

1 Thursday, 12 December 2024

2 (10.00 am)

3 (Proceedings delayed)

4 (10.18 am)

5 LADY SMITH: Good morning.

6 We continue this morning with evidence regarding  
7 St Euphrasia's that arises in relation to Chapter 11 of  
8 Phase 8, and we have a witness who is ready to give  
9 evidence, as the trains eventually sorted themselves out  
10 this morning.

11 Ms MacLeod.

12 MS MACLEOD: Good morning, my Lady.

13 The first witness is here. She will use the  
14 pseudonym 'Lisa' during her evidence.

15 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

16 'Lisa' (affirmed)

17 LADY SMITH: Good morning, 'Lisa'.

18 'Lisa', do sit down and make yourself comfortable.

19 'Lisa', thank you for coming along this morning and

20 I am sorry to hear you have had a difficult journey --

21 A. I have.

22 LADY SMITH: -- but I am glad that you have managed to get  
23 here now.

24 It is really helpful to have you here in person to  
25 add to the evidence that I already have from you in your

1       written statement. It has been of great assistance to  
2       me to be able to read that and study it in advance.  
3       What we would like to do today is explore some  
4       particular aspects of it that we want to go into in  
5       a little more detail, if that's all right with you?  
6   A. Yes, that's fine.  
7   LADY SMITH: 'Lisa', I do understand that doing what you are  
8       doing this morning is a big step. It is difficult. And  
9       you have agreed to come to a public inquiry to talk  
10      about yourself, and in particular about your life when  
11      you were a child. I know from having read your written  
12      evidence that there are some quite distressing parts and  
13      upsetting parts of that.  
14   A. Yes.  
15   LADY SMITH: However organised you may think you have got  
16      yourself to do this, I also appreciate it could take you  
17      by surprise that you do get upset. Don't worry. That's  
18      not a problem. There are tissues if you need them. You  
19      can have a break if you want to have a break. You can  
20      have a pause where you are. You can ask us to explain  
21      things better than we are explaining them, because if  
22      they don't make sense it is our fault, not yours, okay?  
23   A. Thank you.  
24   LADY SMITH: Be assured that we are here to do what we can  
25      to help you give the best and clearest evidence that you

1           can, and if there is anything you can do to help us help  
2           you, you let us know.

3           If you are ready, I will hand to Ms MacLeod, she  
4           will take it from there, okay?

5   A.   Thank you.

6   LADY SMITH:   Thank you.

7   MS MACLEOD:   My Lady.

8                         Questions from Ms MacLeod.

9   MS MACLEOD:   Good morning, 'Lisa'.

10  A.   Hi.

11  Q.   I don't need your date of birth, because you are  
12       anonymous, but to give a timeframe, can you confirm that  
13       you were born in the year 1968?

14  A.   Yes, I was.

15  Q.   You have provided a statement for the Inquiry, and there  
16       is a copy of your statement in the folder in front of  
17       you.   I am just going to give the reference of the  
18       statement for the transcript: WIT.001.002.7420.

19       Could you turn to the very last page of the  
20       statement, 'Lisa', and confirm if you have signed it?

21  A.   Yes, I have.

22  Q.   In the very last paragraph do you say:

23       'I have no objection to my witness statement being  
24       published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry.

25       I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are

1           true.'

2    A.   Definitely true.

3    Q.   If we can go back to the beginning of the statement and

4           look at some aspects of what you tell us there, and

5           I think you describe the background to your family life

6           and going into care, and I will just ask you just

7           a little bit about that. I think you tell us that you

8           lived in Glasgow when you were young?

9    A.   Yes, I did.

10   Q.   You tell us that you were with your mother and your

11          older brothers?

12   A.   Yes, I was.

13   Q.   I think you explain that your parents were not together?

14   A.   Yes, that's correct.

15   Q.   I think what you say is that your mum didn't work at

16          that time, but that she did do some part-time cleaning

17          work to get extra money for the family?

18   A.   That's correct.

19   Q.   You say that she wasn't getting enough money to live on?

20   A.   She wasn't.

21   Q.   I think you tell the Inquiry that you went to nursery

22          and then to primary school when you were around 5?

23   A.   Yes, that's correct.

24   Q.   Indeed, I think you tell us that being in school wasn't

25          a happy time for you?



1 A. No, it wasn't.

2 Q. Can you just tell me a little bit about that?

3 A. I was at Cleddens Primary School. I was being bullied

4 and beaten up. I then avoided Cleddens Primary, not

5 because I didn't like school, it's because of what was

6 happening to me.

7 Q. I think you tell us about that in your statement,

8 'Lisa', that you started not going to school?

9 A. Yeah, I did not go to school. But I did have a tutor

10 come in from the school.

11 Q. I see.

12 You tell the Inquiry that when you were around

13 7 years old, that you were involved in an accident which

14 led to you being in hospital?

15 A. Yes, er, my broken arm.

16 Q. I think you tell us that you recall your mum coming to

17 hospital to visit you?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. That you think it was perhaps after that that things

20 started to go downhill --

21 A. Totally.

22 Q. -- for you?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You tell us in your statement about certain things that

25 happened in your family life, 'Lisa', involving your

1 father and your brother, and we needn't go into that  
2 today. But I think what you say is that living at home  
3 was hell?  
4 A. Yes, it was.  
5 Q. You say that bad things were happening to you, and you  
6 used to look out of the front window and want to jump?  
7 A. Top floor flat. Yes, I did.  
8 Q. Did your mum on an occasion go to a phone box and call  
9 the police?  
10 A. Yes, she did.  
11 Q. Did the police come and speak to you?  
12 A. Yes, they did.  
13 Q. Did social services then come to the house and  
14 ultimately take you away from the house?  
15 A. The social work were already involved with my mum at the  
16 time. Erm, and yes, they did.  
17 Q. I think you tell the Inquiry that the social worker who  
18 removed you from the house at that time was called  
19 Sister Paula?  
20 A. Yes, from Drumchapel Social Work Department, yes.  
21 Q. Did Sister Paula take you straight to a foster family?  
22 A. Yes, she did.  
23 Q. In Clydebank?  
24 A. Yes.  
25 Q. Sister Paula, was she a nun, with a name like

1           Sister Paula?

2    A.   Yes.

3    Q.   Did she wear a nun's uniform?

4    A.   Yes, she did.

5    Q.   How old were you, 'Lisa', when this happened?

6    A.   Erm, my first abuse started when I was 5, and that was

7           through my older brother, and then carried on with the

8           father when I was 7, and then I would rather not say any

9           more.

10   Q.   That's fine, 'Lisa'. How old were you when you were

11          taken away by the social worker?

12   A.   I'd say about ... the first time was when the police

13          came up, 7.

14   Q.   7?

15   A.   7.

16   Q.   Do you remember how long you stayed in that foster

17          placement in Clydebank?

18   A.   I can't remember.

19   Q.   I think you tell the Inquiry, 'Lisa', that that wasn't

20          a good experience for you?

21   A.   No, it wasn't.

22   Q.   I think you tell the Inquiry that you didn't feel safe

23          in that placement?

24   A.   No, I didn't.

25   Q.   Indeed, I think you say that you had to share a bed with

1 two boys?


2 A. Yeah, I did.

3 Q. Ultimately were you taken away from that placement and  
4 taken again by Sister Paula, the social worker, to  
5 a children's home?

6 A. Maxwell House.

7 Q. You tell the Inquiry about some of your memories of  
8 Maxwell House in paragraph 34, and I think were you  
9 still around 7, or perhaps 8 years old, when you were  
10 there?

11 Secondary Institutions - to be published later



22 Q. Were you moved again then, 'Lisa', from Maxwell House,  
23 to a different children's home in Helensburgh?

24 A. Oh, that would be Rhu Home.

25 Q. Were you there for a few weeks?

1 A. I was there with my brother, my middle brother, and we  
2 were there for a few weeks. Secondary Institutions - to be published later  
3 Secondary Institutions - to be published later  
4  
5  
6  
7 Q. Around that time, did you get a new social worker?  
8 A. I think her name was Anne Roberts?  
9 Q. Now, having been in Helensburgh, did you go back to your  
10 mum's house?  
11 A. Yes, I did.  
12 Q. I think what you say is you don't know why you were  
13 taken out of that home in Helensburgh?  
14 A. No, I don't.  
15 Q. You went back to live with your mum for a period, and  
16 did you end up ultimately then being taken on a bus to  
17 another children's home?  
18 A. That would be Abernethy residential placement.  
19 Q. I think you tell the Inquiry that you were maybe 9 or 10  
20 when you went there?  
21 A. Yeah, I was. Around that time, yes. Sorry, maybe 10 to  
22 11, because I do remember being picked up when I was  
23 brought back from Abernethy to go and see  
24 St Euphrasia's.  
25 Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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3

4

5 Q. Having spent, I think you say, around eight weeks in  
6 Abernethy, did you then go back again to live with your  
7 mother for a few weeks?

8 A. Yes, yes, I did.

9 Q. Did you then have involvement with another social  
10 worker; I think you mention a social worker by the name  
11 of Margaret Kiernan?

12 A. Yes, yes, I did.

13 Q. Was that maybe when you were around 12 or so?

14 A. Yes, or maybe 11.

15 Q. Did Margaret Kiernan remain your social worker until you  
16 were about 16 or so?

17 A. Yes, she did.

18 Q. How did you get on with Margaret Kiernan?

19 A. Erm, I had my doubts with Margaret Kiernan, because  
20 while I was in St Euphrasia's, I only seen her at least  
21 three times in that placement.

22 Q. Was it Margaret Kiernan, then, who decided that you  
23 would be again removed from your mother's care and taken  
24 to St Euphrasia's?

25 A. I was actually removed from my mother's care because my

1 mother suffered with depression, right? After the  
2 incident that happened with the father, and the brother,  
3 I don't think my mum could cope mentally. So the  
4 headmaster from Cleddens turned around and said, 'She's  
5 better off in a home'.  
6 Q. That was the school you were going to?  
7 A. Yeah, and I was basically put in that situation.  
8 Q. So that was the background to you going to  
9 St Euphrasia's?  
10 A. Yes, that was.  
11 Q. You tell the Inquiry, 'Lisa', paragraph 126, that you  
12 were taken to St Euphrasia's when you were 12 years old?  
13 A. Yes, I was.  
14 Q. Did you remain there until you were aged 16?  
15 A. Yes, I did.  
16 Q. So did you spend between four and five years at  
17 St Euphrasia's?  
18 A. Yes, I did.  
19 Q. Was it explained to you, 'Lisa', why you were going to  
20 St Euphrasia's or what St Euphrasia's was?  
21 A. All I know it was a home, that was it, that's all  
22 I know, it was a home.  
23 Q. Do you remember arriving at St Euphrasia's?  
24 A. Yes, I do.  
25 Q. What do you remember about that?

1 A. Walking through steel gates, and it was called the Good  
2 Shepherd Convent then and then it got changed over to  
3 the Good Shepherd Centre. But the inside of the  
4 building was at the bottom of the actual -- down at the  
5 bottom was classed as St Euphrasia's Centre. Erm, what  
6 I do remember being in that place is walking through the  
7 main gates, walking inside the actual door, the wooden  
8 big frame door, going to the desk to be signed in or  
9 registered. Meeting Sister GWJ the nun, SNR  
10 SNR of the centre, erm, and then I was basically left  
11 there for a staff member to take me to St Margaret's.  
12 Q. In terms of the building itself, 'Lisa', are you able to  
13 help me with describing first of all the outside of the  
14 building that you were in?  
15 A. Right, the outside of the building, it's not the way it  
16 is now. It was quite old back then. Erm, it had glass  
17 frame windows. It had an opening where you could  
18 actually open the window at the bottom. Like I says, it  
19 was kind of like a very old building back then.  
20 Q. In your statement, 'Lisa', in fact you describe it as a  
21 'crumbling old building --  
22 A. Yes.  
23 Q. -- which was run by nuns'?  
24 A. The nuns were at the back. The nuns had their own set,  
25 and they actually lived at the back of the centre.



1 Q. Can you remember how many girls were accommodated at  
2 St Euphrasia's when you were there?

3 A. Erm, a household would be seven in a house, between  
4 seven and nine in a house.

5 Q. You mentioned St Margaret's; was that the house that you  
6 were put in?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Were there a number of houses?

9 A. Yeah, there was actually four. There was St Margaret's,  
10 St Claire's, Goretti and Shalman.

11 Q. Are we talking then perhaps maybe between 30 and 40  
12 girls in total at that time?

13 A. Probably, maybe more, I don't know.

14 Q. What about the age range of the girls?

15 A. Age range would be from 12 year-old up to 16, 17 at max.

16 Q. So you were at the younger end of that?

17 A. Yes, I was taken in there when I was basically a baby,  
18 I was classed as a baby.

19 Q. Indeed, I think you tell us, 'Lisa', that you were  
20 actually the youngest girl in there?

21 A. Yeah, I was.

22 Q. In your statement, I think, you tell us the names of the  
23 other houses as well as; St Margaret's, St Claire's  
24 House, St Goretti's House, and St Shalman House.

25 A. Shalom.

1 Q. Shalom House, my apologies. Is that the four houses?  
2 A. Yes, that was.  
3 Q. You've mentioned already the Sister SNR . Can you  
4 tell me a bit more about her and what she was like?  
5 A. Sister GWJ was fair, and she was strict. There was  
6 a kind of no-nonsense approach with Sister GWJ .  
7 And all the girls knew this. Every girl that was there  
8 knew this.  
9 Q. Was she quite new in her post, being SNR when you  
10 went?  
11 A. I don't really know. She was kinda middle aged.  
12 Q. Okay.  
13 Now, you started your time in St Euphrasia's in  
14 St Margaret's House. Did you then move, or were you  
15 then moved to a different house?  
16 A. I was moved to Shalom.  
17 Q. Then ultimately were you moved again?  
18 A. To Goretti House.  
19 Q. You mention in your statement a Mr EXN . Who was he  
20 and what was his role?  
21 A. Mr EXN was SNR of the centre. He was  
22 another member of the staff. And I personally don't  
23 like the guy.  
24 Q. Are you able to describe for me what he was like, what  
25 your memories are of what he was like in relation to the

1 girls?

2 A. I remember he was a lot older, he was in mid 30s to 40s

3 back then. He was a lot older. Erm, very arrogant.

4 Q. Do I take it then, as well as Sisters, as well as nuns,

5 there were lay staff at St Euphrasia's, there were staff

6 who were not nuns?

7 A. No, there was staff that wasn't nuns, there was staff,

8 it was normal staff.

9 Q. Was there a Ms Gallacher in charge of your house when

10 you started at St Margaret's?

11 A. Yes, there was, and Miss Campbell.

12 Q. You mention a Linda Love?

13 A. Linda Love was the secretary of the -- is it the phones,

14 and the office.

15 Q. Okay. You provide some detail about some of the other

16 Sisters who were there as well. I think was there

17 a Sister EXI ?

18 A. Yes, there was.

19 Q. What was her role?

20 A. Her role in Shalom was to watch other children, and then

21 there was Miss McNair with her. Erm, there was a lot

22 going on in St Euphrasia's.

23 Q. Sister EXI then; are you able to help me with what

24 she was like in her approach to the girls?

25 A. She would actually prioritise certain girls over others.

1 LADY SMITH: So she had favourites, did she?

2 A. Yeah, she did.

3 MS MACLEOD: How did you get that impression?

4 A. I got that impression when I actually was basically

5 moved out of St Margaret's. I don't know why, but what

6 I do know: there was certain days that we had to do

7 chores. Now, me as a child, being 12, like I said, they

8 had their favourites and we'd be subject to doing chores

9 within the household and I don't think for one minute

10 I would give a bumper to a child to do wooden floors.

11 That's what I experienced.

12 Q. So were you given a bumper?

13 A. A bumper for the floor, yes, I was.

14 Q. How old were you?

15 A. 12.

16 Q. Was it Sister EXI ?

17 A. No, it was actually Ms Gallacher and Miss Campbell.

18 Q. We will come on to look at chores in a little more

19 detail in a moment. You mention a lady called, you say

20 a little lady called Miss EJK ?

21 A. She was excellent. She lived there for years. She had

22 no family to go back home to. So the actual placement

23 actually noticed this and kept her on.

24 Q. Had she been in St Euphrasia's as a girl?

25 A. She was there, probably, as a younger girl, yeah.

1 Q. As a girl?

2 A. Yes. And she did the bell for the recreation.

3 Q. I think you mention in the statement that she was now in

4 her 70s when you were there?

5 A. Oh yes, totally.

6 Q. What you say is:

7 'The lassies all loved her to bits. She was nice.'

8 A. She was lovely.

9 Q. So what made her nice?

10 A. She would welcome the girls, she would make them, you

11 know, like, she'd actually say hello to them, she would

12 actually say, 'How's your day?'. She'd actually make

13 pleasurable comments towards the girls, she would never

14 be nasty.

15 Q. Within your house did you sleep in dorms?

16 A. Yes, we did.

17 Q. Do you remember roughly how many girls you shared with?

18 A. Hold on ... I'm thinking back to St Margaret's, it was

19 like about six in one dorm. It was all closed off.

20 Q. You provide some detail for the Inquiry about the

21 routine in the home, for example, that staff would come

22 into wake you in the morning about --

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. -- 7.00 am?

25 A. Mm-hm.

1 Q. That there would then be breakfast and assembly?  
2 A. Yes.  
3 Q. That school lasted until about 2.45 pm or so, I think  
4 you say?  
5 A. Yeah.  
6 Q. That then you would maybe go to the recreation room?  
7 A. Yes.  
8 Q. Overall, what you say is that girls could integrate with  
9 girls from different houses?  
10 A. Yes, they could, but then sometimes there was  
11 pandemonium in the recreation room, like, girls  
12 fighting, the staff would kinda look away and not even  
13 bother.  
14 Q. If there was fighting, then, in the recreation room, are  
15 you able to just describe for me what that was like?  
16 Were you involved in that or did you witness it?  
17 A. I witnessed it, I witnessed quite a few of the fights  
18 with some of the girls back then. Because I was the  
19 youngest, I was just sitting, I didn't say a word.  
20 Q. What sort of things can you remember seeing?  
21 A. They would just bicker about stupid things and then  
22 start pulling each other's hair and doing stupid things,  
23 basically, shouting and bullying each other.  
24 Q. Would staff, or Sisters, be present in the room?  
25 A. Some of the staff were there. But I don't recall any

1       staff actually interfering, you know, actually --  
2       actually doing anything.

3   LADY SMITH:  They didn't intervene to try and sort out the  
4       fights?

5   A.  No, they didn't.

6   MS MACLEOD:  Was there a school on site, 'Lisa'?

7   A.  Yes, there was.

8   Q.  Was it the sort of school where you were taught academic  
9       subjects like maths and history, that sort of thing?

10  A.  Erm, back then I wasn't very good at writing or reading,  
11       but they did have classrooms, such as the PE room and  
12       the recreation room.  One teacher, by the name of  
13       Miss Brysland, best teacher out, best that you could  
14       ever -- ever want.

15  Q.  What did she teach?

16  A.  She teached gymnastics, she teached, basically, other  
17       stuff, she actually teached the kids to basically, what  
18       is it?  Running, where they, you know if they ran  
19       a certain couple of miles they would get a certificate.  
20       And basically that was really good.

21  Q.  What made her a good teacher, can you help me with that?

22  A.  Just herself, just basically herself.  You know a good  
23       teacher when you see one, and she was one of them.

24  Q.  You mentioned reading and writing there in passing, were  
25       you given any sort of help, or support, with reading and

1 writing --

2 A. No --

3 Q. -- at St Euphrasia's?

4 A. -- I wasn't.

5 LADY SMITH: You only went to the St Euphrasia's school for

6 a short time; is that right?

7 A. Yes, that's correct.

8 LADY SMITH: Because you went to an outside school after

9 that?

10 A. Yes, they actually seen a wee bit of potential in me and

11 they thought, 'Well, we'll send her to Park Mains High',

12 because I was good at sports and I was good at

13 gymnastics and I was good at other things. Erm, but my

14 reading and my spelling, they must have thought

15 a different school would have helped me better, that's

16 why I was sent.

17 Q. Were there a number of girls from St Euphrasia's who

18 went to the outside school?

19 A. Just me and another girl that I care not to mention.

20 Q. Okay. How did you get on at the school?

21 A. Park Mains High was actually quite good. Mr Lyons, who

22 was the headteacher of Park Mains High, actually

23 welcomed me wi' open arms. He knew I was one of the

24 girls from the convent, or Good Shepherd Centre, but

25 I was welcomed with open arms.



1 Q. I think you tell the Inquiry, for example, that you got  
2 the opportunity there to take part in sports?  
3 A. Yes, I did.  
4 Q. And that they had things like fairs and galas?  
5 A. Yes, they did.  
6 Q. Things like that. In terms of the academic side of  
7 schooling, were you given support there?  
8 A. Yes, I did, I was given support there.  
9 Q. In your statement you speak about homework and that sort  
10 of thing. Were you encouraged to do your homework?  
11 A. Yes, I was.  
12 Q. At school?  
13 A. Yes.  
14 Q. What about the home, St Euphrasia's, did they offer you  
15 support with that sort of thing?  
16 A. No.  
17 Q. So if you had homework, or anything like that to do from  
18 your school in Erskine, would you do that in the home  
19 or --  
20 A. I would actually do it in the centre by myself, either  
21 in the dorm myself, or in one of the actual units.  
22 Q. Do you remember how long you went to that outside school  
23 for?  
24 A. From when I was 13, that would be -- wait a minute, no  
25 12, so it would be 13: 1981 to 1984.

1 Q. One thing you say is that you got treated differently at  
2 the school because you were from the home?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. Tell me a bit about that.

5 A. Erm, basically what it was is one of the -- I forgot to  
6 say, one of the staff members that used to work in the  
7 home, her name was Kathy Rousen, she was a cook in  
8 St Euphrasia's by the way, in the dining hall, and she  
9 knew I was going to Park Mains High, and she says,  
10 'I will get two of my boys to look after you'. And  
11 I got to meet the two boys, and they were absolutely  
12 fantastic. They did look after me at that school.

13 Q. Can I just ask you about the washing and bathing  
14 arrangements in the home. Was there a bath that you  
15 could use?

16 A. Yes, there's a bath up the stair. In fact there's a few  
17 baths up the stair. And then there's a few sinks up the  
18 stair. And some of the staff were occasionally taking  
19 certain kids up to wash the actual basins and the baths.

20 Q. In terms of bathing, could you have a bath whenever you  
21 wanted or was that something that was regulated?

22 A. Regulated. In fact, we had a sink in our dorm next to  
23 our bed, so we basically washed down in the morning.

24 Q. One thing you say is:

25 'A lot of girls did this because they didn't want to

1           have a bath in the open-plan bathroom.'

2   A.   Yes, because it was --no -- it's non-privacy, that's

3           probably why.

4   Q.   Were there a number of baths then?

5   A.   Yeah, there were a few baths there, upstairs.

6   Q.   In an open-plan space?

7   A.   Yes.

8   Q.   I think you say that you didn't want to have a bath in

9           front of everyone?

10  A.   No.

11  Q.   So would having a bath in the home mean that you would

12           be in a bath with other girls in the same room having

13           a bath at the same time?

14  A.   Yes, probably, and some of us were self-conscious.

15  Q.   You mention a time when you were in St Margaret's,

16           'Lisa'?

17  A.   Yes.

18  Q.   This is paragraph 166, when you took unwell, you were

19           ill?

20  A.   Oh yeah, I remember that.

21  Q.   You say that you were kept in a dorm all night, all day,

22           by yourself?

23  A.   Yes, I was, and I was given two tablets to take, I think

24           they were paracetamol or something to bring down my

25           fever, but I do know I ended up either with a cold or

1 a very bad chest infection. I was sent up there and  
2 food was brought to me, and the only thing I could do  
3 was either knitting or do my homework while I was there.  
4 Erm, they just left me in that room. They had no  
5 medical staff anywhere in that place. I never saw one  
6 person.

7 Q. You have touched on cleaning already, 'Lisa' --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- but can I now ask you about the chores in the home?

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. Were all the girls expected to do some chores?

12 A. Yes, they were, but like I said, staff had their  
13 favourites, so it wouldn't be like -- you know, like --  
14 it wouldn't even be like a mother figure, it would be --  
15 or, 'Can you please go and do the dishes?', it was,  
16 'Yous two girls are in there and yours two are in there'.  
17 That kind of attitude. It was bullying.

18 Q. What sort of things would you be told you had to do?

19 A. Basically we'd move the table from this to the living  
20 room area bit. Two of the girls would be moving that.  
21 We'd be rolling up the rug. We'd be actually cleaning  
22 the floor right through to the outside door bit, and  
23 then we'd be bumping that bit right through to the main  
24 area door.

25 Q. You mention in your statement that this would be big

1           old-fashioned bumpers?

2   A.   Yeah, yes, it's like a wooden stick wi' a square bumper,  
3           it's like the old-fashioned bumpers.

4   Q.   Was it hard work?

5   A.   Totally.

6   Q.   Were girls generally used for the cleaning duties or do  
7           you know if there were cleaners in the home?

8   A.   No such thing as cleaners there.

9   Q.   Were the girls then expected to clean the place?

10  A.   Yes.

11  Q.   What about toilets?

12  A.   Toilets cleaned with the girls.

13  Q.   Did the girls clean the toilets?

14  A.   Yes.

15  Q.   The bathrooms?

16  A.   Yes.

17  Q.   What about the area where the Sisters lived, do you know  
18           who cleaned that?

19  A.   The Sisters, like I said, the nuns, were right at the  
20           back of the convent. We had the centre here and then we  
21           had the main, it was like a main frame door you go  
22           through, and then it had the chapel at the back, and the  
23           Sisters had their convent at the back of that. We were  
24           not allowed anywhere near that.

25  Q.   So the girls weren't involved in cleaning that, for

1           example?

2    A.   No, no -- no.   No.

3    Q.   Was part of the work the girls had to do, did it involve

4           working in the dining room?

5    A.   Some girls would be taken there to kinda clean up the

6           dishes and stuff like that.

7    Q.   And setting up for meals?

8    A.   And setting up plates and stuff like that.

9    Q.   If you were on duty in the morning before breakfast,

10           would that involve being up early to do that?

11   A.   Yeah.

12   Q.   Were you involved in that sort of thing?

13   A.   I wasn't involved in that, but I was involved in one of

14           the houses to do that, to actually go down and make the

15           breakfast in the morning.

16   Q.   You speak in your statement about one occasion, 'Lisa',

17           when you say:

18           '... one day, after preparing the breakfast, it all

19           got too much ...'

20   A.   That would be in Goretti House, totally in Goretti

21           House.

22   Q.   What had happened on that occasion, that it had got too

23           much, or was it a build up?

24   A.   No, no, the night before that happened, something

25           triggered me, something upset me, one of the girls upset

1 me, and I will explain this in better detail. The staff  
2 member, her name is Mrs KPR, my God, that woman.  
3 Basically she had a bunch of girls and -- sitting, we  
4 were watching telly, the next thing a girl got up and  
5 she got upset with me. And I says, 'I didn't do  
6 anything', I just stood up, and she pulled my actual  
7 pyjamas down for all to see. And I mean the bottom  
8 part, for all to see, and I got humiliated.

9 Q. So you were naked?

10 A. I was basically naked and I got humiliated. That's the  
11 trigger point I got, the day after that.

12 Q. I think you tell the Inquiry in your statement, 'Lisa',  
13 that the day after that then, that you were preparing  
14 the breakfast and it got too much --

15 A. Yep.

16 Q. -- and you and cut your left wrist?

17 A. Yes, I did.

18 Q. You say there was blood everywhere?

19 A. There was some sort of blood. But not much, but the  
20 girl that I don't wish to name, 'cause she's evil, erm,  
21 she was at the same school as me, she was another one  
22 that went to school with me.

23 Q. She was the other girl that went to the outside school?

24 A. Yes, with me, but she was a bit of a troublemaker, she's  
25 always been a bit of a troublemaker, and I remember she

1 noticed it and she says, [REDACTED]

2 [REDACTED]

3 So I bandaged myself up, I picked my bag up and  
4 I walked out the door. I went up to the -- I had to  
5 walk from St Euphrasia's, up to the main gate, right  
6 down to the village, to Bishopton village, to get a bus  
7 to Park Mains High, so you're talking maybe a mile,  
8 maybe a wee bit more, so I'm walking in the snow,  
9 sleeting weather, naebody there to help me, nae staff,  
10 nae nothing, so you can imagine my mental state.

11 Q. That same day then, did you go to school?

12 A. I went to school.

13 Q. As normal?

14 A. As normal.

15 Q. Did any of the staff or Sisters in St Euphrasia's know  
16 what had happened?

17 A. No, they weren't told, because some of the girls don't  
18 tell. Basically in that type, back then, it's like you  
19 don't rat, in other words you don't tell, in other  
20 words. After a term, I just got to the stage, I just  
21 became quiet. I was like a snail in a shell. I only  
22 came out when I felt like coming out. But half the time  
23 I kept in that shell.

24 Q. Why was that, 'Lisa', can you help me with that?

25 A. 'Cause of, basically, everything I'd say, everything.



1           The trauma, the actual trauma.

2   Q.   Your journey to school then, from the home to the

3           outside school, were you doing that journey --

4   A.   By myself.

5   Q.   -- on foot?

6   A.   On foot.

7   Q.   Every day?

8   A.   Every day.

9   Q.   Each way?

10  A.   Every day from Monday to Friday.

11  Q.   In relation to birthdays, 'Lisa', you say in your<sup>e</sup>

12           statement that nothing was done to acknowledge birthdays

13           in St Euphrasia's?

14  A.   Nothing.  Erm, they had Easter but they didn't have

15           birthdays.  They had a Christmas tree at the back of the

16           recreation centre.  But no presents.  Because all the

17           kids apparently fae that time were actually going home,

18           so there was no presents.

19  Q.   Okay.

20  A.   The only present I did receive was from

21           Cardinal Winning, and that was a diary.  Each of the

22           girls received a diary fae -- from Cardinal Winning, who

23           came into the centre and gave us all a diary.

24  Q.   I think you do speak about that in your statement as

25           well, 'Lisa'.

1 A. I think so.

2 Q. Now, in terms of the religious side of things, you say:

3 'The religion in the convent wore off on us. When

4 you live in that sort of environment [this is

5 paragraph 187] you tend not to lie.'

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. 'We were living "under God's roof" and he was always

8 watching us, as we were always told by the nuns.'

9 A. Yes, that is true.

10 Q. Is this a sort of message that was drummed into you?

11 A. That was drummed into you.

12 Q. Did you believe it?

13 A. I kinda did.

14 Q. You tell the Inquiry that when you were still aged 12 or

15 13, that you were taken to a Children's Panel by

16 Mr Harold. Was Mr Harold a staff member who tended to

17 take children to Panel meetings and that sort of thing?

18 A. Yeah, Mr Harold, had a -- he was like a staff member,

19 and he did take certain kids to panels and stuff like

20 that, and different places and stuff where they had to

21 go. But I do remember the Panel.

22 Q. At that particular Panel, 'Lisa', I think your

23 recollection is that you told the Panel that you didn't

24 want to go home for visits, you didn't want to go for

25 visits to your mum's house?

1 A. I told them I didn't want to go home. Period.

2 Q. Did you also tell them that you didn't want to be in

3 St Euphrasia's?

4 A. I told them.

5 Q. I think what you say is that the decision was that you

6 were going to St Euphrasia's and that you would be going

7 home for weekends?

8 A. That's what Margaret Kiernan decided.

9 Q. The social worker?

10 A. The social worker.

11 Q. That was exactly what you didn't want to happen?

12 A. I didn't want to go home and I didn't want to be in

13 St Euphrasia's. They didn't listen to me.

14 Q. Where did you want to be, 'Lisa'?

15 A. Anywhere away fae all of that.

16 LADY SMITH: How long was that after the occasion when you

17 had snapped and you cut yourself in the kitchen; can you

18 remember?

19 A. I would say when I was about, maybe 13/14, and I was in

20 Goretti House.

21 LADY SMITH: Yes, so that was when you cut yourself in the

22 kitchen?

23 A. Yeah.

24 LADY SMITH: How long after that did this Panel take place

25 when you told them you didn't want to go home to your

1           mum and you didn't want --

2   A.   I think it was before that, I think it was before that.

3   LADY SMITH:   Before that?

4   A.   Yeah.

5   LADY SMITH:   Right, thank you.   So that was another thing?

6   A.   Yes, that was probably the other trigger thing and

7           I don't really know.

8   LADY SMITH:   Thank you.

9   MS MACLEOD:   One thing that you say, 'Lisa', is that if

10           girls were going home for weekend leave, that they

11           weren't taken home, as such, they were just sent on

12           their way, as it were.

13   A.   Yes, yes.

14   Q.   They weren't supported or accompanied to make sure they

15           got home safely?

16   A.   No, no.   No, no, no.   They weren't supported to get

17           taken home safely.   Ms KPR [REDACTED], who was the main

18           driver, who drove a minibus, erm, it was a white

19           minibus, we were taken into the middle of the city

20           centre, Anderston Bus Station, and before we got to

21           Anderston Bus Station, we were given envelopes for a bus

22           fare there and back.   Erm, we were basically dropped off

23           at Anderston Bus Station by a member of staff and we

24           were sent away.

25   Q.   I think what you say is:

1           'I remember feeling scared and vulnerable.'

2   A.   Yeah.

3   Q.   Did you run away while you were at St Euphrasia's?

4   A.   Yes, I did.

5   Q.   Did you run away on a number of occasions?

6   A.   Maybe twice.

7   Q.   Why were you running away, 'Lisa'?

8   A.   'Cause I just couldn't take it. I do recall me happened

9       to be walking about near Clydebank area. I do recall me

10      getting picked up by a police officer. He did put the

11      cuffs on me. He says, 'I hope you're not going to run

12      away, if you want to run away, I'll leave them on, but

13      if you're not, I'll take them off'. He put me in the

14      back of the motor, took me to Clydebank, put me in

15      a cell -- took my shoes off, put me in a cell, and then

16      contacted the social worker to then take me back to

17      St Euphrasia's.

18   Q.   When you were running away, did you know where you

19      wanted to go, where you were running to?

20   A.   I really don't know.

21   Q.   You mention in your statement that if girls didn't want

22      to go home, that they would do something --

23   A.   Oh yeah, yeah.

24   Q.   -- so that they wouldn't be allowed home, can you tell

25      me about that?

1 A. They'd do mischief, they'd do mischief. They would  
2 actually do mischief so that they wouldn't get taken.  
3 Erm, I think a lot of girls who felt fear of going home,  
4 or, you know, wherever they were going, they must have  
5 felt fear, some of them preferred to be there in the  
6 centre, I don't know why.  
7 Some of them were actually said, 'You're not going  
8 home because you've done this or you've done something  
9 that shouldn't have been done'. And they then were kept  
10 back.  
11 Q. As a form of punishment?  
12 A. Punishment, yeah.  
13 Q. In your own case, 'Lisa', there were reasons why you  
14 didn't want to be at home?  
15 A. Totally.  
16 Q. On the occasion we were speaking about there, when you  
17 made it clear that you didn't want to go home, and that  
18 you didn't want to stay at St Euphrasia's, what you say  
19 at paragraph 205 is:  
20 'When I got back to the home, a staff member,  
21 Mr EXN, was in the office.'  
22 A. Yeah.  
23 Q. What happened in the office, 'Lisa'?  
24 A. I think, and I believe to this day, it was because of  
25 the Panel, it was down to the Panel, I wasn't listened

1 to. They weren't taking any of my values. You know,  
2 I told them why I didn't want to go home. I told them  
3 what actually happens. And then the social work says,  
4 'As long as such and such is not in the house, we can  
5 send her home'. And then I noticed my mum started  
6 crying. I went, 'I'm not going home'.  
7 Q. You told the Panel the reasons why you didn't want to go  
8 home?  
9 A. Yeah, I did, I absolutely did.  
10 Q. When you were brought back then, to St Euphrasia's and  
11 you were in the office, Mr EXN's office?  
12 A. There was a mishap with Mr Harold. I spat -- I never  
13 actually spat on Mr Harold, I spat on the ground,  
14 I says, 'I'm not going back to that place', and I spat  
15 on the ground. He then said something to Mr EXN, he  
16 basically put me in the car, and I was literally dragged  
17 from the car to Mr EXN's office, the main office, and  
18 then SNR actually stood up and said, and  
19 started shouting and bawling at me, going, 'You're not  
20 allowed to do that to our staff, blah, blah, blah'. He  
21 got up and physically shook me, actually shook me.  
22 Q. Who did this to you?  
23 A. Mr EXN.  
24 Q. Mr EXN.  
25 A. SNR. And I never said anything to any

1           staff, any girls, anybody, ever.

2   Q.   You say:

3           'He put both his hands on my shoulders and shook

4       me.'

5   A.   Yes.

6   Q.   You say that in your statement.

7   A.   Oh yes, totally.

8   Q.   You say he used quite a lot of force?

9   A.   Yes, he did.

10   Q.   You say:

11          'He shook me around like a rag doll.'

12   A.   That's what he did, and then he says, 'Get out of my

13       office', he said something like, 'Get out of my office'

14       and then after that I just ... I couldn't trust any of

15       them.

16   Q.   Did he say anything about Mr Harold?

17   A.   He said something, 'You should not be doing that to one

18       of my staff' or something like that. And I says, 'Doing

19       what?'

20   Q.   Did you know what he meant by that?

21   A.   No.

22   LADY SMITH: Had Mr Harold been with you at the Panel

23       session?

24   A.   Yes, he was.

25   LADY SMITH: I suppose it might have been he was trying to



1       tell you: you shouldn't be embarrassing Mr Harold like  
2       that --  
3   A.   Yes.  
4   LADY SMITH:  -- do you think?  
5   A.   That's probably why, because he knew I was upset, I'd  
6       just come back from a Panel, and I told them I didn't  
7       want to go back home or to St Euphrasia's.  
8   MS MACLEOD:  What you say in your statement, 'Lisa', is at  
9       the time you say:  
10       'I didn't know why or what I had done wrong.'  
11   A.   That's what I thought, yeah.  
12   Q.   You tell the Inquiry about a time you got a card from  
13       Sister EXI ?  
14   A.   Yes, I did.  
15   Q.   Was that while you were still in St Euphrasia's?  
16   A.   Yes.  
17   Q.   Can you tell me about the background to the card and  
18       what the card was?  
19   A.   I don't really understand what the card was aimed at,  
20       but, erm, apparently she classed me as a demon child, or  
21       something like that, and I was then sent to St Goretti  
22       House, I don't know why.  
23   Q.   What did the card say?  
24   A.   I don't know, 'cause I couldn't read it.  
25   Q.   Did somebody tell you what it said?

1 A. No, I gave it to one of the staff, and then I think that  
2 card got sent straight to Sister GWJ, and then  
3 I was moved fae Shalom through to St Goretti.  
4 Q. Did you find out what the card said?  
5 A. I really don't -- I don't know to this day what was in  
6 that card.  
7 Q. I think you mentioned 'demon child' there?  
8 A. She must have thought I was a demon child. Whatever  
9 she's wrote in that card, it was actually referring to  
10 me.  
11 Q. How do you know that?  
12 A. Because a day later I get moved from Shalom and put  
13 through into Goretti House. That's all I know.  
14 Q. So you got moved from the house that Sister EXI  
15 looked after --  
16 A. Yeah.  
17 Q. -- to a different house?  
18 A. Yeah.  
19 Q. In your statement you say:  
20 'Sister EXI was calling me names and said I was  
21 a demonic little monster. It said nasty things about  
22 her not liking me.'  
23 A. That's basically it.  
24 Q. Did someone tell you that's what it said?  
25 A. No, I think one of the staff said to me the card was not

1           a very nice card that she's sent you.

2   Q.   You tell the Inquiry that you found Goretti House even

3           worse than St Margaret's?

4   A.   Totally.

5   Q.   I think it was in Goretti House that, for example, the

6           incident you told us in the TV room, where you were

7           humiliated --

8   A.   Correct.

9   Q.   -- was that in Goretti House?

10  A.   Yes, that's it.

11  Q.   Were there other incidents like that that happened in

12           Goretti House?

13  A.   I can't remember.

14  Q.   You have mentioned already that there was some

15           favouritism between, was that the Sisters and some of

16           the girls?

17  A.   Mm.

18  Q.   You say that the favouritism would cause friction

19           between the children?

20  A.   Yeah, it would.

21  Q.   Can you develop that for me?

22  A.   I just mean some of the staff or some of the nuns, like

23           I says, we hardly ever saw the nuns, I know for a fact

24           we hardly ever saw them, there was maybe one or two that

25           walked about and some of the nuns -- in fact one of the

1 nuns was actually quite nice.

2 Q. Which one was that?

3 A. I forget her name, but she was a young nun and she was

4 actually okay.

5 Q. I think you tell the Inquiry that you were given

6 a leaving date by St Euphrasia's around the time you

7 were 16?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. Were you told that you were going to be leaving?

10 A. I was told.

11 Q. Were you given any sort of preparation for leaving in

12 terms of where you could go, what you might do, that

13 sort of thing?

14 A. Nothing.

15 Q. Did your social worker ever come to visit you in

16 St Euphrasia's?

17 A. Erm, the first time she came is when she took me there

18 when I was about -- when she was actually taking me in,

19 about 12 when she took me in, erm, she did through the

20 place and then take me in, that's two times, and then,

21 erm, she did actually come up a third set -- third time

22 to say, 'Oh, one of your family members has passed

23 away', and that was the last time I saw her.

24 Q. She wasn't in regular contact with you, checking in on

25 how you were getting on?

1 A. No. And as for the phones, there was like a main phone  
2 in the office that directed through to the main other  
3 office. None of the girls were allowed to use any  
4 phones, we had to use outside phones, like the pay  
5 boxes. We were basically not allowed anywhere near  
6 phones to call anybody.

7 Q. When you left St Euphrasia's then, can you remember who  
8 told you you were leaving or what sort of thing was said  
9 to you?

10 A. It was just one of the staff says, 'That's your time  
11 up', and that's it.

12 Q. Were you given much notice?

13 A. No much notice, it's a case of you're on that bus and  
14 then that's you, you're gone.

15 Q. Once you had left St Euphrasia's, did social work  
16 services contact you to see how you were getting on?

17 A. No.

18 Q. What you were doing?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Did you go back to your mother's for a period when you  
21 left St Euphrasia's?

22 A. Yes, I did.

23 Q. I think you tell us that after a few weeks there, you  
24 went to stay in a hostel in Glasgow?

25 A. Yes, I did, [REDACTED], in fact.

1 Q. Sorry?

2 A. [REDACTED].

3 Q. You say you didn't have any financial support?

4 A. No.

5 Q. And that you didn't even know that you could get support

6 or where to get it?

7 A. (Shakes head)

8 Q. Ultimately did you have some assistance from social work

9 at some later point to get accommodation, I think, when

10 you were about 17?

11 A. Yeah, I think it was -- I got in touch with the social

12 worker, Margaret Kiernan, and she said, 'Right, I will

13 write you out a letter to get some sort of

14 accommodation'.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. That's the only good thing she did for me.

17 Q. I think you tell the Inquiry that you went to college

18 when you were 17?

19 A. I went to Anniesland College.

20 Q. I think when you were 21, you had your first child?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. You tell the Inquiry that you had to grow up really

23 fast, learn to take care of bills and your child, and

24 that you did that all yourself?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. That you now have four children?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. In terms of reporting what happened to you as a child,  
4 'Lisa', you say that you never reported anything that  
5 happened to you in care to the police or to anyone else?

6 A. No, I didn't.

7 Q. Are you able to help me with why you didn't do that,  
8 'Lisa'?

9 A. Because to me, I thought right, 'I've got children now',  
10 I thought I am no going to be letting my kids go through  
11 what I went through, and that's why I kept people away  
12 from me.

13 Q. In terms of the impact that you tell the Inquiry that  
14 what happened to you as a child has had on your life --

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. -- you say that what happened in care has affected your  
17 mental health?

18 A. To this day, yes, it has.

19 Q. You say your mental health has suffered from childhood  
20 and throughout your adult life?

21 A. Yes, it has.

22 Q. You say that your psychological problems, this is what  
23 you say, you think possibly stemmed from your time at  
24 home, but that it was never addressed when you went into  
25 care?

1 A. That's -- yeah, that's very much so.

2 Q. You say that your education has suffered because of your  
3 time in care?

4 A. Yes, it did.

5 Q. You say you were moved around, not given proper  
6 schooling, and you say that when you did go to school,  
7 you weren't given support from St Euphrasia's?

8 A. I didn't get any support from St Euphrasia's.

9 Q. You say you were left to your own devices in relation to  
10 that?

11 A. Yes. When it came to education, yes, I was.

12 Q. You provide some final thoughts to the Inquiry, 'Lisa',  
13 you say:

14 'Social workers need to tell the truth to kids or  
15 kids won't trust them.'

16 A. True.

17 Q. You say:

18 '[Social workers] need proper training and need to  
19 believe kids when kids tell them what is happening.'

20 A. True.

21 Q. You have already told the Inquiry, 'Lisa', that you did  
22 tell the children's hearing, with social workers and  
23 everybody else present, the reasons that you didn't want  
24 to go home in particular?

25 A. Yeah, I did.



1 Q. What you say is:  
2 'When it is recognised that a child has been abused,  
3 whether by the family or in an institution, they should  
4 be removed from that situation. Then they should get  
5 counselling at the time, as a child, so it can be dealt  
6 with.'  
7 A. Yes, or medical assistance then, which none was there  
8 for me at the time in question.  
9 MS MACLEOD: 'Lisa', that's all the questions that I have  
10 for you today, but before we complete your evidence,  
11 I want to give you the opportunity in case there is  
12 anything you want to tell the Inquiry.  
13 A. I forgot some of the other staff members, sorry.  
14 LADY SMITH: Please don't apologise. We have been asking  
15 you about things that happened a long time ago. I am  
16 impressed with the names you do remember.  
17 A. Yeah, some of the names I do remember, your Honour, is  
18 because back then, staff back then, didn't have name  
19 tags. Staff weren't properly qualified.  
20 LADY SMITH: Of course, yes.  
21 A. Staff then shoulda had an obligation, a responsibility  
22 for a child under their care to look after them, and  
23 that's a big failure in my book.  
24 LADY SMITH: Mm-hm.  
25 A. Like I said, I've got four children, two are working,

1           highly professional workers, I've got two other children  
2           who are autistic, and I watch, and I'm very proud of  
3           that.

4   LADY SMITH: You give me the impression that for much of the  
5           time, the nuns weren't around?

6   A. They weren't, your Honour.

7   LADY SMITH: It was the staff --

8   A. It was the staff.

9   LADY SMITH: -- who you remember largely as lay staff,  
10          unqualified --

11   A. Mm.

12   LADY SMITH: -- who were in charge?

13   A. Yes.

14   LADY SMITH: But your life was often a life of just people  
15          not noticing you --

16   A. I was --

17   LADY SMITH: -- would that be right?

18   A. -- invisible. I would class myself as invisible.  
19          That's the only way I can describe it.

20   LADY SMITH: That's how you were made to feel, is it?

21   A. Yeah.

22   LADY SMITH: Thank you very much, 'Lisa'.

23           Can I add my thanks, again, to you for coming here  
24          today and speaking so clearly and helpfully about your  
25          past, I am sure it has not been easy at all.

1 A. It hasn't.

2 LADY SMITH: But leave it with us now.

3 A. Thank you.

4 LADY SMITH: You have contributed much value to our work

5 here at the Inquiry, and I hope you have a safe journey

6 back home with the trains behaving better than they did

7 first thing this morning. Thank you.

8 A. I'm glad to be here, thank you.

9 (The witness withdrew)

10 LADY SMITH: Just before we leave the oral evidence of that

11 witness, and, indeed, just catching up on yesterday

12 afternoon, there are a number of names I want to

13 mention -- many of which have been mentioned before --

14 of people who are not to be identified as being referred

15 to in our evidence outside this room, because they are

16 covered by my General Restriction Order.

17 It is: Sister GWJ [REDACTED], Sister GWK [REDACTED], Mr and

18 Mrs ERL-ERM [REDACTED] somebody called LMH [REDACTED] at Brimmond, Mr and

19 Mrs GJO-GJP [REDACTED], Sister LMJ [REDACTED], HOJ [REDACTED],

20 Sister LMM [REDACTED], another child in care called

21 [REDACTED] and one called [REDACTED], a Sister

22 BGR [REDACTED], the surname of yesterday afternoon's witness,

23 Mr EXN [REDACTED], Sister EXI [REDACTED] and Miss EJK [REDACTED].

24 I think we should probably just take the morning

25 break now, because I know the next witness will be due

1 to give evidence, all being well, at 11.45 am, is that  
2 right?

3 MS MACLEOD: Yes, my Lady.

4 LADY SMITH: Very well, let's do that.

5 (11.20 am)

6 (A short break)

7 (11.45 am)

8 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

9 MR MACAULAY: My Lady, this next witness is an applicant who  
10 wants to remain anonymous and to use the pseudonym  
11 'Angelica' when giving her evidence.

12           Before she is called in, can I just say that she has  
13           been read in on two previous occasions.

14 LADY SMITH: Yes.

15 MR MACAULAI: First, for foster care. That was on Day 323  
16 on 20 September 2022, and the transcript is  
17 TRN-10-000000061.

18 She has also been read in for Chapter 7 in this case  
19 study, which was Cardross Park. That was on Day 463,  
20 and that was on 19 July 2024, and the transcript is at  
21 TRN-12-000000096.

22 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

23 'Angelica' (affirmed)

24 LADY SMITH: Morning, 'Angelica'.

25 A. Good morning.

1 LADY SMITH: Do sit down and make yourself comfortable.

2 'Angelica', thank you for coming here this morning

3 to help us with your evidence in person. You will

4 understand that I have already listened to some of your

5 evidence being read in at two previous --

6 A. Yes.

7 LADY SMITH: -- sets of case study hearings, one in relation

8 to a time you had in foster care and another in relation

9 to when you were in Cardross Park.

10 A. Yes.

11 LADY SMITH: But we would like, if we may, to explore parts

12 of your statement that in particular relate to a period

13 when you were with the Good Shepherd Sisters in a place

14 that used to be known as St Euphrasia's, but I think by

15 the time you were there it was just the Good Shepherd.

16 A. Yes.

17 LADY SMITH: I do understand, 'Angelica', that doing what

18 you are doing today is difficult, you have agreed to

19 come to a public inquiry to give evidence, and that of

20 itself isn't easy, let alone being asked to go back and

21 talk about what was going on in your life when you were

22 a teenager, rather younger than you are now. It may be

23 upsetting. If you need a break, just say. If you need

24 more tissues, just say.

25 A. Thank you.

1 LADY SMITH: If you need a pause, or if you want us to  
2 explain things better than we are explaining it, speak  
3 up. If we don't make sense, it is our fault, not yours,  
4 all right.

5 A. Okay.

6 LADY SMITH: If you are ready, I will hand over to  
7 Mr MacAulay and he will take it from there.

8 A. Thank you.

9 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

10 Mr MacAulay.

11 MR MACAULAY: My Lady.

12 Questions from Mr MacAulay

13 MR MACAULAY: Yes, hello again, 'Angelica', the first thing  
14 I want to do is just to provide the reference of your  
15 statement for the transcript, that is WIT-1-000000780.

16 The first thing I want you to do for me, 'Angelica',  
17 is to open the red folder that you have in front of you  
18 and turn to the final page. Can you confirm that you  
19 have signed the statement?

20 A. I confirm, yes.

21 Q. Do you say in the last paragraph:

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

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Thank you.

3 You have the statement then in front of you,

4 'Angelica', in hard copy, in the red folder, and feel

5 free to have regard to that if you find that helpful.

6 It will also come up on the screen in front of you.

7 A. Thank you.

8 Q. You have these options if you need to look at anything,

9 and I may take you to the odd paragraph in any event.

10 Now, because you want to be anonymous, 'Angelica',

11 I don't want to ask you for your date of birth, but just

12 to give some context to your evidence; can you confirm

13 that you were born in 1984?

14 A. I confirm.

15 Q. You begin in your statement by looking at your life

16 before you went into care, and you tell us a little bit

17 about your family background. Are you able to summarise

18 that up for us? What was it like?

19 A. It was tough. It was tough. Erm, there was a lot of

20 ups and downs in the childhood home, the family home,

21 growing up. A lot of alcohol around about us. Erm,

22 mum's mental health wasn't the best. Erm, dad basically

23 went along with anything mum said, or done. I was used

24 as an scapegoat.

25 Q. Did you have brothers and sisters?

1 A. Yes, I've got two brothers and a sister.

2 Q. Yes.

3 A. One brother I have never met. The brother and sister

4 that grew up in the family home were older than me.

5 Erm, still, I seem to have been the one singled out.

6 Q. You tell us about that in your statement --

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. -- that you were singled out in particular for not such

9 good treatment, whereas the others were not?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. You tell us at paragraph 5 that you actually remember

12 your mother self-harming in front of you?

13 A. Yes, I remember that.

14 Q. Did that upset you?

15 A. Oh yes, very much.

16 Q. You go on to tell us that you went to a particular

17 primary school, and it was around this time, when you

18 were in primary four or five, that, as you put it,

19 everything went downhill?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Can you just explain what you mean by that?

22 A. Erm, well, social work got involved. Erm, mother had

23 been struggling with alcohol and her mental health.

24 Erm, mother's family, her side of the family, had come

25 back into our lives. My mum had been basically taking



1 instruction of -- from my uncle on what to do and how to  
2 get more money and things out of the system, and  
3 basically that's where it started, like, [REDACTED] ended up  
4 in the system.

5 Q. Did you begin to self-harm at a point?

6 A. Erm, well, I do state in the statement --

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. -- it was in primary school --

9 Q. Yes.

10 A. -- I would [REDACTED] nose to make it  
11 bleed, and that was to get out of situations I didn't  
12 feel comfortable in.

13 Q. You mentioned a moment ago that the social work people  
14 got involved with your family?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Did there come a point in time when you went to  
17 a children's home in Glasgow?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. You tell us at paragraph 14 that this was in primary  
20 four or five, when you were maybe about 10. That places  
21 us in about 1994 or 1995?

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. You then go on to tell us, 'Angelica', about that  
24 particular children's home. We are not looking at that  
25 children's home at the moment. But you do provide some

1           information about it.   Secondary Institutions - to be published later  
2           Secondary Institutions - to be published later  
3   A.  
4   Q.   Thank you.   You think that you were there for several  
5       months?  
6   A.   Yes.  
7   LADY SMITH:   You would be about 10 years old, or so, at this  
8       stage?  
9   A.   Roughly, roughly about 10.  
10   LADY SMITH:   Still primary school age --  
11   A.   Yes, definitely still primary school.  
12   LADY SMITH:   -- but the top end of primary school?  
13   A.   Yes.  
14   MR MACAULAY:   Yes.  
15           When you left, then, you say the lady with the curly  
16       hair, was that the lady from the Social Work Department.  
17   A.   That was one of the staff members from Urrdale.  
18   Q.   Okay, and she came to tell you you were going home?  
19   A.   Yes.  
20   Q.   When you went back home then, what were things like now?  
21   A.   Nothing -- nothing really changed.   The alcohol and the  
22       arguments and fights and self-harming from mum was still  
23       ongoing.  
24   Q.   Did that then provide the background to you being put  
25       into foster care?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. As you are aware, foster care has been looked at  
3 already?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. I think you know that. But you talk about foster care,  
6 beginning at paragraph 30, you talk about your first  
7 placement, up to paragraph 39.

8 Then from paragraph 40 of your statement, going  
9 through, for a number of pages, to paragraph 53 on  
10 page 10, you tell us about the second placement, which,  
11 putting it in general terms, wasn't a very happy  
12 placement?

13 A. If that was Cumbernauld, then yes.

14 Q. Yes. But you are back home then, having completed that  
15 placement. Do you think that you're home what, in about  
16 1996, when you were perhaps aged 11?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Does that fit in with your own recollection?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Can you tell me then how things were when you were back  
21 home at that time?

22 A. Maybe for a few days, maybe a week or two, it seemed to  
23 have been okay, but then it gradually, gradually just  
24 went back to normal, everything was exactly the same;  
25 the self-harming from mum, the alcohol, the arguments,

1           the fights. And it was mum that started this, clearly  
2           mum had started picking on dad when the alcohol was  
3           about.

4   Q.   So not a happy situation?

5   A.   No. No.

6   Q.   What you tell us at paragraph 55 is after you had been  
7           home for a while, what you tell us is:  
8           '... I started getting out of control.'

9   A.   Yes.

10   Q.   Can you perhaps elaborate upon that for me, what do you  
11           mean?

12   A.   When I say 'out of control', I would say that's actually  
13           my parents' wording, I would say that was the parents'  
14           wording, really.

15   Q.   Yes.

16   A.   Erm, which just sticks in my head, even to adulthood.  
17           The not listening, following instructions, wanting to go  
18           out, and I wasn't allowed out, so I would let myself  
19           out. Erm, the smoking of cannabis and things came  
20           about.

21   Q.   Even at that early age?

22   A.   Yes, very early age. Very early age.

23   Q.   I think now you would be about 11 or so?

24   A.   Yes.

25   Q.   You did start running away?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Can you just help me with that?

3 A. Well, I was escaping from the house. Erm, I was

4 climbing out windows. Erm, and I was taking myself to

5 another scheme outwith Govan. It wasn't a very nice

6 place, it was actually -- it was a rough area I was

7 taking myself to. Erm, I was meeting up with people

8 I didn't even know. I was basically under older

9 people's wings. I was sleeping down the side of beds,

10 people that I didn't know, that they were hiding me from

11 the police and parents. Basically that was -- that was

12 it.

13 Q. I think you had a very short foster care placement at

14 about this time, and I think you ran away from there,

15 but then you went back because you felt sorry for the

16 foster carers?

17 A. Yes, in Baillieston, yes.

18 Q. Was that then the background to you going to another

19 children's home in Glasgow?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. You tell us about that children's home at paragraph 59

22 onwards. Secondary Institutions - to be published later

23 Secondary Institutions - to be published later

24

25

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13 Q. Again, then, you go from that children's home, you go to  
14 Cardross Park Assessment Centre?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Again, this has been looked at previously. According to  
17 records you perhaps went there in about [REDACTED] 1997, when  
18 you would be aged about 12?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Would that fit in with your own thinking?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Again, Cardross Park has been looked at, but there is  
23 one bit of it I do want to pick up with you, if I may,  
24 and that's how it came to be that you left  
25 Cardross Park, because I think you ran away --

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. -- and something happened to you?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Can you tell me what happened?

5 A. There was many times that I did run away, but on this

6 particular occasion that I did, I met up with a girl

7 that was previously at the children's home previous to,

8 erm, Cardross.

9 Q. Mm-hm.

10 A. We went along to her aunt's house, and at the end of the

11 night, a taxi had been phoned for the other person to

12 return back to the previous children's home.

13 Q. And were you due to go back there as well?

14 A. Well, I was going to be sleeping under her bed that

15 night, because I had ran away from somewhere else.

16 The girl I had went with, I ended up being left in

17 her aunt's house, along with three males, one male was

18 sleeping and the other two males were awake. I was

19 forced to drink alcohol in one go, a full bottle, and

20 they proceeded to rape me.

21 Q. Were these older?

22 A. Yes, they were slightly older than me. Age? I'm not

23 100 per cent on the age.

24 Q. No, but you were only 12?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. What you tell us is, I think you managed to get a taxi  
2 back to the children's home?

3 A. They finally let me go and I managed to call a taxi.  
4 While I had been at the phone box, they were hounding  
5 me, they had been phoning the phone box. Erm, I did  
6 manage to get the taxi to Glen Rosa. I didn't know what  
7 the plan was, but I basically wanted to get the other  
8 girl, to be with the other girl, 'cause that's who  
9 I planned to be with.

10 Q. When you got back to the children's home, did you tell  
11 anyone there what had happened to you?

12 A. No. I hadn't actually been living in that children's  
13 home, I had been at a previous one.

14 Q. Yes. Were you distressed?

15 A. Very much so, I was under the influence also, but my  
16 wits were still -- they were still about me.

17 Q. Both these males had abused you?

18 A. Yes, both of them.

19 Q. I think now, some years later, you have reported this to  
20 the police?

21 A. Yes, I have.

22 Q. Is there an ongoing investigation?

23 A. Erm, there wasn't enough evidence.

24 Q. Well, is this then the background to you going to the  
25 Good Shepherd in Bishopton?



1 A. Yes.

2 Q. The records suggest that you were admitted to the Good  
3 Shepherd on [REDACTED] 1997, when you would still be aged  
4 12?

5 A. Yep.

6 Q. I think you say you don't know if you went to  
7 a Children's Panel before you went there on this  
8 occasion?

9 A. I can't remember if I did or not.

10 Q. On this occasion, you tell us at paragraph 102, that you  
11 thought that you were there for just over a year, in  
12 fact the records tell us, I think, that you left on  
13 [REDACTED] 1998, so that is just over a year that you  
14 were there?

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. Can you just describe the Good Shepherd premises for us,  
17 can you give us a description of it?

18 A. It was a pretty big building. Erm, there was -- you  
19 went up the long pathway, the main entrance, and then  
20 there was fire exits either side. Standing outside  
21 facing the building, my unit that I lived in was to the  
22 left, and I think that's where all the other units were.  
23 To the right, standing outside the building, is where  
24 the school ... the school classes and things were.

25 Q. Was the school within the building itself?

1 A. Yes, it was.

2 Q. So far as sleeping arrangements, what were the sleeping  
3 arrangements?

4 A. The sleeping arrangements were upstairs.

5 Q. I think you tell us in your statement that there were  
6 four separate units there?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Can you tell me about that? They had different names,  
9 I think.

10 A. Yes, they did.

11 Q. Do you remember the names now?

12 A. I was in St Margaret's unit, and the other units I'm not  
13 sure of the names.

14 Q. Were there a number of girls then accommodated in each  
15 unit?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. In your unit, how many girls do you think might have  
18 been there?

19 A. Maybe 10, 12, roughly.

20 Q. Are they units of a similar size?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. At this time, in 1997, the Good Shepherd was being run  
23 by civilian staff; is that right?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Because we know at the past the Good Shepherd nuns had

1       been there?

2   A.  There was still a nun present, there was still a nun

3       present.

4   Q.  Did she take anything to do with the running of the --

5   A.  I think it was only for church.

6   Q.  For church.  What you say at paragraph 105 is that there

7       were some really nice teachers there?

8   A.  Yes.

9   Q.  The schooling, then, can you just describe the schooling

10       for me?

11  A.  The schooling was different from previous schools, other

12       schooling.  Erm, we actually done -- we worked there.

13       It was more structured.  There was less messing about in

14       the classes in Good Shepherd, and we did actually get

15       an education of some sort.

16  Q.  So do I take it from what you said, 'Angelica', that you

17       were given some academic subjects like English and maths

18       and so on?

19  A.  Yes.

20  Q.  The classes, you tell us, were quite small?

21  A.  Yes.

22  Q.  That would have helped?

23  A.  Yes, very much.

24  Q.  Who was SNR [REDACTED] at that time?

25  A.  A Mr GXC [REDACTED], I believe.  GXC [REDACTED], now I think more

1           now.

2   Q.   You have mentioned the four units; was there somebody

3           who would be in charge of the unit?

4   A.   Yes, there was like the manager of each unit.

5   Q.   Can you remember who was the manager of your unit?

6   A.   There was an older lady with greying hair, erm, pretty

7           short hair she had, I can't remember her name.

8   Q.   Can I ask you a little bit about the routine then,

9           'Angelica'. In the morning would you be woken up?

10   A.   Yes.

11   Q.   How was that managed, what would happen?

12   A.   Banging on the doors, staff coming in, tipping you out

13           your bed. Erm, there was male staff also. There was

14           male staff also that would come in and out your room.

15           Erm, there was one particular male staff that would take

16           my covers off me.

17   Q.   Do you remember his name?

18   A.   EUJ, his name was EUJ.

19   Q.   Why was he taking your covers off you?

20   A.   Mm. Being an adult now, I can only guess, but back then

21           I wasn't too sure, I thought it was just to get me up.

22           But being an adult now, when I see the bigger picture of

23           other things from the same person, there's a clearer

24           picture now being an adult.

25   Q.   What is your picture now, looking back?

1 A. It was in a sexual nature.

2 Q. What would you be wearing in bed?

3 A. My underwear.

4 Q. Not a nightdress?

5 A. No.

6 Q. You also tell us that as part of the routine, there were

7 shower rooms which had baths in it?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. You say, I think, six baths in one room. But there

10 wasn't much privacy?

11 A. No, there was just a shower curtain divided each bath.

12 It was just like one big room.

13 Q. Were there actually showers, or was it just baths?

14 A. Well, in this particular one, it was just baths.

15 Q. What you say at 113, and I would just like to get your

16 comments on this:

17 'We just drank alcohol to pass the time.'

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Was this even when you went in there at such a young

20 age?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Where did you get the alcohol?

23 A. From other parents that was in visiting their children,

24 or we would go into the village and buy alcohol

25 ourselves from the local shops.

1 Q. What about drugs?

2 A. Oh, they would come from all over.

3 Q. Were you drinking alcohol and were you also using drugs?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Was that cannabis at that time?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. How obvious would this be to the staff?

8 A. Oh, it should have been very obvious, more so just the

9 smell alone.

10 Q. You also talk about one of the girls bringing in what

11 you describe as [REDACTED] pills?

12 A. Yes, it was her mother's medication.

13 Q. What happened then on that occasion?

14 A. Erm, I took this [REDACTED] pill, and a child being

15 on this medication, I was on all fours on the ground,

16 I was crawling about, I just wasn't myself. I was aware

17 of what was going on round about me, but my body just

18 felt as though it didn't belong to me. Never had full

19 control.

20 Q. But you recovered from that?

21 A. Oh yes, I did.

22 Q. Did other girls also take these pills?

23 A. No, it was only myself.

24 Q. As far as home leave was concerned, were you allowed

25 home?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. But could that be cancelled for certain reasons?

3 A. Yes, it could, it could be cancelled.

4 Q. Why would that happen?

5 A. Erm, if you misbehaved in the unit. Or if parents

6 didn't want you home. Or something along those sorts of

7 lines.

8 Q. Did you go home on occasions?

9 A. Yes, I did go home.

10 Q. This practice you had of girls standing each other

11 against the wall [REDACTED].

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. Can you just describe what that was all about?

14 A. Again, being an adult now, it just seems crazy. Erm, we

15 would stand each other against the wall and [REDACTED]

16 [REDACTED]

17 I don't know how that came about, or why. I don't know,

18 I can't understand that part.

19 Q. Would a number of girls be involved in this practice?

20 A. Yes, yes, and the staff would be wandering about.

21 Q. The staff would be aware something was going on?

22 A. Oh, they would see it happening.

23 Q. What you tell us is one of the effects of this, or

24 a number of effects, you say [REDACTED]?

25 A. Yeah, you [REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED]

2 Q. Would the staff see this?

3 A. Yes, yep.

4 Q. You also say that you [REDACTED]?

5 A. Oh yes, mm-hm. You wouldn't [REDACTED].

6 Q. Was there a reason why the girls, including yourself,

7 were doing this to themselves?

8 A. Really don't know. I've questioned myself being

9 an adult. I don't know if it was boredom. I don't

10 know.

11 Q. The other incident you tell us about is about the

12 picking of mushrooms and that wasn't a very happy

13 experience. What happened then?

14 A. Erm, complete opposite of what we thought was going to

15 happen. Erm, I myself was absolutely ill. I was

16 vomiting. I had diarrhoea. I was just -- I was ill.

17 I was going in and out the bathroom. The staff could

18 see I was going in and out and knew that I was poorly,

19 but no one helped, no one got medical attention or

20 anything. There was no talk about a doctor or any sort

21 of appointment.

22 Q. When girls went on leave and came back, were there times

23 when some girls were obviously under the influence of

24 alcohol?

25 A. Yes, very regular, and would also bring drink and drugs



1 back also.

2 Q. Was there any checking carried out to see --

3 A. No, nothing at all, no checking of our bags, pockets,

4 nothing like that.

5 Q. You tell us about an incident when you ran away with

6 a friend, this is at paragraph 123. You went to

7 Helensburgh and you were away for a number of days?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What happened on that occasion?

10 A. Erm, myself and the other girl, we were under the

11 influence all that time. The days that we were away, we

12 were staying in her aunt's house, we had the house to

13 ourselves. By the time the police had caught up with

14 the other girl, they were taking her away, erm, and they

15 weren't for taking me, because we had dyed our hair and

16 I looked completely different come that point, my hair

17 was blonde.

18 Q. Did you end up going back to your parents?

19 A. Erm, no, we got taken back to the Good Shepherd.

20 Q. Okay. On such occasions when you ran away and were

21 brought back, did anything happen?

22 A. Erm, the staff would just be very quiet with us. There

23 was no intervention as in sat down, spoken to. We

24 weren't asked what we were doing when we were out there,

25 if we wanted to disclose what we were doing then we

1           would.

2   Q.   Why were you running away?

3   A.   I just didn't want to be where I had been.

4   LADY SMITH:   Where did you want to be, 'Angelica'?

5   A.   At that ... I don't really know. I don't really know

6           where I wanted to be.

7   LADY SMITH:   Thank you.

8   MR MACAULAY:   At paragraphs 131 onwards, you talk about

9           matters that you say were abusive.

10           The first thing you tell us about is that there were

11           members of staff who were heavy handed with restraining.

12   A.   Yeah.

13   Q.   Can you just describe that for me, what would happen and

14           why?

15   A.   Erm, the why is there would be times that we would maybe

16           be running about in the unit, or tipping things over, or

17           we would just be carrying on, getting very excited, and

18           we would maybe get a little too loud at times. And they

19           would come in and restrain us by putting our arms up our

20           backs. They would run us into walls. They would run us

21           through doors to literally open them. Erm, this is all

22           still with the arms up our back.

23           We would be flung to the ground, again still arms up

24           our back. Our legs would be getting held, we would be

25           getting our hair pulled, this is while we're on the

1 ground, they would be pulling our hair up while still  
2 pushing down at the same time.

3 There would be people sitting on us. There would be  
4 maybe two people, there could be four people, it just  
5 varied.

6 Q. When you talk about people doing this, are we talking  
7 about males, females or both?

8 A. Both, both male and female.

9 Q. Both. If you are running around and making a noise, and  
10 so on, would you not be asked to stop first before any  
11 restraint would be --

12 A. Well, yeah, there would be some staff that would ask us  
13 to stop, and then again it could be just arms right up  
14 our back and ran into a wall. That would be our  
15 warning. That would be from some of the staff to get us  
16 to stop.

17 Q. How often did this sort of restraint take place?

18 A. Oh, very regular, very regular. Daily.

19 Q. And you were clearly restrained in that way, what about  
20 other girls?

21 A. Oh, yes, there was other girls, in some places though it  
22 was mixed girls and boys, yes, it was a mixture.

23 Q. I should have asked you that, were there boys now at  
24 Good Shepherd as well as girls?

25 A. No, it was just girls in Good Shepherd's.

1 Q. What you tell us at paragraph 134, I will just read this  
2 to you, 'Angelica':  
3 'One day, myself and [another] girl ... were  
4 wrecking the place. We were running around the full  
5 building, breaking things, banging doors, tipping the  
6 couches upside down, throwing cushions at the staff.'  
7 On the face of it, that looks like quite bad  
8 behaviour on your part?  
9 A. It doesn't read very well.  
10 Q. But why were you behaving in that way?  
11 A. That was boredom. That was boredom. That was -- there  
12 was nothing to do.  
13 Q. When you say nothing to do, but you had school, of  
14 course. Did you have any organised games, like sports?  
15 A. Erm, no, there was computer consoles and TVs within the  
16 sitting room. Erm, I had a sewing machine at one point,  
17 but it didn't last very long, it was taken off me.  
18 Q. What happened, then, after you had been behaving in this  
19 way?  
20 A. Erm, well, the staff came into restrain us. There was  
21 one particular man, EUJ I have spoke about.  
22 Q. He was the man who would remove your bedclothes?  
23 A. He had been restraining me. He wasn't involved with  
24 getting cushions flung at him or anything like that, he  
25 just came in at the end. This particular man, while he

1        had been restraining, had pulled me on top of him. And  
2        he was thrusting under me. Erm, the other girl was  
3        getting restrained on the floor, getting pulled about  
4        all over, but this one man had me sitting on top of him,  
5        and his arms were round, holding on to me.

6    Q.    It was he alone, no other --

7    A.    No, it was him alone.

8    Q.    -- members of staff?

9    A.    He alone.

10   Q.    When you say thrusting?

11   A.    In a sexual manner, he was thrusting. The police were  
12        actually involved with that particular incident.

13   Q.    Did you at the time see this as a sexual encounter?

14   A.    I knew it was dirty at the time, is what was in my head.  
15        He was being a dirty man.

16   Q.    You say the police were brought in. What happened then  
17        when the police came in?

18   A.    Erm, I was taken into a room with my mum and the police.  
19        And I gave a statement and nothing, I don't think, came  
20        of that. That man continued to come into my bedroom and  
21        pull my covers off me and things like that, and he  
22        continued to work in Good Shepherd Centre.

23   Q.    Did you tell the police what you have told us about the  
24        way he was thrusting himself?

25   A.    Not exactly, it was child's words, it was childlike.

1 Q. Even child's words can convey a message.

2 A. I can't remember exactly what I said to the police, but

3 I did describe -- I would have described exactly what

4 was going on.

5 Q. You just said a moment ago that he still carried on

6 coming in to take your covers off?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. How would you react to that?

9 A. Oh, I would shout and scream and swear and I would push

10 and maybe kick out at him to get him away and get him

11 off me.

12 LADY SMITH: 'Angelica', on an occasion such as you describe

13 when a number of girls, including you, were as you put

14 it, wrecking the place, what would have calmed you down

15 and stopped you doing what you were doing?

16 A. If we were kept, like, occupied with things to do, kept

17 busy. Our interests listened to. For myself, it was

18 sewing and making things. I was very hands on.

19 LADY SMITH: Yes.

20 A. Erm, that took me to another place. So I know that was

21 my thing. For the other girls, I can't really speak for

22 them, but really keeping them busy and having things to

23 do.

24 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

25 MR MACAULAY: You go on to tell us, 'Angelica', that when

1       you were in the Good Shepherd, you met a man, an older  
2       man.  
3   A.   Yeah.  
4   Q.   You tell us how you met him. And that the staff were  
5       aware that you had met this older man?  
6   A.   Yes, EUK, yes.  
7   Q.   Can you give me a rough idea as to what age he was?  
8   A.   He was late 20s, I would say, roughly about the 27.  
9       Exact age? I'm not too sure. But I would say roughly  
10       about the 27. That number sticks in my head for his  
11       age.  
12   Q.   You would be 12, possibly 13, at the time?  
13   A.   Yes, yes.  
14   Q.   You say in fact you were 12. And you were in a sexual  
15       relationship with this man?  
16   A.   Yes.  
17   Q.   How did you come across this man?  
18   A.   Erm, it was through -- this came about in Good Shepherd.  
19       It was another girl that had been involved with this  
20       person.  
21   Q.   You say the sexual relationship you had with him lasted  
22       for about a year?  
23   A.   Yes.  
24   Q.   And that the staff were aware, at least that you  
25       classified him as a boyfriend?

1 A. Even my parents were aware.

2 Q. Aware that he was a boyfriend?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Were they aware of the sexual relationship?

5 A. Yes, everyone knew, everyone knew.

6 Q. Did the staff speak to you about this, give you advice?

7 A. No, no. There was nothing at all. Even if I presented

8 myself speaking about him, at the time I thought he was

9 everything, I thought he was special, even if I was

10 given maybe good points over at the time, what I thought

11 was good points, they weren't interested, they wouldn't

12 try sway me away from the conversation either, they

13 wouldn't delve into the conversation. They wouldn't ask

14 me questions, but I would be giving them all the

15 information.

16 Q. Did the sexual encounters then that you had with him,

17 did they take place at Good Shepherd or somewhere else?

18 A. It was at his home address.

19 Q. How did it come about that you went to his home address?

20 A. Erm, when I had ran away from the places that I had been

21 in, Good Shepherd being the first, I would run away and

22 meet him in the town, erm, and we all used to go about

23 down the Clydeside, it was called, it was down by the

24 water we would all hang about.

25 Q. Where would you go, would you go to a house or



1           somewhere?

2   A.   Well, we would all hang about in the town drinking.

3           Erm, just being a nuisance, basically.  Erm, and then

4           myself and **EUK** would go back to Govan.  There

5           was times, if we had missed the subway, we would live

6           in -- we would sleep over in a prostitute's home.  Erm,

7           he would sleep in her bed, while I was in a fold-down

8           bed.

9   Q.   You tell us that these episodes took place when you ran

10          away, but when you went back to Good Shepherd, would you

11          go back voluntarily, or would you be taken back?

12  A.   Erm, there was a mixture.  There would be times that the

13          police would catch up with me, and then there would be

14          times, like if I was with **EUK**, he maybe would

15          be busy and he would send me back.

16  Q.   Can I then come to when you came to leave Good Shepherd,

17          and I have put the departure date to you already, and

18          that was on  1998, when you would now be aged

19          13.  What you tell us at paragraph 143 is you were taken

20          to a Panel 'in my pyjamas', because you think it was

21          an emergency Panel?

22  A.   Yes, I was, basically ... the wording I've got in my

23          head was I was unrulied, I was lifted up out my bed

24          while I was sleeping by police officers and I was taken

25          to Bell Street Panel.

1 Q. Why was this being done on a so-called emergency basis?

2 A. Erm, because I was putting myself in so much danger,

3 I was putting myself in grave danger.

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. The situations I was getting myself in.

6 Q. Was the decision then made that you were to go into

7 secure accommodation?

8 A. Yes, it was meant to be Kerelaw Secure Unit I was to be

9 put into.

10 Q. But in fact it was, I think when you went to Kerelaw,

11 you were in the open unit?

12 A. Yes, the open unit, they decided to keep me in an open

13 unit.

14 Q. Was that, really, straight from when you left Good

15 Shepherd in [REDACTED] 1998?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Was Kerelaw aware of the relationship you had with this

18 man that you were involved with?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Did the relationship continue after you were at Kerelaw?

21 A. Yes, it did for a little while.

22 Q. How then did you meet up with him, did you run away from

23 Kerelaw?

24 A. Yes, I would run away and go again into town and meet

25 him down by the Clydeside.

1 Q. As far as Kerelaw is concerned, at paragraph 148 you  
2 tell us about the art teacher, a man by the name of  
3 Matt George, is that right?  
4 A. Yep.  
5 Q. What you say is that he would take children to his house  
6 in Largs?  
7 A. Yes, and tell us not to tell anyone.  
8 Q. Yes, but you weren't taken to his house, or were you?  
9 A. Yes, I was at Matt George's home in Largs, yes.  
10 Q. Did anything happen there?  
11 A. No, not that I can recall. We were just told not to  
12 tell anyone we were at his home.  
13 LADY SMITH: You say 'we', are you telling me there was more  
14 than one person there?  
15 A. Yes, it wasn't just myself. Erm, this would have been  
16 a weekend and he would come in at weekends and take us  
17 out and about, whether it be to the art gallery, or take  
18 us on a run to his home, and show off his home.  
19 LADY SMITH: How many of you?  
20 A. Well, it was a little minibus that we had, so maybe  
21 three, four.  
22 LADY SMITH: Yes.  
23 A. Maybe three or four. I'm not really sure of numbers,  
24 but it wasn't just one or two.  
25 MR MACAULAY: Did this happen on more than one occasion.

1 A. Yes, it did.

2 Q. How many occasions?

3 A. A handful, maybe three four times.

4 Q. What you tell us also is that if you didn't get up in  
5 the morning, what would happen?

6 A. We would get tipped out our beds.

7 Q. Who would do that?

8 A. That was the staff members.

9 Q. You talk about a particular staff member who you  
10 describe as a 'bit of a bully'; what would he do?

11 A. Oh, he would drag us out of bed, whether it would be by  
12 the hair on our head or by our big toe, we would be  
13 coming out of that bed.

14 Q. You also tell us that he would call you names?

15 A. Oh, yes.

16 Q. What sort of names would he call you?

17 A. Dirty cow, manky, just dirty, dirty names.

18 Q. You are telling us about your own experience, what about  
19 other children who were there?

20 A. Oh, yeah.

21 Q. I should have asked you this: at this time was Kerelaw  
22 mixed? Were there boys and girls?

23 A. Yes, it was, but the girls had their own units --

24 Q. Yes.

25 A. -- it was separate; boys were in one unit and girls were

1           in another.

2   Q.   I think you told us that the Panel wanted you to be in  
3       secure accommodation --

4   A.   Yes.

5   Q.   -- but from what you say, that did not happen?

6   A.   If did not happen, and mum and did were really -- they  
7       were very angry about it.

8   Q.   Because you weren't in the secure accommodation, you  
9       were able to run away, whereas otherwise you may not  
10      have been able to run away?

11  A.   Yes.

12  Q.   You also tell us about another member of staff who would  
13      take girls into the bathroom to do something with them?

14  A.   Yes.

15  Q.   What did he do?

16  A.   Erm, well, that would be -- it would be myself taking  
17      the girls into the bathroom, and I would be beating the  
18      girls up for this male member of staff.

19  Q.   Can you just help me with that. Why would you be doing  
20      that?

21  A.   Because they might not have been behaving themselves, or  
22      he's not happy with them for some sort of reason,  
23      whatever that reason would be.

24  Q.   Why would you be doing that?

25  A.   Because he wouldn't want to do it himself.

1 Q. What happened to these girls, then?

2 A. Erm, they would have their hair pulled, and pushed  
3 about.

4 Q. You say he told you to get these girls for him?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. But why would you agree to that?

7 A. Because we would have then got into trouble.

8 Q. Were you afraid of him?

9 A. Oh, he was a scary man, he was scary.

10 Q. You also tell us about a member of staff who had  
11 a sports car, and indulged in a particular practice.  
12 Can you tell me what he did?

13 A. Erm, well, it was spamming it was called, the other  
14 practice would have been. He basically used the palm of  
15 his hand. He was a big man, he was quite a big man,  
16 tall and out width way. Erm, he would use the base of  
17 his palm and hit us on our foreheads with quite some  
18 force.

19 Q. You say this was called 'spamming'?

20 A. It was spamming.

21 Q. How often did that happen?

22 A. That was every day, a good few times a day, whenever he  
23 was on shift. That was EUN .

24 Q. This is something you experienced?

25 A. Oh yes.

1 Q. Did you see other girls also?

2 A. Yes, even the boys, the boys would get it done too.

3 LADY SMITH: Why was it called spamming?

4 A. I'm not too sure, I'm not sure. I don't know if that

5 was just an Ayrshire thing, I don't know.

6 MR MACAULAY: I think the other thing you tell us about this

7 person is that he had a black sports car?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And he would do something?

10 A. He would drive very, very fast round the back roads, the

11 country roads, and it would be really, really scary.

12 Q. Do I take it then that you and others might be in his

13 car?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Why would you be in the car?

16 A. Erm, basically to get us out to have something fun to

17 do, as he would put it.

18 Q. I think he would drive over bumps, I think you say, and

19 that was scary?

20 A. Yeah, oh, the car would literally lift off the four

21 wheels.

22 Q. You also, I think, tell us that at some point when you

23 were at Kerelaw, you went on holiday to Center Parcs?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. What happened when you went on holiday?

1 A. Erm, there was a lady, EUP, erm, I had been rather  
2 poorly, feeling sick, upset stomach, I'm not sure how  
3 long it had been going on, but it was previous to the  
4 holiday. And during the holiday, it was happening.  
5 Erm, I was really sick. A lady, EUP, she was a nurse  
6 outwith of Kerelaw for the NHS. She asked me to strip  
7 down, and she looked at my breasts, and she proceeded to  
8 tell me I was pregnant, just by looking at my breasts.  
9 Erm, that was the last, I basically heard about that.  
10 We just got on with the rest of the holiday.  
11 Q. But I think you were pregnant?  
12 A. Yes, I was pregnant with my eldest son at that moment.  
13 Q. Although the suspicion was that you had fallen pregnant  
14 when you were away in Govan, in fact was it somebody in  
15 Kerelaw --  
16 A. Yes.  
17 Q. -- who got you pregnant?  
18 A. Yes.  
19 Q. So it was one of the boys in Kerelaw?  
20 A. Yes, it was.  
21 Q. Clearly there were opportunities when you were in  
22 Kerelaw to meet up with a boy --  
23 A. Yes.  
24 Q. -- and have a sexual relationship?  
25 A. Yes.



1 Q. Was this a sexual relationship that went on for a while  
2 or was it a short sexual relationship?  
3 A. Erm, with the father of my eldest?  
4 Q. Yes.  
5 A. It was short, it was short. But there was many  
6 relationships within the place.  
7 Q. Between boys and girls?  
8 A. Yes.  
9 LADY SMITH: How old were you then?  
10 A. I was 14.  
11 LADY SMITH: 14, thank you.  
12 MR MACAULAY: Were girls of that age having sexual  
13 relationships with boys who were there?  
14 A. Yes, there was another pregnancy at that moment in time  
15 also with another person, but that was quite a big  
16 thing.  
17 Q. You also say, this is at paragraph 155, that in Kerelaw,  
18 your behaviour actually got worse, the drug taking got  
19 worse and you started injecting heroin?  
20 A. Yes.  
21 Q. Were you pregnant when you --  
22 A. No, it was previous to that.  
23 Q. Can I take you then, unless you have anything further  
24 you would like to say about Kerelaw, because I know you  
25 wanted to talk about Kerelaw, anything further you want

1           to say about your experiences at Kerelaw?

2   A.   Erm, just that my experience wasn't nice at all. I had  
3       fell pregnant in Kerelaw and I had already been involved  
4       with abuse and still going through abuse while being  
5       pregnant, and previous to it. Erm, I was basically just  
6       ushered out the door and the pregnancy kept secret.  
7       I was sent out on home leave on the Friday.

8           On that Friday in particular, I was upstairs having  
9       a pregnancy test done and I was forced to keep that  
10      secret. My mother and father were downstairs waiting on  
11      me. And I basically went home, knowing I was pregnant.  
12      I was forced not to tell my parents, because the staff  
13      were already getting their story straight. Erm, I just  
14      feel as though I shouldn't have been sent home, it was  
15      a very dangerous situation I was left in.

16   Q.   When you say the staff wanted to get their story  
17       straight, do I take it from that they didn't want the  
18       pregnancy to be linked to Kerelaw?

19   A.   No, they didn't, because there was already a pregnancy  
20       already within Kerelaw that was quite high profile.

21   Q.   Were you still involved with the older man that you told  
22       us about earlier?

23   A.   No, at that time, no. That had completely finished.

24   Q.   Did there come a point in time when your mother asked  
25       you if you were pregnant?

1 A. No. EUO, the staff member, my key worker,  
2 EUO, had taken me home a number of weeks later  
3 and it was basically just a spur of the moment, it was  
4 just landed on mum and dad that they were going to get  
5 a home visit, along with myself and a staff member.

6 Q. What happened then in that home visit?

7 A. The roof nearly blew off. Erm, they knew something big  
8 -- my parents had knew something big was going on, and  
9 something wrong. Erm, I'm sure it was my mum that had  
10 said, 'She's not pregnant, is she?' And basically I had  
11 been sitting with my head down. EUO had put  
12 his head down. My dad hit the roof, because they knew  
13 the answer was yes, without even being told.

14 Erm, my dad went right on the phone to the  
15 newspaper, being the Evening Times at the time, erm, he  
16 was just going absolutely ballistic, crazy, and I was  
17 ushered out the front door by EUO.

18 Q. Did you go back to Kerelaw?

19 A. Straight back to Kerelaw, yeah.

20 Q. Was it shortly after that that you left Kerelaw?

21 A. I would say it wasn't much length of time in between  
22 that visit to home and me leaving. But there was  
23 a little bit of time round about for mum and dad to then  
24 adjust to the idea their daughter was pregnant.

25 Q. Did you get any support when you went back to Kerelaw in

1 connection with your pregnancy?

2 A. Nothing.

3 Q. Were you given any advice?

4 A. Well, there was one member of staff that had taken me

5 out of the unit and taken me to visit another girl that

6 had recently moved out to her own tenancy. Erm, and

7 that's the only person that had really spoke to me about

8 the pregnancy.

9 Q. As far as your parents, in particular your mother, was

10 concerned, once they knew, what was their attitude to

11 you going to have a baby?

12 A. They didn't want anything to do with me. For a number

13 of weeks they weren't answering phone calls or anything.

14 There was no communication.

15 Q. What about the baby; did your mother want you to keep

16 the baby or not?

17 A. No, she wanted me to get rid of my baby.

18 Q. When you say get rid of the baby?

19 A. Have a termination.

20 Q. Okay. But you didn't?

21 A. I didn't, no.

22 Q. Well, when you were pregnant, and had left Kerelaw, did

23 you go back to Kerelaw to see the boy who was the father

24 of the baby?

25 A. Yes, I did. Yes.

1 Q. So he knew that you were having his baby?

2 A. Yes, yes.

3 Q. But I think your relationship with him ended?

4 A. I was forced to end the relationship by my mother.

5 Q. Did that, I think you tell us, mean that you didn't see

6 this person again for about another ten years?

7 A. That's correct. I did call up on registration day for

8 [REDACTED]'s birth certificate, for my baby's birth lines to

9 be signed, and it was arranged for the dad to be there

10 also, and that was Kerelaw that had arranged that. The

11 registrar had given me an extra hour to wait to see if

12 the dad was going to turn up. It turns out Kerelaw had

13 already sent him to London.

14 Q. Okay, so he didn't turn up?

15 A. No, he didn't.

16 Q. This was after your baby was born?

17 A. Yes, after.

18 Q. After you left Kerelaw, did you have any social work

19 input?

20 A. No. No. Erm, I remember my parents asking social work

21 to help provide for the baby, and there was a little sum

22 of money that had been given, but they were very -- they

23 basically had to be forced to help out and to give

24 a little bit of a helping hand, and I remember that

25 clearly. Erm, mum and dad were wondering where the pram

1       was going to come from, the sleeping arrangements, the  
2       cot, the moses basket, whatever, baby bottles, erm, they  
3       were more -- well, it was mum that was more thinking of  
4       the money side of things, but me being a child at the  
5       time, I really wasn't thinking about anything like that.  
6       I wasn't really prepared until later on.

7   Q.   Where were you staying then?

8   A.   I was in the parents' house at the time, and this whole  
9       situation was still exactly the same; self-harming,  
10      drinking, arguments. It wasn't a safe place for anybody  
11      to be, let alone a pregnant child.

12  Q.   Were you there when the baby was born?

13  A.   Yes, I was.

14  Q.   Did you then, I think at some point, move to a private  
15      let in Glasgow?

16  A.   Yes, erm, my mother put myself and my baby out the door  
17      on my 16th birthday.

18  Q.   Were you able, nevertheless, to find somewhere to stay?

19  A.   Well, we slept under a bridge that night, in the city  
20      centre in Glasgow.

21  Q.   With the baby?

22  A.   With my baby.

23  Q.   How old was the baby when that happened?

24  A.   Oh, jeez, erm, I would say coming on 2.

25  Q.   Coming on 2?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. You do find a place to stay, I think, with --

3 A. I scoured the streets.

4 Q. Yes. Were you getting any assistance from the Social

5 Work Department --

6 A. No.

7 Q. -- over this period?

8 A. No.

9 Q. As I think you told us a few moments ago, you did meet

10 the father of this baby later on, some ten years later?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. You go on to tell us about what you have done since,

13 that you have had various jobs, I think, and, indeed,

14 you now tell us that you have five sons, the youngest

15 having been born in 2018?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So there's quite a range of ages --

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. -- between the oldest boy and the youngest boy?

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. You had a partner who sadly has passed away?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Can I just look at what you say about impact. This is

24 at paragraph 185. You say:

25 'I blame social work for a lot of what happened to

1 me. There was no support to help my family build our  
2 relationship. I always craved to be part of a family.  
3 I think that's why I have a big family of my own. I am  
4 very close to my sons.'

5 You are pointing the finger there at the Social Work  
6 Department?

7 A. A lot of it, yeah. They missed a lot, they missed a lot  
8 of behind closed doors, they didn't get to pick  
9 everything out.

10 Q. Can I say to you the following paragraphs, 186 through  
11 to 189, have been read in verbatim actually when  
12 Cardross was being looked at. Nevertheless, I just want  
13 to pick up a couple of points.

14 At 186 you say:

15 'I have a lack of trust in people...'

16 You feel that, do you?

17 A. Oh yes, that's very strong.

18 Q. You say at 189:

19 'I lost everything. I lost my childhood.'

20 When you talk about your drug taking. Is that how  
21 you feel looking back?

22 A. Oh yes, yep.

23 Q. Because you do tell us that you were taking drugs at the  
24 age of 11 or so?

25 A. Very young.



1 Q. As far as support is concerned, you are in contact with  
2 Future Pathways?  
3 A. Correct.  
4 Q. Have you found that support helpful to you?  
5 A. In ways, yes. But not the kind of help that I truly  
6 needed. Where I am at today, I had to sort that help  
7 myself. I had to go and chase different avenues and  
8 explore them, and it was quite tough to get to where  
9 I am.  
10 Q. On that point, at paragraph 192, you say:  
11 'I feel I have made progress in the last few  
12 months.'  
13 Now, of course this statement was signed in  
14 August 2021.  
15 A. Yes.  
16 Q. So we are a little bit down the line. Has that progress  
17 continued?  
18 A. No, there have been many highs and lows in between.  
19 Erm, again, now, I seem to be on a straight road,  
20 having more days, good days, than not so good days.  
21 Erm, again, I've actually got myself involved with the  
22 Glasgow Anchor, and that's the trauma service. But  
23 again, that was down to myself and that was very tough  
24 process to get involved in. You need to be way up  
25 there, basically, to have them on board with you.

1 Q. Is that the case now?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. I can tell you also, under the section 'Lessons to be  
4 learned' that 195 through to paragraph 200, they were  
5 read in verbatim in fact when the foster care chapter  
6 was being looked at. But I will just pick up again one  
7 or two points, just to get your own slant on these.

8 At 196, what you say is:

9 'No one ever tried to understand why the kids were  
10 running away. There was no relationship with my parents  
11 or drug counselling or mediation.'

12 Can I just understand what you mean there. Were you  
13 never being asked as to why you were running away so  
14 regularly as you did?

15 A. Yes, there was -- we weren't sat down -- well, I myself  
16 was never sat down, as I said previously earlier in our  
17 conversation, I was never asked why, I was never asked  
18 ... it was just me giving the information over what  
19 I had been doing, where I had been, who I had been with.  
20 Erm, there was just no questioning, like, yourself, you  
21 had asked if it was different, you know, but there was  
22 nothing, we weren't asked, 'What do you think we could  
23 be doing?' There was nothing like that coming from the  
24 adults.

25 Q. You do say at 198:

1           'I would like things to change, for me, if I know  
2           that speaking out can change at least one person's  
3           experience, perhaps for them to be heard. I felt like  
4           I was shouting to be heard, but I never was.'

5           Then you say:

6           'In the past year I have found it easier to talk and  
7           to be heard, because people are actually listening to my  
8           past.'

9           That's what's important, that people do listen?

10          A. It's very important. Instead of having it bottled up in  
11          yourself.

12          Q. The final point you make is:

13               'Things have to change for the children of the  
14               future, who don't feel they are able to speak at home.'

15          A. Yes.

16          Q. Was that your own position --

17          A. Yes.

18          Q. -- that you weren't able to speak?

19          A. Yes.

20          Q. You weren't being listened to?

21          A. I was silenced as a child, at home and in the system.

22          MR MACAULAY: Well, very well, 'Angelica', these are all the  
23          questions that I have for you.

24               Is there anything you would like to say?

25          A. Not that I can think of.

1 MR MACAULAY: No? Very well. Well, thank you for answering  
2 my questions in the very frank way that you have.  
3 I can say, my Lady, that I have received no  
4 questions to put to 'Angelica'.  
5 LADY SMITH: 'Angelica', let me add my thanks. You have  
6 borne with us very patiently with our probing and -- as  
7 I said at the beginning -- I am sure it hasn't been  
8 easy, but you have given me so much more than just  
9 having your statement in writing from hearing from you  
10 yourself, and that's a valuable contribution to the work  
11 that we are doing here at the Inquiry. Thank you for  
12 that.  
13 I hope you have a safe trip back home and I am now  
14 able to let you go.  
15 A. Thank you. I appreciate everyone's time. Thank you.  
16 LADY SMITH: Thank you.  
17 (The witness withdrew)  
18 LADY SMITH: I would like to add a few names to the ones  
19 I mentioned earlier of people who are not to be  
20 identified outside this room as having provided evidence  
21 or are referred to in evidence.  
22 The witness herself used her own first name at one  
23 point and, indeed, the name of one of her sons. There  
24 were also references to EUP, EUN,  
25 EUO and EUJ, and all these people's identities

1           are protected by my General Restriction Order. Please  
2           bear that in mind.  
3           So if I rise now we have another witness coming for  
4           2.00 pm, I think --  
5   MR MACAULAY: 2 o'clock.  
6   LADY SMITH: -- is that correct?  
7           Very well.  
8           Thank you.  
9   (12.53 pm)  
10                   (The luncheon adjournment)  
11   (2.00 pm)  
12   LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.  
13   MR MACAULAY: Yes, my Lady, this next witness is  
14           Sister Eileen Mearns.  
15   LADY SMITH: Thank you.  
16                   Sister Eileen Mearns (sworn)  
17   LADY SMITH: Eileen, welcome back, it has been a long time.  
18   A. Yes, it has been a long while.  
19   LADY SMITH: Do have a seat and make yourself comfortable.  
20   A. Thank you.  
21   LADY SMITH: Eileen, thank you for coming this afternoon to  
22           help us with evidence in relation to the work of the  
23           Good Shepherd --  
24   A. I shall try.  
25   LADY SMITH: -- in the Bishopton area.

1 A. Yes.

2 LADY SMITH: I appreciate very much you being able to be  
3 here and can I say that I know we are going to be asking  
4 you to speak about things, some of which may not be  
5 within your direct knowledge, but you are having to be  
6 the person who speaks for the Congregation --

7 A. Yes.

8 LADY SMITH: -- in relation to information that they have  
9 pulled together for us in relation to our requirements.

10 A. Yes, I understand.

11 LADY SMITH: The red folder has what we call a Section 21  
12 response from the Order in it and Mr MacAulay will no  
13 doubt be taking you to parts of that, but can I assure  
14 you, I have no intention of us going through every word  
15 of it this afternoon.

16 A. I hope not.

17 LADY SMITH: We would need more than an afternoon to do  
18 that. But seriously, there are some particular areas we  
19 would like to explore --

20 A. Yes.

21 LADY SMITH: -- and we will do that with you, if we may.  
22 If at any time you want to raise anything, do speak  
23 up. We will bring parts of the document up on screen as  
24 well for you, so you don't just have to rely on the  
25 small print in the red folder. That might be a help.

1           If there is anything else I can do to assist you to  
2           give your evidence as easily and as well as you can,  
3           don't hesitate to say, is that okay?  
4   A.   Thank you.   Yes, that's fine.  
5   LADY SMITH:   Mr MacAulay.  
6   MR MACAULAY:   My Lady.  
7                       Questions from Mr MacAulay.  
8   MR MACAULAY:   Yes, good afternoon, Eileen.  
9   A.   Good afternoon.  
10   Q.   Can I begin by just asking you to confirm the year of  
11        your birth, I don't want your whole date of birth, the  
12        year of your birth?  
13   A.   ██████/1951.  
14   Q.   As Lady Smith said, you did give evidence before to the  
15        Inquiry --  
16   A.   I have.  
17   Q.   -- but at that time it was your role in connection with  
18        the Congregation of the Religious, is that right?  
19   A.   It was, yes.  
20   Q.   Here today you are clearly here to give evidence on  
21        behalf of the Good Shepherd Congregation?  
22   A.   Yes.  
23   Q.   Just to get some background, Eileen; I understand that  
24        you entered the Good Shepherd Congregation in 1971?  
25   A.   I did.

1 Q. And you did your final profession in 1978?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Indeed, in 1983, you qualified in social work?

4 A. I did.

5 Q. What work mainly have you done over the years?

6 A. Well, initially, when I was in formation I was involved

7 in Bishopton, as one of the places, and other

8 establishments that we had in England.

9 After I qualified as a social worker, I worked in

10 child guidance, as it was in those days, which would

11 probably be CAMHS these days.

12 And then I worked for a local authority up in

13 Tayside. I worked for the local authority in Glasgow.

14 I also spent time in our establishment down south for

15 women with addiction problems. I have also been the

16 director for the shelters that we had when I was on

17 missions abroad for domestic violence, it was a shelter

18 for women with their children, and also a shelter for

19 children who had been removed from their families.

20 Q. What position do you hold within the Order at present?

21 A. Presently I am a Province Treasurer.

22 Q. Are you based in Scotland?

23 A. I live in Glasgow.

24 Q. Does the Order have much of a presence now in Scotland?

25 A. There are three of us in Scotland.



1 Q. Are you all in the one place in Glasgow?

2 A. No, no, I'm in Glasgow, one's in West Kilbride and one  
3 still lives in the village of Bishopton.

4 Q. Okay. You touched upon this a moment ago, that you did  
5 spend some time in Bishopton?

6 A. I did.

7 Q. How long did you spend in Bishopton?

8 A. It was probably less than a year.

9 Q. Did you say that was in 1971?

10 A. No, no, it was after I did the course for the  
11 residential care of children and young persons.

12 Q. When do you think that was?

13 A. It was '75, so, it was -- well, that was -- yes, '75, so  
14 I was there from '76 into '77.

15 LADY SMITH: Was the course the Langside College course --

16 A. Yes.

17 LADY SMITH: -- that I have heard quite a lot about?

18 A. Yes.

19 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

20 A. Yes. It was one of the few that was around at the time.

21 MR MACAULAY: We have heard evidence also before on behalf  
22 of the Good Shepherd Order in connection with the  
23 Section 21 responses that you have made from Sister Anne  
24 Josephine Carr.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. She gave evidence on Day 10 of the Inquiry, which was on  
2 15 June 2017. She gave evidence about part A of the  
3 response.

4 Then Sister Rosemary Kean, the same day,  
5 15 June 2017, gave evidence in connection with part B  
6 and I think at the time she was actually the Provincial  
7 Leader?

8 A. She was, yes. Sister Anne Josephine is now the  
9 Provincial Leader.

10 Q. Can I begin by asking you to look at some photographs.  
11 We have struggled a bit with trying to identify the  
12 various establishments. If we could perhaps first of  
13 all have photograph GSH-000000086 on the screen. It is  
14 page 2 I want to look at. If we look at the top  
15 photograph, do you recognise that building?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. What building is it?

18 A. That was where the units were for the girls.

19 Q. That was St Euphrasia's?

20 A. Er, now, let me think, let me picture it. Yeah, that  
21 was probably St Euphrasia's, yes.

22 Q. And --

23 A. Which subsequently became where the school was, where  
24 the education part took place.

25 Q. Okay. The bottom photograph, it is described as

1           'Convent Old Bishopton'.  
2   A.   Yes.  
3   Q.   Is that the convent?  
4   A.   That's the convent, and the Sisters lived in that part  
5        of the building.  
6   Q.   Is the convent then in close proximity to the other  
7        building we looked at?  
8   A.   Yes.  
9   LADY SMITH:   So the girls wouldn't ever be in that  
10       building --  
11   A.   No.  
12   LADY SMITH:   -- is that right?  
13   MR MACAULAY:   The other photograph that came on the screen  
14       a moment ago at page 1, this is described in somebody's  
15       handwriting as 'Dalbeth School'.  
16   A.   Yes.  
17   Q.   Was Dalbeth School there when you were there?  
18   A.   When I was there it was no longer Dalbeth School.  
19   Q.   No.  
20   A.   But that --  
21   Q.   Carry on.  
22   A.   Sorry.   That was St Euphrasia's and that was the --  
23        where we had the -- where the girls slept, where they  
24        had their recreation.  
25   Q.   This building was used as part of the St Euphrasia's

1 complex?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Thank you.

4 When, I think it was Sister Anne, gave evidence, one  
5 of the documents she looked at was a document prepared  
6 by one of the previous architects, Sister Kenny --

7 A. Archivists.

8 Q. -- setting out the history of the Good Shepherd Sisters  
9 in Glasgow and Bishopton. I will just put that on the  
10 screen. You may find it easier to look at the screen  
11 rather than ploughing your way through the folder.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. That's at GSH.001.001.0266.

14 Sister Kenny provides us with some of the history,  
15 for example beginning by saying:

16 'The first Good Shepherd Convent in Scotland was  
17 established at Dalbeth in Glasgow in March 1851.'

18 I just want to cut through this, and if I can take  
19 you to the second page, towards the bottom there is  
20 reference to the building of the new school, and then we  
21 read:

22 'On 16 March 1953, the Sisters and girls of the  
23 approved school moved from Dalbeth, Glasgow to the new  
24 school in Bishopton.'

25 Was the new school the second photograph we looked

1           at there?

2   A.   Yes.

3   Q.   Was it still known as Dalbeth when it moved?

4   A.   When it moved, yes.

5   Q.   Yes.

6   A.   It was referred to as Dalbeth until Dalbeth and

7           St Euphrasia's became one establishment.

8   LADY SMITH:   Yes, I think your documents suggest it was

9           referred to as Dalbeth up until 1971 --

10   A.   Yes.

11   LADY SMITH:   -- is that right?

12   A.   Yes.

13   MR MACAULAY:   At this time, then, in 1953, were there two

14           establishments in Bishopton; Dalbeth and St Euphrasia's?

15   A.   Yes.

16   Q.   And --

17   A.   There was the approved school and what was referred to

18           as the training centre.

19   Q.   That's St Euphrasia's?

20   A.   Yes.

21   Q.   Dalbeth was the approved school?

22   A.   Was the approved school.

23   Q.   Whereas St Euphrasia's was not an approved school?

24   A.   No, no, never was.

25   Q.   No.   Then I think we are told, if we go over the page,

1           that the two establishments merged to be known as the  
2           St Euphrasia's Centre --

3   A.   Yes.

4   Q.   -- in November 1971?

5   A.   Yes.

6   Q.   Now, can you tell me when that merger took place, was  
7           the St Euphrasia's Centre either an approved school or  
8           did it become a List D school?

9   A.   List D, it came under List D.

10   Q.   Okay. Sister Kenny sets out the history after that, and  
11           I think it is correct in saying, if we look halfway down  
12           the page, she quotes from a letter dated 13 April from  
13           Archbishop Thomas Winning to the convent solicitor, and  
14           I will just quote:

15           'I would like to let you know that the Bishop is  
16           ready to undertake responsibility for running  
17           St Euphrasia's for the next two years, provided the  
18           legal advisers on both sides can draw up an acceptable  
19           agreement ...'

20           Is it the case that certainly in the early 1980s,  
21           the Sisters were beginning to leave --

22   A.   Yes.

23   Q.   -- St Euphrasia's?

24   A.   Yes.

25   Q.   In 1985, was St Euphrasia's renamed as the Good Shepherd

1 Centre?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And by that time, who was running the Good Shepherd

4 Centre?

5 A. It was the Cora Foundation.

6 Q. I think that was later. Could it have been, at least

7 under the auspices of the Hierarchy?

8 A. Well, yes.

9 Q. You are right in saying the Cora Foundation became

10 involved --

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. -- but I think that was in the 1990s, rather than the

13 1980s.

14 A. Right. I know we handed it over to the Hierarchy. How

15 it functioned after that, I wouldn't be entirely sure.

16 Q. Well, the Sisters had left, and it was functioning under

17 the auspices of the Hierarchy, run by civilian staff?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. We are told towards the bottom of the page:

20 'In April 1995, the sale of the whole property and

21 the transfer of the teenage ministry to Cora Foundation

22 was completed.'

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. By then the Cora Foundation had been formed?

25 A. Yes, I kind of got mixed up with the Cora, because our

1 Sisters in the US were running the Cora Foundation, and  
2 the staff had gone over to the States and had met with  
3 them, and I think that's where I'm getting a bit  
4 confused.

5 Q. Don't worry.

6 I think when Sister Anne was here before, she told  
7 us a little bit about the Order's ethos, and if I just  
8 remind ourselves of that, if we look at  
9 GSH.001.001.0123, and we are looking at what's headed  
10 'Responses part A and B ...'

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. '... for St Euphrasia's Training Centre 1950 to 1971'.  
13 If I could just turn to the second page, page 2, towards  
14 the bottom, at (vi), in answer to a question we are  
15 told:

16 'We would have operated under the system that  
17 prevailed at that time. Our moral duty of care is  
18 embodied in the following quotation ...'

19 I will just quote that to you, and I am sure it is  
20 familiar to you:

21 'Beloved daughters, today I must remind you once  
22 again of a very important regulation: never strike our  
23 children! I know that none of you do so, but it is my  
24 duty to exhort you to be faithful to this  
25 recommendation. Oh no, you must never use harsh



1       measures. It is well known that they do not correct  
2       anything, and they would merely make us culpable before  
3       God and man. Let this order stand forever and always,  
4       as though it were inscribed and printed everywhere,  
5       because, everywhere and in all circumstances, I wish it  
6       to be obeyed.'

7             Does that come from your founders?

8   A. Yes. Yes.

9   Q. Some further information that one can glean from one of  
10       the previous responses, I just want to ask you about  
11       this, this is at GSH.001.001.0225. Here we are looking  
12       at the response for St Euphrasia's part A and B for the  
13       period 1972 to 1982. I think the way this was  
14       presented, the responses were divided up into different  
15       periods?

16  A. Yes.

17  Q. Thank you.

18             One of the questions that was asked was in  
19       connection with the establishment, and on page 5, at  
20       (v), towards the top, do we read:

21             'The girls lived in house groups.'

22             Was that the position when you were there?

23  A. Yes.

24  Q. 'In the morning and after making their beds, they would  
25       have breakfast in their house groups, then go to the

1 hall for school assembly, which was used to highlight  
2 particular events, birthdays or special achievements.  
3 Highlighting the latter was, for a girl, a public  
4 recognition in the presence of her peers and staff  
5 members.

6 They were dismissed [then, I think] to their classes  
7 accompanied by their teachers. At change of lessons,  
8 the girls were accompanied from one classroom to another  
9 by their teacher.'

10 It talks about dinner time and the various  
11 activities that would take place.

12 Can I ask you this, Sister, the material and the  
13 information we have in the Section 21 responses; who was  
14 responsible for putting that information together?

15 A. That would have been Sister Anne Josephine that put that  
16 together.

17 Q. What would the source, then, of that information be?

18 A. Talking to the Sisters that probably were around at that  
19 time, if any of them were still with us, to know what  
20 the routine was.

21 Q. Can I then take you to one of the responses that I think  
22 you have come here today to talk about. That's at  
23 GSH.001.001.0453. If we turn to the next page, page 2,  
24 can we see that this is the response part C and D in  
25 connection with the period 1950 to 1971, do you see

1           that?

2    A.   Yes.

3    Q.   What we see straight away is that in relation to  
4           questions in connection with policy and practice, the  
5           answers really don't tell us anything, it is mainly  
6           'Impossible to say'. Are you able to help me with that?  
7           Why weren't you able to provide information about the  
8           policy and practices that there may have been in place  
9           at that time?

10   A.   As far as I am aware, what we have in our archives is  
11          really in relation to just the girls that were in place  
12          that came to the establishment. We don't seem to have  
13          any other records. So it would be difficult for  
14          anybody, when they were putting this together, to have  
15          had proper information, if there was things like that  
16          around.

17   Q.   All right.

18           If we turn to page 4, the heading at 4.4,  
19          'Day-to-day policy', there is an answer there:

20           'The aim of everything in the centre was to provide  
21          a good living experience to prepare the girls for their  
22          future lives.'

23           Again, we are not provided with any real  
24          information, with answers such as 'No specific records'  
25          and so on. Is that for the same reason, that there were

1           no records --

2   A.   No.

3   Q.   -- that would help?  You did say that your archives, you

4           do have records of the girls?

5   A.   We have the registers --

6   Q.   Okay.

7   A.   -- of the girls who came to us, and when they came, and

8           how long they were with us.

9   Q.   These are the admission and discharge registers?

10  A.   Yes.

11  Q.   What about the more personal information about the

12           girls?

13  A.   Any other information would have gone back to the

14           authorities that placed the girls with us.

15  Q.   Would information as to the day-to-day living of the

16           girls go back to authorities?

17  A.   Anything that was in the girl's file that we maintained

18           while they were with us would have gone back to the

19           authorities, yes.

20  Q.   Do I take it from that answer --

21  A.   No.

22  Q.   -- that you have no records in relation to the girls'

23           files?

24  A.   No.

25  Q.   If you turn to page 6 at 4.6, there are questions about

1 staffing and policy. It appears, again, in the main  
2 that you have no records to deal with these questions?

3 A. No.

4 Q. The same applies if we turn to page 7. There are  
5 questions about visitors, 4.7, you say you have no  
6 records, but would you have had a visitors' book?

7 A. I can't answer that categorically if they had  
8 a visitors' book, because it certainly would be before  
9 my time. But I think anybody coming into the  
10 establishment would have had to have signed in.

11 Q. Would that be the type of record that I would have  
12 thought the Order would want to keep?

13 A. Yes, they didn't seem to keep them, though.

14 Q. Okay, yes.

15 For example on page 8 of the document, we have  
16 a similar picture, if you look, for example, towards the  
17 bottom, 'Complaints and reporting', the answers really  
18 are 'Not known' or 'Not applicable'. And, again, will  
19 that be because you don't have any information to help  
20 you respond to these questions?

21 A. Yes, unfortunately.

22 Q. Again, if we look at page 9 quickly, the same picture.

23 Page 10 is essentially the same picture, if we move  
24 on to that.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Page 11 is, again, fairly similar. There is an answer  
2 dealing with child migration that we are not looking at  
3 today.

4 If we then turn to page 32, again under the heading  
5 'Records', at (iii) what we are told is:

6 'The girls' educational achievements, their progress  
7 in their living and social skills, and their behaviour  
8 would be recorded in their files.'

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. These are files, then, that you do not have?

11 A. No, we don't. All the files went back to the  
12 authorities that sent the girls to us.

13 Q. Again, just to be clear, the information that is set out  
14 here; would the source for that information be some  
15 other Sisters that had been working there at the time?

16 A. Yes, I mean, they would have consulted with any Sister  
17 who may have been at the establishment at that  
18 particular time. And, it's, you know, their memories  
19 that would have been used to provide any other  
20 information that is there, because we didn't have  
21 anything else in the archives that could have been  
22 given.

23 Q. If we then turn to page 13 while we are looking at  
24 part D, which is the part dealing with abuse and  
25 response.

1           At 5.1 we are told there is no known abuse. That's  
2       repeated.

3           Then if we turn over to page 14, we have a picture  
4       of no information being provided.

5           Likewise on page 15 through to page 16.

6           There is no information being provided in connection  
7       with the whole issue of abuse?

8   A. Well, we didn't know of any abuse.

9   Q. When you were there in the 1970s --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- did you witness any behaviour on the part of the  
12     Sisters that may have constituted abuse?

13 A. No. Not -- no, I didn't, and I certainly wouldn't  
14     have --

15 Q. I am sorry?

16 A. I certainly wouldn't have stood back and just walked  
17     away, I just ...

18 Q. This period we have been looking at is the period 1950  
19     to 1971.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Which is the first period. Can I say the Inquiry has  
22     heard some evidence about that period, and there have,  
23     at least to the Inquiry, been allegations of what would  
24     amount to abuse. But be that as it may, as far as you  
25     are concerned, you never witnessed anything of that

1 kind?

2 A. I didn't, no.

3 Q. Then looking at the second period that you were asked to

4 look at, that's 1972 to 1982, and if I can put that on

5 the screen, it is GSH.001.001.0436. Here we are looking

6 at the response for that particular period. I should

7 have perhaps been clearer before, the period when you

8 were there was 1975/1976, which would be within this

9 period?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. But I think, I take it from your answer that even within

12 this period, you didn't see anything that would

13 constitute abuse?

14 A. No.

15 Q. We see a similar picture, certainly on the first page,

16 of no information being provided.

17 In the second page, we do read at 4.3 in relation to

18 admissions:

19 'All girls would have been to a children's hearing

20 ...'

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. ... at this time.'

23 That information was available from your records, or

24 is that just summation?

25 A. No, that was how it was.



1 Q. Yes.

2 A. We didn't -- any girl that came to us, came through the  
3 children's hearing, when it became a List D school, and  
4 children's hearings determined what social work  
5 recommended.

6 Q. If we turn to page 3 then, we are provided with some  
7 more information there, because, for example, towards  
8 the bottom, under (iv), the third bullet point, we are  
9 told:

10 'The girls had a comprehensive education. All  
11 worked towards doing Standard Grades in English,  
12 mathematics, art, home economics, social and vocational  
13 studies and PE. Many girls were almost illiterate on  
14 admission, so there were only six girls in a class.'

15 I just wonder, what period do you think is being  
16 talked about there? Because we have had evidence of  
17 allegations of there being very little by way of  
18 education, certainly over certain periods of time?

19 A. That certainly was the case when I was in Bishopton, and  
20 had been well established once it became St Euphrasia's  
21 List D School. There were qualified teachers who were  
22 on the premises and provided the education.

23 Q. When you say 'qualified teachers', were some of the  
24 Sisters teachers?

25 A. Some of the Sisters were teachers, yes.

1 Q. Were there lay staff who were teachers?

2 A. And lay staff, yes.

3 Q. Then, moving through the document, then, if we turn, for  
4 example, to page 7, we don't receive very much in the  
5 way of information.

6 Moving on to page 8, we see a similar picture.

7 If we turn to page 9, where the questions are  
8 asked -- I will actually focus on what the question is.  
9 Yes, so the first question is:

10 'What policies or procedures ...'

11 LADY SMITH: This is about complaints, I think, isn't it?

12 MR MACAULAY: About complaints, yes.

13 LADY SMITH: Yes.

14 MR MACAULAY: '... did the organisation establish and have  
15 in place in relation to complaints and reporting at the  
16 establishment?'

17 I think you say 'Yes' to that.

18 Then the second bullet point, I will just double  
19 check that question:

20 'Was there a particular policy and/or  
21 procedure/aim/intention?'

22 You say there:

23 'This depended on the seriousness of the complaint.  
24 If it was serious, it would be reported to the managers  
25 who would authorise two of their number to interview the

1 person concerned at the centre. The outcome would be  
2 reported to the Principal and it would be recorded in  
3 the managers' report and in the staff member's file. If  
4 it were some internal matter, it would be dealt with by  
5 the appropriate deputy and recorded in the person's  
6 file.'

7 That's suggesting to me that the managers have  
8 a role to play, if there were complaints being made?

9 A. Yes, if there were serious complaints it went to the  
10 managers, yes.

11 Q. Have you seen documentation to support that?

12 A. No, not personally.

13 Q. Do you have any records to support that sort of traffic  
14 between the organisation and the managers?

15 A. If there had been any of that, it would have been handed  
16 over at the time.

17 Q. Yes. Would the source of that then be other nuns who  
18 perhaps had some experience of this being the practice?

19 A. Yes, when this paperwork was being drawn up, for example  
20 the head and deputy were still alive. They have  
21 subsequently died, but at that time they were still  
22 alive and would have been able to contribute to that.

23 Q. On page 13, this is the part D, dealing with abuse and  
24 response, again we see the extent is no known abuse, no  
25 admission of abuse and no prosecution.

1           You then go on to tell us that there was disclosure  
2           of a complaint in approximately 2010, if we just move  
3           down.  
4   LADY SMITH: It is at 5.3.  
5   A. Yes, I have it.  
6   MR MACAULAY: I think you go on to tell us about  
7           a prosecution of some Sisters?  
8   A. Yes, two Sisters were accused and it did go to court.  
9           And they were acquitted.  
10   Q. Was there a third Sister against whom allegations were  
11       made, but she was not fit to go to court?  
12   A. Yes -- erm, oh, yes, yes, Sister LLW [REDACTED], yes.  
13   Q. Thank you.  
14   A. And she has subsequently died as well.  
15   Q. If you turn on to page 15, at 5.9, do you set out the  
16       complainers who were making allegation of abuse? [REDACTED]  
17       [REDACTED]  
18   A. Yes. Yes.  
19   Q. -- but I think we do have a list of complainers. The  
20       complainers, the first name that's been blanked out, we  
21       see around 2010, and the person against whom allegations  
22       were being made by this complainer and, indeed, other  
23       complainers was LLW [REDACTED], is that  
24       Sister LLW [REDACTED]?  
25   A. Yes.

1 Q. Was she SNR [REDACTED] at one point at the establishment?

2 A. Um, she was -- when I knew of her, she was SNR [REDACTED]

3 SNR [REDACTED], before the two establishments merged.

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. I don't have recollection of her being SNR [REDACTED] at

6 St Euphrasia's, after it became a List D school.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. I am not --

9 Q. You mentioned the prosecution and that the two Sisters

10 that were prosecuted were found not guilty.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. On page 17 does that read then, as we discussed:

13 'One of the Sisters was frail and ill. Her GP was

14 contacted and made a home visit. A medical soul and

15 conscience certificate was issued saying that

16 LLW [REDACTED] was too fragile to attend court.'

17 And that was passed on to the Procurator Fiscal.

18 If we go on to GSH.001.001.0418, we are looking here

19 at a response specifically in connection with Dalbeth

20 Girls' School, 1933 to 1971. I just want to look at

21 that to see what's said in the part D response. That

22 begins on page 13.

23 If we move on to page 14, at 5.8, under the

24 reference to the known abusers at the establishments, we

25 are told that there were no known abusers 2009 to 2013,

1       allegations were made against three Sisters. These were  
2       the three Sisters that we discussed earlier?

3   A. Yes.

4   Q. This information is being provided under the Dalbeth  
5       response?

6   A. Yes.

7   Q. Were these three Sisters at Dalbeth also? Do you know  
8       why that information was being provided here, in more  
9       detail, I think?

10   A. Two Sisters; Sister LLW was never, ever at  
11       Dalbeth --

12   Q. Right.

13   A. -- as far as I understand. The other two Sisters were  
14       only at Dalbeth.

15   Q. But in this particular response, if we look at 5.9, for  
16       example, we are told that there were ten complaints, is  
17       that how I read that?

18   A. That's how it reads.

19   Q. Yes. Do you then list those who were making the  
20       complaints and against whom the complaints were being  
21       made?

22   LADY SMITH: We can get that information, I think, from  
23       a different page than the one that's on screen,  
24       Mr MacAulay.

25   MR MACAULAY: Page 25?

1 LADY SMITH: Page 25, thank you.

2  
3  
4

5 Q. But I can tell you, for example, on page 14, (iv) the  
6 person against whom the complaint is being made is  
7 Anne Rosalyn Kenny?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. That was the Sister who --

10 A. She was the head of Dalbeth School.

11 Q. Yes.

12 If we turn over the page, page 15, again at (iv),  
13 she is again mentioned, Anne Rosalyn Kenny, and, indeed,  
14 I think, down towards the bottom, she is mentioned, and  
15 then at the very bottom, (iv) Agnes Reville?

16 A. Reville.

17 Q. Where was she based?

18 A. She was the deputy at Dalbeth School.

19 Q. At Dalbeth. Again, she is mentioned again over the  
20 page.

21 Then on page 17, you are asked about civil actions  
22 and I think what you are suggesting there is that there  
23 was an ongoing civil action.

24 At (ix) you say 'No outcome as yet'. Is that still  
25 the position?

1 A. Any allegation that we have had has been dealt with by  
2 the lawyers, our lawyers, which was passed on to our  
3 insurers, and they have been dealing with it.

4 As far as our last communication with our insurers,  
5 there hasn't been any outcome, there's been no civil  
6 cases, and there was one litigation, but that was way  
7 back. That's all. That's all the insurers -- the  
8 information that the insurers have provided us.

9 Q. When this says 'Currently with our insurer', and this  
10 is, I think, a document that was produced quite  
11 some years ago.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And 'No outcome as yet', are you saying that nothing has  
14 happened?

15 A. Yes.

16 LADY SMITH: I wonder if that's right, or whether there has  
17 been a failure, actually, to tell you what's happened.

18 A. Well, we have --

19 LADY SMITH: It seems an awful long time.

20 A. -- asked them recently.

21 LADY SMITH: Oh, right.

22 A. And that's the information that we are getting back from  
23 them.

24 LADY SMITH: Who did you ask; the lawyers or the insurers?

25 A. The insurers.



1 MR MACAULAY: Okay.

2 You mentioned then that there was a prosecution that  
3 involved two of the Sisters. And perhaps if we look at  
4 JUS-000000257, that should come on the screen.

5 [REDACTED] I think  
6 what you have here is a list of the charges on  
7 an indictment against the Sisters who were being  
8 prosecuted, and that would appear to be Sister Kenny and  
9 Sister Reville?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Those were the Sisters that you told us had been found  
12 not guilty after trial?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Can we see from the charges that the charges, if we look  
15 at the first charge, for example, that spans a period  
16 from 1969 to 1971.

17 If you turn to the third charge on the next page,  
18 that's a period from 1970 to 1971. I think if we go  
19 through the charges, we are seeing broadly that's the  
20 period that's being focused upon in the early 1970s.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Very well, Sister. Now, I can say to you that over the  
23 last few days, particularly covering the period from the  
24 1950s to the early 1980s, there have been allegations of  
25 physical, emotional and sexual abuse in connection with

1           St Euphrasia's and the Good Shepherd, St Euphrasia's in  
2           particular. You are frowning at that. Does that  
3           surprise you?

4   A.   Yes.

5   Q.   Were you aware, because there has been evidence about  
6           this, of there being either a detention room or  
7           a punishment room or a dungeon -- all these terms have  
8           been used -- at the premises?

9   A.   I know when the Dalbeth Approved School was functioning  
10          as an approved school, a detention room was part of the  
11          system. But as for after that, there was no detention  
12          room, there certainly was no detention when I was --  
13          a detention room or a punishment room, or any such room.

14   LADY SMITH: When you say when Dalbeth was functioning as  
15          an approved school, is that taking us up to 1971?

16   A.   Yes.

17   LADY SMITH: Where was it, this detention room?

18   A.   As far as I know, it was at one end of the building.

19   LADY SMITH: Upstairs? Downstairs?

20   A.   Erm, as far as I know it was upstairs.

21   LADY SMITH: Thank you.

22           Mr MacAulay.

23   MR MACAULAY: Some quite graphic allegations have been made  
24          about the use of this particular room; a bucket for  
25          a toilet and that the children would be kept there for

1 periods of a week. Have you heard anything about that  
2 from within the Order?

3 A. No, never. Erm, I spoke with one of the Sisters who  
4 would have been in our approved school down south in  
5 England, which would have been run on the same kind of  
6 lines, and they had a detention room there, but she said  
7 if anybody was ever placed in the detention room, it was  
8 usually after they had been brought back, if they had  
9 been absconding, and were brought back, and they were  
10 placed in the detention room just to give them a chance  
11 to cool off, and it wasn't for any extended period of  
12 time.

13 Q. You mentioned absconding. Were you conscious of there  
14 being any absconding from the establishment when you  
15 were there in the mid 1970s?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Were any enquiries carried out as to why children were  
18 absconding?

19 A. It was usually they didn't come back from home leave, so  
20 they were reported to the police. Yes.

21 Q. What about running away quite separate from home leave,  
22 were there children who ran away?

23 A. Yes, it happened, but not very often, it was more not  
24 returning from home leave.

25 Q. Do you know --

1 A. I -- before I entered, I used to go and visit Bishopton,  
2 and it was my first experience of girls absconding. At  
3 that time we could go from Bishopton down to the river,  
4 before the motorway was built, and I had six of them  
5 with me, erm, and one of them ran off, and I was  
6 absolutely shocked. And another one that liked me ran  
7 to try and get her back, but she came back. So it was  
8 just one that had gone off.

9 Q. Well, had she got far?

10 A. Erm, well, we went back to the school and she was  
11 reported to the police as having absconded.

12 Q. Just to take that example, did you ever find out why she  
13 ran off when she did?

14 A. It was usually when they had recently been coming, you  
15 know, placed in this school, when they hadn't really  
16 kind of come to terms with the fact that they had been  
17 removed from home, and they just wanted to be back home.  
18 Back with their friends that they had been removed from.

19 Q. One of the other complaints -- one of the other  
20 allegations that has been made, and I think I mentioned  
21 this in passing, is that for some, they had little or no  
22 education, but you are contradicting that by saying that  
23 there was a school which --

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. -- provided proper education?

1 A. Yes. In fact, some of the girls actually attended the  
2 local school. I had one girl in my group who went out  
3 to the local school. But she played up no end, because  
4 she wanted to be back in the school in our own  
5 establishment, rather than out at the secondary school.

6 Q. Another allegation that has been made is in relation to  
7 the girls bearing the brunt, if not exclusively, at  
8 least largely, of the cleaning of the establishment?

9 A. No. No. They were encouraged to keep their own space  
10 clean, and they were encouraged to help with the dishes,  
11 and keeping the house clean, but not any major cleaning  
12 or anything like that. And that was to help them to  
13 understand that when they had their own place, when they  
14 left us, and maybe going to their own flats and things,  
15 that these things had to be done. But it wasn't -- they  
16 weren't involved in any major cleaning. No.

17 Q. Well, does that mean that, at least when you were there,  
18 there were cleaners employed?

19 A. Yes, yes.

20 Q. Another allegation that's been made against the  
21 organisation is that children were punished for  
22 bedwetting.

23 A. No.

24 Q. Were there children who did wet their bed?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. What happened?

2 A. Er, well, when they got up in the morning and they had  
3 a wet bed, we would ask them just to strip their bed,  
4 but to leave it, and that the staff would deal with it  
5 when they went to school.

6 Q. A topic such as aftercare and taking steps to see that  
7 a child who had left had proper support; have you any  
8 recollection of what the position was?

9 A. Well, they had their social workers. They still were  
10 involved with social work when they left us. And we  
11 would welcome them back any time, if they wanted us to  
12 visit them, then we did. But they were encouraged to  
13 come back if they needed any further support, which  
14 a number of them did.

15 MR MACAULAY: Very well, Sister Eileen, those are all of the  
16 questions I have for you. Is there anything you would  
17 like to say to us?

18 A. No, I just -- I really enjoyed my time looking after the  
19 teenagers, it was a pleasure, and I hope that, you know,  
20 for the majority of them anyway, that they did benefit  
21 from the stay with us. Of course, I know that some  
22 didn't, but ...

23 LADY SMITH: Sorry, can you remind me how long in total you  
24 were involved directly with the teenagers there?

25 A. In Bishopton?

1 LADY SMITH: Yes.

2 A. Or generally?

3 LADY SMITH: In Bishopton.

4 A. In Bishopton? It would probably be about ten months.

5 LADY SMITH: Right, okay, thank you.

6 MR MACAULAY: Thank you.

7 Just to be clear, would you yourself be resident in

8 the convent that --

9 A. Yes.

10 MR MACAULAY: -- we put up on screen?

11 A. Yes. And when we were on call we would stay over at the

12 school, we had a bedroom at the school that if any of

13 the Sisters were on call that particular night, they

14 would stay within the school.

15 MR MACAULAY: Well, very well, Sister, thank you for coming

16 and answering my questions.

17 My Lady, I haven't been sent any questions to put to

18 Sister Eileen.

19 LADY SMITH: Sister Eileen, thank you again from me for

20 coming this afternoon. It has been really helpful to

21 have you here and probe your memory. I do realise we

22 were asking you about things that happened a long time

23 ago.

24 A. Yes, over 40 years.

25 LADY SMITH: I know, it is frightening to think of it, isn't

1           it?

2           Do feel free to go.

3   A. Thank you.

4   LADY SMITH: Safe journey back.

5                               (The witness withdrew)

6   LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay, if we take the break we could then

7           do the -- there is one more read-in, isn't there?

8   MR MACAULAY: The final read-in, yes.

9   LADY SMITH: Let's do that, thank you.

10   (2.57 pm)

11                               (A short break)

12   (3.07 pm)

13   LADY SMITH: Before we start the read-in, I have three names

14           of people whose identities are protected by my

15           General Restriction Order: there is a Sister LLW [REDACTED],

16           I have already mentioned her in the course of this week

17           or last week as well, possibly; [REDACTED] and

18           [REDACTED]. Please don't identify them as referred

19           to in our evidence outside this room.

20           Ms MacLeod.

21   MS MACLEOD: My Lady, the next read-in and the final read-in

22           for this chapter is that of an applicant who will use

23           the pseudonym 'Katie'.

24   LADY SMITH: Thank you.

25



1                                'Katie' (read)

2    MS MACLEOD: Her statement can be found at WIT-1-000000819.

3                                'My name is 'Katie'. [I was born in] 1985 ...

4                                'When I was born I stayed in ... Ayrshire. I have

5                                a large family. I was brought up with seven brothers

6                                and sisters ...

7                                'I was under social work supervision from 1994 when

8                                I was 9 years old. Patricia Greenall was our social

9                                worker for years ... I stopped going to school ... when

10                               [I was in] ... high school ... I had two workers to

11                               take me to school, meet me from school and take me to

12                               a support group once a week. Lorna McColl was one of

13                               them. They took me to school. But I left through

14                               another door. In my records it says that the worker has

15                               come to meet me, but I've been away with friends, so

16                               they knew I was dodging school.

17                               'By the time I was 13 years old, I was down the town

18                               all the time and sleeping with the homeless people.

19                               I started buzzing deodorants and got into heroin. My

20                               daily life was shoplifting and feeding my habit. Social

21                               work got wind of this and there was a Panel. I knew

22                               I was going away and I was all right with that.

23                               I packed my bags and went to the Good Shepherd for my

24                               own safety.'

25                               Records suggest that this witness was admitted to

1 the Good Shepherd in Bishopton on [REDACTED] 2000, when  
2 she was aged 14. There is no record, or the Inquiry  
3 doesn't have a record that I have seen, containing  
4 a leaving date for this witness, although it may have  
5 possibly been at some point in 2001.

6 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

7 MS MACLEOD: 'The Good Shepherd was out in the wilderness.

8 It was really far away and all you could see were hills  
9 and fields. The Good Shepherd was like a jail, even  
10 though it's not a jail. I'd never been away from home  
11 and been separated from my family before. I'd never  
12 even slept on my own in a bed, because me and my sisters  
13 had always slept in one bed as a family. That was  
14 a massive thing for me. I knew I had done wrong and  
15 I had to be put in the Good Shepherd for my own safety.  
16 I went into the Good Shepherd when I was 13 years old  
17 and left just before I was 16 years old.

18 'There were all girls from age 11 to 17 in the Good  
19 Shepherd. A lot of the other girls had been abused or  
20 had family problems. They were in the Good Shepherd for  
21 their own safety. There were 40 or 50 girls in the day  
22 unit for school and 15 girls in each residential unit.  
23 The girls were mixed in age in each residential unit.

24 'When you go inside the building you come to  
25 reception. To the right is the day unit, which is the

1 school unit. If you go to the left, that takes you to  
2 the three residential units. The three units are  
3 St Claire's, Goretti and St Margaret's. The first unit  
4 you come to is St Margaret's to the left. You went to  
5 the right, and that took you to St Claire's and Goretti.  
6 St Claire's was a brand new unit. I stayed in  
7 St Claire's unit all the time I was at the Good  
8 Shepherd.

9 'As you came into St Claire's unit the office was in  
10 front of you. To your left was the living room, then  
11 the toilet, kitchen, smoke room and stairs where the  
12 fire exit was. You walked past the fire exit to get to  
13 the bedrooms. There were two bedrooms next to the fire  
14 exit for the two oldest girls in the unit. The younger  
15 girls were further away from the fire exit. My bedroom  
16 was room 4, which was the fourth one past the fire exit.

17 'I established myself as soon as I went in. One of  
18 the lassies stole £20 out of my room. I knew she was  
19 causing bother for me and the full unit was pointing at  
20 me and talking about me. I went straight for her and  
21 dealt with her. That sorted the problem out and after  
22 that all the lassies talked to me and liked me. I had  
23 a best friend.

24 'There was a flat away from the girls' bedrooms.  
25 After I had been in the Good Shepherd for a while my

1 best friend stayed in it. My friend was going out to  
2 college. That didn't last long, because the girls were  
3 going into the flat, taking drugs and getting out of  
4 their face. My friend was put back to number 1 room  
5 beside everyone else.

6 'GXC [REDACTED] was SNR [REDACTED] of the whole of the  
7 Good Shepherd. In the units there were team managers  
8 and staff. The team managers in St Claire's were  
9 Mrs Knox and, below her, Louisa Gallacher. There were  
10 good people in the Good Shepherd. Mrs Knox was all for  
11 the lassies and protected the girls. The normal staff  
12 with qualifications were Lorraine McKenzie,  
13 Stephen Thomson and Susan Rae. Stephen was my key  
14 worker.

15 'There were sessional workers who came in for  
16 weekend work. Grant was a fire fighter and  
17 Lisa Jamieson was a beauty therapist. Lisa was  
18 brilliant and really nice. There was a woman called  
19 Kathleen Moran. I got along with her but she went out  
20 on a date with Stephen Thomson and I didn't like her  
21 after that. There was a woman called Amanda who was  
22 a sessional worker too.

23 'There were three staff per shift. The staff stuck  
24 to their own unit unless there was a shortage and staff  
25 would go into a different unit. There were only two

1 members of staff on at night time. One of them,  
2 Old Marnie, was in her 60s and couldn't control the  
3 lassies.

4 'The day I went into the Good Shepherd, my support  
5 worker, Lorna McColl, took me to the jail to visit my  
6 boyfriend. He had murdered his stepfather. Social work  
7 were going to try and support the relationship, if it  
8 made me happy. I had requested they take me to see my  
9 boyfriend once, if I went to the Good Shepherd. Lorna  
10 agreed to take me, because that way she knew I was safe.  
11 I didn't get into see him because I hadn't booked  
12 a visit. I got to pass a message on through the prison  
13 officers.

14 'Pat Greenall took me to the Good Shepherd. I had  
15 a plastic bag of clothes. I didn't have much, just one  
16 outfit if you're lucky. The Good Shepherd was  
17 absolutely mental. There was a lassie being restrained  
18 in the hall as you first went in. It was brutal. There  
19 were four or five members of male and female staff on  
20 top of this wee lassie. The lassie was obviously  
21 squealing and going mental. I thought, oh my God, what  
22 have I stepped into here? I knew it was a place that  
23 didn't take any shit.

24 'I met the team manager Louisa Gallacher first. She  
25 showed me round the unit, showed me where my room was

1       and told me the rules and regulations. I met my key  
2       worker, Stephen Thomson.

3       'I stayed in my room for about a week, probably  
4       because I was withdrawing from heroin. I was upset,  
5       crying, alone and isolated. I lay in my bed like  
6       a baby. I had sickness and diarrhoea. I don't remember  
7       the staff asking if I was all right.

8       'You heard all the lassies and they were wild.  
9       There were even lassies getting restrained at the dinner  
10      table. They were immature and nippy. I thought I was  
11      an adult. By that time I had been bringing up my  
12      younger siblings. I watched my wee brother from when he  
13      was 3 weeks old and I was 11 years old. We all mucked  
14      in at home. I was like a mum before I went in there.

15      'Three members of staff came into my room. They  
16      knew my sister, who was in the Good Shepherd the year  
17      before me. The staff said I had to stop acting so  
18      mature. I was only 13 years old and I wasn't an adult.  
19      They said I had to learn to come down to the other  
20      lassies' level and act my age.

21      'The first memory I have of coming out my room was  
22      a Saturday. That was a good day, because Stephen took  
23      me and some of the other girls shopping to Paisley to  
24      buy new clothes. The staff could see that I didn't have  
25      any clothes and I got a £100 clothing grant.

1            'We all had locks on our doors and the staff had the  
2            keys. We got up about 8.30 am. The staff came in and  
3            woke you up. You were expected to be showered and have  
4            your bed made. We went downstairs for breakfast. If we  
5            were up in time and had our breakfast, then we would  
6            have a 10 or 15-minute fag break. Then we went to  
7            school. You were allowed to smoke as long as the unit  
8            got permission from your parents. You used your pocket  
9            money to buy cigarettes and the staff bought them for  
10           you.

11           'My shower was outside my bedroom door. It was just  
12           for me to use and there was a lock on it. Some girls  
13           had showers in their rooms. It was left to us whether  
14           we showered.

15           'I was more helping the staff rather than against  
16           the staff. Night time was an absolute nightmare for the  
17           staff. I don't believe they had enough staff at night  
18           time because there was only two staff. You were meant  
19           to be in bed by 9.00 pm and lights out by 10.00 pm. It  
20           took some work to get the lassies to their bed.

21           'Night time was when things erupted in the building.  
22           The lassies ran about [REDACTED] themselves and were  
23           covered in blood. There were lassies outside [REDACTED]  
24           [REDACTED] wanting to commit suicide. The lassies kept the  
25           staff on their toes.

1            'We'd go downstairs for our meals at lunchtime and  
2            dinner time. It was just the girls from St Claire unit  
3            eating together. The girls were like a pack of  
4            hooligans. They were uncontrollable. Obviously, if  
5            girls are messed up, they are acting out. I found that  
6            immature and stayed away from that side of it.

7            'Breakfast was cereal and toast. We helped  
8            ourselves. Lunch was always chips, pie and beans.  
9            Dinner time was the same, maybe fish fingers, chips and  
10           beans. The dinner staff prepared the food. The staff  
11           would help you make French toast at night time or you  
12           could have cereal. You put your stuff in the dishwasher  
13           after you ate.

14           'We got home about 3.45 pm after school. We had  
15           recreation days on a Tuesday and a Friday, when everyone  
16           got £3.50 each. Getting money every week was something  
17           I had never had. You could go on a run to McDonald's or  
18           go and do something, like go to the pictures. Sometimes  
19           there were activities but, if the lassies weren't  
20           behaving, the full unit didn't get to go out. There was  
21           a TV room with a computer you could play games on.

22           'In August 2000, when I was 15 years old, I had  
23           a boyfriend from St Philip's Residential School. Me and  
24           one of my friends got the Good Shepherd staff to take us  
25           to St Philip's so we could meet our boyfriends at night.



1       That went on for about four weeks and then Stephen put  
2       a stop to it. Stephen saw me buying fancy underwear  
3       because he was my key worker and paid for my clothing.  
4       I think he sensed I was becoming sexually active.

5       'Stephen said the boy was no good for me, he didn't  
6       want him to have anything to do with me and he knew what  
7       boys were like. He said boys were in residential care  
8       for punishment, whereas girls were in for nourishment.  
9       Stephen stopped our access to the boys and phoned  
10      St Philip's to stop the boys from seeing the girls.

11      'We went horse riding and indoor skiing one time.  
12      We went to Benmore with the school. There was  
13      an assault course and that was good. Louisa Gallacher,  
14      Lorraine McKenzie and Susan Rae took us camping to  
15      Dunoon and that was brilliant.

16      'The Good Shepherd paid for me to go and see my dad  
17      in London. I spent a week at my dad's.

18      'School started at 9.30 am. A member of staff  
19      walked you over to the day unit. There were lots of  
20      different classrooms for each subject. There were  
21      between four and eight girls in a class. We got to go  
22      in a car to McDonald's if we behaved ourselves. The  
23      teachers were from outside. I'm assuming they were  
24      qualified in the subject they taught. The classes were  
25      not too bad.

1           'I loved hair and beauty and I liked art. I loved  
2           drama. Drama was brilliant. French was a joke. We  
3           blackmailed our teacher, Mrs Reid, by saying if we did  
4           any work then she was to take us to McDonald's. We must  
5           have drove her off her head. We had to do some work,  
6           then we would get an ice cream sundae. We made a joke  
7           in science as well. We had physical education in a nice  
8           big gym. I was all right at English but I couldn't do  
9           the reading. I couldn't concentrate. Mr Lafferty  
10          taught religious education. He was a wee, funny guy so  
11          we liked religious education.

12          'I had missed a lot of school between the ages of 11  
13          and 13. In the Good Shepherd I mucked around and ran  
14          about the school. The staff came and chased you about  
15          the grounds outside. That's how I remember my days  
16          being filled at the Good Shepherd. I passed my Standard  
17          Grades prelims and didn't do too badly, considering  
18          I hadn't been at school. I was shocked at that.  
19          I failed my exams because by then there was allegations  
20          about Stephen Thomson and me and my mind wasn't on it.

21          'There was no medical examination when I went into  
22          the Good Shepherd. I didn't get any drug addiction help  
23          at the start and I didn't have any counselling or help  
24          with my mental health. When you read my records, you  
25          can clearly see there's something seriously wrong with

1 me. The records say I can't sit still, I'm fidgeting,  
2 acting out and spitting. The staff should have seen  
3 I needed help. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder  
4 runs in my mum's family. It's possible that was what  
5 was wrong with me. If the staff had taken me to doctors  
6 something may [have] been done to help me, but the staff  
7 never did.

8 'There was no sex education in the Good Shepherd or  
9 talk about boundaries. I wasn't too sexually active but  
10 there were a lot of lassies who were. There were  
11 lassies getting pregnant at 14 years old. It was common  
12 sense that, if lassies were sexually active, then they  
13 should be on the contraceptive pill, but none of the  
14 lassies went to the doctors. We never had doctor or  
15 dentist appointments.

16 'The first time the staff took me to see someone was  
17 after allegations were made about Stephen Thomson and me  
18 in December 2000. Lorraine McKenzie was my new key  
19 worker. She took me to see a drug counsellor because  
20 the Good Shepherd could see there was something  
21 massively wrong with me. Depression was ripping out of  
22 me and I was crying all the time. I didn't want to do  
23 anything and I didn't talk to anyone. In my records it  
24 says the staff suspected I was taking heroin again, but  
25 that was only when I was at home.

1           'There was a leaflet about depression outside the  
2           drug counsellor's door. I never knew what depression  
3           was. I read the symptoms and said to Lorraine McKenzie  
4           that sounded like me. All the things the leaflet said  
5           about depression were what was wrong with me.

6           'When I first went into the Good Shepherd I was on  
7           a six-week warrant and wasn't allowed to get in touch  
8           with anybody. I had no contact with my family and  
9           I didn't want any contact.

10          'I was allowed phone calls from my boyfriend who was  
11          in the jail. I started seeing him when I was 11 and  
12          a half years old and he was 18 years old. I carried on  
13          writing to him for a wee while, when I was in the Good  
14          Shepherd. The staff knew I spoke to him on the phone,  
15          because, when the call came through, a message said it  
16          was a call from Bowhouse Prison and asked if you  
17          accepted the call. If the staff answered they would  
18          pass the call to me, they knew I wrote to him as well.  
19          The staff never spoke to me about that relationship.

20          'I stayed in contact with my boyfriend for three  
21          months and then I stopped answering his phone calls.  
22          I knew he was in jail for six or seven years. It was  
23          all pain for me, because he was taken away as well.

24          'If I wanted to see Pat Greenall then I had to phone  
25          her. I phoned Pat and begged to go home, but the only

1       time I saw her was at a Children's Panel or a review.

2       'About seven months into my time at the Good  
3       Shepherd I would get out on weekend leave home. Before  
4       that I didn't want to go home. I felt the Good Shepherd  
5       was a new life for me, because I was used to sleeping on  
6       cardboard. The staff dropped us off at the train  
7       station on Friday to go our own way. I was supposed to  
8       go back on Sunday.

9       'When I got home leave, I wasn't even going home.  
10      At first, it was an excuse to meet up with the lassies  
11      outside. Me and the girls from the Good Shepherd met up  
12      in Paisley on Friday. We put our pocket money together,  
13      sat with homeless guys, got drunk and went back to the  
14      Good Shepherd on Friday night.

15      'There were so many fire exits that we were able to  
16      come and go as we pleased. We left without permission  
17      and the staff came to look for us. There were fields  
18      everywhere and we went over the fields to the train  
19      station to get out of Bishopton.

20      'At first, the Good Shepherd was all nice and happy.  
21      I was off heroin for a long time, except when I was at  
22      home, because I felt safe in there. It wasn't like home  
23      life. I wasn't homeless and dealing with people with  
24      knives at your throat. I knew life outside was a life  
25      of danger. After allegations were made about Stephen

1       and me, my heroin dabbling became worse.

2       'The last year I was in the Good Shepherd, when  
3       I was 15 and a half years old, there were five girls in  
4       my unit on heroin. In Gerrety there were four girls on  
5       it and in St Margaret's there were two girls on it.

6       'After school we would plan how to get heroin into  
7       the Good Shepherd. We focused on how to get money and  
8       put our £3.50 pocket money together. I think the staff  
9       knew we were using heroin. We'd make up excuses to get  
10      the staff to takes us out for a run in the car to  
11      Clydebank or Paisley. 30 or 40 minutes later girls were  
12      going about gouching and overdosing. It was obvious  
13      what we were doing. Susan Rae caught me and my sister  
14      taking heroin in my room. I had drugs paraphernalia,  
15      needles and spoons.

16      'Some girls knew people who would bring heroin in  
17      for us. We got people to bring it to the back of the  
18      building where there was no cameras. Once that started  
19      happening, heroin went through all the units like  
20      wildfire. By night time we were all overdosing.  
21      I overdosed. The lassie who stayed next door to me  
22      overdosed and got caught red handed with tin foil on  
23      her. Another girl nearly died. Her lips went blue and  
24      she collapsed coming down the stairs. All the staff  
25      were pumping her chest on the stairs. It was late at

1 night and we were all sent to bed. I don't know if she  
2 was taken to hospital.

3 'Me and my best friend sat up every night smacked  
4 out of our face. We helped the staff get all the girls  
5 to bed. Normally the girls would be running about  
6 [REDACTED] or going [REDACTED]. Me and  
7 my friend went out and threatened them to get back to  
8 bed. We took that on as our role and that let us get  
9 back to taking heroin.

10 'One time I overdosed at my mum's house. I was  
11 brought back to life by the ambulance staff who gave me  
12 an adrenaline jag. The Good Shepherd paid for a taxi  
13 and watched me all night to make sure I was all right.  
14 I never saw a doctor.

15 'If there was any punishment for taking heroin in  
16 the Good Shepherd then it would be being kept in. That  
17 was no punishment, because it was easier to get heroin  
18 in the Good Shepherd than outside.

19 'Girls were restrained all the time. My best friend  
20 got into a scrap with a member of staff and the staff  
21 broke her wrist. My friend was on morphine tablets for  
22 a good few weeks. I wasn't restrained because I never  
23 did anything to get restrained. I thought I was too  
24 mature for that and I was a team player with the staff.

25 'I think the way the staff carried out the restraint

1       was uncalled for. The staff would swipe the lassies'  
2       legs away from them so they would "face plant" on the  
3       floor. The staff would dig their knees into the person.  
4       You could have three males and two females on one  
5       five-foot lassie. It wasn't the right kind of  
6       discipline that we should have been getting. There  
7       could have been other ways to deal with things, but the  
8       staff used brute force to get the lassies to behave.  
9       All the staff used restraint. Sometimes staff from  
10      other units would come to help with restraints.

11       'When I first went into the Good Shepherd, I thought  
12      Stephen Thomson, my key worker, was cool. He had only  
13      been there for a year before I got there. He gave you  
14      extra fags. He was a bouncy character, always upbeat  
15      and all the lassies clung to him. Me and Stephen built  
16      up a relationship like a father and daughter  
17      relationship. He referred to me as his key child and  
18      I had a key sister. As time went on, I felt like he was  
19      protecting me. Stephen is 16 years older than me.

20       'That father and daughter relationship went on for  
21      a good while. We had good laughs, I got extra fags, he  
22      took me, my key sister and two other lassies out in the  
23      car to Carpark in the Sky near Paisley and drove at  
24      [about] 100 miles an hour, we called each other "ya  
25      daftie". When it was his shift I warned the lassies to



1 give him an easy time. If the lassies were playing up  
2 then I would step in. That came over as me being  
3 overprotective. I didn't think anything of it at the  
4 time, because we were building a bond.

5 'Every time Stephen came to collect me from home  
6 leave he came in and sat with my mum. He had a blether  
7 with her. I actually thought he was going to go with my  
8 mum and I knew he liked my mum. My mum was drinking and  
9 they were both flirty. I didn't think it was me that he  
10 liked. Now, I think he was sussing my mum out to see  
11 what kind of person she was and whether she would talk.  
12 My sister said I'd better watch myself because he  
13 fancied me. I said no way did he fancy me.

14 'The first night that anything happened was  
15 a Sunday, when I was 14 and a half years old. Stephen  
16 collected me from my mum's house ... I had been taking  
17 heroin. I got in the car and gouched all the way to  
18 Glasgow, that means sleeping the way junkies do. We  
19 went to Clydebank to collect a lassie from the Good  
20 Shepherd. We were outside in the car waiting for the  
21 lassie to come out. Stephen asked me if I liked him and  
22 said I was very pretty. I was embarrassed and shy.  
23 Stephen asked if he could kiss me and I froze. I knew  
24 I liked him, but not in that way, in a dad way. I let  
25 him kiss me, then the lassie came to the car.

1            'We went back to the Good Shepherd and everything  
2            was all right. Stephen came into my room and it was  
3            a short goodbye before he went home. Nothing happened.  
4            The next day I went into my shell. I felt intimidated.  
5            I was petrified of men. I knew we'd crossed a barrier  
6            and I was scared. The next day, Stephen started his  
7            shift at 2.00 pm. I came in from school and went  
8            straight to my room. I didn't want to see him. Stephen  
9            came upstairs and asked me if everything was okay.  
10           I said things were okay. That's how it all started.

11           'Me and the girls would run away to Paisley and get  
12           drunk. We knew Stephen came from Paisley and his fiancé  
13           left him for another man, so he was drinking constantly.  
14           I felt sorry for him. He let me know he drunk in  
15           a particular pub and if I needed him any time to get in  
16           touch with him. There were times we were in Paisley and  
17           we ran into Stephen. He was paralytic.

18           'Me and the girls would be tipsy but ready to drink  
19           more. We were lucky if we got a three-litre bottle of  
20           cider between five or six of us. Me and Stephen would  
21           go round the corner and Stephen would give me money. He  
22           didn't want to give me money in front of all the girls,  
23           and told me to keep my mouth shut. That was  
24           a repetitive thing. At the time I had a boyfriend from  
25           a home in Paisley.

1           'I don't really know how we got into the sexual  
2           things. Me and Stephen would go out to the shop to get  
3           fags and stop in laybys. There was a back road in  
4           Bishopton where we went to and did things to each other.  
5           It was a quiet road that not many people drove on.  
6           I sat on top of him in the front seat of the car and  
7           straddled him. I don't know if was me or Stephen who  
8           brought his penis out, but something tells me it was  
9           him. I masturbated him. That went on for a good while.  
10          It was the same routine.

11          'I never had money for a phone back then. One day  
12          me and one of the lassies met Stephen in Paisley. We  
13          had run into two drunk guys who had tried to molest us.  
14          We had got into dangerous situation with them. I told  
15          Stephen and he said I should have phoned him. I told  
16          him I didn't have a phone, and he gave me an old one of  
17          his. After that, he phoned me every weekend when I was  
18          at my mum's.

19          'One Sunday I was on my way back to the Good  
20          Shepherd and Stephen phoned me. He asked if I wanted to  
21          go back to his house. I went to Stephen's house at  
22          about 8.30 pm and stayed until about 10.30 pm ... We  
23          lay on the bed, kissed, groped and simulated sex.  
24          Stephen paid for a taxi to get me to [the train station]  
25          and I got the train back to the Good Shepherd.

1           'I went home on leave on a Friday and Stephen would  
2           phone me at about 12.00 am. I would fall asleep talking  
3           to him on the phone. We talked sexy to each other.  
4           Stephen asking what I was wearing, what did I want to do  
5           to him and things like that. That went on for a wee  
6           while.

7           'There was one time Grant, one of the sessional  
8           workers, sent me upstairs to change my clothes. He said  
9           I was dressed inappropriately. I was showing my belly  
10          button. I was upset by that, but now I think Grant was  
11          looking out for me and that was his way of protecting  
12          me. Maybe Grant had seen Stephen looking at me in  
13          an inappropriate way.

14          'The first time we had intercourse was after  
15          allegations were made about inappropriate behaviour  
16          involving Stephen and me. The allegations were made by  
17          a member of the public and by my best friend. It was  
18          around December, and I was 15 years old. Stephen came  
19          to collect me at my mum's. It was the weekend before  
20          I went to see the drug counsellor. That was during  
21          Stephen's own time and not at work. We went to  
22          Dundonald Castle and had intercourse in the back of his  
23          car. After that, he took me home. I believed things  
24          were moving on for us, because we were sneaking about.

25          'In February 2001, Stephen was leaving the Good

1 Shepherd and, in January 2001, I arranged a leaving do  
2 for him. It was a chance for me to see him, because he  
3 had been working in St Margaret's. We invited all three  
4 units because all the girls liked Stephen. All the  
5 staff came. We lowered the lights because we had disco  
6 lights and karaoke equipment. Me and Stephen danced a  
7 slow dance. He pulled me right into him and I said he  
8 had better watch because all the staff were watching us.  
9 We caressed each other. Stephen said it was his last  
10 night and it didn't matter.

11 'At about 7.00 pm or 8.00 pm, Stephen asked if  
12 I wanted to go to the shop for fags. I said I did, and  
13 he told me to get myself sorted out. I got washed,  
14 which was what I usually did before I went out with him.  
15 We sneaked away. The local shops were five minutes away  
16 but we went to the Greenock motorway and pulled into  
17 a layby. We had oral sex, sex simulation and  
18 masturbation. Stephen's phones were going like mad. At  
19 first it was the Good Shepherd phone in his car and then  
20 it was his own phone.

21 'By the time I got home, all the lassies were in  
22 their bed. Standing in reception were Mr GXC,  
23 Mrs Knox, Louisa Gallacher, and Mrs Kelly who was  
24 another team manager. They told me to get to my bed and  
25 I did. They told Stephen to go into the office.

1 I don't know what story he was giving to them. None of  
2 the staff asked me where I was, or if we were doing  
3 anything.

4 'Two allegations came out of one time Stephen and me  
5 were in the car. We were in a layby and a member of the  
6 public from Bishopton saw us in the car. They knew the  
7 car was from the Good Shepherd, because we had one blue  
8 and one green Ford Focus. The allegation was that they  
9 saw a girl and a male member of staff acting  
10 inappropriately with each other.

11 'I was on home leave and, before I knew about the  
12 allegation, I phoned my best friend. My friend was  
13 17 years old and was the oldest in the unit. My friend  
14 told me about a first oral experience she had just had  
15 and I told her about my first oral experience with  
16 Stephen. My friend must have known that was wrong.

17 'My friend's dad overheard our conversation. He  
18 took my friend to the Good Shepherd and sat her in front  
19 of three team managers, Mrs Knox, Louisa Gallacher and  
20 Lorraine McKenzie. My friend gave them a full  
21 description of what was happening. She told the team  
22 managers how long I'd been seeing Stephen for, where he  
23 was taking me and what we'd been doing.

24 'I got a phone call on Monday from Pat Greenall.  
25 She said she was taking me back to the unit and needed

1 to talk to me. Pat had already spoken to my mum and  
2 told her about the allegation, but my mum didn't know  
3 anything about me and Stephen. Pat told me  
4 an allegation had been made and asked me to tell her  
5 anything I knew about it. I said it couldn't be right.  
6 I said it was probably being made by one of the lassies  
7 who were jealous, because me and Stephen had a good  
8 relationship. That was the only time Pat asked me about  
9 the allegation.

10 'Back at the Good Shepherd, I heard shouting from  
11 the office. My best friend's dad was in there with  
12 Stephen and the team managers. My friend's dad took her  
13 home that night. Me and my friend were crying.  
14 I thought my friend was a bitch, and that she didn't  
15 have to tell the staff. I was told Stephen was  
16 suspended. No report was made to the police.

17 'After the allegations were made I was distraught  
18 and was crying all the time. I was heartbroken that  
19 we'd been caught and I went back to heroin. One day  
20 Stephen came across to St Claire's unit. He said the  
21 police were trying to charge him with child rape and we  
22 needed to deny it. Stephen said there was no proof as  
23 long as we denied it and a problem told is a problem  
24 doubled. He said as long as we kept it a secret he  
25 would need to leave but he would come back for me when

1 I was 16 years old.

2 'I thought Stephen was going to save me. He said he  
3 would take me to the Hilton Hotel in Glasgow for my 16th  
4 birthday and I was to buy a black mini-dress. We were  
5 going to run away to Ireland, because social work  
6 couldn't track us down there. I just had to make sure  
7 I didn't say anything. The two of us agreed we would  
8 say I was stalking him and it was a mistake. None of  
9 the staff ever asked me if I was stalking Stephen.

10 'There was only one time the staff asked me about me  
11 and Stephen. It was in the smoking room. All the  
12 lassies were going to school and I was crying.  
13 Mrs Knox, Louisa Gallacher and Lorraine McKenzie came in  
14 and asked me if there was anything going on between me  
15 and Stephen. I said of course there wasn't and it was  
16 lies. They asked why the girls would say that. I said  
17 because they were jealous because I had a good  
18 relationship with Stephen and they didn't. That was it.  
19 It was short and sweet and they didn't go into anything.

20 'I was told I wasn't allowed to talk to any of the  
21 girls or the staff. From then on I was only allowed to  
22 talk to Mrs Knox, Louisa Gallacher and  
23 Lorraine McKenzie. I felt isolated and that made me  
24 even worse. I felt like everybody knew what was going  
25 on. This all happened just before Christmas. I had



1 a home leave and when I came back, I found out that  
2 Stephen was still working at the Good Shepherd and had  
3 been in St Margaret's unit all the time.

4 'Just after Christmas, Stephen came over to  
5 St Claire's and told me he was leaving. He told me  
6 upstairs in my bedroom, where he gave me my presents.  
7 He gave me a Ronan Keating album, a Sekonda watch with  
8 a pink face and something else. He said the album was  
9 ours. There was a song on it called "It's the way you  
10 make me feel" and Stephen said that was his song to me.

11 'Stephen reassured me again. He said that as long  
12 as I kept my mouth shut, didn't tell anybody and let  
13 them believe I was stalking him, that everything would  
14 be fine. He promised he would come back for me. I was  
15 a loyal person and I chose to keep the secret. I didn't  
16 think he would let me down.

17 'The last time I saw Stephen, he asked Mrs Knox for  
18 permission to take me to Dumbarton Castle, it was  
19 4 February 2001 and was after the night we had run away  
20 at Stephen's leaving party. It was his last day and he  
21 wanted to say goodbye. Me, Stephen and another lassie  
22 from the Good Shepherd went to Dumbarton Castle. We  
23 asked the lassie to stay down at the bottom in the car.  
24 We walked up what seemed like a mountain and stood at  
25 the top.

1           'Stephen told me he would never forget me, even if  
2           he wanted to. He said the allegation would follow him  
3           his whole life and any job he got, they would ask him  
4           what the case with the allegation was. Stephen told me  
5           not to think he didn't care about me, because he did.  
6           Stephen said in life the people you meet were like links  
7           in a chain. I was a link in his chain and I would  
8           always be in his chain.

9           'Stephen asked if there was anything I wanted to say  
10          to him. I knew it was goodbye, but I didn't want to cry  
11          or say I loved him. I didn't love him, although I cared  
12          for him. I didn't say anything. He gave me a cuddle  
13          and a kiss and we went back to the car. After that day,  
14          I never saw Stephen again.

15          'When I was taken to see the drug counsellor, I told  
16          the counsellor about me and a staff member. I said we  
17          were in a relationship and Stephen was coming to see me  
18          in Irvine. The counsellor raised a cause for concern  
19          and phoned social work and the Good Shepherd. The  
20          counsellor told the Good Shepherd what I said. No  
21          report was made to the police. I did not get any other  
22          medical attention.

23          'My mum was staying in Irvine and Stephen was coming  
24          to see me that night. I got home to Irvine and Stephen  
25          phoned me. The Good Shepherd had called him and asked

1       if he was going to Irvine to see ... my mum. Stephen  
2       said he couldn't come to see me now that I had said  
3       something. The counsellor phoned me and I tried to deny  
4       what I'd said. I said she had misunderstood me.  
5       I didn't go back to the counsellor, because she had  
6       broken my trust. I wanted to pour it out but I felt I'd  
7       poured it to the wrong person.

8       'After Stephen left the Good Shepherd it was obvious  
9       there was something wrong, because I couldn't stop  
10      crying. I was getting home leave all the time. The  
11      staff could see the pain I was in. I was only going to  
12      the Good Shepherd for two days a week. I was supposed  
13      to go back on Sunday, but I would push that and go back  
14      on Tuesday, for my pocket money. I'd go to school on  
15      Wednesday and Thursday, and be back out on home leave on  
16      Friday, with my Friday pocket money.

17      'Sometimes the Good Shepherd brought my pocket money  
18      to my mum's for me. That was my pattern. I was  
19      avoiding school. I was out of sight and out of mind,  
20      but that didn't bother me. The further I was from the  
21      Good Shepherd, the closer I could be to Stephen. It  
22      didn't turn out that way, but that was how it felt.

23      'Three days before my 16th birthday I had  
24      a Children's Panel. It was the first time I had seen  
25      Pat Greenall for a long time. My mum didn't arrive at

1 the Panel. I don't think she wanted me home. In my  
2 records it says they believed I was taking drugs and was  
3 needing some kind of help. The recommendation was still  
4 to let me out of the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd  
5 said that I was okay with that, and they felt I could be  
6 let home to my mum's house. The Panel asked me if I was  
7 happy with that and I said yes, I just wanted out  
8 [again] because I thought I would get to see Stephen.

9 'I was signed out of care in [REDACTED] 2001. The Good  
10 Shepherd could have done a lot more for me, but they  
11 just hushed everybody up. They got me, Stephen and my  
12 best friend out of there because they knew it was  
13 a massive scandal.

14 'My records say I was to have help getting into  
15 a drug clinic, I was to be taken to a doctor to have my  
16 mental health checked, I was to have help with housing  
17 and I was to have financial support through the  
18 throughcare workers. I never got these things.

19 'I knew Stephen was coming back for me. I sent  
20 Stephen a birthday card every single year to where he  
21 stayed. I knew the address because I had been there.  
22 Four years passed and Stephen never got in touch. I was  
23 heartbroken for years.

24 'I saw Pat Greenall, I think she maybe came to see  
25 my mum. I asked Pat if there was any way she could get

1 me into the Good Shepherd, but Pat said there was no  
2 chance. I had been out for 11 or 12 weeks, but I knew  
3 being out was the wrong thing. I wasn't ready to be  
4 outside. By that time I was homeless again and taking  
5 drugs a lot. I took anything I could get my hands on  
6 and I was overdosing. I was doing a lot of thieving.  
7 I knew it was only a matter of time before I was dead,  
8 because I didn't want to live.

9 '[I was] ... taking heroin. I was chucked out of my  
10 mum's house within three weeks of moving there and went  
11 into an emergency placement in a hostel ... I was  
12 allocated a throughcare ... worker ... but I never got  
13 any help at all from him ...

14 'I [had] moved ... by September 2002 and my mum got  
15 me and my sister a flat together. My sister was 19 ...  
16 and I was 16 ... I was allocated a throughcare worker,  
17 who I only saw twice. I got carpets, a cooker and  
18 a washing machine. That was the last time I received  
19 any help from social work.

20 'I met a guy who was 36 years older than me ... He  
21 told me I was beautiful and followed me everywhere ...  
22 I was just turned 17 years old, I ended up staying at  
23 his house. I thought he would look after me, but that  
24 ended up as severe domestic abuse for 13 years ...

25 'I did some voluntary work for ... three and

1 a half years. I like to help people. We picked up  
2 furniture and gave it to people who needed it. That's  
3 all the work I've done. I went to college once, but my  
4 ex wouldn't let me go back. I had a job selling  
5 windows, but he wouldn't let me go back to that. I've  
6 always been on mental health benefits.'

7 I will now turn to the part where the witness  
8 provides some evidence about the impact her time in care  
9 has had on her life and read just a few paragraphs from  
10 that section from 102:

11 'Being in the Good Shepherd has had a massive impact  
12 on me. I'm not able to trust anybody. Since I left the  
13 Good Shepherd, I've isolated myself. I don't socialise  
14 with anybody. I can't communicate with people. It's  
15 like I'm in a bubble.

16 'I believe my face is a curse. Being pretty got me  
17 into situations. When men like you, they don't ask but  
18 they just take what they want from you. That's the way  
19 it's been all my life. I've tried to commit suicide  
20 a few times. For years I couldn't see myself living.  
21 There was no help or support. I knew I was never loved  
22 and I felt alone. I felt that nobody wanted me.

23 'There was a big impact on my education. I sat six  
24 or eight Standard Grades. I completely failed my exams  
25 because by the time the exams came, the allegations

1       about Stephen Thomson were made and my mind wasn't on  
2       it. I was able to give my heart to my prelims.  
3       I passed my prelims and I think I would have passed my  
4       exams. If I ever wanted to get a job, then I'd have to  
5       resit my exams.

6       'I felt Stephen was protecting me and I felt safe.  
7       The reason I went with my ex was because I believed he  
8       would be like Stephen, I thought my ex would take care  
9       of me and protect me. If I hadn't had that relationship  
10      with an older man in the first place then I would never  
11      have got into a relationship with another older man.

12      'I am scared of men. I choke and freeze, even if  
13      they're nice. I'm hoping to overcome that in the  
14      future. When I moved into the house I'm in now I felt  
15      like I was in a cage, because there were men all around  
16      me. I didn't feel safe. I was a single female and  
17      I didn't know who to trust.

18      'I go into episodes all the time when I'm outside my  
19      body and it's like a dream. In the past, an episode  
20      could last for a week. When I go into an episode I get  
21      feelings not memories. I feel really upset and  
22      heartbroken. At the time I don't know what it is about,  
23      but it messes my full day up ...

24      'Sometimes I dream about the Good Shepherd or  
25      Stephen or being at court. When I wake up, my whole day

1 is messed up.

2 'I am diagnosed with depression and anxiety. I am  
3 hyper vigilant. I feel constantly scared and sick.  
4 I am prescribed anti-anxiety tablets. I still get hyper  
5 vigilant, but the tablets have taken away the feeling of  
6 being scared and sick.

7 'It takes me a long time to work up the courage to  
8 go to any appointments. If I know I have an appointment  
9 I'm up the full night before. It's anxiety. I worry  
10 about what I'll say, if they'll believe me, is what  
11 I want to say going to come out properly and will they  
12 understand me.'

13 At paragraph 116 the witness says:

14 'I spoke to the police in January 2020, and they  
15 have been brilliant. The police have done an amazing  
16 job in putting the case together and they haven't let me  
17 down. When I spoke to the police, they never judged me  
18 or made any assumptions. They listened to me and  
19 I really respect them for that.

20 'The Good Shepherd tried to deny I had ever been in  
21 the place. They denied there was an allegation about  
22 Stephen. They told the police there wasn't  
23 a St Claire's unit. The police came back to me and  
24 asked if there were other girls in the unit they could  
25 speak to. I gave the police my friend's names and [said



1       they were in St Claire's unit]. I don't know why the  
2       Good Shepherd were hiding that. Once the police spoke  
3       to GXC , he said I was in the Good Shepherd and  
4       he knew who I was.'

5               Between paragraphs 121 and 127, the witness speaks  
6       about some treatment and support she has received.

7               I am going to read from paragraph 128:

8               'Recently I went back to the Good Shepherd to try to  
9       revisit the past. Before we got over the gates, we were  
10      approached by two members of staff. They asked us to  
11      leave because there were girls out in the grounds. The  
12      Good Shepherd looked completely different. It looked  
13      like the three units had been taken down and I couldn't  
14      see the red building that we had been in.'

15              Moving to lessons to be learned, from paragraph 131  
16      the witness says:

17              'The Good Shepherd failed by keeping secret the  
18      allegations about Stephen. They should have  
19      acknowledged the allegations straight away. They should  
20      have followed protocols, especially because two  
21      allegations came in. They should have phoned the police  
22      and let the police do their job. The Good Shepherd  
23      could have helped me by talking to me. The Good  
24      Shepherd knew by talking to me I was going to break down  
25      and tell them something.

1           'The staff knew what was going on with me and  
2       Stephen. If one of the team managers had stepped out of  
3       their comfort zone and had asked GXC, "Why are  
4       we not getting the police in here?", then my life could  
5       have been different. I would have been angry at the  
6       time, but the police would have seen right through me.  
7       The police would have seen I was protecting Stephen and  
8       done their own investigations.

9           'The Good Shepherd could have put more security in  
10      the building and stopped the girls from getting into  
11      heroin. Security was a massive flaw.

12          'They should have rethought their discipline rules.  
13      The girls could have been treated differently. The  
14      staff didn't need to be so forceful with the lassies.

15          'Our mental health should have been assessed when we  
16      went in and we might have got help. You can see from my  
17      records that something is wrong. We never had any  
18      medical attention and we never went to the dentist.  
19      Social work say if you don't take your kids to dentist  
20      or doctor's appointments then it is neglect. The Good  
21      Shepherd failed in that way.

22          'This is the final part for me and I don't want to  
23      carry it all my life. I need to get my story out there  
24      and be listened to. All my life I couldn't talk because  
25      nobody would believe me. The Good Shepherd failed me.

1 I was only 15 years old. Even if I thought I was  
2 an adult, I wasn't an adult. I'm continuing with  
3 counselling and I'll do my best not to look back at this  
4 story again.

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

9 'Katie' signed the statement on 29 September 2021.

10 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much, Ms MacLeod.

11 One name arose there, whose identity is protected,  
12 and that was GXC, but I don't think there were  
13 any others.

14 That completes the read-ins for this section; is  
15 that correct?

16 MS MACLEOD: It does, my Lady, and we have three oral  
17 witnesses lined up for tomorrow.

18 LADY SMITH: Three oral witnesses tomorrow, starting at  
19 10 o'clock?

20 MS MACLEOD: Yes.

21 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

22 I will rise until then.

23 (3.55 pm)

24 (The Inquiry adjourned until 10.00 am on Friday, 13 December  
25 2024)

# INDEX

1	'Lisa' (affirmed) .....	1
2	Questions from Ms MacLeod. ....	3
3	'Angelica' (affirmed) .....	48
4	Questions from Mr MacAulay .....	50
5	Sister Eileen Mearns (sworn) .....	97
6	Questions from Mr MacAulay. ....	99
7	'Katie' (read) .....	133
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

