mention there being a black boy there at  
13 the time you were there. And that Mr LUJ called him  
14 a particular slur; is that right? He called him --

15 A. Yeah.

16 Q. -- you have got it there in your statement, at  
17 paragraph 61. And you say he called him this racial  
18 slur and then he bent his hand back until he cried?

19 A. Yeah, yeah.

20 Q. But after that you never saw the boy again?

21 A. Yeah. He got moved to Kerelaw.

22 Q. You tell us you think it was after [REDACTED] SNR  
23 came that things started to go downhill. I think you  
24 explained that they didn't have a lot of money, and  
25 Mr LUJ didn't really know how to communicate with

1 children, from your point of view?

2 A. Yeah, he didn't know how to communicate.

3 I think before that -- before he came, it was

4 Bill Whiteside who was SNR. He was totally

5 different. Totally different ideas, totally different

6 way of relating to the children.

7 Q. So do you remember being there when Bill Whiteside was

8 there?

9 A. Yeah, I was there when Bill was there.

10 Q. You tell us, 'Jane', that whilst you were there, you

11 didn't have much to do with your family, but that was

12 your decision. I think you didn't want to go home at

13 the weekends; is that right?

14 A. Yeah, I didn't want to go home, no.

15 Q. And you were really looking for somewhere else to go

16 those weekends?

17 A. Yeah, yeah.

18 Q. And on holidays?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. But also you again had the issue of running away. You

21 tell us about that from paragraph 64. You say you ran

22 away numerous times from Loaningdale, but nothing really

23 happened when you got brought back. There wasn't

24 a punishment, in particular?

25 A. Actually, I never actually ran away from Newfield -- I'm

1       sorry, Loaningdale. I ran away when they were taking me  
2       home for home leave. So when I was getting told: 'No,  
3       you need to go home. We've not got enough members of  
4       staff.'

5       I wouldn't go home. I would just run away. So  
6       I never, ever actually ran away from Newfield; it was  
7       like when I was getting sent home.

8   Q. So those were the circumstances that made you want to --

9   A. Yeah, I just didn't want to go home.

10   Q. But certainly you tell us that when it came to light  
11       that you hadn't gone home and you were brought back,  
12       that there wasn't a particular punishment or anything --

13   A. No, no.

14   Q. -- that you got at Loaningdale?

15   A. No.

16   Q. So it wasn't like Newfield where you got put in a room  
17       and had everything removed?

18   A. No. It was more like Bill would come in and he would  
19       speak to you and he would ask you what was wrong. And  
20       there would be more -- like, they would more be, like,  
21       if there was anything they could help you with. Like,  
22       did you want to speak about anything? What's the  
23       reason? More, 'Why were you running away?' basically.

24   Q. Okay. And you describe, 'Jane', the deterioration at  
25       Loaningdale of the sort of behaviour of the people.

1 This is at paragraph 66. That really there was just  
2 chaos with some of the pupils --  
3 A. Yeah.  
4 Q. -- in and around the town. There was also riots inside  
5 the place?  
6 A. Mm-hm, mm-hm.  
7 Q. There was damage to the property inside Loaningdale;  
8 beds getting smashed up and things like that?  
9 A. Yeah.  
10 Q. And I think this was at nighttime?  
11 A. Yeah.  
12 Q. And people would just join in?  
13 A. Yeah.  
14 Q. And I think you explained the fact that SNR  
15 was a bit heavy-handed with the boys made the situation  
16 worse?  
17 A. Yes, he just lost control. He just couldnae -- he just  
18 couldnae control the place.  
19 Q. I think you describe this happening over a period of  
20 months and ended up with windows being smashed and the  
21 place just being wrecked?  
22 A. It was, yeah, yeah.  
23 Q. And I think you will have seen from your records there  
24 is a reference to you, even, I think on one occasion,  
25 hurting yourself, or trying to hurt yourself, by putting

1       your head to a window; is that right?

2   A.  Yeah, yeah.

3   Q.  Was that part of what was going on there?

4   A.  Erm, I think -- I think that it was more to do with

5       I was -- getting me to go home.

6   Q.  Okay.

7   A.  Erm, I think it was more to do with that, that I was

8       getting made to go home.

9   Q.  So this was frustration that you didn't want to go home

10       and you were being told that you were going to have to?

11  A.  Yeah, because they didn't have the staff members to

12       basically keep -- that I was allowed to stay at the

13       weekend.

14  Q.  Okay.  And you tell us then that you ended up being sent

15       then to Cardross.  You tell us you were in there twice.

16       I think, again, we know from your records you first went

17       to Cardross on [REDACTED] 1989, when you would have been

18       15 by that point.

19       Then you came back to Loaningdale for a period of

20       time, and then you were back to Cardross on

21       [REDACTED] 1989.  And then I think we know that you

22       stayed there until you ended up in Kerelaw the next

23       year, the [REDACTED] 1990?

24  A.  Yeah.

25  Q.  Does that sound about right?

1 A. Yeah. And, after Kerelaw, I went back to Cardross.  
2 Q. You went back to Cardross again, and that was  
3 [REDACTED] 1990?  
4 A. Yeah, yeah.  
5 Q. But you then go on, 'Jane', to tell us about Cardross,  
6 and you are talking about it generally over the whole  
7 periods that you were there --  
8 A. Yeah.  
9 Q. -- I think?  
10 A. Yes.  
11 Q. But, essentially, you tell us that Cardross was good?  
12 A. Yeah, yeah.  
13 Q. And that although the layout was similar to Newfield, it  
14 was nothing like it?  
15 A. It was nothing like it, no.  
16 Q. And you say, at paragraph 70:  
17 'The place was just different.'  
18 A. It was different, erm, because there was -- the staff  
19 interacted with you and it was also different -- well,  
20 it had -- if you ran away, erm, you would -- it would be  
21 the same thing, you would be in your nightclothes, but  
22 you would be in your slippers and you would be in your  
23 room. But you were allowed -- you done a work  
24 programme. You could earn it back. You could choose  
25 to, like, help with the dishes or Hoover the living

1 room. Then that got -- so you were allowed out your  
2 room. Not like a punishment for running away, but  
3 absconding.

4 I think it depended on the circumstances as well.  
5 Like, when you went back, they used to ask you to write,  
6 like, why you ran away. So maybe if you were running  
7 away because you were getting bullied or -- it just  
8 depended -- there wouldn't be a punishment. But maybe  
9 if you were running away and you were offending, like,  
10 maybe getting into a lot of trouble with the police when  
11 you were away, then you would need to do a work  
12 programme. But it was just totally different.

13 Q. Yes.

14 A. Totally different.

15 Q. I think you tell us about this later in your statement,  
16 'Jane', where you say that there was a star system that  
17 they used?

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. But you could earn stars back if you lost them?

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. If you'd run away you could write a letter to explain  
22 why you had done that?

23 A. Yeah, yeah, uh-huh.

24 Q. And this work programme was something that you could  
25 agree to do --

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. -- which would also mean that you would then spend less  
3 time in your pyjamas; is that right?

4 A. Yeah, yeah. You wouldn't get put in your -- if you  
5 agreed to win them back, you wouldn't get put in your  
6 pyjamas. If you agreed to do the work programme, then  
7 you wouldn't get put in your jammies.

8 Q. You tell us, 'Jane', that the staff there just  
9 interacted with you more. They ate with you, they would  
10 sit and talk to you and they did things with you as  
11 well?

12 A. Yeah, you cooked together. At suppertime, you cooked.  
13 You cooked your supper together, erm, and they ate with  
14 you. They sat and ate supper with you. And they just  
15 talked to you. Like, you know, things that teenagers  
16 are into, like music and things like that. They would  
17 bring like CDs in and things like that, and just DVDs.  
18 Just, it was just like a lot different from other places  
19 I'd been in.

20 Q. So it was a lot different from Newfield and Loaningdale?

21 A. Erm, I think it was different -- it was different from  
22 Newfield because -- it was different from Loaningdale  
23 because, erm, it was, like, more -- like, they made the  
24 kids share more. It was like, you know, they had the  
25 birthday box and you had to put 50 pence of your pocket



1 money in. You got somebody a present for their  
2 birthday. You made a birthday cake for them. So it was  
3 more like they made the kids work together.

4 Q. And I think you say that at Christmas, as well, that  
5 you'd make decorations and things like that?

6 A. Yeah, mm.

7 Q. And it was celebrated?

8 A. And you got a present. You got presents, yes.

9 Q. And, like you said, on your birthday, as well, you would  
10 be able to bake a cake and you would also get presents  
11 on your birthday?

12 A. Yes, yes, yes.

13 Q. I think you have explained that this was -- you could  
14 put 50p into a box which would then go into a pool for  
15 them to buy presents for all people who had a birthday?

16 A. Yeah, mm-hm.

17 Q. I think one of the things you say, 'Jane', is that the  
18 staff seemed to be a team there and they worked  
19 together?

20 A. Yeah, yeah.

21 Q. And they seemed happy at their work?

22 A. Yeah, yeah.

23 Q. And that was something that meant, I think you say, that  
24 you were happy, too?

25 A. Yeah, yeah.

1 Q. But there were boundaries?

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. Rules that you had to follow?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. And I think you tell us that you would get pocket money  
6 as well, and there was a tuck shop and you could use it  
7 there.

8 You mention one particular person who was your key  
9 worker, 'Jane', and you say that he was good, too. He  
10 was an Irish guy; is this GUF [REDACTED] ?

11 A. Yeah, yeah.

12 Q. You talk about him at paragraph 71 first, but you also  
13 mention him a bit more in your second statement that you  
14 have given?

15 A. Yeah, yeah.

16 Q. You say that your interaction with him was really good.  
17 He was really nice?

18 A. Mm-hm.

19 Q. And I think you tell us that you only ran away from  
20 Cardross once; is that right?

21 A. Yeah, yeah.

22 Q. But when you did that, it was possibly quite a serious  
23 thing, because there was a car stolen as a result of  
24 that; is that right?

25 A. Erm, yeah, it was -- when I ran away it was like we were

1 all -- you were out for home leave and you met at the  
2 train station. You all went back together and I think  
3 we all ended up -- most of the unit ended up running  
4 away, so it was, like, influenced by other kids, just to  
5 run away.

6 Q. And I think you say that ultimately the police caught  
7 you and the others. And when you went back to Cardross,  
8 I think the way that they responded to you was good and  
9 that changed the way you thought a little bit and made  
10 you think: what have I done?

11 A. Erm, I think it made me, like -- like, you know, I just  
12 took part and followed what the gang -- everybody else  
13 was doing but it wasn't until, like -- like some of the  
14 stuff we done was quite serious, erm, and it wasn't  
15 until we went back and, like, you know, they sat and  
16 spoke to me and thought, like: well, what are you doing  
17 at a primary school for? You know, they just sat and  
18 spoke to me and explained things, and it made me think  
19 about -- just different. The way they reasoned with you  
20 and got you thinking.

21 Q. And you tell us in your second statement, 'Jane', that  
22 GUF [REDACTED] had kind of said to you matter of factly  
23 that if you didn't change, that you would end up in jail  
24 and you would ruin your life?

25 A. That was when I come back from Kerelaw he said that to

1 me.

2 Q. Okay, so that was at a later stage?

3 A. Yes, yeah.

4 Q. Okay. But certainly his comments to you were something

5 that you took on board, I think; is that right? Later

6 on.

7 A. Erm, yeah, definitely.

8 Q. You tell us then that you ended up going to Kerelaw, and

9 I think that was as a result of an incident that

10 happened when you had run away; is that right?

11 A. Yep, yeah.

12 Q. And we know from your records, 'Jane', that you were

13 admitted to Kerelaw on [REDACTED] 1990 and you were

14 there until [REDACTED]. So it was for a period of a few

15 weeks?

16 A. Mm-hm, yeah.

17 Q. And then after that, you went back to Cardross --

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. -- is that right? And that information that you've told

20 us about Kerelaw, 'Jane', was read in on 4 April 2024,

21 and that was Day 434 of this Inquiry. So I am not going

22 to go through every part of that.

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. But I think you do tell us a little bit about Kerelaw,

25 and you say that you went on home leave from Cardross,

1       again you didn't go home?

2   A.   Yeah.

3   Q.   And you ended up going to Dumfries, and there was

4       an incident then with a girl.

5   A.   Yes.

6   Q.   You had been drinking. A knife was involved.

7   A.   Yeah.

8   Q.   And there was an injury to her?

9   A.   Yeah, yeah.

10   Q.   And that you ended up being arrested and charged with

11       that and going to court?

12   A.   Yeah.

13   Q.   And that's how you end up in Kerelaw, essentially; is

14       that right?

15   A.   Yeah, yeah.

16   Q.   You go on to tell us about Kerelaw. Just in summary,

17       'Jane' -- I know you tell us that nothing happened to

18       you there; I think that's how you put it?

19   A.   Yeah, yeah.

20   Q.   But you say at paragraph 79:

21       'Kerelaw was horrible. Everything was locked like

22       a mini-jail.'

23   A.   Yeah, yeah.

24   Q.   And you say that because you were on remand, you weren't

25       allowed out at all?

1 A. No, I wasn't allowed out at all.

2 Q. And some people were there serving a prison sentence?

3 A. Yeah, yeah.

4 Q. But some people were there because it was a place of

5 safety for them?

6 A. Yeah, yeah.

7 Q. And we've heard that about Kerelaw, there was a big

8 difference between why some people were there?

9 A. Yeah, yeah.

10 Q. And you noticed that?

11 A. Erm, I noticed it especially with the girls. A lot of

12 them were there maybe for their own protection. Maybe

13 they were, like, running away and got involved with

14 prostitution and things, erm, promiscuous. Yeah,

15 different reasons for different people being there,

16 yeah.

17 Q. And I think you say there was a school there, but people

18 were lying about, refusing to go in and getting dragged

19 away to their rooms. Teachers were swearing at kids.

20 And it wasn't a school, really. And you say you didn't

21 get taught anything while you were there?

22 A. No, no, no.

23 Q. But your dad came to see you every day whilst you were

24 in Kerelaw?

25 A. Yeah, my dad came to see me every day because he used to

1 go there and collect children to take them to court.  
2 That was part of when he was in the police. Erm, and he  
3 came every day without fail, he came to see me.  
4 And I think, after I came out of Cardross -- sorry,  
5 after I came out of Kerelaw, erm, he told me the reason  
6 was because, obviously, he'd heard rumours and he was  
7 just -- obviously, he come up every day without fail to  
8 see me.  
9 Q. He had heard rumours about Kerelaw?  
10 A. Yeah, yeah.  
11 Q. About what it was like?  
12 A. Yeah, yeah, what it was like. And, erm, obviously, he'd  
13 heard, obviously, off the boys and girls that he'd  
14 escorted to the court -- he'd heard them talking about  
15 stuff.  
16 Q. He heard them talking about stuff?  
17 A. Yeah, yeah, yeah.  
18 Q. So was he worried that something might happen to you  
19 when you were there?  
20 A. I think it was more about the fact that, erm, like, erm,  
21 he didn't want me to maybe appear vulnerable. I mean,  
22 like, a lot of these girls were vulnerable. Erm, and  
23 maybe just trying to protect me, in a certain type of  
24 way.  
25 Q. Did you get the impression who he thought you might need

1 protection from? Was it the other people who were in  
2 Kerelaw or someone else?

3 A. No, well, I think at that point, erm, like, one of the  
4 girls had actually said to me: 'Look, watch them come in  
5 your room at night', erm, and I was like -- and  
6 I remember mentioning it to my dad.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. Erm, and I would say -- I wouldn't say I needed more  
9 protection from the children in there, to be honest; I'd  
10 say you needed more protection from the staff. Nothing  
11 happened to me, but I did see things, yeah.

12 Q. Okay. And what things did you see?

13 A. Just, like, in the classroom, a boy getting hit with,  
14 like, golf balls in a sock. Erm, staff members getting  
15 children to batter other kids. Erm, just playing them  
16 off against each other. It was like dog eat dog.  
17 That's the only way I can describe it. It was, like,  
18 erm, survival mode, maybe, like, I would say. And  
19 I think, as well, with a lot of the girls, it was --  
20 they were very promiscuous towards male members of  
21 staff, erm, but it was, like, their way of surviving.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. Vulnerable girls; do you know what I mean? Like, who  
24 never had families, who never had -- like as I said, my  
25 dad come up and see me every day, so maybe I wasnae



1        classed as vulnerable, so ...

2    Q.    Yes. You say that girls were promiscuous towards

3        members of staff; did you see anything like that

4        happening?

5    A.    Erm, like, just sexual behaviour. I mean, like, maybe

6        trying to sit on members of staff's knees. Just -- you

7        know you can just tell by the way -- very -- like arms

8        round them, just behaviour like that.

9    Q.    But you think, because it was known your dad was

10       a policeman and he came up frequently to see you, that

11       perhaps that was something that gave you a bit of

12       protection?

13   A.    Yeah, yeah.

14   Q.    And you mentioned that you were told to watch out as

15       they come in your room at night?

16   A.    Yes.

17   Q.    Was 'they' staff?

18   A.    Erm, I never even -- to be honest, I never questioned

19       her on it and I never even -- I was just, like, totally,

20       probably shut her down, do you know what I mean? I was

21       just like -- but I mean, I think back now, it's quite

22       bad. But I was obviously, like: I just need to get

23       myself out of here.

24        Erm, I wasn't interested in what she said. I know

25       that sounds really bad, but at the time I was just

1       trying to survive, basically.

2   Q.   Yes.  And I think you say this staff encouraging

3       bullying of others, so encouraging children to assault

4       or bully other children --

5   A.   Yeah.

6   Q.   -- was something that was regular?

7   A.   Yeah, yeah.

8   Q.   And you give as an example of a boy who was watching the

9       TV and said something cheeky to a member of staff, and

10      the member of staff told another boy to do something;

11      what was that?

12  A.   Yeah, to get him, attack him.  Erm, and they just stood

13      and watched.  Erm, I never, ever, saw anything, though,

14      like, from the female members of staff.  It was more the

15      male members of staff.

16  Q.   And that incident that you have told us about where the

17      member of staff told another boy to attack a boy; did

18      you see that happen?

19  A.   Mm-hm.  Yeah, yeah.

20  Q.   And how long did it go on for?

21  A.   Well, just until the male member of staff just told him

22      to stop, and he just stopped.  Erm, but, like, he never

23      intervened in any way while the boy was getting hit.

24  Q.   You go on, 'Jane', to say after these few weeks in

25      Kerelaw, you went back to court and your sentence was

1 deferred?

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. And that's when you returned to Cardross. As we said,

4 we know that was on [REDACTED] 1990 you went back to

5 Cardross. So you were still 15 at that point; is that

6 right?

7 A. Yeah, yeah.

8 Q. You say that your key worker spoke up for you at court

9 as well?

10 A. Yeah, yes.

11 Q. And when you went back to Cardross it was the same staff

12 and you were in the same unit, and you had your same key

13 worker, GUF ?

14 A. Yeah, yes.

15 Q. This is the point where he is telling you to -- I think

16 the way you put it in your other statement, is to 'cut

17 the shit', is what you say?

18 A. Aye, he was just quite a -- very black and white person.

19 Just straight to the point. He just said it as it was.

20 Q. And I think that made you think about where your life

21 was going; is that fair?

22 A. Erm, I think it as well -- I think it made me think

23 where my life was going, but he arranged for me to have

24 counselling. I'd never, ever had counselling for things

25 I'd been through. He arranged for me to get

1 counselling. He arranged for a psychological  
2 assessment. And I think it was the first time that  
3 anybody had ever really asked me, like, what did I want,  
4 what did I want for my future.

5 Q. Yes. Was that counselling something that you benefited  
6 from at the time?

7 A. Oh, majorly, majorly, yeah.

8 Q. So he was the one that arranged that for you?

9 A. Yeah, yeah.

10 Q. I think you tell us as well that when you came to leave  
11 Cardross, it was him and your social worker that were  
12 able to get you a job?

13 A. Yeah, yeah, 'cause when I was going -- when I was  
14 leaving, it was recommended that I went to a place in,  
15 I think it was Beath or was it Redheugh? It was a --  
16 they were -- the social worker and him were, like: no,  
17 you need to get yourself out of care. And they  
18 basically arranged for me to get a job.

19 Q. Yes. I think you tell us that that would have been  
20 suggested and we can see that in your records as well,  
21 'Jane', that Redheugh was somewhere that you were  
22 supposed to be going to from Cardross?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. But you didn't end up going there because you were able  
25 to get yourself on a placement?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. A paid placement; is that right?

3 A. Yeah, yeah.

4 Q. In a nursing home?

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. And when you were doing that you ended up going home,  
7 I think, for a short period of time; is that right?

8 A. Erm, I went home. And before I went home, though, GUF  
9 gave me -- he told me -- he gave me a list of -- like,  
10 'cause he knew -- and he probably knew that it wasnae  
11 going to work out at home, but he also knew that I was  
12 just getting worse in the care system, so he gave me  
13 a list of places to go. Erm, like, when the  
14 relationship did break down, so that -- and he gave me  
15 a list of phone numbers and places that I was to go and  
16 get help.

17 Q. Because, really, you had ended up in care to begin with  
18 because you had been running away from home?

19 A. Yeah, yeah.

20 Q. Not because you had been truanting school or committing  
21 offences?

22 A. No, yeah, yeah.

23 Q. And then, now, after all this time, you were then  
24 expected to go back home?

25 A. Yeah, yeah, mm-hm.

1 Q. I think you tell us, though, 'Jane', that looking back  
2 at your time in care in Cardross was a positive  
3 experience from your point of view?  
4 A. Yeah, very positive.  
5 Q. And I think you tell us this at paragraph 92, you say:  
6 'It made me more responsible being treated like  
7 a person, like they cared. And it made me take  
8 responsibility for my actions.'  
9 A. Yeah.  
10 Q. Yes. I think you tell us about the fact that you told  
11 your social worker about Newfield?  
12 A. Yeah.  
13 Q. And about the 'pin down'?  
14 A. Yeah.  
15 Q. But she said to you that that's just what they did if  
16 you absconded?  
17 A. Yeah. And also, when I got my care records, she just  
18 wrote in it that I was a very manipulative person, and  
19 more or less that it was my own fault and I shouldn't  
20 abscond. And that was the way she put it.  
21 Q. Then we go on, 'Jane', just to talk about what happened  
22 to you after you left care. I think it was gradually  
23 built up to you going home --  
24 A. Mm-hm.  
25 Q. -- two days at a time, then three days, until you went

1 to stay there. But you say it didn't feel like home  
2 because you had been away for quite a long time?  
3 A. Mm-hm, yeah.  
4 Q. But you were then on, I think after that, a training  
5 course; was it a caring course? Was that right?  
6 A. Yeah, yeah, mm-hm.  
7 Q. And you then went and did Standard Grades at night  
8 school?  
9 A. Yes, that's what GUF done as well. He give me -- he  
10 told me -- he give me Clydebank College and he said  
11 I could go there at nighttime and do my exams, which  
12 I did do.  
13 Q. And you did Highers as well? You went on to do Highers?  
14 A. Yeah, yeah, mm-hm.  
15 Q. I think there was a period then after the training  
16 course when you went back to court because the sentence  
17 had been deferred?  
18 A. Yeah.  
19 Q. But you were still under supervision, even though you  
20 were not in a residential placement anymore?  
21 A. Yeah, uh-huh.  
22 Q. And you were working, I think, at that time in the  
23 Passport Office, I think you tell us?  
24 A. Yes, mm-hm.  
25 Q. But you then went to see the reporter and called the

1 panel yourself and you got the supervision order  
2 removed?

3 A. Yeah, yeah.

4 Q. And I think the way you put it is it was embarrassing to  
5 still be on it; you had a job?

6 A. Yeah, yeah.

7 Q. And you go on to tell us, 'Jane', that you got your own  
8 flat and you were there for a few years. This is  
9 explained in the period when you did your exams and your  
10 Highers and a certificate in nursing and childcare  
11 education. You did an HNC in social care as well?

12 A. Mm-hm.

13 Q. But I think as part of the HNC there was to be  
14 a placement, is that right, at the --

15 A. Yeah, there was a placement in -- like, in a children's  
16 home or some sort of residential care place, yeah.

17 Q. But I think you say that because of what had happened  
18 with that assault charge --

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. -- with the girl in Dumfries you were told you couldn't  
21 work with children?

22 A. I was told I couldn't work with children, even though  
23 the incident happened when I was 15, erm, yeah.

24 Q. So that followed you into your adult life?

25 A. Yeah, yeah, it did.



1 Q. And you completed the course, but you just couldn't do  
2 the placement part?

3 A. Yeah, yeah.

4 Q. And I think that's something that you felt angry about  
5 at the time?

6 A. Yeah, I did. I felt angry about it, uh-huh, yeah.

7 Q. Because I think the way you put it was you were being  
8 judged, at 22 or 23, on something that happened when you  
9 were 15?

10 A. I were, yeah, yeah. But I just -- I just got on with it  
11 because I thought, well, at the end of the day, I need  
12 to take responsibility for something that I had done,  
13 aye.

14 Q. You explain, 'Jane', that because of what you had gone  
15 through, you felt that this was something you wanted to  
16 do, to work with children, because you thought you would  
17 be able to make a difference, because you had been  
18 through that process yourself?

19 A. Well, yeah, that's what -- when I was doing my HNC,  
20 that's what I wanted. I wanted to go into residential  
21 care really just 'cause I obviously knew what people  
22 were going through, but, erm, I wasn't allowed to do it  
23 and that.

24 Q. Yes. I think you go on to tell us that you had  
25 children. I think you tell us you have four children --

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. -- is that right?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. And you say you have a good relationship with your kids?

5 A. Yeah, yeah.

6 Q. And you tell us that you spend time with them and you

7 would never hit them?

8 A. No. Yeah.

9 Q. I think, sadly, you tell us a little bit about what

10 happened to your dad, in paragraph 104?

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. And that he took his own life?

13 A. Mm-hm, yeah.

14 Q. And you didn't have a relationship with your step family

15 after that?

16 A. No, no.

17 Q. Because I think the way you put it is you just got on

18 with them, so you could have a relationship with your

19 father?

20 A. Yeah, mm-hm.

21 Q. And in relation to how this has impacted you, 'Jane',

22 you go on to tell us about that from paragraph 106. You

23 say it has made you quite independent and resourceful?

24 A. Yeah, yeah. Yeah.

25 Q. And that's because you said you had to learn to rely on

1           yourself at quite an early age?

2   A.   Yeah, yeah, yeah.

3   Q.   You tell us about your hopes for the Inquiry. This is

4           paragraph 107, you say:

5           'My hopes for the Inquiry are that the bad things

6           that happened to me don't happen to other kids now, so

7           that another child doesn't go through that. There were

8           positives like Cardross. If it wasn't for there I might

9           have been a lot worse.' And you ask the question: 'But

10          why was that?'

11  A.   Yeah, yeah.

12  Q.   And you point out that Cardross showed that these other

13          places didn't have to be like that?

14  A.   Yeah, it was just totally different, totally different.

15  Q.   And I think it is fair to say that your life now with

16          your children, from what you have told us, 'Jane', is

17          a good one?

18  A.   Yeah.

19  Q.   Is that right?

20  A.   Yeah, yeah.

21  Q.   And I think you say, looking back, that Cardross was

22          something that probably helped you quite a lot?

23  A.   I think Cardross, especially with the counselling.

24          I think, as well, erm, like, stuff that was going on in

25          my family home, I was believed. They believed me. Erm,

1 and I think, as well, that -- you know, just, like,  
2 somebody believing you after you getting told all that  
3 time you are lying. Just because -- like, my step-mum,  
4 she was, like, a headteacher and my dad was a policeman.  
5 You know, just the background I came fae, like, I wasn't  
6 believed, and to be believed ... and not just to be  
7 believed, but, like, to have a plan in place for me.  
8 Look, you know -- probably -- like, for instance, like  
9 GUF saying: look, you probably will -- you probably  
10 will mess up at home, but, you know, there's other  
11 avenues you can go down. Erm, and helping me -- because  
12 my education was dead important to me --  
13 Q. Yes.  
14 A. -- helping me to get my exams, so I could get something  
15 in life.  
16 Q. So being believed was one of the big things?  
17 A. Big, yeah, definitely.  
18 Q. And up until Cardross I think you've told us that you  
19 didn't feel like that was happening?  
20 A. No. I would say in Loaningdale, though, I think, erm,  
21 I did mention something and I saw from my records that  
22 Bill had wrote a letter to the Social Work Department  
23 and so had my keyworker. My keyworker had wrote  
24 a letter as well from Loaningdale. But, erm, they never  
25 done anything about it. But it was Cardross that they

1        did.

2    Q.   So this is when you got to see your records.  You had

3        seen that something was sent to the Social Work

4        Department indicating that they believed what you were

5        saying?

6    A.   At Loaningdale, yeah, yeah, uh-huh.

7    Q.   But did you know about that at the time --

8    A.   No.

9    Q.   -- or was it just later?

10   A.   No, it wasn't until I got my records that I knew about

11        it, yeah.

12   Q.   Okay.  And as you say, 'Jane', education was something

13        that was important to you and it was always recognised

14        in your records that you were really bright and clever

15        and you could do things, and you have managed to get

16        those qualifications, even though you weren't able to do

17        it whilst you were in care?

18   A.   Yeah, yeah.

19   Q.   Well, 'Jane', that's really all the questions I have for

20        you, so thank you very much for answering them today.

21   A.   Okay.

22   Q.   Is there anything that you want to say that you haven't

23        had a chance to say?

24   A.   Erm, just that in regards to the change and what changes

25        need to be made, I think children need to have more of

1 a say in what they want, in their future. When they are  
2 in care they should be -- even -- and I don't think it  
3 should be just children that are over 12, you know what  
4 I mean. When you are 10, you know what you want and  
5 I think that needs to be recognised, that children need  
6 to have a say in their future, in what they want.

7 I think that's it.

8 MS FORBES: Thank you very much, 'Jane', for that.

9 LADY SMITH: 'Jane', let me add my thanks. You have given  
10 us so much that's made your evidence come alive in many  
11 ways, thank you again for both the detailed statements  
12 you have given us and for coming here today.

13 A. Okay.

14 LADY SMITH: I am sure it has been quite exhausting taking  
15 you through everything that we have done and I hope the  
16 rest of the day is better for you than the first part.

17 A. Okay.

18 LADY SMITH: Do feel free to go when you are ready.

19 A. Okay, thank you.

20 (The witness withdrew)

21 LADY SMITH: Now, as I understand it the next live witness  
22 will be here this afternoon. But we will be able to do  
23 some read-ins before the lunch break? I think we should  
24 probably take the morning break now, and then we will  
25 get on to some read-in work after that.

1 MS FORBES: Thank you.

2 LADY SMITH: Before I rise, just a few names from that  
3 witness of people whose identities are protected by my  
4 General Restriction Order. Somebody called KSX  
5 somebody called HPA LUJ and GUF.  
6 That's all for now. But if there are more names later  
7 on, as I suspect there might be, I will spell those out  
8 at that time. Thank you.

9 (11.21 am)

10 (A short break)

11 (11.46 am)

12 LADY SMITH: Mr Peoples, whenever you are ready.

13 MR PEOPLES: My Lady, can we move now to some read-ins --

14 LADY SMITH: Yes.

15 MR PEOPLES: -- before lunch? And the first read-in this  
16 morning is a statement by Johanna Brady.

17 LADY SMITH: Yes.

18 Johanna Brady (read)

19 MR PEOPLES: It is WIT-1-000001397.

20 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

21 MR PEOPLES: Just to say that this person did give live  
22 evidence during the QAB case study.

23 LADY SMITH: Yes.

24 MR PEOPLES: I am going to concentrate on what she says  
25 about Newfield, because she had a connection with that.

1           Between paragraphs 2 and 6 -- and I will just  
2           summarise -- that in early 1972, she was a depute  
3           housemother in cottage 23 at Quarriers, which I think,  
4           as she says, was a hostel for the 16 to 18-year-olds.

5           In 1975 to 1977, she was seconded to  
6           Robert Gordon University, where she studied for  
7           a Certificate of Qualification in Social Work. And she  
8           left Quarriers in 1979 and she applied, she tells us,  
9           for a job in a new assessment centre that was then  
10          opening up. And this, of course, was Newfield.

11   LADY SMITH: Newfield.

12   MR PEOPLES: She tells us about Newfield between paragraphs  
13          7 and 19.

14          Again, I am going to be selective today. It is  
15          quite a long statement.

16          She came to Newfield as a qualified social worker to  
17          a new purpose-built assessment unit. She was there  
18          from, she tells us, July 1979 to May 1980. When she  
19          initially went there, there were no children, so she was  
20          going there before it actually took in children.

21   LADY SMITH: Yes.

22   MR PEOPLES: She tells us, at paragraph 7, that she went  
23          there as an assessment officer. She says it wasn't open  
24          to children at that point.

25          She tells us, at paragraph 8, that some of the other



1 staff had a similar qualification, CQSW, or some form of  
2 qualification in residential childcare, but not all.

3 She tells us in paragraphs 7 and 9 that she was  
4 interviewed. She provided references, but there was no  
5 police vetting at that point in time.

6 She tells us, at paragraph 11, that in November of  
7 1979, she applied for the post of senior assessment  
8 officer in what she calls the 'short stay unit', and  
9 this was managed by an individual called David McAleer,  
10 who was an assistant officer in charge at Newfield.  
11 Johanna Brady says she took that post up in January  
12 1980.

13 At paragraphs 12 and following -- I am just going to  
14 take this short -- she provided the Inquiry with several  
15 letters. One of which was a letter to a Mr Sid Graham,  
16 who was Renfrew's divisional director of social work, in  
17 which she referred to writing to Fred Edwards, who was  
18 the director of social work for Strathclyde Regional  
19 Council at that time, informing him of her resignation.

20 The letter to Mr Graham, I think, is the  
21 16 March 1980.

22 She also included or provided the Inquiry with  
23 a reference letter written by KAB, who was then  
24 a senior assessment officer. This letter was dated  
25 26 June 1980, so this was after she had left Newfield.

1 LADY SMITH: Yes.

2 MR PEOPLES: KAB is familiar to us, because she did  
3 have a position at Kerelaw in the 1990s.

4 LADY SMITH: Thank you. I was just trying to place that  
5 name.

6 MR PEOPLES: I won't trouble with too much detail, but she  
7 came in, and I think she came in at a fairly senior  
8 position with bright new ideas and, I think, to some  
9 extent, encountered a degree of resistance from the old  
10 guard, if I can put it as short as that.

11 LADY SMITH: I have the picture, thank you.

12 MR PEOPLES: Then she also provided an undated letter which  
13 appears to have been -- or which was written by  
14 Mr McAleer, which was a reference for Ms Brady doing  
15 a post-qualifying course at university.

16 At paragraph 13, she tells us that the letter,  
17 I think, says that the children moved into -- she says  
18 'the unit', I think that may mean 'the centre',  
19 in October 1979. It is maybe not entirely clear, but  
20 certainly they were taking children in by then. And she  
21 says she was only at Newfield for a short time, as these  
22 dates confirm. It was just after it opened. And she  
23 said she only had involvement with children for a period  
24 of up to three months, so she had a relatively short  
25 period of engagement.

1           She says in the second post -- this was the one she  
2           applied for and took up in January 1980 -- she says that  
3           she was to stay in the short stay unit and, indeed, she  
4           seems to indicate that that hadn't in fact opened up  
5           before she left in May 1980. Now, it is not entirely  
6           clear, because Newfield had a number of units.

7   LADY SMITH: Yes.

8   MR PEOPLES: We are still perhaps unclear just exactly how  
9           many units and what they were doing. But this  
10          particular unit, described as a 'short stay', it appears  
11          that --

12   LADY SMITH: She is not the only person who refers to a  
13          'short stay unit' though, is she?

14   MR PEOPLES: No, I think there is a potential confusion here  
15          between assessment for a short period and a short stay  
16          unit, because I think we will probably learn from  
17          Mr Trainer tomorrow, that there was something called  
18          a short stay unit, which in fact was for a short-term  
19          placement, but not for assessment.

20   LADY SMITH: Yes.

21   MR PEOPLES: But for certain children who no doubt met  
22          certain criteria. So I think there's a degree of  
23          potential confusion. It wasn't purely an assessment  
24          centre.

25   LADY SMITH: Mm-hm.

1 MR PEOPLES: And we will find that out -- or we have found  
2 that out. It did serve a range of purposes and it did  
3 have a number of units and I don't think they were all  
4 doing quite the same thing.

5 LADY SMITH: Mm-hm.

6 MR PEOPLES: So I think that's what she had in mind. But  
7 maybe this will become apparent in the fullness of time.

8 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

9 MR PEOPLES: She says, frankly, that, at paragraph 15, her  
10 memories of Newfield are not particularly sharp and she  
11 partly attributes that to the death of her  
12 brother-in-law, which she said had quite a profound  
13 effect on her.

14 She says, at paragraph 16, that Newfield was a new,  
15 purpose-built unit and mentions another similar  
16 establishment was built in Cardross at around the same  
17 time; that is obviously one we have heard about. And  
18 she said that Newfield had classrooms and individual  
19 bedrooms for each child. I am not sure that's entirely  
20 correct at that point, because I think we will later  
21 learn that there were some changes made to create  
22 a single room for everyone, but it may well be that --  
23 well, there certainly were single rooms.

24 LADY SMITH: Yes.

25 MR PEOPLES: But I don't think that it was entirely single

1 rooms at that point.

2 Indeed, she says there may have been three units in  
3 total. This is paragraph 17. She calls them a girls'  
4 unit, a boys' unit and a secure unit, but she says the  
5 latter wasn't in use when she was there.

6 LADY SMITH: Yes.

7 MR PEOPLES: I will just leave it at that, because I think  
8 we will maybe get more clarity, if we can, from others.  
9 She says the main entrance to the assessment centre was  
10 secured. I think that's in line with what we have heard  
11 previously.

12 LADY SMITH: Mm-hm.

13 MR PEOPLES: And she says, between 23 to 25 -- and I will  
14 just summarise -- that she saw a boy she had been  
15 allocated as a keyworker to at a children's home where  
16 he was being accommodated and she thought it strange,  
17 she said, that he brought all his belongings when he  
18 came to Newfield, as it was, she thought at the time,  
19 a unit for assessment. In other words, short stay in  
20 the sense of a few weeks.

21 She says, indeed, in those paragraphs, she thought  
22 assessment was about short term care, at most six to  
23 eight weeks. I think she is correct up to a degree.  
24 There was assessment, sometimes three-week assessments,  
25 but they could extend to perhaps three months. But

1       there was also short stay, which could be much longer.  
2       So this is where it gets a little bit messy and muddled.  
3   LADY SMITH: Yes, there is that point. Also, you couldn't  
4       assume that even if he did get an efficiently conducted  
5       assessment, that the decision would be to send him back  
6       to the home that he had come from.  
7   MR PEOPLES: No, no.  
8   LADY SMITH: So there could be a logic in saying: 'Well,  
9       here's all your belongings and you will move on from the  
10      next place with them, wherever you go'.  
11   MR PEOPLES: It could be, because there was no guarantee  
12      that the assessment would say the boy is best going back  
13      to where he came from and, indeed, it might end up that  
14      the boy was best having six months in Newfield.  
15   LADY SMITH: Yes.  
16   MR PEOPLES: Or possibly somewhere else. So that was  
17      a possibility. So it's maybe not as strange as it  
18      seems.  
19   LADY SMITH: Mm-hm.  
20   MR PEOPLES: Unless you are of the view that you assess  
21      people in their current situation, rather than at  
22      a separate place like Newfield, which was Mr Trainer's  
23      point.  
24   LADY SMITH: Well, of course, there may be some wisdom in  
25      that, but that wasn't what was happening.

1 MR PEOPLES: That wasn't what was happening. It appears  
2 that that wisdom was eventually, I think, the accepted  
3 wisdom.

4 LADY SMITH: Mm-hm.

5 MR PEOPLES: She says about the management structure -- and  
6 she is quite critical of this -- that the officer in  
7 charge was a person called Chris Warbrick. This is at  
8 paragraph 27. She mentions there were three assistant  
9 officers in charge; Derek Bibby, Hilda McNair and David  
10 McAleer, who, of course, wrote a letter for her.

11 She says, at paragraph 28, she had meetings with  
12 Mr Bibby as she wasn't happy with the way her line  
13 manager worked. Then she says, however:

14 'Derek listened but didn't do anything.'

15 Then she is more critical of the officer in charge,  
16 at 29. The officer in charge was, as she puts it:

17 '... very distant. I would describe his leadership  
18 style as chaotic.'

19 She said also, this is at paragraph 30:

20 'In addition [he] was not approachable.'

21 And she said that was the reason why she bypassed  
22 him when she sent her letter of resignation, as she puts  
23 it:

24 'Because I was so concerned about him and the  
25 centre.'

1           That's at paragraph 30.

2           At paragraph 31, she gives an example of what

3           Mr Warbrick was like. The example is that she,

4           KAB, and another person, Dave -- I think that is

5           Mr McAleer, probably --

6   LADY SMITH: Mm-hm.

7   MR PEOPLES: -- had prepared a paper in relation to the

8           short stay unit. She says Chris came to the meeting

9           without having read the paper.

10           She said all the staff from the unit were at the

11           meeting and she says and I quote:

12           'We were so angry because he had devalued what we

13           were trying to do.' And what he did was

14           'disrespectful'.

15           So he wasn't getting off to a great start.

16   LADY SMITH: Mm-hm.

17   MR PEOPLES: However, of colleagues, she does seem to have

18           a more favourable memory.

19           At 33 to 34, she says when she first met her

20           colleagues she was impressed, as she puts it:

21           '... by the wealth and range of expertise. [She

22           says] These were highly committed professionals who had

23           come from a range of backgrounds.'

24           She goes on to say:

25           'Staff were pulled from all over Scotland because it



1       was one of the first purpose-built units. However [she  
2       adds] it was a brand new group of staff who had no  
3       proper induction or team building.'

4       So I think you can see all the signs of what caused  
5       problems for her. Then she indicates where some of the  
6       staff comes, in paragraph 34, because she says:

7       'A lot of [the staff] had experience of Larchgrove  
8       and children just ending up being stuck there.'

9       The experience of Larchgrove may not actually be the  
10      staff; it may be just 'we know about that place and  
11      that's what it amounted to', the former remand home type  
12      of place.

13   LADY SMITH: Yes.

14   MR PEOPLES: And this was a new purpose-built, and I think  
15      she came with high hopes and was quickly disillusioned.

16      So she says, when she worked in the boys' unit, she  
17      thinks there were three members of staff on duty at any  
18      one time. There was an early, late and night shift.  
19      This is paragraph 35.

20      She says, at 37, she didn't get any induction and  
21      has no recollection of receiving any training at  
22      Newfield. However, she goes on to say that she and  
23      KAB took it upon themselves to do some  
24      in-service training within the Assessment Centre for  
25      staff, including night staff. This is at 38.

1           She goes on to say, at 39, they did a lot of child  
2           development training, introducing staff to the basic  
3           principles of childcare practice. It was a skills-based  
4           approach. She said they did this training  
5           between January and March 1980, and adds:

6           'We instigated it because we could see there were  
7           [skill] gaps.'

8           At 39.

9           She says when she moved to the short stay unit  
10          in January 1980 -- this is at 41 -- she undertook  
11          regular supervision sessions with staff. She says:

12          'It was difficult because we didn't have children in  
13          the unit.'

14          So it looks as if she was working with children  
15          before she went to this unit.

16   LADY SMITH: Yes.

17   MR PEOPLES: She went to the unit, but there were no  
18          children. She was doing, to some extent, the  
19          preparatory work for the children coming to this  
20          particular unit.

21          She goes on, at 42 and 43, to say that staff were  
22          dealing with children who had, as she puts it, quite  
23          different experiences prior to coming to Newfield. Some  
24          had come via the Children's Hearing System, some were  
25          children who were currently in other residential homes

1       and there were issues with them, I think, at their  
2       previous homes.

3           She tells us, at 43 and 44, that Newfield operated  
4       a key worker system; that children were visited by the  
5       key worker about three times before they moved to  
6       Newfield and, on arrival, they would be given a medical  
7       examination by a local GP in the medical room at  
8       Newfield.

9           She says, at 45, she recalls the first children who  
10      came to Newfield were, as she puts it, very difficult,  
11      and included a 9-year-old girl who had been accused of  
12      murdering another child. She says that she believes  
13      that Newfield was given minimal information about that  
14      particular child. She is not the first person to  
15      mention the spread of youngsters that were --

16   LADY SMITH: Yes, yes.

17   MR PEOPLES: -- being accommodated at Newfield and similar  
18      places.

19   LADY SMITH: Of course.

20   MR PEOPLES: And then she says -- and this is, I think,  
21      confirmed by the report by Renfrewshire -- that Newfield  
22      was meant -- this is at 47 -- for 46 children between  
23      the ages of 8 and 16 years of age, although she says it  
24      was never full when she was there. And she was  
25      obviously there for a fairly short time.

1 LADY SMITH: Yes.

2 MR PEOPLES: And she indicates that the short stay unit --

3 this is the one she moved to in January 1980 -- was

4 intended for 12 adolescents.

5 So this seems to have been a particular type of unit

6 for a particular type of child of a particular age. So

7 it wasn't, I think, an assessment unit for general

8 purposes. I think that's maybe where we start to get

9 a little bit of light --

10 LADY SMITH: Yes.

11 MR PEOPLES: -- in terms of what Newfield was offering.

12 LADY SMITH: Yes.

13 MR PEOPLES: And then she says that there were two teachers

14 who had previously been at Thornly Park.

15 She says, at 49, that there were two teachers who

16 had previously been there, but she doesn't know what

17 teaching was given at Newfield or whether children

18 attended local schools. I think we have more

19 information about that from others.

20 At 56, if I can move on, she says there was a lot of

21 unsettled behaviour in the centre with the children, and

22 she says:

23 'I put that down to a lack of structure, bored

24 children and staff just having to fill the days.'

25 LADY SMITH: Boredom is an interesting feature that occurred

1       in Brimmond in a number of the applicants' statements as  
2       well.

3   MR PEOPLES:   Yes.

4   LADY SMITH:   And you can understand that that's going, at  
5       the very least, to be unhelpful.

6   MR PEOPLES:   Well, it is sort of almost a continuation of  
7       a remand home. That's basically talking about 23 hours  
8       a day, if you are on remand, in a locked room with very  
9       little to keep you busy.

10   LADY SMITH:   Mm-hm.

11   MR PEOPLES:   So if it was intended to be something new, it  
12       certainly doesn't appear to be what the reality was.

13   LADY SMITH:   Yes.

14   MR PEOPLES:   And indeed that might again reflect the  
15       evidence we have heard about Brimmond and the rather  
16       optimistic article when it opened up.

17   LADY SMITH:   Yes.

18   MR PEOPLES:   About this new dawn, but it didn't in fact  
19       materialise quite in the intended manner.

20   LADY SMITH:   Mm-hm.

21   MR PEOPLES:   So she does recall, in fact, one evening, at  
22       paragraph 56, when children punched their way through  
23       the roof of the centre and ended up on the roof and the  
24       police and fire brigade were called. So clearly there  
25       were issues. Whether that was a symptom of boredom or

1 otherwise, well, we perhaps --

2 LADY SMITH: It may be this afternoon's witness -- I can't  
3 remember. But we may hear about there being Velux  
4 windows in the ceilings of some of the rooms which would  
5 suggest they are hard up against the roof, and in some  
6 of the rooms that the children were in, it wouldn't be  
7 too difficult just to push out and get onto the roof.

8 MR PEOPLES: I think we actually might hear from a read-in,  
9 if I have time this morning, about a rooftop protest of  
10 some sort from a person who was a resident, maybe  
11 around, broadly speaking, the same time. It may not be  
12 the same thing. But, yes, it doesn't appear to have  
13 been too difficult to get access to the roof of the  
14 building.

15 LADY SMITH: Yes.

16 MR PEOPLES: At 57, she says:

17 'Children were very fond of getting out of the  
18 centre alone when they shouldn't have been ... many of  
19 the children had a history of glue sniffing and were  
20 able to access glue [at the Playtex bra factory that was  
21 a short walk away] ... there were things like that  
22 going on and Chris Warbrick didn't have a handle on it  
23 all.'

24 She tells us, at 58, she lived in one of the houses  
25 on-site that were built when the centre was built, but

1 not all staff were living on-site.

2 At 61, she has no recollection of the record keeping  
3 system. She does talk about, at paragraph 62, of there  
4 being a logbook, called a communication book, which was  
5 kept in the staff area. We have seen books like this,  
6 but they are not terribly informative. They are not  
7 individual logs on children. They are not meant to be  
8 detailed records relating to children. They are pretty  
9 mundane, for the most part, about people going places,  
10 people coming back from places, and things of that  
11 nature.

12 So she goes on, at 63, to say she doesn't remember  
13 discipline of children. She doesn't recall any policy  
14 on discipline.

15 At 64, she is not aware of any policy on restraint,  
16 nor of any restraint training. She can't say how often  
17 restraint was used.

18 Having said that, she does have, at 65 to 67, two  
19 memories of restraint at the centre and tells us she saw  
20 children being restrained in ways they shouldn't have  
21 been. She recalls an incident on a minibus on the way  
22 back from a trip. She believes there were perhaps three  
23 staff, including herself, in the minibus, and about 12  
24 children. Ms Brady was driving. She tells us that  
25 someone or something kicked off from behind and that

1 a boy had to be restrained because he had kicked off and  
2 was putting himself and others at risk.

3 She then goes on to tell us that he was restrained  
4 on the floor of the van with a member of staff over him  
5 and holding him down on the floor, but she can't recall  
6 whether it was face down or not. But it has obviously  
7 troubled her, because she mentions it.

8 LADY SMITH: Yes.

9 MR PEOPLES: She says in hindsight she thinks they should  
10 have headed to a police station, but that wasn't done  
11 and the boy was held down on the floor until the minibus  
12 got back to the centre. She doesn't know how long that  
13 was. But she says she can't recall any member of staff  
14 talking to them afterwards about the incident, so there  
15 was no debriefing of any kind, it would appear, as she  
16 recalls.

17 Then she has another memory, which she thinks might  
18 have been after the roof top incident, and indeed  
19 because of it, when all staff and children were, and she  
20 uses the term 'instructed' to gather in the main hall.  
21 Chris Warbrick, the officer in charge, then attempted to  
22 outline to children and staff what was acceptable and  
23 unacceptable behaviour. She says:

24 'The children did not react favourably to this  
25 "Telling off" [as she describes it] and were disruptive



1 both vocally and physically to the point where children  
2 had to leave one at a time to be taken back to their  
3 unit. Two staff accompanied each child.'

4 Johanna Brady and a male colleague escorted one  
5 young boy, who was about 11 or 12 years of age. She  
6 says in the corridor outside the main hall, the boy  
7 tried to kick and punch Ms Brady and her colleague and  
8 she says he was clearly distressed and out of control.  
9 She says they took him to a small room off the corridor,  
10 where it was necessary for her to hold him until he  
11 calmed down.

12 She goes on to say, at 68:

13 'It was an unpleasant experience for all three of  
14 us, as it necessitated us getting him on to the floor  
15 and holding him there until calmer. This was for his  
16 safety and for myself and my colleague. I cannot  
17 remember any debriefing or support taking place after  
18 this.'

19 But she is clearly uncomfortable with this type of  
20 restraint, whether it was a situation where it was based  
21 on safety grounds or not.

22 LADY SMITH: Indeed. She's in her late 20s.

23 MR PEOPLES: Yes.

24 LADY SMITH: So still quite young.

25 MR PEOPLES: Oh yes.

1 LADY SMITH: Has had no training in what to do.

2 MR PEOPLES: No. She is a trained social worker, but not  
3 someone trained to deal specifically with this type of  
4 situation.

5 LADY SMITH: With a volatile situation like this, no.

6 MR PEOPLES: No. And I think that's part of her general  
7 grievance; she comes to something with very high hopes  
8 and doesn't get the training, doesn't get the induction,  
9 doesn't get the leadership, and very rapidly gets  
10 disillusioned.

11 LADY SMITH: And whatever the flaws at Quarriers, this  
12 wasn't the sort of incident that people were dealing  
13 with regularly at Quarriers. So, from my recollection,  
14 there would have been no training on how to handle these  
15 circumstances at Quarriers either.

16 MR PEOPLES: Yes. So, yes, it is a disappointing situation  
17 for something that's intended to be a new idea in a new  
18 building.

19 LADY SMITH: Yes.

20 MR PEOPLES: And she says that day, or that afternoon, was  
21 horrendous, is her term. And she says:  
22 'Chris Warbrick didn't have a relationship with the  
23 staff or the children, so whatever he did was unlikely  
24 to work. Looking back, perhaps a unit-based approach  
25 may have been better. The [unit] staff should have

1       dealt with the children as they had [some form of]  
2       a relationship with them.'

3       She goes on to say, at 69, that she thinks that  
4       incident was a catalyst for people looking for other  
5       jobs, as she was. Having said all that, she says, at  
6       70:

7       'I did not see any behaviour which I would say was  
8       abuse.'

9       But she says there was no definition or discussion  
10      or training at the centre in relation to what would  
11      amount to abuse.

12      She says, at 71:

13      'Abuse may have gone undetected.'

14      She can't say if abuse was taking place -- she  
15      cannot say that if abuse was taking place, that she is  
16      confident it would have come to light. That's at 71.

17      She says, at 72, there were no child protection  
18      arrangements at the time, but Newfield would not have  
19      been different to other establishments in that respect.

20      I think she is probably right on that.

21      She can't remember there being any complaints  
22      process. This is 73.

23      Paragraph 74, she says children, if they had  
24      concerns, could have gone to their key worker. She  
25      says:

1           'However, it would depend on the relationship they  
2           had and the circumstances. That said [she says] the  
3           ethos of the place would be a barrier for a child.  
4           I couldn't even go to my manager about the way the place  
5           was being run and had to go to the top. What would  
6           a child do?'

7   LADY SMITH: That's very well put, very powerful.

8   MR PEOPLES: Yes. She says, at 76:

9           'There were lots of chats internally about concerns  
10          about Newfield and people applied for other jobs and  
11          left without giving reasons. I am unaware of any  
12          concerns externally.'

13          She then goes on to say, at 77, that she personally  
14          had concerns about the centre. She said when her  
15          brother-in-law -- who died due to an accident at work --  
16          she said when that happened, and after what she thinks  
17          had been a bad week for her, she decided to resign, and  
18          that's when she wrote to Fred Edwards.

19          She says, at 78:

20          'I was angry with the way the centre was being run  
21          and the way in which the children were being treated.'

22          And then, perhaps, she gets to some extent to the  
23          causes of her anger and concern.

24          At 78, she says Chris Warbrick was the weakest link.  
25          He couldn't manage the staff, the children, nor the

1 negotiations with other agencies to get Newfield up and  
2 running.

3 She says, at 79, her resignation letter -- she  
4 doesn't produce that. She knows it was referred to in  
5 the letter, so she didn't have a copy to show us, but  
6 she is trying to tell us what would have been in it.  
7 And she says it would have been about what she saw  
8 happening with children and the lack of structure and  
9 guidance for staff. She thinks she probably said she  
10 didn't feel it appropriate to take her concerns to  
11 Chris Warbrick, because she did not feel at the time he  
12 was competent enough to deal with them.

13 She then goes on, at 81, to say she recalls around  
14 this time a meeting with Mr Graham and a senior manager,  
15 whom she names, at which her points were discussed. She  
16 says that Sid Graham told her that she would need to  
17 leave the matter with him and he would come back to her.  
18 She was told by Mr Graham she would need to speak to  
19 Mr Warbrick. She says that Mr Warbrick never mentioned  
20 the matter to her at any point. I presume it is after  
21 this matter was being discussed externally.

22 And then she says -- she goes on to say that after  
23 about a week, a week after the meeting with Mr Graham  
24 she was called in again to be told that they had a look  
25 at her concerns. It is not a long time to investigate

1 the concerns, but anyway. She says it was a week later  
2 and they had a meeting and she was told they'd had  
3 a meeting with Mr Warbrick, the officer in charge. She  
4 says they told her -- this is those at the meeting --  
5 that they needed to stay in post and they couldn't take  
6 any further action. She was asked if she was prepared  
7 to stay on and she said no.

8 She was then informed that Fred Edwards had  
9 instructed them to offer Ms Brady a post of a similar  
10 grade within Renfrew division, but out of Newfield. She  
11 said she took that to be an acceptance of her concerns,  
12 but also that they could do nothing about them. She  
13 said:

14 'That to me was their acknowledgment that there was  
15 something wrong.'

16 She tells us she declined the offer and took up  
17 a post at a nursery in Perthshire in August 1980.

18 She goes on in the statement -- she learned later --  
19 she said Chris Warbrick had moved. She thinks there was  
20 some form of financial irregularity associated with  
21 that. But, whatever the position, she says she doesn't  
22 know whether -- if any action was taken at Newfield  
23 after she left to improve the situation. That's at 86.

24 On the matter of assessment, at 87, she says there  
25 didn't seem to be any assessment of children in

1 Newfield:

2 'It seemed that children were admitted and remained  
3 there until they could be transferred to a residential  
4 unit with a vacancy. I had hoped there would be a full  
5 assessment of the child and family circumstances.'

6 And then she says, at 88:

7 '[In] hindsight, none of these children should have  
8 been admitted there without the systems being in place.  
9 With a brand new staff team, it was always going to be  
10 hard, but with poor leadership as well, that compounded  
11 everything.'

12 So there we have it. I think someone who comes to  
13 the unit with high hopes and expectations, which seem to  
14 have all fallen through, hasn't stayed for long, and the  
15 exciting new concept that she thought she was coming to,  
16 didn't materialise. It appears that it's a person whose  
17 initial excitement and enthusiasm on her part, and  
18 indeed the part of other staff as far as she is aware --  
19 of being involved in this new venture quickly  
20 followed -- was quickly followed by a decreased  
21 confidence in large measure. I think, according to her,  
22 to the lack of leadership, but also some issues around  
23 education and setting the thing up.

24 I think, looking back, her position seems to be that  
25 there was no one solving the various problems that were

1 coming to light or needed addressing and that, she  
2 believed -- this is paragraph 36 -- had a knock on  
3 impact on the children, who, she says, staff had been  
4 telling, in all good faith, about how life would be for  
5 them and that, very quickly, staff became demoralised  
6 and disillusioned.

7 LADY SMITH: Yes.

8 MR PEOPLES: That was her short experience of the new  
9 situation.

10 That was signed, that statement, on 13 March 2024.

11 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

12 MR PEOPLES: Can I move now to another statement which is  
13 from a person who -- an applicant who wishes to be known  
14 as 'Donald'.

15 'Donald' (read)

16 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

17 MR PEOPLES: He has quite a lengthy statement. I am not  
18 planning to look at it at length. Quite a number of  
19 parts of his statement have been read in on a number of  
20 previous occasions. I am not going to go through the  
21 detail.

22 LADY SMITH: Yes.

23 MR PEOPLES: I will pick out, obviously, the part about  
24 Newfield today.

25 Before I do so, he does tell us, 'Donald', about



1       life before care, between paragraphs 2 and 10 --

2   LADY SMITH: Thank you.

3   MR PEOPLES: -- of his statement. Sorry, I don't think

4       I gave you the reference. It is WIT-1-000000856.

5   LADY SMITH: Thank you.

6   MR PEOPLES: That was signed in November 2021.

7   LADY SMITH: Thank you.

8   MR PEOPLES: Life before care. 'Donald' was a member of

9       a large family, I think there were six children in all.

10       He was born in Greenock. He tells us that his mother

11       was an alcoholic. He remembers there being a lot of

12       fighting and screaming at home and that his parents

13       split up. This is at paragraph 6. He says his mum

14       ended up -- partly, I think, due to his father not

15       making payments -- losing the family home due to rent

16       arrears, resulting in a move to his granny -- I think it

17       is his maternal granny -- around 1972/73, probably.

18       Unfortunately, it was a one-bedroomed house and there

19       were a lot of people and I think his mum was creating

20       problems. And the not unfamiliar tale that social

21       workers become involved and 'Donald' and a younger

22       sister were taken to Nazareth House in Cardonald.

23       He tells us about abuse at Nazareth House between

24       paragraphs 56 and 71.

25   LADY SMITH: Yes. And this is, yes, Cardonald.

1 MR PEOPLES: I am not going to go through all this. But  
2 clearly he says there was abuse and talks about beatings  
3 and being battered by nuns and being force fed. Things  
4 which I think are quite familiar now and quite  
5 consistent with the sort of evidence that was given  
6 during the Sisters of Nazareth case study. So I don't  
7 think there is anything different or new in what's being  
8 said.

9 Then he goes to Newfield Assessment Centre. Now, he  
10 gives us an approximate time, but, in fact, I think if  
11 I could just say at this point that we have some  
12 records. Can I just say this: that as far as Newfield's  
13 concerned, it appears that he was there on two  
14 occasions. The first being, according to the records,  
15 from the [REDACTED] 1981 until [REDACTED] 1981, which, if  
16 right, kind of looks like a residential assessment.

17 LADY SMITH: Yes, about three weeks.

18 MR PEOPLES: Yes, about three weeks.

19 LADY SMITH: Mm-hm.

20 MR PEOPLES: And it appears that he was readmitted on  
21 [REDACTED] 1984, so some years later, and was then  
22 discharged to another placement on the [REDACTED] 1984.  
23 So that's a bit longer, but still relatively short in  
24 comparison to some periods.

25 Sorry, I said 'twice', I think I should have said

1           three times.

2   LADY SMITH: I think it is three times.

3   MR PEOPLES: Yes, because I am going to come to the third.

4   LADY SMITH: Yes.

5   MR PEOPLES: He was readmitted again, I should say, not long

6           afterwards, to Newfield on [REDACTED] 1984 and he was

7           discharged to Balrossie on [REDACTED] 1984. So that's

8           three months.

9   LADY SMITH: A longer period then.

10   MR PEOPLES: It has all the appearances of someone who is

11           being lined up for Balrossie, but there wasn't a place.

12   LADY SMITH: Yes.

13   MR PEOPLES: I mean, it may be coincidence, but that,

14           perhaps, would be a fair inference.

15   LADY SMITH: Yes.

16   MR PEOPLES: Perhaps that might explain the more lengthy

17           period.

18   LADY SMITH: And those second and third periods take him

19           from the age of 13 to 14, I think, something like that.

20   MR PEOPLES: Yes. Based on his age, yes.

21   LADY SMITH: He was only about 10 on the first occasion.

22   MR PEOPLES: Yes, he was quite young the first time.

23   LADY SMITH: Yes.

24   MR PEOPLES: And then he was -- the first time he went from

25           Newfield, I should have said, to St Ninian's, Gartmore,

1 I think, where he stayed for less than a year. But he  
2 was there. Then he moved to various other -- he has  
3 been in a number of places, as I think the statement  
4 confirms, both foster care and residential placements.

5 So these are the dates, if I can just deal with  
6 those at this point. If we look at his statement, his  
7 time at Newfield he deals with beginning at  
8 paragraph 80. He tells us that there were four units;  
9 Glennifer, Campsie, Kilpatrick and what he calls the  
10 short stay unit. He tells us also that the age range  
11 was 9 or 10 to 16 years of age. The units were mixed  
12 units and the head of the Campsie Unit was a person  
13 called HPI .

14 He says, at paragraph 80, that:

15 'Most of [the staff] were all right.'

16 And he tells us that he slept in a dorm with about  
17 six beds, all boys. That's at paragraph 82, I think.

18 And at 85, he says he didn't see his social worker,  
19 except at panels. He said he did get visits from his  
20 mum and stepfather. This is at paragraph 86.

21 At 87, he tells us that young people could smoke  
22 with parents' permission. At 87.

23 He said he ran away a few times. That is at  
24 paragraph 88.

25 He says that bedwetters -- I think at paragraph 90,

1 he appears to be saying they were treated humanely or  
2 sympathetically. He does, though, say in the same, in  
3 paragraph 90:

4 'You got the odd slap here or there but it was par  
5 for the course. That was normal back then. You did  
6 something wrong, you got belted for it.'

7 So it's a kind of mixture of things. It is perhaps  
8 consistent with the idea that the young people saw  
9 a slap as just something -- they didn't see it as any  
10 form of assault or abuse, or anything of that nature; it  
11 was just a form of chastisement. And that's obviously  
12 how he saw it at the time.

13 LADY SMITH: Yes.

14 MR PEOPLES: He does have a section dealing specifically  
15 with abuse at Newfield.

16 He says, at 91:

17 'It was not a bad place, but there were a couple of  
18 creepy staff.'

19 He says as an adult 'Donald' read that LRE .

20 And I think the spelling is actually LRE .

21 LADY SMITH: It doesn't matter.

22 MR PEOPLES: I am fairly confident it is. LRE was  
23 convicted of sexual offences. He said he read that  
24 Mr LRE had been taking a boy to a panel and pulled  
25 into some factories at Port Glasgow and was accused of,

1       as he puts it, 'tampering with the boy'.  
2   LADY SMITH:   Mm-hm.  
3   MR PEOPLES:   And there is a conviction in 1991, at Greenock  
4       Sheriff Court, of Mr LRE for lewd and libidinous  
5       practices and behaviour. I can say at this point it is  
6       not entirely clear how much detail we have.  
7   LADY SMITH:   No.  
8   MR PEOPLES:   And whether the boy -- the boy may have been  
9       a boy in care. Certainly, if we accept what this person  
10      read --  
11   LADY SMITH:   Yes.  
12   MR PEOPLES:   -- he was a boy in care, I think. Well, could  
13      have been. I suppose if he was taking a boy to a panel,  
14      he may not have been, but I think there is a possibility  
15      certainly, a real possibility. And there is other  
16      information that may suggest that the boy in question  
17      may have been in a care setting.  
18   LADY SMITH:   Yes.  
19   MR PEOPLES:   But not Newfield.  
20   LADY SMITH:   Okay.  
21   MR PEOPLES:   If I could leave it like that. I don't think  
22      we can go any further than that at this stage.  
23   LADY SMITH:   You are saying it seems likely that he had  
24      abused a boy in care, but we don't know --  
25   MR PEOPLES:   I think that's as high as it can be put. But

1 not Newfield.

2 LADY SMITH: Probably. But not Newfield.

3 MR PEOPLES: At the time he was convicted, in 1991, if I can

4 add this: he was working at Newfield.

5 LADY SMITH: Right.

6 MR PEOPLES: And he had been working there probably since

7 1983, having previously worked in a number of other care

8 settings before then.

9 LADY SMITH: Yes.

10 MR PEOPLES: So that's the broad picture of Mr LRE And

11 the only other thing I would just say, at this stage, is

12 that Mr LRE worked at Newfield at the same time as

13 Mr Brian Faulds.

14 LADY SMITH: Oh, right.

15 MR PEOPLES: And they worked in the same unit, but they

16 worked on different shifts. And having said all that --

17 and this may come out more tomorrow -- there is nothing

18 to indicate that the two, although convicted of

19 offences, were necessarily jointly engaged in the abuse

20 of children in care. I will just say that. It was

21 something that was certainly considered by

22 Renfrewshire Council in 1997, and we will find out about

23 that tomorrow. But that's, I think, as far as it went.

24 Mr Faulds was separately investigated in 1996/1997

25 for an offence involving a boy in the community and that

1       is clear from the information that we have. But  
2       obviously they were looking into --  
3   LADY SMITH: So, really, you are saying, Mr Peoples, this  
4       evidence points to Newfield having employed at it two  
5       men, at the same time, both of whom abused children.  
6   MR PEOPLES: Yes. There were subsequent convictions.  
7   LADY SMITH: Yes.  
8   MR PEOPLES: Well, not subsequent. They were both  
9       convicted --  
10   LADY SMITH: One had a prior conviction.  
11   MR PEOPLES: -- when employed, because in fact Mr LRE  
12       was dismissed because of the conviction.  
13   LADY SMITH: Yes.  
14   MR PEOPLES: Mr Faulds was convicted in 1997, but he  
15       resigned in December 1996, having been charged with  
16       serious offences against a 10-year-old boy, who was  
17       a boy in the community. He was 10 when the abuse  
18       started and continued for a period of three years,  
19       between 1973 and 1976. So that's what I would ask to  
20       bear in mind is the broad position.  
21   LADY SMITH: Yes.  
22   MR PEOPLES: But yes.  
23   LADY SMITH: And this can be explored with Mr Trainer again  
24       tomorrow.  
25   MR PEOPLES: It will be explored more, because we have



1       received some recent material on the matter from  
2       Renfrewshire Council.

3   LADY SMITH:   You did ask him on Tuesday for that.

4   MR PEOPLES:   I did say to him I would raise it and he knows  
5       that this matter will be coming up at least. And we can  
6       at least see what was being discussed at that time. We  
7       certainly know that --

8   LADY SMITH:   Yes.

9   MR PEOPLES:   -- I think, Mr LRE for his offence, was put  
10       on probation, as it turns out.

11   LADY SMITH:   There is an expression, 'it was of its time',  
12       I suppose.

13   MR PEOPLES:   Yes, Mr Faulds got six years, I think it was.  
14       Six years in prison for his offences, which included  
15       sodomy. But, yes, more tomorrow on that. But that's  
16       just to assist, because his name has cropped up in this  
17       particular statement.

18   LADY SMITH:   Of course, yes.

19   MR PEOPLES:   And obviously this individual has read  
20       something about Mr LRE being convicted of offences  
21       and appears to have recalled the circumstances of the  
22       conviction, although I don't think we have anything else  
23       that quite tells us about it in that way.

24   LADY SMITH:   Yes.

25   MR PEOPLES:   So he tells us that at paragraph 91.

1           If I can continue, he says, at 92, that Mr LRE  
2       did not do anything to 'Donald', but he says that --  
3       'Donald' says he was told to look out for him by  
4       a couple of older boys. They told him -- they told  
5       'Donald' -- that LRE got too close to people. And  
6       then 'Donald' says he saw LRE when 'Donald' was at  
7       Gateside Prison and says that LRE was there and was  
8       placed on protection.

9           I mean, that doesn't quite square with what I have  
10       just said about the conviction, so it is not entirely  
11       clear from the information we have.

12   LADY SMITH: Yes.

13   MR PEOPLES: Perhaps at some point we will get more  
14       information of whether he did spend time in a custodial  
15       setting. But that's what he says. That's 'Donald's'  
16       recollection. As far as --

17   LADY SMITH: I suppose he could have been on remand, but he  
18       shouldn't be in the same place, should he?

19   MR PEOPLES: Yes, it is difficult to tell.

20   LADY SMITH: Yes.

21   MR PEOPLES: It is possible he might have been a person on  
22       remand briefly and came across him, yes. I suppose that  
23       is one explanation.

24           He says, 'Donald' goes on, at 93:

25           'It was more like mental abuse in there.'

1           And he says, at 93, staff and boys were carrying on  
2           at night, made them stand in a corner for hours and boys  
3           would be 'begging to go to bed'.

4           He said they would also make them run in circles in  
5           the gym at night for having pillow fights and, as he  
6           says, doing things that kids normally do.

7           He then leaves Newfield and moves to St Ninian's,  
8           Gartmore. I am not going through that. But he does  
9           tell us, at 118 to 135, that he did experience abuse,  
10          physical and sexual, by staff.

11          Then he is back again at Newfield for the second  
12          time. He tells us about that at 141 to 147.

13          In terms of his dates and seeing Mr LRE I think  
14          there may be some conflation of when he saw Mr LRE ,  
15          because he wasn't there until 1983, and maybe he saw him  
16          on one of his visits, but not necessarily the first.

17   LADY SMITH: Yes.

18   MR PEOPLES: But, as for his second time at Newfield -- this  
19          is at 141 to 147 -- he says the person in charge or head  
20          of the centre was a Mr McCallum who was a former police  
21          officer and, as he puts it, acted like one. At 141.

22          He said, at 142, that Newfield was all right this  
23          time. 'Donald' says that he was starting to get,  
24          personally, more out of control and was sniffing glue.  
25          This is at 142.

1           Indeed, he says, one weekend he was involved in  
2           a rooftop protest. He says:  
3           'The night staff had been treating us so badly so we  
4           decided to give them something to act about.'  
5           This is 143.  
6           He says he and other boys went on to the roof to  
7           sniff glue and the staff had to call the police and the  
8           fire services. This is at 143.  
9           Again, whether these things happened on one visit or  
10          another is maybe less easy to say, but he certainly has  
11          a recollection of being involved in such a protest.  
12          Certainly we know from the previous witness that she has  
13          a recollection of such a protest.  
14         LADY SMITH: Yes.  
15         MR PEOPLES: But whether they are the same is maybe less  
16          easy to say. He says, at 145:  
17          'Staff were basically all right, but there were some  
18          weirdos.'  
19          And he again comes back to Mr LRE, LRE,  
20          he says:  
21          LRE wanted to take me out in his sailing  
22          boat. [He says] I had the sense that there was  
23          something about him and I said no. I had a feeling  
24          about him.'  
25          Then he goes on:

1           'When I was getting held down for fighting with  
2       other boys, if LRE [REDACTED] was holding me down I would  
3       get more frightened.'

4           So he has, obviously, a fear of Mr LRE [REDACTED] and he  
5       says he was invited on a boat trip, but declined.

6           He says, at 145, that if he kicked off -- I think  
7       this is while he was being held down -- he says he was  
8       put into a locked room until he calmed down.

9           He then goes on to tell us about a number of other  
10      places he was in. There were many, including Balrossie,  
11      which he tells us about between 169 to 198.

12          Including -- he has a passage -- I will just mention  
13      this because it probably is relevant to something we  
14      have already heard.

15          At 188, he tells us about being punched by SNR [REDACTED]  
16      of Balrossie, who was a Mr LWH [REDACTED] I think we have  
17      heard some evidence about this matter earlier. I think  
18      the person who is alleged to have done this has  
19      responded to that by denying that any such thing  
20      happened. So that is at 188.

21          I think that matter was raised with him during his  
22      evidence.

23      LADY SMITH: Yes.

24      MR PEOPLES: But that's the position of this individual,  
25      'Donald'.

1 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

2 MR PEOPLES: And he talks about some other members of staff,  
3 also, but I am not going to go through all that today.  
4 Although he does say that some of them were engaged in  
5 various forms of abuse, in that section between 187 and  
6 196.

7 LADY SMITH: Yes.

8 MR PEOPLES: He tells us subsequently about his time in  
9 various SPS establishments. It is clear that he has  
10 a considerable criminal record. I think he admits that  
11 he has over 100 previous convictions.

12 So that's all I propose to take from 'Donald's'  
13 statement today.

14 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

15 MR PEOPLES: I think I have time to do another one.

16 LADY SMITH: Yes, let's move on.

17 MR PEOPLES: The next statement is from an applicant who  
18 will be known today as 'Charlotte'.

19 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

20 MR PEOPLES: And her signed statement is WIT-1-000001257 and  
21 was signed in May 2023.

22 'Charlotte' (read)

23 MR PEOPLES: Again, she was in a number of places, but I am  
24 going to deal, obviously, with Newfield today.

25 But as far as life before care was concerned, she

1 deals with this at paragraphs 2 to 7. 'Charlotte' tells  
2 us she was born in Glasgow. She lived at home with her  
3 mother and an older brother. She has never known her  
4 dad. She says life at home was difficult. Her mum had  
5 mental health issues and she thinks it probably was  
6 schizophrenia. She says when she was at home, her mum  
7 blamed 'Charlotte' for everything. She shouted at her  
8 and told her she wished she had never had her.

9 She recounts in this period truancy, shoplifting,  
10 appearances at panel hearings and social work  
11 involvement, with the upshot that she went to  
12 Newfield Assessment Centre.

13 Now, we don't have dates for her, but she puts it  
14 that she went there in 1988, when she was aged about 13  
15 and was there for maybe two to three months, which is  
16 more in line with, perhaps, a period of assessment.

17 LADY SMITH: Yes.

18 MR PEOPLES: It is difficult to say, but it may fit with the  
19 situation that this was her first experience of some  
20 form of residential care.

21 She tells us about Newfield at paragraphs 8 to 27.  
22 She says there were maybe 10 to 15 boys and girls who  
23 were aged from around 11 to 16. This is at paragraph 9.

24 The boys and girls were separated into different  
25 dorms, she tells us at paragraph 9.

1           She had a single room. She doesn't remember the  
2           names of any of the staff or, indeed, children that were  
3           there. She recalls a lot of male carers for the girls,  
4           which she thought was strange. This is at paragraph 10.  
5           At 11, she says she doesn't think there was much of  
6           a focus on education. That's probably something we have  
7           heard from quite a number of people --  
8   LADY SMITH: Yes.  
9   MR PEOPLES: -- in relation to Newfield.  
10           She said, at 12:  
11           'During the day it was quite chaotic. There were  
12           kids ... from all different backgrounds, so it was a bit  
13           wild. There was a lot of fighting, arguments and people  
14           kicking off.'  
15           She says later on, at 16, she had bumps and bruises  
16           from fighting or abuse. She said she had a key worker.  
17           This is paragraph 17. She says the key worker would  
18           report any incidents to social work. However, she adds:  
19           'No matter what happened, it always seemed to be  
20           turned around on me so it was my fault.'  
21           Now, that's a familiar perception --  
22   LADY SMITH: Yes.  
23   MR PEOPLES: -- that young people have of when they say  
24           something or report something, or speak about something.  
25           She says, at 18, that a social worker visited her



1 now and again, maybe only two to three times in the two  
2 to three months she was there, and of these visits, she  
3 said:

4 'It felt like more of a tick box exercise on [the  
5 social worker's] part, rather than actually checking on  
6 me. She never asked how I was getting on or how I was  
7 feeling.'

8 Again, that is something that is quite a familiar  
9 recollection.

10 LADY SMITH: It is, it is.

11 MR PEOPLES: She said her mum came once and she got to go  
12 home a few times. She would do so by walking to the  
13 station in Johnstone and getting a train to Glasgow.  
14 Then a bus to where her mum lived in the Dennistoun  
15 area.

16 She has a section on abuse between paragraphs 20 to  
17 26.

18 At paragraph 20, she says:

19 'The general feeling in the assessment centre was  
20 one of intimidation. I found it intimidating that the  
21 staff were mostly men. We couldn't lock our bedroom  
22 doors from the inside, so they would come into our rooms  
23 at night.'

24 She says she recalls one male staff member coming to  
25 her room when she was in bed. She thinks he was in his

1       40s and had a big forehead. She says:  
2       'I found him really creepy.'  
3       She says he was the reason she ran away for the  
4       first time:  
5       'I was terrified and wanted to get away from him.'  
6       And then at 21, she says:  
7       'The carers in there were always rough.'  
8       And then she goes on:  
9       '[Male staff] would batter you, punch you, kick you,  
10      pull you about and lock you in cupboards. It was really  
11      bad. They were always pinning you down and putting your  
12      arms up your back. It wasn't restraining. They were  
13      trying to hurt you. These types of things were a daily  
14      occurrence in there. It didn't just happen to me,  
15      though. It happened to everyone.'  
16      At paragraph 22, she goes on:  
17      'I was quite fiery. I answered back. And if I felt  
18      threatened, I lashed out. You had to stand up for  
19      yourself in there. When it came to staff and other  
20      residents, if you didn't fight your way out of it, you  
21      would be even more of a target.'  
22      There might be something in the idea that someone  
23      rapidly discovered that perhaps resistance might have  
24      its benefits, even if not in the short term, but perhaps  
25      in the long term.

1 LADY SMITH: Yes.

2 MR PEOPLES: She goes on, at 23, 'Charlotte', to say that

3 she recalled an occasion when she was hit by a male

4 member of staff. She tells us that she was then flung

5 into one of the rooms downstairs and locked in for quite

6 some time. She says while there [REDACTED] and

7 tried to slit her wrists. She says she didn't do it

8 right and remembers hearing the staff, as she puts it,

9 'making a mockery of me' and says she wasn't given any

10 medical attention on that occasion. She says that she

11 was locked in a downstairs room. It was something that

12 happened maybe a couple of times.

13 She says, at 24, she thinks she ran away twice while

14 she was at Newfield. She says she told her mum what

15 staff were like, but her mum just phoned the police to

16 take her back.

17 She says, at 25, the police never asked why she had

18 run away. They were, she says, heavy-handed. She

19 recalls one occasion at her mum's house when two male

20 officers pinned her to the floor, with her arm up her

21 back, hit her and, as she says, threw her into the

22 police van. 'Charlotte' says she would be screaming

23 that she didn't want to go back, but no one did

24 anything.

25 As for knowledge of abuse, she says at 26:

1            'All the staff in the assessment centre knew what  
2            was going on. You would hear them making jokes,  
3            laughing about it and making fun of you. It was really  
4            terrible and I didn't want to be there. It was just  
5            constant intimidation, threats and fear.'

6            From Newfield, she went on to Kerelaw. She says, at  
7            27, that various incidents at Newfield were brought up  
8            at the panel, but not what staff did to 'Charlotte',  
9            only her behaviour:

10           'It was always like I was just this bad child for no  
11           reason. They were never interested in why.'

12           So that's not, again, an unfamiliar perception of  
13           participation in panel hearings.

14           She says she went to Kerelaw and she deals with that  
15           at 28 to 67. She tells us about abuse there between 54  
16           and 63 of her statement. She focuses particularly on  
17           behaviour by Muldoon and George, John Muldoon and  
18           Matt George.

19    LADY SMITH: Yes.

20    MR PEOPLES: We are not going to read that today. Then she  
21           deals with her life after care and impact.

22           On lessons, she says, this is at 79 to 80:

23           'I think there are lessons to be learned before kids  
24           get to the stage of being put in care. The process  
25           needs to be stripped right back. If a kid is acting

1 out, questions need to be asked why they are acting out.  
2 There might be a very good reason. No one ever looked  
3 at my mum and asked if she was part of the problem and  
4 for me she was the problem.'

5 That, again, I think is the idea that even if you go  
6 to a panel, you are the bad person.

7 LADY SMITH: Yes.

8 MR PEOPLES: The family, to some extent, if they say  
9 something that's different, the perception is they are  
10 believed and you are not --

11 LADY SMITH: Yes.

12 MR PEOPLES: -- if there is a conflict.

13 LADY SMITH: That's how you end up with a child or young  
14 person who not only believes that they are the problem  
15 and they are the cause of things going wrong, but that  
16 they deserved whatever they got meted out to them in  
17 terms of abusive treatment that came from staff and  
18 others.

19 MR PEOPLES: And I think there is a perception that although  
20 the social worker is the child's social worker, when  
21 they go to a panel hearing they are more on the side of  
22 the parents. Even if the child tells you they have had  
23 a terrible upbringing and a terrible home life, that  
24 they still feel in some ways the parent is getting  
25 a good reception and they are being just labelled

1       difficult, manipulative, bad, liars and so forth.

2   LADY SMITH:  And you highlight there a problem, Mr Peoples,  
3       that some commentators have thought about, and it is  
4       that a social worker in that situation is the family's  
5       social worker, it seems, and actually has a conflict of  
6       interest, sometimes, between parent and child.  And that  
7       isn't addressed.  Or it wasn't addressed in those days  
8       the way it needed to be addressed.  The child needed  
9       a social worker that was the child's social worker, not  
10      the social worker for the parents as well.

11  MR PEOPLES:  Yes.  Obviously, we heard from Mr Trainer  
12      yesterday that that, at least in Renfrewshire, was  
13      addressed more recently by more independent advocacy  
14      services.

15  LADY SMITH:  Yes.

16  MR PEOPLES:  So that the child has a representative of their  
17      own and, also, albeit not someone necessarily completely  
18      independent, the children's rights officers who were  
19      eventually brought in to the picture as people who could  
20      go into homes and speak to children and --

21  LADY SMITH:  Yes.

22  MR PEOPLES:  --if they were prepared to tell them  
23      something could take some action independently of the  
24      social workers who were involved with the family of the  
25      child.  But, obviously, that is a more recent sort of

1 development which wasn't necessarily available to all  
2 children.

3 She says, to conclude, 'Charlotte', at paragraph 80:

4 'I also think there needs to be more training put in  
5 place, not just for those working in institutions, but  
6 for those sitting on the Children's Panel, too. From my  
7 experience, people prey on vulnerability. I was in  
8 a situation, as a vulnerable child, where most of my  
9 carers were male. That was intimidating. There need to  
10 be more female carers looking after young females.'

11 So she obviously has a concern about people making  
12 decisions about her. She is not happy about the  
13 composition. And, to some extent, possibly, also that  
14 there is a flavour that you appear before different  
15 panels and you have what, from the child's perspective,  
16 is a bunch of strangers making decisions which could  
17 have lifelong consequences, and have done on the  
18 evidence we have heard. So it is perhaps getting more  
19 of the take from the child's perspective.

20 LADY SMITH: Yes.

21 MR PEOPLES: And how they felt at the time and subsequently.

22 So I think that that's all that I need to take from  
23 this statement today. I think that that brings us,  
24 perhaps, to --

25 LADY SMITH: I think we should stop now for the lunch break.

1           That's --

2   MR PEOPLES:   And we have an applicant who starts this

3           afternoon.

4   LADY SMITH:   At 2 o'clock. Very well. We will stop now for

5           the lunch break and I will sit again at 2.00. Thank

6           you.

7   (12.54 pm)

8                               (The luncheon adjournment)

9   (2.00 pm)

10   LADY SMITH:   Mr Peoples.

11   MR PEOPLES:   My Lady, the next witness is a witness in

12           person who is an applicant and has chosen the pseudonym

13           'Kenny'.

14   LADY SMITH:   Thank you.

15                               'Kenny' (affirmed)

16   LADY SMITH:   'Kenny', do sit down and make yourself

17           comfortable.

18   A.   Okay.

19   LADY SMITH:   'Kenny', thank you so much for coming along

20           this afternoon to help us with your evidence. As you

21           know, I already have your written evidence, you have

22           found it in the red folder there, and I have been able

23           to study that in advance, which has been really helpful.

24   A.   Uh-huh.

25   LADY SMITH:   But what we would like to do just now is



1       explore some aspects of that with you in person.

2   A.   Yeah.

3   LADY SMITH:  Don't worry, we are not going to go through it

4       all word for word, just particular points that would be

5       useful to talk to you about.

6   A.   Yeah.

7   LADY SMITH:  We will also bring the statement up on the

8       screen to the parts that we are looking at from time to

9       time, you might find that helpful.  You don't have to

10      use either of them, but they will be there for you, if

11      you want.

12         'Kenny', it is really important that you appreciate

13      that I understand what we have asked you to do and what

14      you are doing by coming here isn't easy.  It is really

15      difficult to come into a public place and talk about

16      yourself, let alone your earlier life, when you were

17      a child.  Some things might be harder to remember than

18      others and then some things might be all too vivid and

19      upsetting.

20   A.   Mm-hm.

21   LADY SMITH:  I do understand that.

22         If you need a break at any time, let me know, or if

23      there is anything else that I can do to help you give

24      your evidence as comfortably as you can, just say.

25   A.   (Nods).

1 LADY SMITH: If you are ready, I will hand over to  
2 Mr Peoples and he will take it from there; all right?  
3 Mr Peoples.  
4 Questions by Mr Peoples  
5 MR PEOPLES: Good afternoon, 'Kenny'.  
6 A. Good afternoon.  
7 Q. Before I ask you to look at the statement in front of  
8 you, I will, just for the benefit of our transcript,  
9 give a reference for the statement. You don't need to  
10 worry about it. It is WIT-1-000001417.  
11 Now, with that introduction; can I ask you to look  
12 at the folder now and could you firstly turn to the  
13 final page of your signed statement, at page 30? Can  
14 you confirm that you have signed your statement on the  
15 final page?  
16 A. Yes.  
17 Q. And you have dated it. Now, just to help me, because --  
18 is it 18 April?  
19 A. Yes.  
20 Q. 2024?  
21 A. 2024.  
22 Q. Thank you. Just while you are on that page, you say in  
23 your statement, at paragraph 136:  
24 'I have no objection to my witness statement being  
25 published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry.

1 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are  
2 true.'

3 So is that the position?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Now, can I ask you to turn to the -- well, I will go  
6 through the statement. You can use it as you wish, but  
7 I am going to go through parts of it.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. First of all, I would just like you to confirm -- it is  
10 on page 1 of your statement, but -- I don't need your  
11 date of birth, but can you confirm you were born in the  
12 year 1971?

13 A. I was, yes.

14 Q. Now, in your statement, you have a section headed 'Life  
15 before going into care'.

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. From paragraphs 2 to 14, I think it is.

18 A. Mm-hm.

19 Q. And I am going to ask you just a few things from that  
20 section. I won't go through it line by line, as her  
21 Ladyship has said. But I will just get the background  
22 to you going into various care settings.

23 First of all, 'Kenny', you were born in Paisley?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And brought up in Barrhead?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And you have one older brother, two sisters, one younger  
3 one older, and, I think, other stepbrothers and sisters;  
4 is that correct?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And you tell us, 'Kenny', that your parents separated in  
7 the 1970s, when you were quite young, about 4; is that  
8 right?

9 A. Yes, yes.

10 Q. And your dad remarried?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Then I think when your parents split up, you were  
13 brought up by your mum?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. But you were seeing your dad most weeks, on the  
16 Saturday?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And, just to be clear, you say, at paragraph 4 of your  
19 statement, your dad was never someone who was physical  
20 with you; is that correct?

21 A. Never.

22 Q. But you also say:  
23 'Maybe I needed a bit stricter discipline.'  
24 Maybe you can help us with that, because obviously  
25 you did go into care settings --

1 A. The word I used was 'tobering'. I needed tobering.  
2 Q. Tobering?  
3 A. Aye.  
4 Q. T-O-B-E-R-I-N-G?  
5 A. Uh-huh, uh-huh.  
6 Q. You say that was the word that was used; that you needed  
7 that?  
8 A. That's what I used. The term I used was I -- some  
9 people needed a good tobering.  
10 Q. Can you just help us with that? What that means?  
11 A. Tobering. I mean, I think my dad needed to be a bit  
12 more strict with me.  
13 Q. Do you mean getting told off more or --  
14 A. I would say so. By my father.  
15 Q. Yes. Because we were in the days then when corporal  
16 punishment was permitted in the home and elsewhere?  
17 A. Uh-huh.  
18 Q. Do you mean that, also?  
19 A. I think he should maybe have done a bit more of that,  
20 then I might not have been --  
21 Q. It might not have turned out the way it did?  
22 A. I might not have been as lippy as I was.  
23 Q. Okay, so you were quite lippy as a youngster?  
24 A. I would say so.  
25 Q. Yeah, because you tell us, I think, you didn't have any

1       social work involvement in the family until you were  
2       a bit older, is that right, after your parents split up?  
3   A.   Yeah.  
4   Q.   But you say you did go to primary school and, while you  
5       were there, you saw a child psychologist; whose idea was  
6       that?  
7   A.   It must have been the school's.  
8   Q.   Right, right.  
9   A.   Mr Cummings.  
10   Q.   Okay. Because I think you tell us that you were cheeky  
11       to teachers at school from time to time and you  
12       described yourself as the 'class clown'; would that --  
13   A.   Yeah, yeah, yeah.  
14   Q.   Do you think that's what got you into this situation  
15       where the teachers wanted you to see a psychologist?  
16   A.   They done a report and it says that I didnae like  
17       authority.  
18   Q.   Okay. And I suppose -- well, you tell us that certainly  
19       at school you were belted quite a lot?  
20   A.   Yeah.  
21   Q.   At that stage; were you trying to run away or anything,  
22       or did that come later?  
23   A.   That would have been later.  
24   Q.   Okay. And what you do tell us, 'Kenny' -- and maybe  
25       just clarify what the position is -- you tell us,

1 I think, in this section, that when you were in  
2 Primary 6, or about Primary 6, you were diagnosed with  
3 ADHD and put on Ritalin.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Now, am I right in thinking that what you tell me later  
6 on in your statement; that was a misdiagnosis?

7 A. Misdiagnosis. My mother and me were asked to go down to  
8 the Barrhead Health Centre to see the doctor. The  
9 doctor says that Ritalin were getting taken off the  
10 market, so I had to be weaned off them. And years  
11 later, I was reading the paper about children on  
12 Ritalin, and I thought: these were meant to have been  
13 discontinued. What was going on here? I asked the  
14 doctor about it and he says, 'No, you were  
15 misdiagnosed'.

16 So they were giving me tablets that I really  
17 shouldn't have been taking.

18 Q. At that age?

19 A. Yeah, when I was young.

20 Q. How long did you have to take those tablets?

21 A. I think it was a couple of year, anyway.

22 Q. Did you actually even know that you had ADHD at that  
23 time or was that just something your mum knew?

24 A. Well, I didnae. I didnae have it so ...

25 Q. But did you know that someone said you had it?

1           Sorry, that was a bad question.

2   A. Well, I don't know about -- I don't know about the --

3   Q. You just knew you were taking tablets?

4   A. I don't think so. Aye, tablets to ...

5   Q. You say that towards the end of Primary 6, or at the end

6       of Primary 6, you went to a different primary school?

7   A. Yeah.

8   Q. Do you remember why that was?

9   A. My mother thought that the headteacher was picking on

10       me, because I seemed to be getting the belt quite a lot,

11       and, er, just thought we'd try something different.

12   Q. Okay. So it was really her idea to try and see if that

13       would improve things at school?

14   A. Mm-hm.

15   Q. You finished primary school. And when you finished

16       primary school, you went on to Barrhead High School; is

17       that right?

18   A. Yes, yes.

19   Q. And you would be around about 12, 11/12 at that stage?

20   A. Yeah.

21   Q. And you tell us in your statement, 'Kenny', that you

22       started to 'dog school'?

23   A. I did.

24   Q. And you got involved in some -- stealing cars and, well,

25       effectively joy riding, was it?



1 A. We wouldnae damage them.

2 Q. No.

3 A. We would park them round the corner from the houses

4 again. It wasnae as if we were -- it was just

5 stupidity.

6 Q. Okay. When you stopped going to school some of the

7 time; was that because of what was happening at school

8 or was it you just wanted to be free to go round joy

9 riding cars and things, or both?

10 A. No, it wasnae that. It was just ... it was ... I was

11 under the impression that I'd learned enough. I could

12 read, I could write, I could count. I didnae find

13 the need to learn French or --

14 Q. But it wasn't the way people were treating you at the

15 school?

16 A. My father had his own company and I thought: 'I don't

17 need to learn. When I leave here, I'm walking into

18 a job'.

19 But he went bankrupt, so that went out the window.

20 Q. Okay. And I think by this time you did have a social

21 worker getting involved with you --

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. -- at least?

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. And you appeared before a Children's Panel?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. And I think you tell us, I think at paragraph 12 of your  
3 statement, that they decided to put you into care  
4 because you were skipping school and also --

5 A. Outwith parental control.

6 Q. Yes, that's what they said was the reason.

7 A. Uh-huh.

8 Q. Now, can you remember what you were told at that stage?  
9 Were you told much about where you were going and why  
10 and how long?

11 A. I was going to an assessment centre and it was a three  
12 month assessment. And there was regular panels. The  
13 three months turned into, like, six month, and then they  
14 moved me to what they called the short stay unit, into  
15 Campsie, which was like in a longer term unit.

16 Q. I will maybe ask you --

17 A. Sorry.

18 Q. No, no, that's helpful. But I will maybe ask you a bit  
19 more about that. But, at this stage, I was just going  
20 to say: when you were told this, about you were going  
21 for a short stay --

22 A. Uh-huh.

23 Q. -- who was telling you that? Was that your social  
24 worker or the panel?

25 A. No, that was the panel members.

1 Q. So they explained?

2 A. My first ever Children's Hearing I got put away. First  
3 ever.

4 Q. Yes. So you didn't even get another chance?

5 A. No. I mean, see, even if they'd just had says to me --  
6 brought me back the next day and says, 'Right', I woulda  
7 -- I woulda changed then, because what I had in my head  
8 of getting put away was -- as I said before, I'd seen  
9 that film Scum and that's what I had pictured. That's  
10 where I was going. So I thought: 'Wow, what's going on  
11 here?' And I actually ran away fae the panel.

12 Q. Yes, I will ask you about that.

13 A. Yeah, sorry.

14 Q. No, no, I am just trying to get the whole sequence of  
15 events, to see how it was from your side of things.

16 So you are told this by the panel, you are going  
17 there, and you say what might have happened if you had  
18 been given the opportunity to say -- if you can reform  
19 your ways, you won't go somewhere, but that didn't  
20 happen.

21 A. Mm-hm.

22 Q. That didn't happen, so they just said you were going and  
23 you ran away?

24 A. I ran away fae the panel that day.

25 Q. Had you been away from home before then?

1 A. No.

2 Q. No?

3 A. No.

4 Q. No. Did you know anything about Newfield before you  
5 went there?

6 A. Nothing.

7 Q. But you had watched the film, Scum. You were thinking  
8 the worst, were you?

9 A. That's what I had in my head.

10 Q. Yes. And that's why you ran away?

11 A. Uh-huh.

12 Q. And you tell us, in your statement, that you actually  
13 were caught at your home by the police?

14 A. I got hungry and went home. My mother made my dinner  
15 and the police came to the door, 'Is he here?', and they  
16 came in and waited and a van come in for me.

17 Q. And you tell us on that occasion you were a bit cheeky  
18 to the police?

19 A. I was, yes.

20 Q. And that they took you away in handcuffs?

21 A. I was handcuffed, yeah.

22 Q. And you say that something happened on the journey; what  
23 happened?

24 A. The policeman had a -- I was handcuffed, my right hand  
25 to his left-hand, and he got a Yale key and he rubbed

1       and rubbed and rubbed until it broke through the skin.  
2       At school we used to scratch ourselves and call it  
3       a chicken bite, or a rubber or something. Where he did  
4       that wi' a Yale key and he kept doing it and doing it  
5       and doing it. And I was 12. That's not right. He was  
6       a grown man.

7   Q. Did he say anything to you when he was doing this?

8   A. It was weird, 'cause he opened up a bag and he was like  
9       that, 'Look at all the good stuff you've got. Your  
10      mother's good to you', this, that and the other. And  
11      I knew my mother was good to me. Whatever I wanted,  
12      I got.

13   Q. I think -- well, you've told us already you were a bit  
14      cheeky when they first arrived. But I think you say in  
15      your statement that at some point this officer,  
16      policeman, who was doing this, called you a 'cheeky wee  
17      bastard'?

18   A. Aye, well -- aye, that's -- that was the way the bloody  
19      police were back then.

20   Q. And you told us, obviously, what happened in the van.  
21      And you say you went to a police station and you were  
22      picked up by a duty social worker --

23   A. Yeah.

24   Q. -- and taken from there to Newfield; is that right?

25   A. Yeah, yeah.

1 Q. Now, in your statement, you tell us about Newfield from  
2 paragraph 15 onwards. You can have a look at that if  
3 you want. But one thing I am going to ask, just at this  
4 stage, is something that's not in your statement,  
5 because I think since you have given us the statement,  
6 you have managed to access some records --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- about your time in care?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And you have some dates that you can help us with.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. I will give the dates and you tell me if I have them  
13 wrong. But I have a note of them. I will tell you what  
14 I have got noted down. You were admitted to Newfield on  
15 [REDACTED] 1984?

16 A. Yeah, [REDACTED], yeah.

17 Q. And you were age 12?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And you left Newfield on [REDACTED] 1985, when you would be  
20 aged 13?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And you went from there directly to Balrossie, on  
23 [REDACTED]?

24 A. On the [REDACTED], yeah. Straight from Newfield to Balrossie.

25 Q. And you stayed at Balrossie from [REDACTED] 1985 to [REDACTED] 1986?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. So you were at Balrossie when you were between 13 and  
3 14, I suppose?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. So these are the dates you have from the records?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Because we have dates there, but I think you accept the  
8 records will be accurate --

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. -- on that?

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. They're from the councils.

14 Q. Yeah, mm-hm.

15 Now, you tell us a bit about Newfield and I am just  
16 going to ask you a little bit about that. You say it  
17 was a mixed centre or unit. And you think the age  
18 ranges were around 12 up to as much as 18?

19 A. There was people there that were kept longer than 16.

20 Q. Yes.

21 A. They had been, like, extended.

22 Q. Okay. Now, you tell us -- you say all the people had  
23 their own room; is that right?

24 A. In Newfield, yes.

25 Q. There were no dormitories in some of the units?

1 A. Hmm, not that I --

2 Q. You can't recall if there were?

3 A. Not in any I was in.

4 Q. Okay. And I think you --

5 A. I don't even think the other units that I wasn't in,

6 because I was kind of in and out them, seeing people

7 walking about and whatever.

8 Q. Okay. So you don't remember any dormitories?

9 A. No dorms, no. No there.

10 Q. Okay. But, as you say, you were in -- I think you were

11 in two units?

12 A. Two.

13 Q. But you think there were maybe -- well, there were

14 certainly more than two units in total. You say in your

15 statement --

16 A. There was four used and two were unused.

17 Q. Okay. If I can just run through what I think your

18 statement is saying; there were two, called Glennifer

19 and Kilpatrick?

20 A. That's the ones I wasn't in.

21 Q. You weren't in those?

22 A. No.

23 Q. And you think that both of these units would be for what

24 you described as three week assessments, which sometimes

25 turned into six weeks?



1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. That was your understanding?

3 A. That's what I understood it to be, yeah.

4 Q. So that strikes me as something that was -- these units  
5 were for assessment?

6 A. Mm-hm.

7 Q. For a short period of time, you were being there to be  
8 assessed. And this was, I think, a place that you did  
9 go to, but not initially. You went -- there was a place  
10 called Campsie?

11 A. That was -- that was the second unit I was in.

12 Q. Yes, and I think you have described that as a longer  
13 stay unit and I think you were there, you thought, for  
14 around six months?

15 A. That's what I thought, yeah, aye.

16 Q. Maybe it wasn't quite that?

17 A. It may have -- going by the dates, it was a wee bit  
18 less.

19 Q. Obviously from the dates you have got, but it was a lot  
20 longer than three or four, five weeks?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And you thought that was a longer stay unit? There were  
23 people there that were staying --

24 A. Yeah, there was people there that that was their home.

25 Q. Before you went to the Campsie unit, you stayed in what

1       you describe in your statement as the short stay unit?

2   A.   That was the name of the unit.

3   Q.   Yes, and that was one where you said you have

4       a recollection of maybe another -- maybe about another

5       seven children in that unit?  Maybe.

6   A.   I'm trying to think ... there was about eight rooms.

7       Aye, there probably would have been about that, aye.

8   Q.   Were they all boys or were they boys and girls?

9   A.   Mixture.

10  Q.   Mixture.  That short stay unit was your first unit?

11  A.   Yeah.

12  Q.   And you moved from there to Campsie?

13  A.   Yeah.

14  Q.   Okay.  You tell us a bit about the short stay unit; was

15       it in the main building of the centre?

16  A.   Short stay was -- you had, like, the reception -- you

17       had -- in reception, you went to the right, there was

18       a corridor where the head staff were.

19  Q.   Okay.

20  A.   Like Chris Warbrick.  I cannae remember a couple of

21       other names.  Er, their offices were there.  Short stay

22       was directly above that.

23  Q.   On the first floor?

24  A.   Yeah.

25  Q.   Ground floor was the offices and then above it was the

1       short stay?

2   A.  Uh-huh, uh-huh.

3   Q.  And you tell us, apart from offices, on the same floor,

4       the ground floor --

5   A.  There was a set of stairs after Chris Warbrick's office.

6   Q.  To go down?

7   A.  To go down to an education kind of department but --

8   Q.  If you were going downstairs, if you were going to

9       a classroom; was that down these stairs you would go?

10  A.  Down these stairs for some classrooms.

11  Q.  I think you have told us that down the stairs there was

12       also something you called a meeting room with some soft

13       chairs?

14  A.  It was a big room --

15  Q.  Yes.

16  A.  -- outside the classrooms.  And then, again, they put

17       the chairs in a circle --

18  Q.  Okay.

19  A.  -- and just sat and had, like, team meetings, and that

20       was everybody in the building, kind of thing.

21  Q.  Was that for staff or for boys and girls as well?

22  A.  No, it was for the children.

23  Q.  For the children?

24  A.  The staff were there as well, like, but it was for the

25       children to ...

1 Q. And I think you say that down the stairs, along towards  
2 this area, there was also a woodwork department?  
3 A. Down the stairs, directly to the left.  
4 Q. Yes.  
5 A. There was double doors. There might well have been two  
6 sets of double doors you had to go through.  
7 Q. Okay. And you tell us there was also a gymnasium down  
8 there?  
9 A. That was the other -- that wasnae in that main one.  
10 Q. Okay.  
11 A. That was in the other. That was below Glennifer and  
12 Kilpatrick.  
13 Q. Okay. Was that on the ground floor or on the basement  
14 level?  
15 A. At the other side?  
16 Q. Yes.  
17 A. It was -- there was another wee set of stairs.  
18 Q. To go down?  
19 A. Aye. And there was classrooms on the left and one  
20 straight ahead. There was Davie Carragher's, KKL's,  
21 KGY's, and then there was the gym.  
22 Q. It doesn't matter too much. I am just trying to get  
23 a general feel for the place.  
24 A. Aye, aye, aye. It was an L-shape, L-shaped.  
25 Q. L-shaped?

1 A. Aye.

2 LADY SMITH: How many levels were there in the building?

3 A. Two.

4 LADY SMITH: Two.

5 A. Two. They were kinda -- it was like loft conversions.

6 Every one had a Velux window. Maybe in Campsie a couple

7 were on a wall and they had opening out windows -- or

8 windows that would open. But the rest of them were

9 Velux windows that opened so far.

10 LADY SMITH: So that was upstairs?

11 A. They were on -- the windows were on the roof, so it was

12 like a kinda loft conversion.

13 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

14 MR PEOPLES: Was that what Campsie was like mainly?

15 A. No, that was -- Glennifer was like that. Kilpatrick was

16 like that. Er, short stay was like that. Campsie,

17 I think, partly. One side was like that, the other

18 side -- I was only in one bedroom in that and my bedroom

19 was a flat window.

20 Q. A flat window?

21 A. Uh-huh. And then there was what they called 'the quiet

22 room'. The staff werenae allowed in that room.

23 Q. The staff?

24 A. The staff weren't allowed in that room.

25 Q. What was the purpose of the quiet room? Maybe the name

1       tells you what it was?

2   A.   To go in and bully people.  I don't know.

3   Q.   Okay.

4   A.   Just the staff werenae allowed.  I don't know.

5   Q.   You mentioned in your statement two rooms that you call

6       'interview rooms', which you say were basically small

7       empty rooms with some carpet?

8   A.   When you went in the reception, there was the main

9       corridor, right?  Er, Derek Bibby was the name

10      I couldnae find.

11       There was Chris Warbrick's; his was at the end.

12      I cannae remember the second in charge, the woman.

13      I cannae remember her name.  Nice woman.  Then there was

14      Derek Bibby's.  Along a wee bit on the other side, there

15      was a like wee kinda recess and there was a door and

16      a door, and then there was, like -- they called them

17      interview rooms.  These were just bare rooms.

18   Q.   Yes.  I will come back to them.

19   A.   Yes.

20   Q.   They were down in the ground floor?

21   A.   Mm-hm.  They were the main problem.

22   Q.   Yes, I will come to whether they were a problem or not.

23       The woman -- well, I will come to this.  I will come

24      back to it, if I may.

25   A.   Right.

1 Q. So we have established you went to the short stay unit,  
2 first of all?  
3 A. Mm-hm.  
4 Q. And then after a time you moved to the Campsie Unit?  
5 A. Mm-hm.  
6 Q. And you spent longer there than you did in the short  
7 stay?  
8 A. Do they want me to say yes? Uh-huh or yes?  
9 THE STENOGRAPHER: 'Mm-hm's' fine.  
10 MR PEOPLES: If I say something.  
11 A. I keep forgetting. I just keep forgetting to say yes.  
12 Q. Don't just nod, because probably they don't want my  
13 answer, they want your answer.  
14 So you were longer in Campsie, probably?  
15 A. I don't know.  
16 Q. Not sure?  
17 A. I think I was longer in short stay.  
18 Q. Okay. It's what you remember. It's fine.  
19 The quiet room that you have described; was that  
20 attached to one unit? Was that in Campsie?  
21 A. That was in Campsie.  
22 Q. Okay.  
23 A. See, in Campsie, they would go to Lochwinnoch every now  
24 and again and they would -- there was the Struthers.  
25 Was it Struthers? They made lemonade and Irn-Bru and

1       stuff like that. So they had a wee tuck shop for the  
2       full place and that was in Campsie.

3   Q.   Okay.

4   A.   That was in the staff kinda area. The quiet room was  
5       right next to the staff area.

6   Q.   But it was part of the Campsie Unit?

7   A.   It was part of Campsie. It was the first door on the  
8       right.

9   Q.   But the interview rooms that we have talked about --  
10       which we will come to as well -- they weren't part of  
11       any unit?

12  A.   No.

13  Q.   They were just rooms --

14  A.   No.

15  Q.   -- that you have just described?

16  A.   They were just empty rooms.

17  Q.   Okay. Now, you do tell us a bit about staff, at  
18       paragraph 20, I think it is. And I will just ask you  
19       a few things about that. You have told us already that  
20       Chris Warbrick was the person who was in charge when you  
21       were there?

22  A.   Mm-hm, yes.

23  Q.   And you say there was a female deputy, the nice woman?

24  A.   Uh-huh.

25  Q.   Can I throw a name in at you: Hilda McNair?



1 A. Aye.

2 Q. Is that the name?

3 A. Aye.

4 Q. Okay. Well, we have seen that from other documents and

5 things or other evidence, so I just wondered if that

6 would jog your memory?

7 A. Aye, aye.

8 Q. And you also say that below her there was -- you have

9 mentioned him already -- a chap called Mr Bibby?

10 A. Derek Bibby.

11 Q. And you described him as a good guy?

12 A. Seemed all right, aye, aye. Derek Bibby was all right.

13 Chris Warbrick was all right.

14 Q. Okay. You thought he was okay?

15 A. I thought he was all right, aye.

16 Q. You didn't have any problems with him?

17 A. No wi' him, no, no.

18 Q. Okay. Now, you also tell us that there was a female

19 member of staff called Jan Meldrum, who was in charge of

20 the short stay unit?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. Is that when you were there?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. And you got on well with her?

25 A. Aye, aye.

1 Q. And --

2 A. It was a kinda, I don't know, love to hate kinda thing,

3 you know. It was -- she was thin and I used to say

4 things to her and she'd be like, 'I love you too', and

5 things like that. And then if I wasnae in the unit, she

6 would leave me wee notes, but I ended up getting on

7 brand new wi' her she was ...

8 Q. Were you still in the phase when you would do a bit of

9 backchat and cheeky and that?

10 A. Aye.

11 Q. You were still doing that?

12 A. Aye. But she --

13 Q. She handled it well?

14 A. Aye, she liked -- she thought it was fine.

15 Q. Now, you tell us that the cooks and the dinner ladies

16 were 'brilliant', as you described it?

17 A. Aye.

18 Q. So you had no problems with them?

19 A. Aye, aye.

20 Q. And I think generally speaking, 'Kenny', you didn't have

21 problems with the care staff really?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Although you say that, perhaps, you weren't so keen --

24 there were a couple of people you weren't so keen on?

25 A. zKSM and [REDACTED].

1 Q. Yes, why were you not keen on them?

2 A. I don't know. They wanted to spend more time with  
3 themselves than anything else. They were going wi'  
4 each other. They shouldn't have been on the same shift.

5 Q. Okay. Was that the main reason you didn't really take  
6 to them?

7 A. No, they were just narky and just -- they werenae the  
8 same as the rest.

9 Q. Okay. But, otherwise, the staff that you told us  
10 about --

11 A. Aye, there was one staff I remember ... GNU .

12 Q. Mm?

13 A. I don't know, I was -- I was angry one day and I don't  
14 know how that guy kept his calm. I was shouting at him,  
15 I was saying terrible things and he just held me, 'Calm  
16 down, calm down', and he was a big -- he was the biggest  
17 staff member in the place. And he was a big gentle  
18 giant and he, 'Calm down, calm down'. He done it the  
19 right way.

20 Q. And so he was a member of the care staff?

21 A. A member of the care staff, aye.

22 Q. And was that in short stay or Campsie when this  
23 happened; do you remember?

24 A. That was short stay.

25 Q. Yes. Now, if we move to the teaching side, it wasn't

1 quite so good --

2 A. No.

3 Q. -- as you have told us in your statement. Just to start

4 off with, SNR [REDACTED] on the education side, you

5 tell us, was a Mr PBO [REDACTED]?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And you think his first name was PBO [REDACTED]?

8 A. I may be getting mixed up with LWH [REDACTED], LWH [REDACTED],

9 LWH [REDACTED].

10 Q. But there was definitely a Mr PBO [REDACTED]?

11 A. Definitely. Definitely. And KHQ [REDACTED].

12 Q. And there was a man called KHQ [REDACTED] --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- who you say was the woodwork teacher?

15 A. The woodwork teacher, yes.

16 Q. And I think you tell us, at paragraph 21, he wasn't

17 a good guy in your estimation?

18 A. Well, KHQ [REDACTED], KHQ [REDACTED], when he was hisself in the

19 classroom, he'd be no bad sometimes.

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. But, see, as soon as the two of them got together, that

22 was it.

23 Q. Because I think you are going to go on to tell us -- and

24 we see in your statement -- the person you really say

25 was the worst --

1 A. PBO  
2 Q. Was Mr PBO And maybe others assisted him at  
3 times --  
4 A. At times, uh-huh.  
5 Q. -- but he was the main problem for you?  
6 A. Uh-huh.  
7 Q. And we will go on to see why you say that. But you  
8 mention other people like the art teacher was a Mr  
9 KGY, KGY?  
10 A. KGY, aye.  
11 Q. KGY?  
12 A. Aye.  
13 Q. What did you think of him?  
14 A. As I say, he was hisself, he was all right. But as soon  
15 as PBO wanted somebody to -- let's call it  
16 'carting' you, as in --  
17 Q. I think we know what 'carting' is, but yes.  
18 A. Aye, well, it wouldnae be just carting. It would be --  
19 they would be adding to the cart. They wouldnae just  
20 be -- like, maybe, I don't know if they should be doing  
21 it to children anyway, but like putting the locks on and  
22 stuff.  
23 Q. Yes.  
24 A. They were punching you, and hitting you, and slapping  
25 you, and kicking you and stuff. It wasnae -- it wasnae

1 right.

2 Q. No. Well, I will come to that again.

3 A. Sorry.

4 Q. No, no, it is useful to know where we are going.

5 You say the boys had a nickname for Mr KGY ?

6 A. KGY .

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. KGY , KGY .

9 Q. It wasn't the way he dressed? It was just his name?

10 A. No, no, it was just his name.

11 Q. Okay. And you mention some other people who were

12 teachers. A teacher called David, and you say he was

13 a good guy?

14 A. Brilliant. David Carragher.

15 Q. A chap called KKL or KKL ?

16 A. KKL was all right. I ... I mean -- he was all right.

17 Q. And you have --

18 A. There was a Mrs Dubar as well. She was all right.

19 Q. She was the English teacher?

20 A. I think so, yeah.

21 Q. Was she the only female teacher?

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. And then you single out, I think, David Carragher, the

24 maths teacher. You say he was a brilliant teacher?

25 A. Brilliant.

1 Q. You enjoyed his classes or just enjoyed him, his  
2 company?

3 A. He was a good guy. He was into cars. I loved my cars  
4 back then. I love cars, right. And er, in the cupboard  
5 he had a go-kart, a petrol engine go-kart, and he would  
6 let me tinker wi' it and stuff. And he says -- he would  
7 let you play on the computer as well. Back then it was  
8 like Sinclair ZX Spectrum, the one with the rubber keys  
9 and that. It was, like, Manic Miner, and he'd let you  
10 play on that if you finished your work quick enough. He  
11 just knew how to treat you.

12 Q. So were you going to classes, though, when you were  
13 there, in both units?

14 A. I got expelled for the -- 'cause PBO was SNR  
15 SNR, I got expelled. But Ms Dubar would let me  
16 in and David Carragher would let me in.

17 Q. Mm-hm.

18 A. I don't know. I don't think PBO was kinda happy  
19 about it, but ... and then there was meeting above -- am  
20 I rabbiting? If I go on about the meetings and ...

21 Q. We will come to that.

22 A. Right.

23 Q. Just on Mr PBO, then: he eventually decided to  
24 expel you?

25 A. Yeah, and he was told that he couldn't.

1 Q. He was told he couldn't, because --

2 A. Aye, 'cause it was a school for people that were --

3 Q. Skipping school?

4 A. Aye, and like that.

5 Q. And he just had to give you an education?

6 A. Aye, it was more or less that was --

7 Q. Can I just ask you: the relationship between Mr PBO  
8 and the other teachers -- because you say that  
9 individually they were okay people, good guys, some of  
10 them --

11 A. Aye, aye.

12 Q. -- better than others?

13 A. Aye.

14 Q. But when they got into Mr PBO's company,  
15 particularly when he was --

16 A. They done as he told them. I never remember  
17 David Carragher ever doing anything bad, once. Not  
18 once.

19 Q. So was Mr PBO very much SNR ?

20 A. Aye.

21 Q. And if he said something; is that what happened?

22 A. I would say so.

23 Q. Did the staff ever try to question him or challenge him?

24 A. I don't know.

25 Q. You don't know?



1 A. I don't know. I couldnae tell you. I can't remember  
2 that.

3 Q. But, on the occasions when people were carting you,  
4 Mr PBO and some of the other teachers; did anyone  
5 else try to intervene?

6 A. I cannae remember.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. I mean, back then, probably scared of losing their job  
9 and whatever, no? Because I know for a fact that the  
10 receptionist did here.

11 Q. Yes, because I think you will tell us that because of  
12 the way you were carted and the place you were carted  
13 to --

14 A. It was near the reception, so ...

15 Q. You had passed offices which people could see --

16 A. Aye.

17 Q. -- what was happening?

18 A. Hear.

19 Q. Or hear, sorry.

20 A. Hear.

21 Q. Now, I didn't ask you, but you have mentioned a number  
22 of bedrooms, particularly, I think, in the short stay  
23 had Velux windows?

24 A. Mm-hm.

25 Q. Was it relatively easy to get onto the roof?

1 A. Very. Very. The key to -- they had the latches on  
2 windows; if you opened them, they would only open so  
3 far. The key to open the latches was just two straight  
4 pins. They had net curtains on the doors, which were  
5 held on wi' two screw hooks. So these two screw hooks  
6 fitted perfectly into the locks as a key and you would  
7 just put the two in the other side and open it. It was  
8 far too easy to get onto the roof.

9 Q. I think you certainly went to the roof one time.

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. Did you go often?

12 A. Sorry?

13 Q. Did you go onto the roof very often?

14 A. I would open the window often, but I wouldnae go onto  
15 the roof often.

16 Q. But you did once. But we will hear about that.

17 A. That was a drunken night.

18 Q. We will come to that then.

19 Now, you tell us that the children weren't allowed  
20 to smoke until they were 13 years of age and I think  
21 they needed parental permission; is that right?

22 A. Yeah, yeah.

23 Q. But if they got that permission, they would get so many  
24 cigarettes a day?

25 A. Seven.

1 Q. Seven.

2 A. If you had them. If you had them.

3 Q. If you had them?

4 A. Mm-hm.

5 Q. Yes.

6 A. Which, again, that wasnae right.

7 Q. It wasn't right to give you cigarettes to smoke?

8 A. Not really. It was illegal. It was illegal.

9 Q. At your age. Yes.

10 A. But then again --

11 Q. Why do you think they were giving them to you, if you

12 look back?

13 A. I don't know.

14 Q. I think we know --

15 A. I think it might be a calming measure or something,

16 I don't know.

17 LADY SMITH: 'Kenny' were they giving them to you or, if you

18 had them, allowing you to smoke? Do you see what

19 I mean?

20 A. Sorry?

21 LADY SMITH: Were they, if you had your own cigarettes from

22 somewhere, letting you smoke them or did they --

23 A. You would bring them in.

24 LADY SMITH: Hang on. Or were they giving out cigarettes?

25 A. No, you would bring them in from weekend leave. All

1       right? They would be put in a box with your name on it,  
2       you would get seven of them a day.

3   LADY SMITH: Right, so they were cigarettes you had  
4       supplied?

5   A. Yeah.

6   LADY SMITH: Not that they were getting and then giving to  
7       you?

8   A. No, they weren't buying them.

9   LADY SMITH: I have you, thanks.

10  MR PEOPLES: I am not sure there is much difference there,  
11       because if it was illegal and they were then assisting  
12       you to do something that wasn't legal, then, whether  
13       they bought them or not, they were permitting you to  
14       smoke them when they found them.

15  A. Aye.

16  Q. But only so many a day?

17  A. Seven.

18  Q. You said it might be --

19  A. Seven times.

20  Q. We have heard evidence that quite a number of young  
21       people, by the time they got to places like Newfield,  
22       even if they were quite young, were smokers already?

23  A. I was -- I mean, there was -- I'm not going to mention  
24       staff names because I liked her. But they would say to,  
25       like, the other ones that were kinda a wee bit older

1       than me: 'See PBD all right wi' a wee puff'.  
2   Q.   Yes.  
3   A.   So even before I was 13, I was getting to smoke.  
4   Q.   Yes. But you said maybe the reason they got them --  
5       gave them -- or permitted you to use them was to calm  
6       you. I mean, another way of looking at it was it was  
7       a way to control you, because if you smoked and you --  
8   A.   Aye, maybe.  
9   Q.   Well, if you were particularly getting towards the stage  
10       where you needed a cigarette -- some people were -- then  
11       to say 'You'll get them if you behave, you'll not get  
12       them if you don't behave', that to my mind is a measure  
13       of control, like saying: 'If you misbehave, you won't go  
14       on home leave. If you behave, you'll get your home  
15       leave'.  
16       It is all very much a case of: we will reward you  
17       provided you do what we tell you?  
18   A.   Aye. Possibly, aye.  
19   Q.   Do you see that?  
20   A.   Of course, aye.  
21   Q.   Now, despite your concerns about Newfield, from watching  
22       the film, Scum, you say that your first impressions were  
23       that the place was okay and wasn't as bad as you feared  
24       it would be?  
25   A.   When I woke up that first morning and they opened the

1 door and they were nice as pie, I was like: what's going  
2 on here? There was couches. There was an Atari; that  
3 was a big thing back then. And, er, I was looking about  
4 going: this doesnae look like a cell.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. And then people were coming in and, 'All right wee man?  
7 When did you come in? How are you doing? I'm such and  
8 such', it was all right.

9 Q. So, actually, your first impressions were actually okay  
10 in fact in that place? You didn't have a bad first day  
11 experience?

12 A. Not really, no.

13 Q. You tell us a bit about routine. I am not going to go  
14 through all that with you, 'Kenny', but you tell us that  
15 you had -- after dinner you sat about for a while and  
16 then you had to go to bed. And you were supposed to go  
17 to bed at a certain time, but:

18 'Quite often we had a carry on where staff couldn't  
19 see us.'

20 Was there any sanction if you were caught?

21 A. Not really.

22 Q. No?

23 A. Not really. It was just -- no, not really.

24 Q. Okay. Now --

25 A. I think there was one member of -- well, aye, there must

1        have been just one member of staff for short stay.  
2        There would have been one for the two, Glennifer and  
3        Kilpatrick. There might have been one for -- the one  
4        staff might have done short stay. I don't know.  
5        I don't know.  
6    Q. But maybe at nighttime, then, there would be one staff  
7        member at least on duty in the short stay?  
8    A. I don't know if they were there all the time.  
9    Q. You are not sure?  
10   A. If they were maybe going across to different units to  
11       check up on things and then --  
12   Q. Coming back?  
13   A. -- coming back to that to check up then.  
14   Q. So it is possible --  
15   A. Maybe two between the four units.  
16   Q. Yes. So there would be night staff, but you don't  
17       necessarily think there was one member of staff for each  
18       unit; there might have been two for the whole thing?  
19   A. I don't think so, I don't think so.  
20   Q. Okay.  
21   A. 'Cause that's the way Balrossie was, two units. One  
22       night staff, two units.  
23   Q. To cover both?  
24   A. Uh-huh. So four units, two staff.  
25   Q. Okay. Now, just on other matters about the place, you

1        tell us that most of the time you were able to wear your  
2        own clothes, but the children were receiving a clothing  
3        allowance as well?

4    A.    Yes.

5    Q.    Because some of them maybe didn't have a lot of clothes;  
6        yes?

7    A.    Aye.

8    Q.    But your clothes weren't removed from you when you went  
9        to Newfield, you were allowed to keep them?

10   A.    No, they were your own.

11   Q.    And also, I think, you did receive pocket money; is that  
12        right?

13   A.    Yeah.

14   Q.    And I think -- and I am not going to go through all the  
15        detail of it, but, I think around paragraph 31, you are  
16        talking about leisure time and how you spent your time,  
17        and I think you quite liked listening to music?

18   A.    Yeah.

19   Q.    And you would watch TV and things like that?

20   A.    Uh-huh.

21   Q.    And you would chat and play on the computer?

22   A.    Uh-huh.

23   Q.    Or you might go to the gym, as might others?

24   A.    We would go to, like, the swimming baths as well.

25   Q.    Yes.



1 A. Go on wee trips to like Muirshiel Park. Whatever  
2 unit -- a unit could maybe book the minibus and take you  
3 somewhere that night or wherever.

4 Q. In your time, as far as things to do were concerned,  
5 aside from the times when you had to be at school or  
6 something like that, your position, I think you say at  
7 paragraph 31, is there were always things to do to keep  
8 you busy. So you weren't bored?

9 A. Aye, there was the rope swing, there was the kinda the  
10 slide thing, which I never went back on after the  
11 accident.

12 Q. Okay. Well, you could play football outside?

13 A. Well, you probably could of, but there was a gym there.  
14 That was big enough.

15 Q. For a game inside?

16 A. Aye.

17 Q. And I think you have told us you would go swimming  
18 sometimes?

19 A. Mm-hm.

20 Q. Would staff take you or were you allowed to go on your  
21 own?

22 A. You were allowed to go.

23 Q. On your own?

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. And you say that if any time a child or children wanted

1           to leave the grounds, they just had to ask?

2   A.   I mean, you could walk out to the shop if you wanted,

3           aye, aye, aye.

4   Q.   And, again, you make the point at paragraph 31 --

5   A.   Unless -- oh, what did they call it? Was it a rope?

6           No. There was a certain -- I wasnae, but I think if you

7           were in Glennifer and Kilpatrick, you had to have

8           a member of staff wi' you anywhere you went, kind of

9           thing. But I didnae.

10  Q.   Okay. So there might be different rules for different

11          units?

12  A.   Different people, I think.

13  Q.   Or different people have different rules?

14  A.   Aye, aye.

15  Q.   Well, again, you make the point, at 31:

16           'The staff were mostly pretty good to us.'

17          And we will come to the staff that you think weren't

18          good to you.

19  A.   Mm-hm.

20  Q.   And you said you could freely mix with children from

21          other units?

22  A.   Mm-hm.

23  Q.   Yes.

24  A.   You were kinda -- if you were at school, you were at

25          school wi' them.

1 Q. And indeed, I don't know whether she was on another unit  
2 or not, or whether she was in the same unit, you talk  
3 about a girlfriend you had at paragraph 32; was she in  
4 the same unit?  
5 A. Different unit.  
6 Q. And you recall an occasion when, as you put it, you were  
7 caught lying fully clothed on her bed in her room,  
8 'blethering', I think, is how you describe the  
9 situation?  
10 A. Aye.  
11 Q. And you say that a staff member told you to be out of  
12 the room within the next 15 minutes?  
13 A. Aye.  
14 Q. And --  
15 A. 'You've got 15 minutes to get out of here'.  
16 Q. And you say it was frowned upon by the staff for boys to  
17 be in the girls' rooms, but they were quite relaxed  
18 about it when they saw it?  
19 A. Aye. It wasnae as if -- I mean, it wasnae as if he  
20 walked in and we were doing anything, you know what  
21 I mean. It was -- I was 13, she was 15. I mean, it was  
22 just -- we were pals.  
23 Q. And apart from telling you to get out within the next  
24 15 minutes; did you get any kind of discipline?  
25 A. No.

1 Q. Or sanction?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Or loss of privileges?

4 A. No.

5 Q. No?

6 A. No.

7 Q. And you have told us already -- this is at paragraphs 34

8 to 35 -- about schooling. You say the classes were

9 pretty small, five or six people, maybe, to a class?

10 A. Aye.

11 Q. And you have told us before you were eventually

12 expelled, and you have told us that they were told that

13 they couldn't do that?

14 A. Uh-huh.

15 Q. And you have told us that two of the teachers at least

16 were letting you back in anyway?

17 A. Uh-huh.

18 Q. And I think you suggest that there was an attempt, maybe

19 at some point, to try to get another school to take you?

20 A. Uh-huh.

21 Q. But did that happen?

22 A. At one point, but I wouldnae go there.

23 Q. Where were you offered?

24 A. Because they wanted me to go to -- they said the only

25 school that was willing to accept us was, er, that one

1       in Bridge of Weir, and it was for no well people and  
2       I wasnae prepared to go there.  
3       Er, Quarriers.  
4   Q. Quarriers?  
5   A. Aye.  
6   Q. Okay.  
7   A. And I wasnae prepared to go there.  
8   Q. And did they attempt to --  
9   A. To force me?  
10   Q. Yes.  
11   A. No. When I says, 'No, I'm not going there', that was  
12       it.  
13   Q. That was it?  
14   A. Yeah.  
15   Q. So did the situation of where you weren't allowed to go  
16       to classes continue, except the teachers, some of  
17       them --  
18   A. They were just at the end. Because of what PBO had  
19       done, nae school wanted to touch me 'cause it was on my  
20       file that I'd been expelled fae that school that cannae  
21       expel you.  
22   Q. So, in the end -- I think you say, it's at 36 to 37 of  
23       your statement, 'Kenny', you didn't really get a great  
24       education when you were at Newfield and you spent a lot  
25       of time actually helping the janitor?

1 A. The janitor, aye.

2 Q. Did you enjoy doing that though?

3 A. I did.

4 Q. Yes. Just on the question of -- Newfield was called

5 an assessment centre, but, at 38 of your statement, you

6 address whether there was an assessment. You say you

7 were initially sent or told you were being sent for

8 three months for assessment, but you say you weren't

9 aware of being assessed when you were there, although

10 the teachers could have been assessing you for all you

11 knew, but you didn't know it?

12 A. I mean, there was nae psychologists, psychiatrists.

13 There was none of that.

14 Q. Okay. So if anyone was doing the assessing, it would be

15 teachers?

16 A. You would think so, then. I suppose, aye.

17 Q. And maybe the care staff observing your behaviour?

18 A. Aye, aye, your behaviour. Kinda at home behaviour and,

19 then education, maybe your school behaviour, I suppose.

20 Q. Because you do say that you certainly had chats with

21 your key worker and, I think, your head of unit; is that

22 right? This Jan Meldrum?

23 A. Mm-hm. I think she was the head of unit. And Tom --

24 Q. Was your key worker?

25 A. -- he was my key worker.

1 Q. So you were chatting to them?

2 A. Aye.

3 Q. But were you ever aware that they were writing reports  
4 about you, for example, or getting together for meetings  
5 to discuss your situation?

6 A. Not that I can remember, no. Not that I know.

7 Q. Looking back; do you feel as if you were being assessed,  
8 it might have been a reasonable thing to let you know  
9 and let you know what was happening? So that you  
10 actually knew something was going on, so that you  
11 could -- I mean, if you weren't told anything; do you  
12 think that was a reasonable thing?

13 A. They could have told us. But I'm trying to think in the  
14 head of a 12/13-year-old the now, whether I would have  
15 understood it or not. I would have, aye.

16 Q. I think you are doing yourself a disservice if you are  
17 13 and someone said --

18 A. They probably should have said: 'Listen, how do you feel  
19 about this? How do you feel about that?' They probably  
20 could have asked me things: 'What do you think's causing  
21 this? What do you think's causing that?'

22 Nothing like that.

23 Q. You do say when you were there, paragraph 42, you would  
24 get weekend leave and you did get weekend leave; is that  
25 right?

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. But you say if you ran away, your next weekend leave  
3 would be cancelled?

4 A. Uh-huh, then you had to make your own.

5 Q. How did you see that? When someone said to you, 'You've  
6 run away, you're not getting home next weekend'; did you  
7 see that as a punishment?

8 A. Well, it was. It was a punishment.

9 Q. To you it was a punishment?

10 A. I would say so.

11 Q. Did you consider it was quite a bad punishment for you,  
12 because did you welcome going home?

13 A. I liked going home, aye.

14 Q. Yes.

15 A. I liked it, aye.

16 Q. Now, you say, I think, over Christmas -- and you would  
17 have at least spent a Christmas there?

18 A. Mm-hm.

19 Q. You think everyone would get leave over Christmas?

20 A. Christmas, I believe, I was out on leave.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. Because I actually took a boy from Balrossie home to our  
23 house one time.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. He was leaving Balrossie and his home was actually



1       a home, so he wasnae going home to a family. So I asked  
2       my mother if it would be all right if he came to us --  
3   Q.   Yes.  
4   A.   -- to have, like, a kinda homely setting, instead of  
5       a children's home setting.  
6   Q.   Yes.  
7   A.   My mother agreed wi' it, Balrossie agreed wi' it, so ...  
8   Q.   So he was allowed to go to your home?  
9   A.   Aye, aye. I slept on the floor. He got my bed.  
10   Q.   Okay. Now, I am going to ask you about something now.  
11       Bedwetting you deal with at paragraphs 46 to 48. First  
12       of all, I think your position seems to be that, as far  
13       as you could tell, the staff treated bedwetters in  
14       a sympathetic way. They weren't ridiculing or  
15       humiliating them; is that right?  
16   A.   Well, I didnae bed wet, but --  
17   Q.   No, but did you see anyone get humiliated?  
18   A.   Not by the staff, I don't think.  
19   Q.   No.  
20   A.   I cannae think.  
21   Q.   Would some of the other children say something?  
22   A.   Aye.  
23   Q.   Yes?  
24   A.   Aye.  
25   Q.   Okay.

1 A. This is [REDACTED].

2 Q. I am going to ask you about one person and I don't need

3 her name.

4 A. No, sorry. I said --

5 Q. It's all right. You were in the unit; is this the short

6 stay unit or the Campsie?

7 A. Campsie.

8 Q. Campsie. And you were in a room opposite a girl --

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. -- in Campsie; and she was about 13 years of age?

11 A. Ages with me.

12 Q. Ages with you?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And she was a bed wetter?

15 A. Yeah, there was good reason.

16 Q. Well, I was going to come to that.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. You say you are not actually sure how staff dealt with

19 it when she did wet the bed, but your recollection was

20 that children would be told to go back to their rooms --

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. -- and there was nothing to see, so they were trying to,

23 maybe, deal with it sympathetically?

24 A. Aye.

25 Q. But you say it was obvious from a smell that she had wet

1           her bed?

2    A.   Mm-hm.

3    Q.   And some people would be saying things.  Other kids; is

4           it?

5    A.   Aye.

6    Q.   Okay.

7    A.   We'd be wakened anyway, with what you will get to.

8    Q.   You say you didn't hear staff ridiculing this girl or

9           trying to embarrass her, but you do have a problem with

10          one thing about this situation.  You say that you used

11          to hear her say things at night.  What did you hear her

12          saying?

13                Do you want me to read it for you?

14                You say that this girl had nightmares and that you

15          heard her shouting things like: 'Daddy, daddy, stop it'.

16          And you say that her dad did bad things to her when she

17          was at home.  What you have a problem with, I think, is

18          that the staff would let her go home at weekends?

19    A.   They let her out on weekend leave.

20    Q.   Even though they knew?

21    A.   They knew about that bad --

22    Q.   What was happening?

23    A.   They knew what that man was up to.

24    Q.   Yes.  And that's something I think you find difficult

25          and you still remember?

1 A. (Nods).

2 Q. Okay.

3 Now, if I can go back to other matters, 'Kenny'.

4 Your family didn't visit you when you were there,

5 because I think you were getting to go home; is that

6 right?

7 A. I remember my mother coming up a couple of times.

8 Q. Oh right, she did, okay.

9 A. Are we still talking Newfield?

10 Q. Yes, sorry, yes.

11 A. She had to -- I asked her to come up one time to sign

12 the form that says I was allowed to smoke.

13 Q. Okay, so she did come.

14 A. She didnae know what she was coming up for that day, so

15 I kinda -- then she came up and I says listen ...

16 Q. And --

17 A. But --

18 Q. Sorry.

19 A. My brother, he would come up --

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. -- if he was about running about wi' his pals or

22 whatever. He drove. So he was older, so him and his

23 pals would come and visit us and that.

24 Q. And there was no problems with visitors coming?

25 A. No.

1 Q. Okay. You say I think when you were at Newfield,  
2 obviously you were there longer than you were originally  
3 told you would be?  
4 A. Aye.  
5 Q. You were attending some panels and you would be seeing  
6 social workers?  
7 A. It just kept getting continued and continued.  
8 Q. As you have told us before, you would have chats with  
9 your key worker and other staff, apart from -- is it  
10 zKSM and [REDACTED] that you didn't really get on with?  
11 A. [REDACTED] was fae the same area as me. I mean, she stayed  
12 next door to one of my mates. That's where she grew up.  
13 But they were just arrogant, cheeky.  
14 Q. Do you think it was because she -- well, she didn't know  
15 you before Newfield, did she?  
16 A. I don't think so.  
17 Q. But she was from the same area?  
18 A. Aye, a couple of streets down.  
19 Q. Okay.  
20 A. But she shouldn't have told me that either.  
21 Q. But you say, broadly speaking, you got on well with the  
22 care staff and there weren't really issues in the  
23 units --  
24 A. Aye.  
25 Q. -- with the staff or the care staff; is that right,

1       generally?

2   A.  Well, generally, aye, times were fine.

3   Q.  And just on the matter of inspections, can I put it this

4       way -- you tell us about it at paragraph 55.  If there

5       were inspections by people who came in to inspect the

6       place, you weren't aware of them and no one certainly

7       spoke to you about how things were being run at

8       Newfield?

9   A.  I never ever --

10  Q.  Okay.

11  A.  -- knew any of them.  As an outsider to the Social Work

12       Department or the councils I never --

13  Q.  You never saw someone that looked official?

14  A.  No.

15  Q.  Or a stranger wearing a suit or carrying a clipboard or

16       anything like that?

17  A.  No.

18  Q.  Or a councillor saying, 'I'm a councillor and how are

19       you getting on, 'Kenny'?', nothing like that?

20  A.  No.

21  MR PEOPLES:  I am conscious of the time.  Maybe it is a good

22       time to have a short break and we can continue.

23  LADY SMITH:  Yes.  'Kenny', I normally take a short break in

24       the afternoon.

25  A.  Aye, nae problem.  That's fine.

1 LADY SMITH: Let's do that.

2 A. I'm a smoker.

3 LADY SMITH: I haven't given you permission to smoke. Oh,

4 you are more than 13 now, maybe I don't need to.

5 A. My mother's signed the form, so you need to.

6 LADY SMITH: But I haven't.

7 Right. We'll have a break just now, 'Kenny'.

8 (3.02 pm)

9 (A short break)

10 (3.17 pm)

11 LADY SMITH: Welcome back, 'Kenny'. I hope the break was

12 helpful.

13 Mr Peoples.

14 MR PEOPLES: 'Kenny', can I take you back to the statement,

15 if I may?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. I just asked you before the break about inspections and

18 I will move on from that.

19 A. Mm-hm.

20 Q. Just another matter. You tell us, at 56 of your

21 statement, you did abscond quite a lot?

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. You say that when you were brought back or caught,

24 neither the police nor the staff at Newfield asked you

25 why you had run away; is that --

1 A. No, they just --

2 Q. They weren't interested in finding out?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Although I think you say, in fairness, you say it was  
5 usually done as an adventure, rather than for something  
6 specific?

7 A. That's what I seen it as. It was like -- you knew the  
8 police were chasing you, you knew people were looking  
9 for you, it was like --

10 Q. A game?

11 A. -- ducking and diving. I know it sounds -- a child  
12 wanting to play that game, but it was an adventure.

13 Q. Yes.

14 A. Finding somewhere to stay that night and whatever.

15 Q. Okay. You tell us about an attempt -- well, I don't  
16 think it was necessarily -- was it a true plan to run  
17 away? You tell us about an incident at 57, or a night  
18 when all the boys planned to run away. You were about  
19 13 years old. And you say that 46 boys and eight girls  
20 ran away.

21 A. No, sorry, what it was was: there was 48 people in the  
22 place and 46 ran away.

23 LADY SMITH: Yes.

24 MR PEOPLES: Oh, sorry.

25 A. Two people backed out.



1 Q. Basically almost everyone ran away?  
2 A. Almost everybody that was able to run away --  
3 Q. Did so?  
4 A. Uh-huh.  
5 Q. Did you stay together once you ran away?  
6 A. There was three of us that stuck together.  
7 Q. Okay. Did you all scatter in different directions?  
8 A. More or less.  
9 Q. But the ones that managed to get the case of beer and  
10 got drunk and returned; was that you and some of your  
11 pals?  
12 A. Me and two others.  
13 Q. Okay. So it wasn't a case of it was a collective party  
14 somewhere outwith Newfield for 46 people?  
15 A. No, no, no, they never get any of the case of beer.  
16 Q. Okay. You say that when you returned -- and did you do  
17 that voluntarily? You didn't get caught?  
18 A. Returned? I just think we were drunk and wanting to go  
19 to bed or something. I don't know.  
20 Q. Well, you didn't quite go to bed, I think, you tell us,  
21 because you say that you and some of the boys that you  
22 went back with climbed onto the roof and were throwing  
23 things on the roof?  
24 A. Well, what happened was they -- the two -- I get caught  
25 first, so I get took in and put in my room. But I used

1       my wee opening the window and climbed out, but they were  
2       already up there causing havoc.

3   Q.   And you say that on that occasion, the police were  
4       called in and I think a couple of your friends were  
5       lifted?

6   A.   Uh-huh.

7   Q.   And --

8   A.   The next morning, everybody was in their pyjamas, nobody  
9       was allowed their own clothes, and there was a big  
10      meeting and that.

11  Q.   When you say nobody was allowed their own clothes; do  
12      you mean the ones that ran, everyone?

13  A.   Everybody that ran away.

14  Q.   Which was basically the whole school, the whole place?

15  A.   More or less.

16  LADY SMITH:  'Kenny', what were you wearing if you weren't  
17      allowed your own clothes?

18  A.   Pyjamas and slippers.

19  LADY SMITH:  Thank you.

20  A.   The meeting down the stairs at the big kind of open --  
21      there was two classrooms -- there was woodwork -- there  
22      was this big kind of open --

23  MR PEOPLES:  Yes, because we have actually heard some  
24      evidence from a person who worked there, but I am not  
25      sure whether it ties in with your dates of an occasion

1       when there was a sort of big meeting with Mr Warbrick  
2       present and he was -- the way it was put was he was  
3       giving a telling off to people, which may or may not  
4       have been connected to the riot --

5   A.   Now, that -- he was there and he was giving us rows --

6   Q.   Was he reading the riot act or is that not his style?

7   A.   Not that I can remember.

8   Q.   No. But what was the purpose of the meeting, then?

9   A.   It was to -- 'This will nae happen again or there'll be  
10       consequences', kinda thing, do you know what I mean?  
11       That was that.

12   Q.   Did that have any --

13   A.   I think, maybe, I don't know, secure unit get mentioned  
14       and whatever. And stuff like that.

15   Q.   Threats of things happening?

16   A.   Aye.

17   Q.   But did anything else happen out of that or -- did  
18       everyone lose home leave or --

19   A.   Probably.

20   Q.   But nothing major, beyond what usually happened?

21   A.   No, no. I don't even think anybody went to school that  
22       day.

23   Q.   Okay.

24   A.   Or, if they did, they went in their pyjamas.

25   Q.   Okay. And just looking more generally at what would

1       happen when something was done that children shouldn't  
2       have done, or young people, you tell us that the main  
3       sort of sanctions or, if you like -- were, firstly, to  
4       stop young people having cigarettes?

5   A.   Mm-hm.

6   Q.   But it was more serious to stop weekend leave?

7   A.   (Nods).   Aye.   Or else maybe take a day off.   Instead of  
8       the Friday, you'd get away on the Saturday.

9   Q.   They'd shorten the leave?

10  A.   Aye.

11  Q.   Now, I am not going to go back, because you have told us  
12       about GNU [REDACTED].   At paragraph 59, you have told me  
13       how he dealt with a restraint in what you describe as  
14       a 'professional way', so you had no problems with that?

15  A.   If anybody should have done anything to me, it was that  
16       time and he was a big gentle giant.

17  Q.   Okay.

18  A.   I'd like to meet him and shake his hand.

19  Q.   I suppose it is quite interesting, because you tell us  
20       about that in paragraph 59 and then you go on to tell us  
21       about people who didn't do it the GNU [REDACTED] way.   If  
22       we go on, there is a heading 'Abuse', at 61 and  
23       following, and I think you tell us that Mr PBO [REDACTED] --  
24       that we have already heard something about -- was the  
25       worst abuser?

1 A. Well, that's -- he wasnae part of the care staff.

2 Q. Yes, he was the teaching staff.

3 A. He was SNR [REDACTED] of the education department.

4 Q. But the care staff -- GNU [REDACTED], whether he was care

5 staff or teaching, you say did it in a proper way?

6 A. Mm-hm. I would say so, aye.

7 Q. Whereas Mr PBO [REDACTED], sometimes assisted by some other

8 people, didn't do it the proper way?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. No.

12 Q. Do you know -- I mean, tell me if you don't -- do you

13 know of Mr PBO [REDACTED]'s background? What his background

14 was before teaching?

15 A. Well, I know that he -- because he had two minibuses, so

16 he ran a small minibus company, out the back of Linwood.

17 I think I still remember where his house is. I never,

18 ever went there.

19 Q. No, I am trying work out where -- you told us he ran

20 a business like that?

21 A. Aye.

22 Q. Do you know whether he had any other experience of

23 something other than looking after children?

24 A. I don't know.

25 Q. Okay.

1 A. I just know that he had -- and maybe his minibuses or  
2 whatever done school runs. I don't know. But I would  
3 be lying --

4 Q. No. You tell us about some of the other people that  
5 would get involved in the sort of things -- you give us  
6 an example of why you would call him the worst abuser.  
7 There would be other members of staff -- and you have  
8 named some of them -- who could be involved in some of  
9 these occasions when things happened that shouldn't have  
10 happened, and we can read it for ourselves.

11 A. Mm-hm.

12 Q. You say, at paragraph 62, that there would always be at  
13 least two of them?

14 A. Never hisself.

15 Q. Mm?

16 A. Never hisself.

17 Q. No. But you say that there were always two in the  
18 restraint, but it was really in effect an assault?

19 A. I would call it assault.

20 Q. And that the main man for this was Mr PBO ?

21 A. PBO, yes.

22 Q. But you would have some teachers, or one teacher at  
23 least, backing him up?

24 A. He never done it hisself.

25 Q. Okay.

1 A. It shows you the strength of him.

2 Q. And you tell us about the frequency with which these  
3 sort of restraints, or assaults, as you term them, would  
4 happen. They would be quite frequent, then?

5 A. Regular.

6 Q. Yes.

7 A. Regular.

8 Q. Now, by way of, I think, telling us the sort of thing  
9 that would happen, if we go to paragraph 64, I think,  
10 'Kenny', you give us a sort of description of what would  
11 be a typical -- well, let's call it a restraint, violent  
12 restraint?

13 A. Mm-hm.

14 Q. You say that staff and -- I think you mean Mr PBO  
15 and another, usually, would grab and violently restrain  
16 you?

17 A. Mm-hm.

18 Q. You say:  
19 'I think they must have been trained to do it. The  
20 holds were similar to how they did it in the prison.  
21 There were a lot of wrists locks and using pressure  
22 points.'

23 A. Uh-huh.

24 Q. 'They then marched me along the corridor still in wrist  
25 locks...'

1 A. It was more carrying.

2 Q. Carried?

3 A. It was more like carrying.

4 Q. That's why you say 'carted'?

5 A. Aye.

6 Q. And they would be punching your body?

7 A. Aye.

8 Q. But you are not sure who would be doing the punching?

9 A. I would say it would be PBO .

10 Q. Okay. And you say, I think, maybe:

11 'I will be honest and say sometimes I might have

12 deserved to be restrained, but I didn't deserve to be

13 punched. I would have been raging with anger and I am

14 sure I would have been struggling. I saw them do the

15 same thing to other boys too.'

16 A. Mm-hm.

17 Q. I suppose you are saying, against yourself that:

18 'I might have deserved some sort of restraint, but

19 I certainly didn't deserve to be assaulted'.

20 A. Definitely not.

21 Q. No. When you say 'assaulted'; do you mean being

22 punched?

23 A. Punching and stuff.

24 Q. What about the use of wrist locks and pressure points?

25 A. Well, that would be different if I had acted up first,



1 but they were the instigators. Or he was the  
2 instigator.

3 LADY SMITH: 'Kenny', when you use the description 'wrist  
4 lock'; what is it you are referring to?

5 A. Well, it's a kind of pressure point, bending your wrist  
6 like that, right. Then it's up in there like that and  
7 then it's carried by there, with that held in there. So  
8 it's -- try it wi' yourself, it's sore.

9 LADY SMITH: Yes.

10 A. It's sore. And then one of your legs is kept straight,  
11 your other leg is bent over the back of the knee, and  
12 then that's lifted up like that, and that's how you're  
13 carried.

14 LADY SMITH: Right.

15 A. Right? But --

16 LADY SMITH: Yes.

17 A. -- sometimes you would just be getting like dragged  
18 along and you would feel yourself getting punched. That  
19 wasnae just -- do you know what I mean? It wasnae --

20 LADY SMITH: Yes.

21 MR PEOPLES: When they were carting you in the way you have  
22 just described; would it be normally two people or could  
23 it be more?

24 A. Normally two.

25 Q. Two. So someone was applying a pressure point and

1        putting your arm and your wrist in a certain position  
2        near your body --  
3    A.   Mm-hm.  
4    Q.   -- and carting you along at the same time, holding you,  
5        it sounded like under the arm pit?  
6    A.   Mm-hm.  
7    Q.   And another one was holding your leg in a --  
8    A.   You can still do it. I mean, one person could be  
9        holding you like that on that lock, the other person  
10       could be holding you there and holding your legs at the  
11       same time while the other one has got a hand free.  
12   Q.   Yes. But they could be holding you in various places,  
13       but while they were holding you, your legs weren't in  
14       a straight legged position; you could be in one or two  
15       wrist locks?  
16   A.   Mm-hm.  
17   Q.   Yes. And it was painful?  
18   A.   Very.  
19   Q.   Okay.  
20   A.   Oh, I was screaming.  
21   Q.   Yes.  
22   A.   I would be screaming.  
23   Q.   Okay.  
24   A.   I wish I knew her second name. She would probably,  
25       definitely come and tell yous, but I cannae remember her

1 name.

2 Q. Okay. But despite your screams; did they attempt to  
3 change the way they carted you or ease off?

4 A. No, I mean, it wasnae far. It was only up a set of  
5 stairs. It was usually through that big area and it was  
6 up the wee set of stairs -- there was maybe seven  
7 steps -- and then it's ten metres, maximum, to the  
8 interview rooms and it was usually the one on the left.  
9 I cannae remember if there was grids on the outside.

10 Q. Are you saying, though, 'Kenny', just to be clear, on  
11 quite a lot of occasions that the restraint was taking  
12 you from a classroom area to these interview rooms?

13 A. Well, education department.

14 Q. Or education department area?

15 A. Aye.

16 Q. And you had to go upstairs?

17 A. Aye, one of the case departments. As I say, it was  
18 separated into two bits.

19 Q. And you had to go up some stairs to get to the interview  
20 rooms, as they were called?

21 A. Uh-huh, uh-huh, uh-huh.

22 Q. And you tell us that --

23 A. That was just the name of them. There was no chairs,  
24 there was nothing. It was just blank rooms.

25 Q. No, I get that. But that's the place you were taken;

1 the ones that you call interview rooms in your  
2 statement?

3 A. Mm-hm.

4 Q. And you say that PBO Mr PBO would often put  
5 you in one of these rooms and you say --

6 A. They wouldnae just leave straight away.

7 Q. No. So what would they do?

8 A. No, it would continue for a wee bit, then they would go.

9 Q. What would continue?

10 A. Well, they would be hitting you. Well, I cannae say the  
11 two of them would, but I know that PBO would be  
12 hitting.

13 Q. What would he be doing, though?

14 A. He'd be punching you.

15 Q. Punching you?

16 A. Aye.

17 Q. Okay. Would they still be holding you with wrist locks  
18 and under arms?

19 A. Aye, they'd be holding you down.

20 Q. As well?

21 A. Aye, holding you down, aye, they would.

22 Q. You say holding you down; obviously you were carted, you  
23 say most of the time, rather than marched?

24 A. Mm-hm.

25 Q. And when you got to the interview rooms and things

1 continued, including punching; was there ever a point  
2 where you were on the ground?

3 A. You see, it happened that often there was --

4 Q. Were there times you were on the ground?

5 A. Aye, aye, aye. I was flung onto the ground.

6 Q. Flung. So would they release you?

7 A. Aye, they would fling you onto the ground and then they  
8 would set about you.

9 Q. When you were on the ground, when they flung you down --  
10 well, you have described they would set about you --

11 A. Mm-hm.

12 Q. -- where -- would they be holding you at any point or  
13 keeping you down?

14 A. It would be like one was holding you and the other one  
15 was doing the damage.

16 Q. And how were they holding you down? To keep --

17 A. I think PBO was the sadistic one. I don't know  
18 what was up with the guy.

19 Q. Don't worry who did what. But you were being held down,  
20 one of them was --

21 A. Held down and being assaulted.

22 Q. Assaulted?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. But, when you are being held down -- I am just trying to  
25 get an idea of how you were being held -- was someone

1       holding you in a particular way, using their body or  
2       their arms, or their legs or whatever?  
3   A.  It would probably be something like arm up the back,  
4       something daft like that, do you know what I mean?  Just  
5       ...  
6   Q.  Were you looking at the carpet or were you looking at  
7       the ceiling, or both?  
8   A.  Carpet and wall.  
9   Q.  Carpet and wall?  
10  A.  Carpet and skirting, kinda thereabouts.  
11  Q.  Yes, so your face would be down?  
12  A.  Uh-huh.  
13  Q.  At the time.  On these occasions; did you ever sustain  
14       any injuries that you can remember?  
15  A.  Nothing visible that I can remember.  
16  Q.  What about your face?  If you are face down; did you  
17       ever have any marks?  
18  A.  Not that I can remember.  
19  Q.  No.  Would you still be struggling at that point, some  
20       of the time?  
21  A.  Not in the way I was then, probably.  
22  Q.  Okay.  When you say you saw other boys getting this  
23       treatment of carting off and things; do you mean you saw  
24       them in the corridor or did you see them in the  
25       interview room as well?

1 A. In the -- what do you call it? The --  
2 Q. The classroom?  
3 A. The big kinda meeting area. You could see it happen to  
4 other people.  
5 Q. You saw that happen?  
6 A. Uh-huh.  
7 Q. But you wouldn't have seen what happened if they were  
8 taken to the interview room, because you wouldn't be  
9 there, would you?  
10 A. No, no.  
11 Q. But you would see people with wrist locks --  
12 A. I've mentioned -- I don't know if you've been in touch  
13 or whatever, he's come forward or whatever, but he  
14 would --  
15 Q. Yes, all I am getting at, 'Kenny', is it happened to  
16 you, but you also say you knew it happened to others?  
17 A. Oh, aye.  
18 Q. You saw a certain amount of things happening to others,  
19 including people in the sort of locks you have  
20 described?  
21 A. Mm-hm.  
22 Q. Did you see punching of other people?  
23 A. I can't remember.  
24 Q. It's okay. It is a long time.  
25 A. I honestly can't remember.

1 Q. It's fine. But you did see them being held in the way  
2 you described?  
3 A. I call it carting.  
4 Q. Carting.  
5 A. I only found out that word later on in life.  
6 Q. I know why you found it out. I think it's a term that's  
7 used in certain establishments?  
8 A. Yes.  
9 Q. But, at the time, yes, they were being, to some extent,  
10 'carted', to use your word, in the same way as you  
11 described to me earlier?  
12 A. Mm-hm.  
13 Q. Is that right?  
14 A. Mm-hm.  
15 Q. And they appeared to have, perhaps, arms up their back  
16 and wrists in locks --  
17 A. Aye, things like that.  
18 Q. -- and so forth? Okay.  
19 You tell us that they would take you there. You've  
20 said it would continue for a time, but they would leave?  
21 A. Aye, they would leave and the door wouldnae be locked.  
22 Q. No. But would you have ever thought of going out?  
23 A. To tell you the truth, I'd be sat in there crying.  
24 Q. Okay.  
25 A. And that's the other bit that gets me. Other than



1        talking about that lassie, the other bit that gets me is  
2        there was three receptionists and there was one good  
3        looking woman, long blonde hair, and she used to come in  
4        and sit -- she used to come in and sit and gi' us  
5        a cuddle.

6    Q.    You tell us about that individual. Why do you think she  
7        did that?

8    A.    'Cause she knew it was wrong. But I don't think -- I  
9        mean, I don't blame her for not saying anything.  
10       I mean, her job was probably at risk. But I don't blame  
11       her for no saying anything.

12       I actually -- I think what she done was good.

13   Q.    Okay. But you say also, when you were being taken to  
14       this interview room from the education area, you would  
15       be carted past Chris Warbrick's office?

16   A.    Chris Warbrick. And, now that I remember, Hilda McNair,  
17       and Derek Bibby's office. Derek Bibby was in the office  
18       on the right, I think, aye. So by their offices.  
19       That's not to say they were in there. But they might  
20       have been used to hearing that sort of thing and  
21       think -- maybe they thought it was justified or  
22       whatever. I don't know.

23   Q.    Would their office doors be opened?

24   A.    Unlocked.

25   Q.    But could they see out them --

1 A. No.

2 Q. -- unless they were open?

3 A. No.

4 Q. They could only hear something, if something was

5 happening?

6 A. I remember the doors always to be closed.

7 Q. Yes. So, if they were in the office at any point when

8 this was happening, it would only be something they

9 would hear?

10 A. Aye.

11 Q. What sort of thing -- would you be screaming or

12 shouting?

13 A. Probably. There maybe some abuse as well coming,

14 through my -- aye, there would be. I'd be screaming,

15 shouting.

16 Q. I am just trying to get what they might hear if they

17 were in the office behind the door, what they might

18 hear?

19 A. I would have been swearing a lot and screaming and

20 calling them names, probably, which probably didnae help

21 my cause.

22 Q. Okay. But I suppose if they didn't come out the door,

23 if they were there, to see what was happening, they

24 wouldn't know whether --

25 A. I think if they had come out and seen it, I think they

1       would have said something, put a stop to it.

2   Q.   You think so?

3   A.   I'd like to think so.

4   Q.   I suppose in a place like Newfield, it wouldn't be

5       unusual to have young people shouting and screaming for

6       one reason and another?

7   A.   Mm-hm.

8   Q.   So it wouldn't necessarily be a sign to them, if they

9       heard screaming, that it was someone getting beaten up

10      by staff, is it -- is that a fair comment?

11   A.   That's what I am saying. That's probably why they

12      werenae coming and going: what's going on here?

13   Q.   Okay.

14   A.   But PBO never had a nice thing to say about me

15      either.

16   Q.   No.

17   A.   He went to the meetings in Paisley that we were talking

18      about.

19   Q.   You mean like the panel meetings?

20   A.   No, no.

21   Q.   Review meetings?

22   A.   There was --

23   Q.   Reviews?

24   A.   No, because it get back to the head of the social work

25      in Paisley that I had been expelled fae Newfield School,

1 and PBO was told: this cannae happen. You will  
2 take him back. And he said, 'I'm not having him'. So  
3 there had to be big meetings in Cotton Street, in  
4 Paisley, at the social work to say, 'You're taking him  
5 back', and he was adamant: he's not getting back into  
6 this education department. It's not happening.

7 Q. But you weren't at these meetings, were you?

8 A. No.

9 Q. So you don't know what was being said on either side.  
10 Whether the --

11 A. I was told the gist of it. I don't know who by, maybe  
12 a social worker or something. But I know the meetings  
13 were happening. I don't know if my mother was there,  
14 whatever. I don't know, but I knew the meetings were  
15 happening.

16 Q. And just remind me: did your mum, when she raised this  
17 issue and there were these meetings, had she told the  
18 people in Paisley what was happening and why you were  
19 having a problem at school and so forth, like the  
20 carting off and that? Do you think your mum mentioned  
21 it?

22 A. You see, I don't know.

23 Q. Yes. She might --

24 A. My mum uses that word 'tobering'. She probably  
25 thought --

1 Q. You deserved it?

2 A. -- 'You could do with a good tobering'.

3 Q. Okay. Can I -- and I think, just to leave Newfield, and

4 I want to move briefly to Balrossie, if I may, 'Kenny'?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Before I do, I think you say at paragraph 71 of your

7 statement that Mr PBO not being at Newfield, your

8 time there would have been okay; all right?

9 A. In Balrossie?

10 Q. Sorry, in Newfield. Before I move on to Balrossie --

11 A. Other than that SNR, PBO, I think things

12 would have been okay.

13 Q. Because he was the instigator of these type of

14 situations you've been telling us about?

15 A. Aye. Aye. Yes, sorry.

16 Q. Can I move on to Balrossie now?

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. As you've told us earlier, your records that you have

19 now seen show that you were admitted there on the

20 1985, when you were aged 13, and that you left

21 in 1986, when you were aged 14.

22 And I just want to ask you a few things about

23 Balrossie. You tell us, first of all, that SNR

24 SNR or SNR was a person called

25 LWH?

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. A different [REDACTED], by the way?

3 A. Different [REDACTED].

4 Q. Just to be clear about that?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And you tell us, at paragraph 73 -- and this is a bit

7 like the Newfield situation -- that you got on all right

8 with a lot of the staff in Balrossie?

9 A. Well, my key worker in Newfield, Tom, Tom McDougall. My

10 key worker in Balrossie was Liz McDougall, Tom's wife.

11 It just so happened.

12 Q. That was just chance?

13 A. Aye, coincidence.

14 Q. And you got on well with Liz or all right?

15 A. Liz ended up pregnant and my mother ended up knitting

16 her stuff for the baby.

17 Q. Okay. I am going to ask you about something that

18 happened with SNR [REDACTED]. But I think that,

19 generally speaking, you got on all right with him as

20 well?

21 A. Afterwards things were fine. I think that was just him

22 letting me know who was SNR [REDACTED].

23 Q. Right, okay. Now, you tell us about Balrossie, and I am

24 not going to go through it today. We can read that.

25 But you tell us a little bit about the staff.

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. And, again, you tell us that some of the staff you  
3 particularly liked. You liked the science teacher,  
4 Mr Wingate?

5 A. Dougie.

6 Q. Why did you like him?

7 A. I read on the internet that somebody else has gave  
8 a statement and I read a statement about Balrossie on  
9 the thingmy, and they've called him Willie Wingate. His  
10 name's Dougie Wingate, Douglas Wingate.

11 Q. Why was he brilliant in your estimation?

12 A. We called him The Mad Scientist. He used to get like --  
13 I don't know, he would mix this into that, right and he  
14 would get a black bin bag and you didnae meant to do it  
15 with a black bin bag, I think he was like making  
16 hydrogen or something, right? So he would mix this with  
17 that, and he'd put the bag o'er it, right, and then he'd  
18 be like that, right, 'Get under the desks 'cause I think  
19 I've made a bit too much', things like that, right,  
20 'Who's going to set it in light?', And then you would  
21 sit and boom. And he done things like that, and he made  
22 this stuff as well, and ... er, he shouldnae have done  
23 it, but he knew it was a laugh, and it's this stuff that  
24 as long as it's kept dry, very dry, it's all right, but  
25 as soon as you touch it, it kind of flares and turns to

1       like nicotine stains on your fingers and he's like that,  
2       'When you get back to the unit, put it in the staff  
3       toilet doorknob', things like that, he says, 'As soon as  
4       they touch it, boom'. He was mad.

5       I mean, as I said before, I was mad on Ford Escorts  
6       and he brought in a science video and it was about heat  
7       displacement, and it was a Mark I Escort Mexico wi'  
8       a camera in behind the brakes, showing you the brakes  
9       heating up and cooling down and he's like that, he says  
10      'I thought I'd bring this in for you to see'. He was  
11      good, he was good.

12     Q. Okay. You tell us about another teacher who was  
13      a woodwork teacher and his nickname --

14     A. Charlie Bucket, aye.

15     Q. Charlie Bucket was his nickname. You think his real  
16      name might have been KHQ, is it? But you're not  
17      sure about that?

18     A. See, was KHQ the one at Newfield then, was that --

19     Q. Yes.

20     A. I don't know.

21     Q. You are not sure? There was a Charlie --

22     A. I mean, I cannae see there'd have been two KHQ  
23      wood teachers and then two --

24     Q. You think he was a good little guy, you said?

25     A. Aye. He wanted me to, him and -- they wanted me to sit



1 my O-Levels for, like, whatever it was, woodwork and  
2 whatever, and, er, Dougie Wingate wanted me to do the --  
3 my science, but I cannae remember -- who was the other  
4 teacher? Pat Cowie, he was the first science teacher,  
5 but I was all right at science, and a couple of the  
6 other boys were all right at science, 'cause Balrossie  
7 was boys only, so that's how they got Dougie Wingate in  
8 to teach, like, I think there was only like four of us  
9 in his classroom or something.

10 Q. Why didn't you sit the exams then, do you know, can you  
11 remember?

12 A. I can't remember.

13 Q. Okay.

14 A. I was only about 14 at the time, so they wanted me to do  
15 it early but ...

16 Q. To start early, to sit exams in due course?

17 A. Aye.

18 Q. And you tell us about a PE teacher whose nickname was  
19 GJF ?

20 A. GJF .

21 Q. Because of his curly hair, tight curly hair?

22 A. Aye.

23 Q. And you tell us that you recall him clipping you round  
24 the back of the head?

25 A. Aye, aye.

1 Q. Is that because he discovered that you were --  
2 A. I could run.  
3 Q. You were a good runner when you had given the impression  
4 that you were lazy and didn't like running?  
5 A. In his classroom I was always, 'Ah, PE, I hate PE,  
6 I hate physical exercise', and stuff like that. And,  
7 er, he would let me sit at the side and be lazy, and  
8 then sports day was coming up and he's like that,  
9 'Right, we're going out to do the selections', to see  
10 what group. There was four groups to see what group you  
11 were gonna get put into. And, er, he's like that,  
12 'Right, and you're doing it, you're no sitting in the  
13 side lines, you're coming out, so get ready'. So I gets  
14 ready and it was the 100 metres, and I had finished it  
15 and the rest of them were only halfway, and he's like  
16 that, 'Come here you, come here you', and he just, it  
17 was a wee slap, and he went, 'You didnae tell me you  
18 could run like that'. I says, 'Well, I didnae know they  
19 couldnae run like that, what can I say?'  
20 Q. Was that the only time he clipped you over the head?  
21 A. Aye.  
22 Q. So it was -- okay.  
23 A. It wasn't even a -- he shouldnae have done it,  
24 I suppose, but it wasnae in a -- there was nae malice.  
25 Q. Okay.

1 A. It was a, 'You didnae tell me', kinda. You know what  
2 I mean.

3 Q. Yes, I think we have got the idea.

4 I think you say generally, though, by this stage in  
5 your young life, you weren't as cheeky and as disruptive  
6 as you had been in previous places?

7 A. No.

8 Q. And you enjoyed some of your classes and indeed you  
9 enjoyed the running, when you did it?

10 A. Aye, aye.

11 Q. Okay. Now --

12 A. He put me into a running club.

13 Q. Now, one thing you do say is that at this particular  
14 school, Balrossie, there seems to have been a rule that  
15 you weren't allowed to smoke?

16 A. No, you weren't.

17 Q. That was the rule?

18 A. No, you were not allowed to smoke.

19 Q. But if you look at paragraph 92, 'Kenny', of your  
20 statement you do tell us --

21 A. I got --

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. Right, one of my first weeks in Balrossie, the first  
24 weekend you don't get leave, right. I think then you  
25 get leave. My first leave, I went back to Balrossie to

1       see -- I went back to Newfield to see this lassie.  
2       I was told to keep away, but I went back, I got her, we  
3       ran away together, right. So the next day, the social  
4       work van pulled up outside my house, it was a Saturday,  
5       and I knew what it was about. And it was the janitor of  
6       Balrossie, 'SNR [REDACTED] wants to see you, come in'.  
7       So I goes in, and he was reading me the riot act but he  
8       started poking me in the chest, and -- am I allowed to  
9       swear?  
10      MR PEOPLES: Yes, say what you like.  
11      LADY SMITH: Mm-hm.  
12      A. I says to him, 'Who are you poking, you prick?'  
13      Q. Yes.  
14      A. Right? And -- so.  
15      Q. So what happened when you said that?  
16      A. He just grabbed me in a headlock and he gave us a couple  
17         of punches. But he burst my mouth. So I remember I had  
18         on a light blue jumper and I wiped it, and he's like  
19         that, 'Right, get away, get washed', but I deliberately  
20         tried to keep a bit of the blood on the sleeves so that  
21         I could show my mum, she cannae remember it, she cannae  
22         remember it. But after that, I got on all right wi'  
23         him. I mean, I get caught with tobacco. There was what  
24         they called the outside toilets, we called them the  
25         'outsies', and he came in, and I'm standing there wi'

1 a half ounce of tobacco and cigarette papers and I'm  
2 making a roll up, so he took them off me. 'You, into my  
3 office'. Into his office, and he handed me them back  
4 and he says, 'Don't do it in front of the young ones',  
5 he says, 'And don't do it in the outsies, 'cause that's  
6 where I'm gonna go and check'. He says 'Go somewhere  
7 I'm not gonna go'. So he was kind of all right that  
8 way.

9 Q. It was just this one episode in his room when he --

10 A. That was all I can remember of LWH .

11 Q. And you actually say, again, I think, that there was  
12 an occasion when perhaps he thought you were getting  
13 a bit too familiar with a girl at a disco?

14 A. Aye. That was kinda, I don't know if it was, like --  
15 folk had says, 'You need to watch him, you cannae -- he  
16 doesnae like you going near lassies at his discos and  
17 all that', but it wasnae -- it wasnae anything too  
18 serious.

19 Q. He just gave you a gentle reminder not to get too close?

20 A. Aye, you're not taking her up the outsies.

21 Q. As you say, apart from that one incident, and you  
22 explained how it came about, that you got on okay with  
23 him, basically? Not saying that you were --

24 A. We werenae best buddies, but afterwards, things were  
25 fine.

1 Q. Okay. There is one other thing I want to ask you about  
2 Balrossie, and it wasn't concerning Mr LWH, SNR  
3 SNR.  
4 A. KGZ.  
5 Q. It is KGZ, you call him at 109, I think this is in  
6 your statement, about he was a member of the night staff  
7 who would be checking boys --  
8 A. Yes.  
9 Q. -- were in bed, tucked up in bed?  
10 A. Aye.  
11 Q. You tell us, I think, that you had decided to run away?  
12 A. Not just me.  
13 Q. You and others, is it?  
14 A. Me and others. But I was the idiot.  
15 Q. And you say that --  
16 A. I was the idiot that got up and get ready and got my  
17 clothes on and stuff, and naebuddy else did.  
18 Q. But you then went to hide in another dorm under a bed?  
19 A. Mm-hm.  
20 Q. KGZ comes to your dorm, finds you're not in bed --  
21 A. Not in bed.  
22 Q. -- goes to the next dorm, and you are coming out from  
23 under the bed?  
24 A. Aye.  
25 Q. And can you tell us what he did to you at that point?

1 A. He decked me.

2 Q. He decked you?

3 A. Punched me.

4 Q. Yes. And it put you to the ground, did it?

5 A. I think so.

6 Q. I think you say it was an adult hit on the face and your  
7 legs went?

8 A. Aye.

9 Q. But then what happened after that? What did he do?

10 A. Er, he took me into the toilet. Well, there was -- you  
11 go in -- there was the shower on the -- two showers on  
12 the left, and there was urinals. Behind the urinals,  
13 there was a wee door wi' a toilet, toilet, and he smoked  
14 Benson & Hedges so he gave me a smoke, and he says,  
15 'Fuck about when anybody else is on, but not when I'm  
16 on'. And that was it.

17 Q. So basically he was just giving you -- saying, 'Don't do  
18 it again on my watch'?

19 A. Aye, same as for LWH [REDACTED] was doing.

20 Q. You saw that as the same sort of situation?

21 A. 'I'm SNR [REDACTED], you'll do as you're told'. He could  
22 maybe have done it in a different way, but ...

23 Q. Mm-hm. And I think one thing you say about Balrossie,  
24 before I finish with it, is that you said you thought  
25 your time there was all right?

1 A. Mm-hm.

2 Q. It was better than Newfield and the teachers were  
3 better?

4 A. Mm-hm.

5 Q. Because I think Mr PBO, the other one, was  
6 a different kettle of fish?

7 A. Mm-hm.

8 Q. And you say that you think they knew better how to  
9 interact with the boys?

10 A. I would say so, I would say most of them did.

11 Q. Now --

12 A. I think it was like maybe every Tuesday and Thursday,  
13 and maybe it was just a Thursday, that there was  
14 a couple of bits you done education in Balrossie, there  
15 was like a specialist built bit with classrooms in it  
16 and there was like a room with chairs in, well, it was  
17 like kinda -- a big giant room, classrooms all round it,  
18 but there was all chairs and every -- I think it was  
19 every Thursday, LWH had to get the guitar  
20 out and have a sing alongs and stuff. I still remember  
21 some of the songs.

22 Q. Did you enjoy that?

23 A. Aye, I liked The Hangman, I mean, I still sing that to  
24 this day, I just think it's funny: 'My grandfather's  
25 clock --



1 LADY SMITH: 'Was too tall for the shelf'.  
2 A. Aye.  
3 LADY SMITH: 'So it stood 90 years on the floor'.  
4 A. Aye, 'weighed not a penny weight more'.  
5 LADY SMITH: 'It was taller by far than the old man  
6 himself'.  
7 A. 'It was bought in the morn on the day he was born and it  
8 weighed not a penny weight more'.  
9 MR PEOPLES: Okay.  
10 A. 'It stopped short, never to go again, when the old man  
11 died'.  
12 It stuck in my brain fae then.  
13 LADY SMITH: '90 years without slumbering'.  
14 A. 'Ticktock, ticktock', aye.  
15 MR PEOPLES: Well, if I can just round off before I let you  
16 go today.  
17 A. That wasnae my fault, that was --  
18 LADY SMITH: That was my fault.  
19 MR PEOPLES: No comment.  
20 LADY SMITH: I didn't sing, Mr Peoples, I hope you will  
21 note.  
22 MR PEOPLES: Now, we can take you forward, and I am not  
23 going to spend too much more, we have the statement, but  
24 you move to the Kibble School, and you were a day pupil,  
25 I think, for a time?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And you think you were possibly maybe about 15 and  
3 a half when you left?

4 A. Mm-hm.

5 Q. So you would have been there around about 1987, or  
6 thereabouts, I think?

7 A. Uh-huh.

8 Q. And you just tell us, I think, at 118 of your  
9 statement that you --

10 A. I barely went.

11 Q. Hmm?

12 A. I barely went there.

13 Q. Yes, well, you do say that, but you say there wasn't any  
14 abuse, I was just going to bring that out, as far as you  
15 were concerned?

16 A. No, no.

17 Q. You do say yes, you started to skip classes.

18 You tell us about your life after care, 'Kenny',  
19 I am not going to go through the detail, we can read it,  
20 we have read it, clearly you did a few things. You've  
21 had some involvement in the prison system, and I am not  
22 wanting to go into that.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You have had ups and downs like, probably, a lot.

25 A. Yeah.

1 Q. You have done casual work over the years at times. But  
2 you've had periods, low periods, you've had some  
3 depression over the years?

4 A. I'm diagnosed PTSD.

5 Q. Yes, you have had issues like that.

6 What you say, though, is that at 129, you think back  
7 to your time in care and do you so with mixed emotions.  
8 Are you saying that in some ways there were good times  
9 and other times were pretty bad times; is that what you  
10 are meaning? Why do you say that, mixed emotions?

11 A. In Balrossie?

12 Q. Yeah.

13 A. They had the red canoes, they had the transit van with  
14 the tow bar, the trailer for the canoes, they used to  
15 take us to Lochwinnoch, onto Castle Semple Loch, and we  
16 would -- I loved it.

17 Q. Yes.

18 A. Right? To Arran, went up Goat Fell, abseiled off of --  
19 things like that. That was while in Balrossie. They  
20 rented out, like, log cabins for a month and there was  
21 four units, each unit got a week at the log cabin, and  
22 they actually had the loch, as well, and I can't  
23 remember the name of it, was it Kinlochard, something  
24 like that, but canoeing, aye, things like that.

25 Q. And you loved all of that?

1 A. Aye, we went -- as I say, when we went to Arran, it was  
2 in a tent, camping, and I still got a scar on my leg  
3 where I jumped into the river and didnae see a big  
4 boulder.

5 LADY SMITH: And did I hear you say you remembered going up  
6 Goat Fell?

7 A. Goat Fell, aye.

8 LADY SMITH: A good climb.

9 A. Eh?

10 LADY SMITH: A good climb.

11 A. Aye. I really enjoyed the abseiling bit.

12 Aye. The guy says -- I'd watched too much telly and  
13 I was too stupid and the guy says, 'Right, just walk  
14 down, just walk down', but as I say, I've watched the  
15 telly so I've jumped back, and the guy kept letting me  
16 do it.

17 MR PEOPLES: If I go on, now, 'Kenny', just a couple more  
18 things. You never reported any of the abuse, but I am  
19 just going to draw attention to something you do say to  
20 us at 130. You say:

21 'I didn't see what I went through as being abuse.  
22 It was only when I read about the Inquiry online that  
23 I thought differently.'

24 So as an adult and looking back and reflecting --

25 A. Aye.

1 Q. -- you can see things that were abuse, rather than  
2 simply just the norm, or part of anyone's normal  
3 childhood, is that the position?

4 A. Well, when I look at an 18-year-old, they're a wean. So  
5 then I'm thinking to myself, well, what the hell is  
6 a 12/13-year-old, wi' adults assaulting them?

7 Q. Yes. Well, I think the way you put it, under the  
8 heading 'Lessons', 'Kenny', is at 133 and I will just  
9 quote what you say:

10 'It was a different time back then and  
11 semi-acceptable to "tober" you up [I think your mum said  
12 that]. Why did I go to Balrossie and all the teachers  
13 were brilliant? What was the difference there? There  
14 were a couple of incidents at Balrossie, but after that  
15 things were all right.'

16 And I think you have explained why your time at  
17 Balrossie, generally speaking, was a good experience for  
18 you, and that that's a memory you have, a good memory.

19 So that's all I've got for you today. I'm very  
20 grateful that you came today to give us your account in  
21 person, and give it life and colour, which is sometimes  
22 less easy from simply a statement without meeting the  
23 person who's provided it, so thank you very much, and  
24 I wish you well.

25 A. Thank you.

1 LADY SMITH: 'Kenny', let me add my thanks, I am really  
2 grateful to you for being here this afternoon and being  
3 so fair and frank regarding what you recall of your  
4 past.  
5 A. Uh-huh.  
6 LADY SMITH: It has been of such assistance to hear that  
7 myself. I know we have had the odd laugh, but what you  
8 tell me about what was bad, the times you were in care,  
9 is not lost on me, and it is really important to the  
10 work we are doing here. Thank you for that.  
11 A. No, I would just, the reason I came is just if I can  
12 help some child --  
13 LADY SMITH: Yes.  
14 A. -- I had to do it. I had to.  
15 LADY SMITH: Thank you.  
16 A. No problem.  
17 LADY SMITH: Off you go.  
18 (The witness withdrew)  
19 LADY SMITH: I promised more names, and I have more names of  
20 people whose identities are protected by my  
21 General Restriction Order. And they are not to be  
22 identified as referred to in our evidence outside of  
23 this room; GNU [REDACTED], PBO [REDACTED], Mr KHQ [REDACTED],  
24 KGY [REDACTED], also known as KGY [REDACTED], it was  
25 either KKL or KKL [REDACTED], LWH [REDACTED] and somebody

1       referred to as KGZ. I think that's everybody.

2 Thank you very much.

3 I will rise now until tomorrow morning, and as we

4 trailed earlier in the week, Mr Trainer will be back.

5 MR PEOPLES: He will be returning tomorrow morning.

6 LADY SMITH: Yes.

7 MR PEOPLES: And then we also have one other live witness,

8 but via video link tomorrow.

9 LADY SMITH: Yes, yes.

10 MR PEOPLES: Probably, well, there could be read ins if

11 we --

12 LADY SMITH: Yes, but we will start with Mr Trainer at

13            10 o'clock.

14 MR PEOPLES: We will do, yes.

15 LADY SMITH: Very well, thank you.

16 (4.00 pm)

17 (The Inquiry adjourned until 10.00 am on Thursday, 7

18 November 2024)

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