

1 Tuesday, 5 December, 2023

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning, and welcome back to Phase 8 of
4 our case studies and the hearings that at the moment we
5 are conducting, to look into provision by the Scottish
6 Prison Service.

7 Now, we return to live evidence this morning, and
8 later in the day we will go on to some read-ins. Our
9 first witness is connecting via video link, and I think
10 it looks as though he is ready to give evidence; is that
11 right, Ms Rattray?

12 MS RATTRAY: Yes, my Lady. The next witness is an applicant
13 who is anonymous and has the pseudonym 'Martin'.

14 LADY SMITH: Thank you. 'Martin', good morning. Can you
15 hear me?

16 A. Yes.

17 LADY SMITH: I am Lady Smith, I chair the Scottish Child
18 Abuse Inquiry here in Edinburgh. Thank you for coming
19 to join us this morning over the video link. Before you
20 give your evidence to us; could you raise your right
21 hand so that you can take the oath, please, and repeat
22 after me?

23 'Martin' (sworn)

24 LADY SMITH: Now, 'Martin', I think you will broadly
25 understand what's going to happen. Ms Rattray will be

1 asking the questions of you, I may seek clarification on
2 a couple of matters, and I may not need to. But what's
3 really important is that if at any time you don't
4 understand what we are asking you, that's our fault, not
5 yours, so tell us. If at any time you want a break,
6 a breather, that's absolutely fine by me, please do
7 speak up. Or if you just want to pause, and carry on
8 sitting where you are with the video still switched on,
9 that's all right. Help us to help you to give your
10 evidence as comfortably as you can; do you understand
11 that?

12 A. Yes.

13 LADY SMITH: That's what I want; all right?

14 Now, if you are ready, I will hand over to
15 Ms Rattray and she will take from there; okay?

16 A. Yes, of course.

17 LADY SMITH: Thank you. Ms Rattray.

18 Questions by Ms Rattray

19 MS RATTRAY: Good morning, 'Martin'.

20 A. Morning.

21 Q. Now, you have given your written statement to the
22 Inquiry, and we have given your statement a reference.
23 I am going to read that reference for our records, and
24 the reference is WIT-1-000001151. 'Martin', you have
25 a copy of your statement on the desk before you.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Now, to start with, 'Martin', I would like you to go to
3 the very back page of your statement --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- which is page 22. If you see on page 22, at
6 paragraph 99, you say:

7 "I have no objection to my witness statement being
8 published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry, and
9 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are
10 true."

11 Is that right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. We can see that you then signed your statement.

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. Thank you.

16 Now, in terms of your evidence, 'Martin', you tell
17 us that you were born in 1969; is that right?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And what I am going to do, I am going to start at the
20 beginning of your statement, where you tell us -- you
21 give us some background of what your childhood was like
22 before you were in care.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. You tell us that you grew up in Aberdeen with your
25 parents and your brother?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. You also tell us that there were times when you were
3 a child when you were scared of your dad?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Why were you scared of your dad?

6 A. I don't know. I just didn't like to see him under the
7 influence of alcohol.

8 Q. Right.

9 A. You know, he became a different person, you know, than
10 the person I knew him to be.

11 Q. Right.

12 A. He was never abusive -- he didn't hit. He never hurt us
13 or that, you know? It was just, as I say, I think I was
14 scared of the person he was with the alcohol, rather
15 than the person that I knew him as without alcohol.

16 Q. Right, right.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. You say that he wasn't violent, but sometimes he was
19 shouting and bawling?

20 A. Yes, he could do that. Yes.

21 Q. You tell us that you and your brother used to, at times,
22 live with other family members?

23 A. Yes, yes.

24 Q. And I think in your statement you describe your early
25 life as chaotic?

1 A. Definitely, yes.

2 Q. Yes.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Can you help us understand in what way it was chaotic
5 for you?

6 A. Well, I think from a very early stage I stayed with my
7 grandma. Like, I went from my grandma's to my mum's,
8 back and forth kind of thing, and it was usually when my
9 dad went away drinking, and ... I mean, [REDACTED] had just
10 been a ghost basically, to be quite honest.

11 So I skipped about from one parent to the next
12 parent to, you know, grandma, mother, like. And that
13 was basically what it was like to the age of about 10,
14 and then my father left to go into another relationship,
15 with another woman. And it just -- I don't know what
16 happened. I just started -- I don't know. I never went
17 to school, I never had any rules in my life. My mum
18 was -- she was scared of us, to be honest with you.
19 I used to take mad burst out tantrums. You know, so
20 there were no rules in my life. You know, if you're a
21 kid -- I just done really what I wanted.

22 My mum was there. She always tried her best, but
23 there were just -- there were no rules, you know? I
24 grew up not going to school, and going from one
25 grandparent to the next grandparent's. Then my mum,

1 back to my mum and dad.

2 I don't know. I think at ten-year old, when my Dad
3 left, you know, I was just was a bit -- I think I tried
4 to become the man of the house, you know?

5 Q. Mm-hm.

6 A. And obviously that never worked, kind of thing, you
7 know? But, yes ... sorry.

8 Q. No, no, please carry on if there is something else you
9 would like to tell us.

10 A. It was just chaotic, you know? As I say, then I ended
11 up in a children's home at 11, which was Westburn
12 Children's Home, you know?

13 Q. And you tell us that before you were taken into care
14 there was a social worker who came to your house.

15 A. Yes, yes, MYO [REDACTED].

16 Q. That was the first time you'd met a social worker?

17 A. Yes, it was certainly the first time I had any
18 remembrance of meeting a social worker.

19 They came to my house and it was because I think --
20 to talk about me going into a children's home, and
21 I didn't want them to be there, I didn't want to hear
22 what he was saying, obviously. And, you know, I was
23 doing things, like I took a two-pound bag of sugar and
24 poured it on the floor. I told them to get out, you
25 know, and, "I'm going to pour the sugar out", and I

1 poured the sugar out and they never went, and ...

2 But, anyway, to cut a long story short, he ended up
3 grabbing us, putting his -- grabbing us, putting my head
4 into the corner of the couch and sitting on top of us,
5 where I couldn't breathe, and my mum had to pull him off
6 the top of us, you know? I couldn't remember this, but
7 I read it in one of my -- a document of some kind. He
8 actually, in his words, tried to restrain us three
9 different times, you know? I mean, why did he -- it was
10 because of him that I was being the way I was in the
11 house, at that time. So why did he not just leave, you
12 know?

13 But, anyway, that's what he did, he attacked us in
14 my own house, there. That was the very first time I had
15 any dealings with a social worker.

16 LADY SMITH: So, 'Martin', are you telling me that looking
17 back you think you should have been able to stay at home
18 and help at home?

19 A. Erm, yes, I think so, aye. Yes, in a way, I probably
20 did at that time think it was for the best for me to
21 stay there, you know? Which it wasn't, obviously. But
22 I tried my best. You know, my dad had left me and
23 my little brother.

24 LADY SMITH: Yes. So nobody was explaining to you why the
25 plan was that you would be taken to a children's home;

1 is that right?

2 A. No.

3 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

4 A. And -- yes --

5 MS RATTRAY: And --

6 LADY SMITH: Go on, 'Martin'.

7 MS RATTRAY: Please carry on.

8 A. This thing with **MYO**, you know, it was ... he

9 ended up going and getting the police when he left the

10 house eventually, and the police -- I mean, they

11 never -- they were -- he was told that nothing could

12 happen about it and the police left, kind of thing. And

13 he was changed from my social worker because of this

14 incident, and I got a new social worker. That was the

15 only dealings I ever had with him, you know, and that

16 was it.

17 Q. Now, that first meeting with the social worker and what

18 happened; did that affect, at all, your relationship

19 with future social workers?

20 A. Affected it badly, yes. Badly, you know, I couldn't

21 trust them, I just didn't listen. I just in the end

22 decided I just didn't believe, you know. I just found

23 them -- I couldn't trust. You know, I just didn't

24 believe them, you know? I found it -- it was very kind

25 of ... I don't know the word. But intimidated or

1 whatever. It's -- you know, I just didn't like getting
2 near them, kind of thing.

3 Q. And you have told us that in any event you were taken to
4 stay in a children's home in Aberdeen?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. In your statement, you tell us of your experiences
7 there. You will appreciate that part of your statement
8 is blacked out. Now, your whole experience is very
9 important to us, but the reason it is blacked out is
10 just because this particular case study today is about
11 your experiences in a secure setting rather than
12 a children's home.

13 Secondary Institutions - to be published later



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3 Q. Now, moving to paragraph 45 of your statement, on
4 page 11, if you have that in front of you now, you say
5 that you returned home after being in this children's
6 home and you lived at home, or between your home and
7 your grandma's home, for about four years after that;
8 what was this time like in your life, when you were
9 living at home and sort of moving again between home and
10 your grandma's?

11 A. What do you mean, sort of thing?

12 Q. Well, what kind of things were you doing?

13 A. I used to go up to my grandma's house, my dad's mum, and
14 that was a crazy house. Like everybody used to meet
15 there and they used to -- like, all my family took drugs
16 and -- you know, I mean right down to my grandma. And
17 my sister -- it was just a buzz to be there, if you
18 want. You know, it was exciting. There was always
19 something happening. They were criminals, you know what
20 I mean? They were always up to something, and people
21 coming in and out and swapping drugs. And it was
22 a pretty crazy house, you know what I mean? But
23 I enjoyed it. I liked the buzz because in my own house
24 I was depressed, I was -- you know, I missed my dad.
25 I don't know what it was. But my dad used to be there

1 most times, drinking and, you know, and ... It wasn't
2 great at all.

3 Q. Were you going to school?

4 A. No.

5 Q. No. And I think you tell us that there weren't any
6 rules for you?

7 A. No. No, no rules.

8 Q. And there were times that you were going out and you
9 were stealing and getting charged by the police?

10 A. Yes, yes.

11 Q. You also tell us -- and perhaps we understand that given
12 your family background and what you have just said --
13 that you started drinking and you developed a heroin
14 addiction?

15 A. Yes, yes. I ended up with a heroin addiction. It was
16 after an assault by the police, you know?

17 Q. Okay, I understand. I know this; is this the assault by
18 the police that took place in 1989?

19 A. Yes, yes.

20 Q. Okay. So, sorry, I thought perhaps you had developed
21 a heroin addiction at this time, but have
22 I misunderstood that?

23 A. Yes. A bit after it.

24 Q. Right, okay. Now, moving to paragraph 48, I think you
25 tell us that when you were 16 years of age you were in

1 an adult court in Aberdeen for stealing copper?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And you got a four month detention in Friarton Detention
4 Centre in Perth?

5 A. Yes, I did.

6 Q. And you were taken there. How did you feel when you
7 were first taken to Friarton?

8 A. Scared. Yes.

9 Q. What was it that made you feel scared?

10 A. Er, you know, the minute you got there, you know, they
11 let you know that it was going to be hard, kind of
12 thing. You know, you had to call them sir, and, you
13 know, march about wherever you went.

14 Basically, if you weren't good at doing what they
15 wanted you to do -- it was a lot of ex-army officers
16 there. It was basically ex-army, I think, and it was
17 run like an army barracks, kind of thing. It was
18 just -- it just came back to my mind, something. It was
19 about the first day or the second day I was in the
20 place, and we went to the gym and the member of staff
21 there says, "Right, murder ball. Everybody, murder
22 ball", and throwing a baseball in the middle of the gym,
23 and everybody had to get this ball. I never knew what
24 murder ball was; you know what I mean?

25 As I say, I'm seconds into this ball going in the

1 air, everybody has jumped in for the ball and a boy has
2 elbowed us, and I've ended up with a big black eye. We
3 have ended up fighting in the middle of the gym and we
4 both got locked up for that. But, you know, that's the
5 kind of thing they used to do.

6 Do you know what murder ball is? Yes?

7 LADY SMITH: Yes.

8 MS RATTRAY: We have heard other witnesses talk about murder
9 ball.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Now, from what we have heard before, it seems to be
12 a supposed game where there aren't any rules?

13 A. None at all.

14 Q. Boys are just fighting each other for the ball; is that
15 about right?

16 A. Yes, 100 per cent.

17 LADY SMITH: It sounded to me, 'Martin', like a tough game
18 of rugby, but with no rules.

19 A. Well, yes. Yes, basically, yes.

20 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

21 MS RATTRAY: Now, 'Martin', at paragraph 53 of your
22 statement, you tell us about when you arrived in
23 reception. You say that you were given kit, such as
24 shoes and boots.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And they tell you that you have to bull them?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. What do you mean by that; having to bull them?

4 A. Well, at the time, I didn't know what it really meant.

5 But, I mean, you have to polish them, so that basically

6 you can see your face in them, you know?

7 Q. Right.

8 A. And well, I was never any good at it, to be quite

9 honest. And a couple of times -- it was always guys

10 getting out, and the boys -- I remember one time the

11 boy, he gave me his boots and his shoes. It was

12 an officer, **GTT** was his last name, Mr **GTT**, and he's

13 came in and went, "Let me see the boots and shoes", and

14 I have shown him my shoes and boots. So he had the

15 boots in one hand, and they were tied together kind of

16 thing, and he had the shoes as well, and he said, "Whose

17 are they?", and I went, "They are mine, sir", and he

18 went, "I will ask you again: whose are they?"

19 I says, "They are mine, sir". He took the boots and

20 hit me full -- right in the face with the boots. Burst

21 my nose and my lip. And he basically took my boots and

22 shoes and locked us up; do you know what I mean?

23 Q. And did you see a doctor at all about injuries to your

24 face?

25 A. No, no, no. No, no.

1 Q. You then, at paragraph 54, tell us about something
2 called a bed block.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What was that?

5 A. We used to -- a bed block, it is two blankets. A bed
6 block is, like, a blanket, then a sheet. It's like
7 a sandwich, if you want, with two blankets and a sheet.
8 The blanket, they give you two sticks, and the stick
9 goes in and it makes it kind of square, if you want, the
10 blanket to the front. And I could never get it right,
11 and I never did get it right.

12 So, when they came in, you could try your best, do
13 your best, it didn't matter. They used to come in with
14 white gloves on and look for dust, and if there was
15 a speck of dust on a white glove, your full kit got
16 thrown on the bed, everything got -- your room got
17 wrecked. And that's how it was, yes. You know, it was
18 a horrible place.

19 I was just on about -- I just remembered something
20 about Friarton as I was sitting speaking here.

21 Q. Yes.

22 A. You used to have to run a mile on Monday morning. Every
23 Monday morning you had to run a mile and you had to get
24 to under 6 minutes, and if you never got to under
25 6 minutes -- if you never run it and got it under your

1 time, it was meant to be you had to stand in the
2 showers, the cold showers, for six minutes. For six
3 minutes you had to stand in the cold showers.

4 Q. Okay, and did that happen to you very often?

5 A. Yes, yes, happened a few times, yes. I never got it
6 right. Along with quite a lot of people, you know?

7 Q. And when you speak about the showers and the washing and
8 bathing at paragraph 56 of your statement, 'Martin', and
9 you say that there was fighting every single day in the
10 showers.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. That's where it mostly happened, between the boys.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. So what kind -- why were the boys fighting each other?

15 A. Erm, it is just -- it was, like, people from different
16 areas, you know? Like, whatever the places may be, we
17 used to fight each other. You know, I don't know. It
18 could be for lots of things. It used to be for silly
19 things, you know? I don't know. You know, just. It
20 was kids at the end of the day, 16/17-year old kids, and
21 that's when it happened, in the showers. They knew
22 that. The staff knew that. That's where it happens,
23 you know.

24 Q. And if the staff knew that; did they do anything to stop
25 it?

1 A. Not at all. Not at all, not at all, not at all.

2 Q. And --

3 A. Yes. If --

4 Q. Carry on.

5 A. If it was right violent, if someone got bust up and
6 that, they would probably jump in and pretend they were
7 doing something about it; you know what I mean? But
8 nine times out of ten I never seen nothing happening,
9 you know, towards people getting -- like, fights being
10 stopped or things, you know what I mean? It was
11 usually -- if it was ever stopped, it would be another
12 kid stopping it.

13 Q. And at paragraph 57, 'Martin', you tell us about the
14 culture there, and you speak about a bullying culture.

15 A. Mm-hm.

16 Q. Who was doing the bullying?

17 A. It was basically boys from Glasgow, to be honest. You
18 know, it was just a certain five or six boys that was
19 jumping about together. And staff knew that. You know,
20 staff knew what was happening. You know, they were just
21 not interested. It's as simple as that.

22 Q. Were you bullied?

23 A. Yes. Yes, yes.

24 Q. And why was it that you were being bullied and picked
25 on?

1 A. Er, along with other people. I don't know, I think it
2 was me being from Aberdeen. They used to call me "sheep
3 shaggers", and things like that, you know. I don't
4 really know any other answer. I just know I was picked
5 on because of the area I was from, basically.

6 Q. What was it that the bullies were doing?

7 A. Well, I was battered two or three times, you know? The
8 psychological bullying was probably worse than that, you
9 know? You know, they just didn't make it easy, they
10 just didn't make it easy.

11 Q. And did the staff know about this?

12 A. Yes, yes, 100 per cent, yes. As I say, it was happening
13 to a lot of people, you know?

14 Q. Once again: did the staff do anything to stop the
15 bullying?

16 A. Not at all, not at all. Not when I was there, anyway.

17 Q. I think you say, at paragraph 58, that it was hellish --

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. -- for you in there?

20 A. They used to -- yes, I just remembered that as well.

21 Q. Mm-hm.

22 A. In Friarton they had big, tall ceilings, maybe --
23 I don't know. I don't know, maybe 12, 15 feet. A lot
24 bigger than the average cell, anyway. And it was for
25 prevention of suicide, people hanging themselves. But

1 everybody was aware of that, that these ceilings were so
2 high because of suicide. And knowing that, and having
3 the thought: fuck, there are people trying to hang
4 themselves and things like that.

5 It kind of gets to you a wee bit.

6 Q. Mm-hm.

7 A. Is this so hard that people want to do this to
8 themselves?

9 Q. Mm-hm.

10 A. You know?

11 Q. And were you aware of anyone trying to kill themselves
12 when you were there?

13 A. Yes, there was a few boys. Well, two or three boys that
14 I know that [REDACTED], you know?

15 Q. Mm-hm.

16 A. And I don't know what happened to them, because you
17 never seen them again. Whether they were put to
18 different prisons, or -- I don't know. But, I mean,
19 yeah.

20 Q. At paragraph 60, you start to tell us about abuse that
21 you suffered when you were there. Now, you have already
22 told us about the person, the Mr ^{GTT} [REDACTED] who hit you in
23 the face with the boots?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And you have told us about the bullying by the other

1 boys, particularly the boys from Glasgow.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Now, you say, at paragraph 60, that you had to bull your
4 boots and shoes and you went for grades; what --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- were the grades?

7 A. Blue, yellow, red. You got a blue shirt, a yellow shirt
8 and a red shirt. I think a red shirt, yes, you got out
9 at the weekend to watch the telly for an hour. The blue
10 grade, I didn't really know what the -- it was just
11 a process they put you through.

12 You got your blue grade and then you got your yellow
13 grade and then you got your red grade. And every time
14 you went up for a grade, if you didn't get it, you lost
15 two days submission. And I lost -- I didn't -- I never
16 got a grade, you know? Never.

17 Q. Mm-hm.

18 A. And they didn't make it easy for you if you weren't
19 passing the grades, I can tell you that, you know?

20 Q. Mm-hm.

21 Over the page of your statement, the next page on
22 your statement, 'Martin', at paragraph 61, you speak of
23 the staff bullying everyone and not just you.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And in what ways would the staff bully people?

1 A. You were always getting slapped and kicked, as it says
2 in my statement here, you know. You were always getting
3 kicked up the backside or a slap in the lug, you know.
4 I mean, that was just an everyday thing. Lots of people
5 got it on a daily basis, you know?

6 I hid it a couple of times in the morning. First
7 thing in the morning, you had to go and shave every
8 single morning. You are talking about boys that are
9 only 16-year old, they probably haven't got any hair on
10 their face. And whether you had hair on your face or
11 not you had to go do it. You had to march to the
12 toilets then go around and handed with a certain hand
13 the razor in a certain way into this one bucket, and
14 then march along the corridor again, you know?

15 Some people picked it up and they could do it, but
16 there were lots of people that couldn't do it. And you
17 got slapped and kicked. It was a morning thing, you
18 know? I don't think I was there in a morning when
19 somebody didn't get a slap or a kick, you know?

20 Q. So what other things did a boy do to end up getting
21 slapped and kicked?

22 A. Um, talking. They didn't allow you to talk. You
23 couldn't talk while you were getting washed and shaved,
24 and things like that. Or if you tried to skip being
25 shaved, and they thought you hadn't put a razor to your

1 face. You know, just things like that; you know what I
2 mean? It was crazy, crazy.

3 Q. At the next paragraph, at paragraph 62, this is where
4 you have told us -- and you have already told us about
5 this -- about murder ball.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And you say lots of the boys would get injuries at
8 murder ball?

9 A. Yes. Oh God, aye. Every time, every time. It was full
10 on fighting. It wasn't a game. It was full on
11 fighting, you know? Punching and kicking, you know?

12 Q. You say it was supervised by the --

13 A. Yes. Mm-hm. PTI.

14 Q. The PTI; is that the physical training instructor? Is
15 that what that means?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And the PTIs would be laughing about it?

18 A. Yes, yes, it was them that wanted the game, you know?
19 It was them that encouraged it, if you want, you know?
20 Yes, they used to sit about laughing about it; you know
21 what I mean?

22 Q. I think you have already told us, as you say at the next
23 paragraph of your statement, that the physical bullying
24 from the staff and other boys was a sort of daily thing;
25 it happened every day?

1 A. Yes, yes. Most days, yes.

2 Q. Mm-hm. Now, at paragraph 64, you tell us that you left
3 Friarton at the end of your sentence.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Now, before we move on to the next stage of your
6 statement, you have obviously remembered some other
7 things when you have been giving your evidence. Is
8 there anything else about Friarton that you can remember
9 that you would like to tell us about?

10 A. About Friarton?

11 Q. Yes.

12 A. Um, no, I think I have covered it, to be honest, you
13 know. Covered whatever it is, yes.

14 Q. Okay, thank you.

15 Now, the next part of your statement is in relation
16 to --

17 A. Can I get the toilet? I just need to go to the toilet
18 for two minutes.

19 LADY SMITH: Yes, that's fine. We will take a five-minute
20 break; okay, 'Martin'? Thanks.

21 A. Thanks.

22 (10.35 am)

23 (A short break)

24 (10.41 am)

25 LADY SMITH: Welcome back, 'Martin'. Are you ready for us

1 to carry on?

2 A. Yes.

3 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

4 Ms Rattray.

5 MS RATTRAY: Now, 'Martin', before the break you had

6 finished telling us about your experiences in Friarton,

7 and we are now going to move on to your experiences in

8 Polmont.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. You tell us that once you got out of Friarton it wasn't

11 long before you were in trouble again and sentenced for

12 theft, and sent to Polmont Young Offenders Institution?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. You were about 17 to 18 years old; is that right?

15 A. Yes, I must have been about that. Yes.

16 Q. Yes. You think you had a 6 to 8-month sentence?

17 A. Something like that, yes.

18 Q. Yes.

19 A. Something like that.

20 Q. I think the records we have seen confirm that it was

21 a 6-month sentence.

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. So was Polmont any better than Friarton?

24 A. I would say it was a bit better, aye. A wee bit, a wee

25 bit.

1 Q. I think you tell us at one part of your statement that
2 it was a bit better than Friarton. But you also say it
3 was just as horrible; is that right?

4 A. Mm-hm, yes. It certainly was, aye.

5 Q. And who or what was horrible about Polmont?

6 A. Erm, it was just the attitude of the staff. You know,
7 their attitudes. It was basically a form of bullying
8 there as well, definitely. A form of bullying. And it
9 was young boys. And you stepped out of line. The
10 only -- you know, they would come in in teams and batter
11 you. They used to come in two, three handed and batter
12 you, if you stepped out of line. There was a time -- I
13 can't -- I just remembered it this morning. I thought I
14 had actually spoken about it.

15 I was in North Wing. It used to be wings. North
16 Wing, South Wing, East Wing and West Wing. And I was in
17 North Wing and I had a bust up. I can't remember who I
18 was fighting. It was the staff who done it. I can't
19 mind them, right? They had a bust up, anyway. And no,
20 it was staff that done it. I just remembered someone
21 there. It's crazy because it just comes into your head.
22 It was a member of staff that done it to us, because
23 when I was going to see the nurse, he said to us,
24 "Remember, you fell down the stairs", right?

25 Anyway, we got to the nurse, and I was explaining

1 what had happened, and I am sure it was -- he was
2 asking, "Well, what happened? Who was it that done
3 it?", and I hesitated a little bit. I didn't really
4 come out with, you know, right away, "I fell down the
5 stairs", or whatever they wanted. And he punched me
6 right in the stomach and he went, "It's just another
7 sheep shagger anyway".

8 I don't know what's come about, you know. But
9 I ended up having to go in to the suicidal -- you know,
10 they make you wear a gown and they put you in a suicidal
11 cell with nothing in it, this thing, and put us in it
12 for two days. Why that happened I haven't a clue, you
13 know what I mean?

14 Q. So the prison officer or the member of staff, because
15 you didn't say immediately the line he had told you to
16 say --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- he punched you in the stomach?

19 A. Well, yes, it must have been, there was no -- I never
20 done anything. I'd only hesitated to say, "Oh, I fell
21 down the stairs", you know?

22 Q. Sorry, did he do this when the nurse was standing there?

23 A. Oh, this was the nurse that had done that. That was the
24 nurse.

25 Q. Oh, the nurse did it to you?

1 A. Yes, yes, that was the nurse that done it, you know.
2 The member of staff was there as well, when it happened.
3 And I hesitated to say whatever they wanted me to say,
4 "fell down the stairs", and the nurse followed it with
5 a punch in the stomach, a proper punch in the stomach.
6 I buckled in two and he went something about, like, "You
7 are another pathetic sheep shagger", or some words like
8 that anyway. Sheep shagger was involved, anyway.
9 I end up -- he took us -- stripped us naked, put us
10 in a suicidal gown, and I had to sit in that room for
11 two days, locked up for two days, and I don't know why
12 that was, you know.
13 Q. And you also say that you remember a big screw who was
14 notorious?
15 A. Yes, yes, I was -- yeah, I was on report for something.
16 I was on report, I had done something wrong. I can't
17 remember what it was now. And at that time, at the
18 bottom of North Wing, at the end of North Wing, you had
19 a door you went through and there was another bit, and
20 you went down the back stairs and up through the
21 segregation suite, if you want.
22 Q. Mm-hm.
23 A. And so basically it was underneath the ground of North
24 Wing, in a basement in North Wing. But, when you went
25 through this door there was an orderly room, they called

1 it, where you went to see the governor if you did
2 something wrong.

3 So there used to be two staff stood at the side of
4 you, and a member of staff would open the door on the
5 inside and you were thrown into the room, physically
6 thrown. And you basically, if you -- well, you stopped
7 at a desk. I stopped at a desk, anyway, and I was in
8 the segregation unit for three days.

9 Was it three days? I think it was three days.

10 And during the three days, they used to take your
11 mattress out in the morning. They used to take your
12 mattress from you in the morning and give you it back
13 at, like, tea time. Whatever, 5 o'clock. You had to
14 sit, basically, on a -- it was a -- or you used to get
15 a cardboard table and chair, so you either sit on
16 that -- I used -- and that was it.

17 But, basically, there were pipes running up and back
18 of the cell. It was that cold -- it was winter -- one
19 of the times I was in the place, anyway -- and I cuddled
20 the pipe, was cuddling the pipe for warmth, and I have
21 stuck my leg underneath the pipe, so -- and I couldn't
22 get it back out. I don't know my legs. But I don't
23 know why my leg -- I stuck it in the pipe, anyway. So
24 they came in shouting and bawling, and shouting this,
25 that and the next thing. "We need to get the fire

1 brigade", and "It costs us lot of money, you are fucking
2 in for it this time, and all the rest of it,
3 'Martin'..."

4 So, anyway, I think it was a nurse that came down or
5 something and they cut my trousers. Basically put
6 a load of grease or something on my leg, I don't know
7 what it was. But after it I was battered and kicked,
8 a really bad kicking and battering for that happening,
9 GTU in the segregation unit, and it was a big guy,
10 I am sure it was GTU he was called, GTU or
11 something like that, it says in the statement, I am not
12 sure of his actual name, but he was notorious for
13 battering us, notorious for battering young boys. And
14 because I got my leg stuck in this pipe I got battered,
15 two of them I think it was, two or three, I was battered
16 in that cell, a real bad kicking, it was.

17 Q. And did you have injuries after that battering?

18 A. Yes, the back of my head was all lumps, I had a swollen
19 cheek, I remember there was blood coming out of my ear,
20 my nose was burst, I am sure there was blood coming out
21 of my ear, my face swelled up, I had lumps on the back
22 of my head, it was a bad one, and I never seen a nurse,
23 never seen a nurse, you know.

24 Q. And you refer to the man called GTU, GTU, and
25 I think you say he might have had a name as well, like

1 GTU [REDACTED]?

2 A. Aye, it was something like that, yes, GTU [REDACTED]

3 something like this. It was mad words like that anyway,

4 something like that, GTU [REDACTED] yes, he was in segregation for

5 quite a long time, it was his job. What an animal.

6 Q. And you say that you think you met someone who was his

7 son later on?

8 A. Yes I did.

9 Q. When you were in Perth Prison?

10 A. Yes, I am sure, [REDACTED], Mr [REDACTED], it says it here,

11 and I see him right now as I am speaking, it is either

12 Mr [REDACTED] or his son's first name is [REDACTED].

13 Q. Right, okay.

14 A. A weird name. So it is either Mr [REDACTED], we used to

15 call him, or [REDACTED], yes, it was [REDACTED], aye,

16 definitely. He was in Perth, I met his son, because his

17 son worked in Polmont, as well, in the induction.

18 Q. Yes.

19 A. And I met him years after in Perth. It was either his

20 first name was [REDACTED] or his second name was

21 Mr [REDACTED], [REDACTED] was his second name. I am not too

22 sure of that, to be honest.

23 Q. Okay. Do you remember any other names of staff in

24 Polmont?

25 Don't worry if you can't.

1 When you gave us your written statement you said you
2 also remembered someone who was called Mr ITD , does
3 that ring any bells with you?

4 A. Oh yeah, yeah, Mr ITD , yeah, aye, I had induction
5 with Mr ITD , and Mr Robertson, there was Mr Robertson
6 as well. Mr Robertson and -- Mr Robertson and
7 Mr ITD .

8 Q. Okay. And I think you tell us in your statement that
9 they worked in the Alley Cally?

10 A. Alley Cally, yes, that's it, the induction centre, they
11 used to.

12 Q. Okay, and what were Mr ITD and Mr Robertson like?
13 Did they behave in the same way as GTU or were
14 they a bit better?

15 A. No, they were pure animals, you know, pure animals.
16 There was another PO, a big dark skinned guy, Dan,
17 I have just seen a Dan there. I am just trying to see
18 ... yes, sorry.

19 Q. You mention when you were talking in your statement
20 about Mr ITD and Mr Robertson. You also say someone
21 called Danny, [REDACTED]
22 [REDACTED]

23 A. Maybe I can read this and it will come back to us, I am
24 not too sure. [REDACTED]
25 [REDACTED]

1

2

3 Q. Okay, thank you.

4 A. Yes, a nurse came down and put, yes, I remember it now,
5 the nurse came down and put the stuff on my leg to get
6 my leg out.

7 Q. Mm-hm.

8 A. I got battered after it, the nurse left, and I never
9 seen a nurse about the injuries, you know.

10 Q. Yes, yes, yes.

11 And generally in Polmont how was it that you and the
12 other boys would spend their day?

13 A. In segregation unit?

14 Q. No, no, no, when you weren't there, if you were in your
15 cell on a normal day how did you spend your day, do you
16 remember?

17 A. There wasn't very much to do, you didn't get to sit in
18 bed.

19 Q. Right.

20 A. No, no, no, sitting in beds ...

21 Q. I think you tell us a little about there at paragraph 67
22 of your statement.

23 A. Oh yes, yes, the bed blocks, you still had to make your
24 bed block.

25 Q. Right.

1 A. It wasn't with the sticks, it wasn't -- you didn't have
2 to be as good as they had done in Friarton, it was just
3 your blankets folding, but it was still bed block kind
4 of style.

5 Q. Mm-hm.

6 A. When I went there, from when you went from borstal to
7 young offenders, you know, but they still had that
8 borstal mentality, you know.

9 Q. Right.

10 A. The military kind of side to it.

11 Q. I think you tell us that it was still all marching and
12 drill?

13 A. Yes, yes, yes.

14 Q. Now --

15 A. If you were going anywhere you had to march, if you were
16 going anywhere you had to march in a line, basically, to
17 your cell you had to march, if you were going anywhere
18 you had to march, you know, like.

19 Q. Was there any time off, in the sense when you weren't
20 marching or sitting in the cell where you could go and
21 watch TV or play a game?

22 A. You certainly couldn't watch TV, you never had any TVs.

23 Q. Right, what about radio, was there a radio you could
24 listen to?

25 A. Yes, could you get a radio, you could get a radio.

1 Q. Mm-hm.

2 A. You could sit on your bed after 5 o'clock, after tea
3 time, I think the working day, if you want, you could go
4 and sit on your bed at that time. You used to get
5 recreation.

6 Q. Right.

7 A. If we had a TV room I can't remember it. Maybe did
8 have. You got yourselves, at that time I think, we were
9 on three nights a week, I can't remember now, to be
10 honest, at the time you could go down and play table
11 tennis or speak to other people or you could play cards,
12 that was your recreation, 7 I think it was, to 8.30,
13 something like that.

14 Q. Right.

15 A. They were handy with their hands as well, with the
16 slaps, they were good at that, you know. I could see --
17 talking for myself here, they wouldn't let you go to the
18 toilet if you were locked up on that time, there was no
19 sanitation or nothing, it was all outside, and if you
20 were sitting having a toilet, when they said, this was
21 their words "snip it" and you had to stop what you were
22 doing, so if you were constipated or anything, you
23 couldn't do the toilet, you had to get up and get moving
24 the minute they said "snip it". You know, it was
25 a terrible place for me as well.

1 Q. And, you know, the slapping that happened, was that
2 frequent, or was it occasional?

3 A. Yeah, I would say it was pretty frequent with people,
4 yes, I was slapped a few times, and I remember, it came
5 to my mind there as well, Mr ITD, he used to be --
6 there was a canteen, there was a room in the flat, if
7 you want, on the bottom landing, and he was kind of the
8 canteen manager, and he said to me one day "listen, you
9 want to clean up a blood spillage for us?" In this day
10 you would never get to do it, but it was blood spillage
11 and I said aye. It was in a cell, me and another boy,
12 anyway, we done what we done, we cleaned it up as best
13 as possible, and he give us a corner of tobacco, a bit
14 of tobacco, and he went up to inspect anyway, and
15 I think I went up to my room, and I had been shouted
16 back down, and I was -- the window had broke, there were
17 panels, the window had been smashed, I think someone had
18 put their hand through it if I remember right, but there
19 was tiny bits of glass under the radiator, just
20 underneath on the ground anyway, and he said "look at
21 that, pick it up", and I said fuck, I never noticed it,
22 as I went down to pick up the two or three bits of glass
23 I got a slap right to the side of the face from this
24 Mr ITD. And that was for trying do him a good turn,
25 you know, trying to be good, cleaning up somebody else's

1 mess. Aye, he was another horrible, 99 per cent of them
2 were horrible in those places.

3 Q. Now, you have told us about the abuse you experienced
4 there. And you are remembering new things as you go
5 along, which aren't in your statement. Is there
6 anything else about Polmont that you would like to tell
7 us?

8 A. It was just really, you know, it says what it says. It
9 was just -- it was just not a nice place to be, you
10 know, it was a horrible place to be, they weren't nice
11 people. I would say 99 per cent of them, you know, not
12 everybody, I suppose, but 99 per cent of them had
13 attitudes, you know, they had attitudes and it was as
14 simple as that. They made you aware who was boss. We
15 didn't need to get slapped and kicked to know who was
16 boss, you know what I mean.

17 Q. And then moving on in your statement, you tell us --
18 excuse me. I am sorry about that; I have a slight
19 cough.

20 You tell us about your life following care.

21 A. Mm-hm.

22 Q. And in particular when you were 18, or 19, you were
23 assaulted by the police?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. What happened then?

1 A. I was out drinking, me and my pal, in the town. We
2 ended up getting lifted, anyway. I was -- both in the
3 back of the police van. And when they took us out of
4 the back of the police van they only had me by the
5 scruff of the neck, basically, and I tried to run away,
6 and they caught us and started battering and kicking and
7 punching. My friend, he was at the charge desk, and he
8 seen me getting pulled down unconscious by the hair, and
9 one of the sleeves was completely missing, you know.
10 But anyway, that happened, and the next morning I had to
11 get my hair cut off the floor by a doctor, I was in some
12 mess, you know, I was assaulted by the police, aye,
13 I was getting a blood clot took out my head, and my face
14 was completely smashed in, I was in a mess, yes.

15 Q. So you suffered injuries, and it was a injury to your
16 brain as well because of the blood clot?

17 A. Yes, yes.

18 Q. And how has that injury affected you moving forward?

19 A. Yes, affected quite a lot to be honest with you, you
20 know. I don't have the best of memory. I have
21 cognitive difficulties. Yes. When it first happened,
22 after the operation and that, I didn't look good for
23 a long time. I lost a lot of confidence. I was
24 a confident kid before it. I lost a lot of confidence,
25 but I remember being up in a house, he was selling

1 heroin, and he said "take a bit of this", you know, "it
2 will pick you right up", blah blah blah, and I remember
3 the very first bit of heroin I took, and it took back
4 all of the confidence and the rest of it, you know what
5 I mean, that was lost and I ended up with a heroin habit
6 which took me down, and I am basically here today, done
7 21 years in jail, and that, you know, I don't know where
8 it stems, but I think it stems back a long time ago, all
9 joined together, if you sit here and think about it.

10 But anyway, that was another thing with authority,
11 you know, that's the police. You are meant to be able
12 to go to the police to look after you, to help you. You
13 have a social worker at one point and then you have the
14 police at the other. So authority always had a thing of
15 trust and being able to trust, and instead of being
16 a nice thing, it is a horrible thing, you know.

17 Q. And 'Martin', at page 18 of your statement from
18 paragraph 79 you tell us about impact.

19 A. Sorry, where?

20 Q. From paragraph 79 you tell us about things under the
21 heading of "impact". And what I am asking you is
22 generally what impact has your experiences in care,
23 including what happened to you at Friarton and Polmont,
24 what effect have those experiences had upon you?

25 A. Yes, well, as I say, I ended up addicted to heroin.

1 I took a lot of drink to try to blunt things out, you
2 know, as I said. Can I take a second just to read this
3 yes?
4 Q. Yes, of course.
5 (Pause)
6 A. Right, yes. Sorry.
7 Q. Yes, I should say obviously we have your statement, and
8 we have read your statement very carefully, and you set
9 out in some detail the impact your experiences have had
10 upon you. What I wondered, is there anything in
11 particular in what you tell us that you would like to
12 speak about today?
13 A. Um, regards?
14 Q. Sorry, my fault, I am not explaining this very well. In
15 this section you speak about the effect your experiences
16 in care have had upon you and your life.
17 A. Yes.
18 Q. And you tell us a lot about that. You talk about your
19 addiction. You talk about the thoughts in your head.
20 You talk about your mental health. And the problems you
21 have with people in authority. Is there anything about
22 what you tell us that you would like to add to, today?
23 A. I just basically, I believe that the things that
24 happened to me has led to being here today, to be
25 honest, you know. I murdered a man. You know, that

1 man, you know, also sexually assaulted me, you know, and
2 plus he sexually assaulted my auntie as well, you know.
3 You want to know the impact of what was done, yes, okay,
4 I suffer, have done for a lot of years, through
5 depression. In the last couple of years, you know,
6 I started taking panic attacks. There was this lady
7 here, my psychologist, who has worked with me for a long
8 time and helped take me from that place.

9 Authority I cannot trust. I am a very, very hard
10 person to -- I find it very hard to trust, you know.
11 And I think I have always felt like that, you know, from
12 a kid. And I think it was down to, you know, the people
13 that I was involved with as a kid.

14 Yes, I have tried to end my own life, you know,
15 I tried to end my life, you know, I didn't want to be
16 here any more. It wasn't so long ago, it was only
17 a couple of years ago I took a drug overdose and when
18 I woke up, I was disappointed that I woke up, you know,
19 I was really disappointed I woke up. That's a dark
20 place to be, you know. **Secondary Institutions - to be published later**

21 **Secondary Institutions - to be published later**

22
23
24 It was just one thing that's rolled into being here,
25 I think, you know. 21 years in jail for murdering

1 somebody that, you know, had sexually assaulted you, you
2 know.

3 MS RATTRAY: Well, that remains -- that's the end of my
4 questions for you, 'Martin', and it just remains for me
5 to thank you for helping us by answering all of the
6 questions that I had for you.

7 My Lady --

8 A. Thank you very much.

9 MS RATTRAY: -- I am not aware of there being any other
10 questions.

11 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

12 'Martin', can I add my thanks. Thanks not only to
13 you for engaging with us this morning over the link to
14 give your evidence in person, but for having provided
15 such a helpful statement before that. You have
16 obviously taken a lot of care in thinking about that
17 statement before you gave it to us, and in reviewing it,
18 and ensuring that it painted the picture you wanted to
19 paint. I am really grateful to you for doing that. It
20 helps my learning here. I am now able to let you go,
21 and I hope the rest of the day is a little less
22 stressful than what we have done to you for the last
23 hour or so. Thank you.

24 A. Okay, no worries.

25 LADY SMITH: Now, before we move on to the next stage of

1 today, can I just mention, as usual, that that witness
2 has given names of staff at Westburn Children's Home,
3 Friarton, and Polmont, and also of a social worker.
4 These names are all protected by my general restriction
5 order and are not to be mentioned outside of this room.

6 Now, Ms Rattray, do we have a time for a read-in
7 before we do the morning break or not? I think it is
8 your call, Mr Peoples, is it not?

9 MR PEOPLES: I wonder if we could do an early morning break,
10 that would probably make sense, rather than start,
11 I think I might take rather longer.

12 LADY SMITH: That's fine, let's do that.

13 (11.13 am)

14 (A short break)

15 (11.33 am)

16 LADY SMITH: Mr Peoples.

17 MR PEOPLES: My Lady, I propose to do two read-ins just now
18 and I think some of my colleagues will take over, and
19 then we will perhaps go back to me later on in the day.

20 LADY SMITH: Okay.

21 MR. PEOPLES: The first read-in is from a witness statement
22 by a person who has the pseudonym 'Thomas'. His
23 statement is at WIT-1-000001174. And before I actually
24 take your Ladyship to the read-in I was just going to
25 make a couple of comments about read-ins.

1 LADY SMITH: Could you just confirm the pseudonym, the
2 pseudonym is 'Thomas', you said?
3 MR. PEOPLES: 'Thomas', yes.
4 LADY SMITH: Thank you.
5 MR. PEOPLES: I was just going to make some preliminary
6 remarks about read-ins before I look at the statement
7 itself. And it is this: what is striking and is
8 exemplified by the read-ins just this chapter, the case
9 study, is firstly how many children in care ended their
10 childhood in an SPS establishment. Secondly, how many
11 had been in a number of residential care settings before
12 experiencing life in a prison environment. Thirdly, how
13 many had experienced and witnessed abuse before entering
14 that environment for the first time, frequently in more
15 than one of the residential care settings in to which
16 they were placed. And of course some also had a history
17 of abuse prior to going into care. Fourthly, how many
18 also experienced or witnessed abuse in one or more than
19 one Scottish Prison Service establishment. The details
20 of the abuse which applicants say they experienced and
21 witnessed in what might be collectively called non-SPS
22 settings can be found in their signed statements, which
23 form part of the evidence in this case study. What is
24 apparent is that the types of abuse described in these
25 statements is often very similar to the types of abuse

1 found to have occurred in the residential care settings
2 that have been the subject of previous case studies and
3 published case study findings.

4 So if this week, with some of the read-ins, I simply
5 make reference to non-SPS settings and leave it at that,
6 then I do so with that introduction in mind.

7 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

8 MR. PEOPLES: Clearly the evidence is there, but I will
9 perhaps focus more this week on what we have been told
10 about the SPS settings.

11 LADY SMITH: Yes, as you say, I think we have already
12 recognised in the evidence that we have heard that many
13 of the applicants who have come forward were in
14 a multiplicity of residential institutions, including
15 SPS.

16 MR. PEOPLES: Yes.

17 LADY SMITH: But other places which were places of abuse as
18 well.

19 MR. PEOPLES: Yes.

20 LADY SMITH: Yes.

21 'Thomas' (read)

22 MR. PEOPLES: So if I go back now to the statement by
23 'Thomas', and it will be probably today if I get to all
24 of the read-ins that I am due to do today, it is one of
25 a group of statements by people who were born in the

1 early 60s, 1960s, and who all turned 18 at the end of
2 the 1970s or the beginning of the 1980s.

3 LADY SMITH: Mm-hm.

4 MR. PEOPLES: These individuals do include 'Thomas', who
5 I am about to deal with. What I will say about
6 'Thomas', is, if I could just start with his life before
7 care, which he tells us about in his statements at
8 paragraphs about 2 to 13, his parents split up when
9 'Thomas' was a baby and 'Thomas' went to stay with his
10 maternal grandmother, and his mother's oldest sister.
11 And around the age of 5 or 6 'Thomas' moved to a housing
12 estate in Govan which was known as wine alley, which
13 I think we have heard about.

14 LADY SMITH: We have heard about it before, yes.

15 MR. PEOPLES: Two of his older brothers stayed with his
16 mother most of the time, and I think, he tells us, in
17 fact, at paragraph 3 that, he says he went off the
18 rails, in fact, after his Granny died when he was about
19 7 years of age, and he says then that his two older
20 brothers stayed with his mother most of the time, and
21 that he has two younger step brothers from
22 a relationship between his mother and his stepfather.

23 As far as going off the rails is concerned, he began
24 skipping schools, and again a familiar --

25 LADY SMITH: A familiar tale.

1 MR. PEOPLES: -- tale. He appeared before a Children's
2 Panel, he says, at around the age of 9 or 10. And by
3 then he was getting into trouble, and I think the
4 examples were stripping and selling scrap metal. And he
5 was then sent to St Ninian's Gartmore. And in his
6 statement he tells us about his experiences in
7 St Ninian's Gartmore, and he also tells us about his
8 experiences in Larchgrove and also in St Mary's Kenmure,
9 all of which are covered by this case study.

10 He is giving evidence about these places in the
11 1970s, and I think it is sufficient to say at the moment
12 that in all of these three institutions he experienced
13 abuse before arriving at the first Scottish Prison
14 Service establishment, and that abuse in his case
15 included sexual abuse.

16 LADY SMITH: Yes.

17 MR. PEOPLES: So against that introduction, if I could
18 perhaps move forward in his statement to what he tells
19 us about his experiences in the prison environment that
20 I mentioned. He told us, he tells us, around
21 paragraph 145 or thereabouts, he left St Mary's, that
22 was one of the three places he has given evidence about,
23 and he says he did go back to stay with his family, at
24 147, for a time. And he talks about what happened
25 during that period, and he did find some work at that

1 time. But he says, about 151, while he did have work
2 and had been doing okay up until that point, he blew it
3 all by getting involved in a robbery for which he was
4 caught and sent to borstal. He went to Sheriff Court at
5 aged 17 or thereabouts, and was sentenced to one to
6 three years in borstal, 152, but was told he could do
7 nine months if he behaved himself, but he told us in
8 fact he ended up doing 17 and a half months, because
9 after six months of borstal training he ran away.

10 LADY SMITH: He said when he left St Mary's he thought he
11 was about 16, and that would broadly fit with what we
12 have discovered from records; that he was 17 or so when
13 he got the sentence you just referred to.

14 MR. PEOPLES: He was getting towards the end of the 1970s
15 when leaving St Mary's and also starting to be dealt
16 with through the court system and the prison system.

17 LADY SMITH: Yes.

18 MR. PEOPLES: He does say that when he was sentenced he was
19 taken from the Sheriff Court, at 153, to Perth Prison
20 for a couple of days before being transferred to
21 Polmont, and that would have been an adult prison at
22 that stage. And based on what he says at 154 he seems
23 to have encountered some well known and familiar names.
24 He mentioned one, which I think is well known to many of
25 us. But he does say he doesn't make any complaint about

1 his short time at Perth.

2 If I could go on to Polmont, and he tells us about
3 the Young Offenders' Institute between 156 and 188, and
4 so forth, and if I could perhaps read some of that.

5 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

6 MR. PEOPLES: "Polmont was the only closed borstal in
7 Scotland when I went there. The other two were
8 Noranside and Castle Huntly but they weren't close so
9 I stayed at Polmont as they thought I would run away
10 from the other two.

11 "When I arrived at Polmont from Inverness Jail I was
12 taken in to what was called the allocation wing, they
13 called it the Alli Calli. I was in there for the first
14 six weeks and that was brutal.

15 "It was just like the army in the Alli Calli; we
16 were marching, making bed blocks, bulling up the floor
17 and all that sort of thing.

18 "The governor would come in every Saturday for
19 inspection and he would search everywhere for dust. If
20 he found any that was a bad mark against you. It was
21 just like an army thing for those first six weeks.

22 "After those first six weeks people were allocated
23 to a wing: east, north, west, or south. East was the
24 worst one with all of the worst screws, and I was sent
25 to the east. I'm not sure who made that decision and

1 no one ever told me why. It was a tougher place to be
2 so they knew to put certain people in there. You didn't
3 want that, but if you got it you just had to live with
4 it."

5 He then goes on to tell us a bit about the routine.

6 "Everything was contained in this one big block at
7 Polmont. I was in a single cell. The routine wasn't as
8 strict as it was in the Alli Calli but you did still
9 have to keep things clean and tidy and keep your floor
10 bulled, that kind of thing. You did the bed blocks as
11 well but it just wasn't quite as strict as the first six
12 weeks.

13 "Your cell door opened about seven in the morning
14 and then we started getting ready. We had pots in our
15 cells so first thing you did was go and slop out. It
16 was much the same as other places with communal showers
17 and all that.

18 Then we all had breakfast in this big hall, with
19 beans, bacon whatever, and I remember I was in charge of
20 the tea. I had a big urn and gave out the tea to
21 everyone. After we put everything away we went off to
22 our various jobs. I went on a specific joiner's course
23 that was called vocational training, and I asked for
24 that as I did fancy doing it. There was also gardening,
25 repairs, a sewing machine place, and all sorts of

1 things. You got locked up in your cell for an hour
2 after you had your lunch so the screws could get the
3 meals, and it was sat same after dinner from about 5
4 until 6 or 6.30. You then had recreation for a couple
5 of hours after that. We could play snooker or pool or
6 watch television.

7 "At 9 o'clock we would all be banged up in our cells
8 for the night. Everyone would be shouting and balling,
9 throwing lines out of the windows to get snout, all that
10 kind of stuff, it was just nuts.

11 "I did the joiner's training for six months, and
12 passed all of the things I needed to do. I did get
13 a qualification from that. I then got a job with the
14 works joiner. His job was to go about doing repairs
15 within Polmont.

16 You spent a lot of time keeping the place clean and
17 spotless. We used these big bumper things to clean the
18 floors all around Polmont.

19 "There was a uniform at Polmont. We wore black
20 trousers and a black jacket and a certain coloured
21 shirt. When you first went in you got a red striped
22 shirt. If you behaved for the first six months, then
23 you got a blue striped shirt and if you then kept out of
24 trouble for the next three months, you could get out.
25 So you could get out in --"

1 LADY SMITH: Mr Peoples, I am sorry, I am going to have to
2 interrupt you. My transcript stopped about two minutes
3 ago and it is not picking up.

4 MR PEOPLES: Oh dear.

5 LADY SMITH: Although this is a read-in, I still need to
6 have a transcript of exactly what's being read. We will
7 have to have a break, I am sorry.

8 (11.45 am)

9 (a short break)

10 (12.11 pm)

11 LADY SMITH: Mr Peoples.

12 MR PEOPLES: My Lady, I don't know where we were before you
13 had lost your --

14 LADY SMITH: If you just pick up where you left off, because
15 I can't now get back into what I had before.

16 MR PEOPLES: Oh, right.

17 LADY SMITH: I am assured it is there.

18 MR PEOPLES: Okay, I am trying to remember. I think I was
19 about to ...

20 LADY SMITH: You were, I think, still in the routine.

21 MR PEOPLES: I was in the routine and I think I started
22 a piece about -- no, I went to clothing, about what they
23 wore.

24 LADY SMITH: Yes.

25 MR PEOPLES: And I think I was actually in that paragraph,

1 about 169, when we -- I do remember reading about the
2 different shirts and how you could get out.

3 LADY SMITH: Okay, let's start there, then.

4 MR PEOPLES: I will start, perhaps, there.

5 I will just repeat that:

6 "There was a uniform at Polmont, we wore black
7 trousers and a black jacket and a certain colour of
8 shirt. When you first went in, you got a red striped
9 shirt. If you behaved for the first six months, then
10 you got a blue striped shirt and if you then kept out of
11 trouble for the next three months you could get out. So
12 you could get out in nine months.

13 "I once got to the six-month stage with a nice blue
14 shirt, but I couldn't help myself and as soon as I got
15 the chance I was out of there. There was just this part
16 of me that always did that. I think it started at the
17 moment when I first got out of that car at St Ninian's
18 and made a run for it."

19 That's a reference, I think, to his first care
20 experience.

21 LADY SMITH: Yes.

22 MR PEOPLES: "Polmont was a proper secure youth prison and
23 was a difficult place to get out of. I got this job
24 that got me out of the place, though. I did the
25 six-month joiners course which got me the job with the

1 works joiner. That had me all over Polmont doing the
2 on-site jobs, that was what I needed to get the freedom
3 to get over the two walls to get out of the place.

4 "Once I got working with the works joiner, I said to
5 my boss one day that I was away to the toilet, and that
6 was me, I was off over the two walls and on the way back
7 to Glasgow. That was the day John Lennon got shot."

8 That was the 8 December, 1988.

9 LADY SMITH: Yes.

10 MR PEOPLES: 1980, sorry. Which would make him about age 18
11 at that stage.

12 LADY SMITH: Yes.

13 MR PEOPLES: So, going on at 172:

14 "When the screws realised someone had escaped they
15 shut the whole place down, phoned the local police and
16 everyone would come looking for with you dogs and
17 everything. If you got more than five miles away
18 quickly, then you would probably be okay and get away.
19 I was at fast as Usain Bolt, what with all the training
20 I had been doing. So I was in Govan before they let the
21 dogs out.

22 "I was away on the run for about two weeks, and
23 I got 17 days in the 'Digger' and about six months added
24 to my sentence for that. I just went in front of the
25 governor and he dealt with it. I think he could have

1 made it an official charge, but he could also add time
2 to your sentence, and he decided to add the maximum that
3 he could, which was the six months, and then gave me the
4 17 days in the 'Digger' as well.

5 "There was a lot of fighting and violence in
6 Polmont. It was constant between the guys that were in
7 there and there was violence from the screws as well.
8 Things were always flaring up, and they would usually be
9 settled in the toilets, after dinner. They could be
10 over absolutely anything, sometimes no reason. It was
11 absolutely mental."

12 He has a section headed "Abuse at Polmont":

13 "The abuse at Polmont was just getting weighed in
14 a few times by some of the characters. The main one was
15 GIH, he was a guard, but he was also the gym teacher
16 and was in charge of [REDACTED]. He proper
17 weighed me in a few times. He was the worst and was
18 an absolute swine of a man.

19 "There was also a wee baldy PTI guy with a moustache
20 who would have been in his 40s. That was the same, he
21 would weigh into the boys and he set about me a few
22 times. I can't remember his name.

23 GIH and the PTI were both bad and then there was
24 GQJ, he was another screw. They would all proper
25 beat up boys, punching, kicking, all sorts. A lot of it

1 was in the gym area, or for me when I was down in the
2 'Digger'.

3 "They had a punishment cell which was called the
4 'Digger' and Polmont, where you were sent if you had
5 been misbehaving. It was down these stairs, underneath
6 the North Wing, and it was more or less a dungeon. It
7 was freezing cold, manky place, you could hear rats and
8 cockroaches running about in there.

9 "The 'Digger' had nothing in it at all and you would
10 be in there on your own all day. There wasn't even
11 a toilet. You just had a chantie pot which was
12 a manky old thing. They brought you your food to the
13 door of the cell. You couldn't get out. And about six
14 at night they gave you a little mattress and a blanket.

15 "The only time you got out was first thing in the
16 morning when the PTI guy took you to do physical
17 training. He made you bunny hop along the corridor,
18 then do all this hard training with medicine balls and
19 that sort of thing. After that, it was straight back to
20 the Digger cell.

21 "I was once kept in there for 17 days after I was
22 away on the run at new year. GQJ came into the
23 cell a few times when I was in the Digger and weighed me
24 in. The PTI guy as well, he did the same. They were
25 the only two that would come in and set about me

1 specifically because I had bolted.

2 "One punishment they had was to get you up at
3 6 o'clock in the morning and have you doing these bunny
4 hops right along the corridors. That was really
5 punishing.

6 "Whenever we [REDACTED], GIH used to give it out
7 to me. I think a lot of it with me was because he
8 hadn't liked my brother. My brother had been in Polmont
9 and there was bad blood between them, so he took it out
10 on me. He hit me and other people. He would just bang
11 you with his fist. Everyone saw it. I saw him do it to
12 others. We could be in the changing room and he would
13 come up to you and lay into you. It could be one punch
14 or half a dozen punches, and it would often be for no
15 reason at all. That's just what he did all the time.

16 "GQJ [REDACTED] once stuck the nut on me. I was in the
17 'Digger', he came into the cell, walked right up to me,
18 looking me right in the face, and then bang. He put the
19 nut on me. That floored me and I think I had two black
20 eyes from that. I hadn't done a thing. I never got any
21 medical treatment for that.

22 "GQJ [REDACTED] would have been in his 40s. He ended up
23 as a screw in Barlinnie, but he didn't act the same in
24 there. You couldn't act the way he did in Polmont to
25 the guys in Barlinnie."

1 He says about reporting, he thinks he told his
2 brother and auntie about the treatment in Polmont, but
3 nothing was ever done about it. He says that he was in
4 Polmont for around 17 and a half months, at 188, and
5 left some time around the end of [REDACTED] of 1981, when
6 he would be aged 18, I think.

7 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

8 MR PEOPLES: And he tells us a bit about his life after
9 being in care, from paragraphs 189 to 200. Again, there
10 is a familiarity with previous accounts.

11 LADY SMITH: Yes.

12 MR PEOPLES: He says it wasn't long before he was back to
13 square one with drink and drugs. Things got really bad
14 with addictions, starting with amphetamines, and then he
15 was introduced to heroin. He talks about how, at that
16 stage, at 191, he was just a daft young boy, and really
17 didn't have any knowledge about the effects of the drugs
18 and withdrawals.

19 LADY SMITH: Just jumping back for a moment, to
20 paragraph 188.

21 MR PEOPLES: Yes.

22 LADY SMITH: Sorry, 189.

23 MR PEOPLES: Yes.

24 LADY SMITH: He thinks he was 17 and a half when he came out
25 of Polmont, but that doesn't fit with the dates. He

1 must have been almost 19.

2 MR PEOPLES: 18 going on 19.

3 LADY SMITH: 18, being 19 very shortly.

4 MR PEOPLES: Yes. No, it doesn't even fit with his own
5 previous paragraph, I think. So, yes, I don't think he
6 was --

7 LADY SMITH: There is not much in it, but just to make sure
8 we have that right.

9 MR PEOPLES: No. I think it is what he says is the
10 situation at around this time.

11 LADY SMITH: Yes.

12 MR PEOPLES: He tells us about his young adult life and how
13 he, when he was back in the community, did form
14 a relationship, at 193, and had two daughters. Then he
15 says heroin got a grip of him big time. He was stealing
16 and robbing to pay for it and had a couple of stints in
17 Barlinnie. His relationship broke up.

18 He talks about, at 194, ending up in rehab, when he
19 was about 24.

20 Following that, he said he slipped back to his old
21 way of life and ended up back on drugs, at 194. He then
22 tells us that after coming off heroin during a spell in
23 Barlinnie, he moved away from Scotland and he ended up
24 in London, where, again, he got involved in drugs. He
25 ended up living on the streets. He was injecting crack

1 cocaine and heroin.

2 And he then tells us that things got better in his
3 mid to late 30s, at 198. He says he got himself off the
4 drugs and that he came off completely when he was about
5 40 years of age.

6 He tells us that one of his brothers clearly didn't
7 have quite the same experience; he was also a drugs user
8 and died as a result. He tells us about that.

9 On impact, again, there are familiar themes here.
10 He has suffered from addictions, as he tells us in his
11 statement, and the loss of relationships. He feels
12 that, at 201, a lot of his problems can be traced back
13 to his childhood and what happened, and the various
14 places he was in care. He says he finds it difficult to
15 be intimate, in terms of making relationships and
16 maintaining them, at 202.

17 At 210, on page 38, he does say that he doesn't
18 think he would have been on the drugs had he not been in
19 care, and there is no doubt he is reflecting on what his
20 life might have been like had he taken a different path.

21 He says, on 215, he seems to have, to some extent,
22 made his peace with authority, he says. He says he is
23 a massive reader of books nowadays, and indeed he
24 attributes that to being something he learned to do from
25 being in borstal. He feels he wouldn't have had

1 a record or been in the bother he did if he hadn't been
2 in the places that he describes in his statement.

3 How he puts it is:

4 "It all started ..."

5 And this is at 216. He says:

6 "The influences all came from inside those places.

7 I was just a daft wee boy when I first went into
8 St Ninian's. I hadn't done anything at all. I had
9 dodged school and stripped a bit of lead. Loads of guys
10 did that and went on to do different things."

11 He says, at 217:

12 "Nearly everyone that was in those places with me
13 has ended up dead."

14 And he tells us about that.

15 At 219, again a familiar theme, he says he never
16 really did anything at school and didn't really have
17 a proper education, which he regrets, by saying that he
18 feels he has a good brain and a good memory.

19 Towards the end of his statement, at 224, he is
20 saying that he has wasted loads of years on drugs or
21 stuck in jail. He talks a bit about the treatment and
22 support he was given, at 225 to 227. He does appear to
23 have reported some of what happened to a lawyer
24 some years ago, but it doesn't appear that really went
25 very far, or at least he didn't really benefit too much

1 from that engagement.

2 Under "Lessons to be learned", at 233 he says, and
3 this is picking up, I think, an earlier theme:

4 "I went into these places [I think he starts with
5 St Ninian's] ... a totally innocent little boy who had
6 been dodging school and I came out knowing how to commit
7 all sorts of crimes. I could hot wire cars, disable
8 alarms. I knew all sorts of stuff. I came out a proper
9 criminal."

10 While he does sometimes -- at 234, he does refer to
11 an individual who he feels was someone that was prepared
12 to listen to him. He does say that the staff generally
13 should have been sitting boys down and having a wee
14 chat, and that hardly ever happened with him.

15 LADY SMITH: I was interested to read, at 221, he said -- or
16 he feels that all he needed was a good boot up the arse,
17 but I never had a dad there to give me that.

18 MR PEOPLES: Yes. Well, your Ladyship will recall from the
19 read-ins there are a number of situations where there is
20 a family breakdown and a separation, which frequently
21 involves the father disappearing from the scene, or at
22 least being less involved with the family, and sometimes
23 it is seen that that's the start, or the person
24 attributes the downhill --

25 LADY SMITH: Yes, and he draws a distinction between how, in

1 his mind, that would have been, namely his father being
2 strict with him, and what did happen, which he describes
3 as having been sent into a mad house.

4 MR PEOPLES: Yes.

5 LADY SMITH: Where strangers were being, according to his
6 statement, very hard on him and giving him the boot up
7 the arse he thinks he needed, but that was different and
8 it turned him out the worst person he could be.

9 MR PEOPLES: Perhaps he could take it from his father, but
10 not take it from a stranger.

11 LADY SMITH: Exactly.

12 MR PEOPLES: And that may be very difficult. Maybe many
13 children say that they might find it, for whatever
14 reason, just the bond, the biological bond, that they
15 can --

16 LADY SMITH: They can cope with it and it works.

17 MR PEOPLES: They can cope with it and it works, at times.
18 It doesn't always work, because clearly there are
19 some fathers that are there and it is that reason that
20 it seems to end up resulting in a care situation. So
21 I suppose we have a mixture.

22 LADY SMITH: Yes.

23 MR PEOPLES: But there are familiar situations that we see
24 in the pre-care history and how the care experience
25 started.

1 LADY SMITH: Yes. Thank you.

2 MR PEOPLES: Again, this is something that a number of
3 witnesses have said before, at 241, that 'Thomas' blames
4 the system for all that happened to him. So he sees it
5 as a -- and indeed he describes it as "state sponsored
6 abuse", as he believes they knew what was going on in
7 these places, and poses the rhetorical question: who
8 would put these young boys in those environments?

9 But he also makes the point, towards the end of his
10 statement, that his story isn't a unique one. He knows
11 loads of boys that have had the exact same story from
12 all the same places he was in:

13 "The way we were all treated was standard and that
14 was the same for the generations before me as well."

15 And he says his older brother went through a similar
16 journey or experience. He ends by saying, at 243, he
17 has no objection to his witness statement being
18 published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry and
19 believes the facts stated in his statement are true.

20 And he signed his statement on 15 September 2022.

21 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

22 And where now?

23 MR PEOPLES: Can I move to another read-in? The next
24 read-in this morning -- or this afternoon, sorry -- is
25 from a statement provided by 'Alex'.

1 'Alex' (read)

2 MR PEOPLES: That statement is to be found at

3 WIT-1-000000920. And --

4 LADY SMITH: Carry on. I know it is in the bottom file.

5 MR PEOPLES: 'Alex' was born in 1961, in Johnstone, near
6 Paisley, and he tells us a bit about his early life, at
7 paragraphs 2 to 8, before going into care. And he says,
8 from the age of 3 months the sister of his mother became
9 his mum, and he refers to his mother as "the thing".

10 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

11 MR PEOPLES: At the age of 5, he has a recollection. He
12 recalls being a very happy, easy going, lovable child,
13 living in Paisley. And then he tells us that his
14 biological mum wanted him back, and this, he says, was
15 when his troubles started and life was terrible.

16 'Alex' tells us about being constantly leathered for
17 no reason. His mother, he says, was an alcoholic, and
18 he tells us he ended up before a children's panel:


19 "Because I was uncontrollable and I kept running
20 away."

21 He said he did so because he was getting slapped,
22 hit and battered by his mother and the panel decided to
23 place the applicant in a residential setting, a school,
24 on care and protection grounds.

25 Now, I am not going to go through all the various

1 places, but it is worth observing that he was in,
2 I think, if my arithmetic is correct, eight institutions
3 before the SPS experience between about 1966 and 1977,
4 including two List D schools. So that's between the
5 ages of, roughly, 5 and 16.

6 Secondary Institutions - to be published later



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17 LADY SMITH: Indeed.

18 MR PEOPLES: So, if I could perhaps pick up -- starting
19 around page 31, he tells us about the final List D
20 school he was attending, Thornly Park, in Paisley, and
21 indeed he says, at 133, there's nothing really bad that
22 he could say about it. Although I think he still does
23 speak about abuse, although he has made that comment.

24 Secondary Institutions - to be published later



25

1 But he moves from these settings, where -- he tells
2 us that when he left his List D schools he went to live
3 with his sister, and he says that he wasn't there long.
4 He then speaks about his experience at Longriggend, in
5 North Lanarkshire, between 136 and 142. Perhaps I could
6 pick up the statement there.

7 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

8 MR PEOPLES: Page 32:

9 "In 1976 or 1977, I went to Longriggend. As they
10 classed it, I was a schoolboy, so they had to open
11 a schoolboy unit. I was remanded to there from Paisley
12 Sheriff Court ... I got bail for a pound, but nobody
13 paid it, so I was placed at Longriggend on remand for
14 three weeks. This was for house breaking, breaking into
15 a shop. After the three weeks, I pled guilty and got
16 three months in Glenochil.

17 "I remember the prosecutor going up and saying I had
18 been in and out of children's homes. To me, it felt
19 like I wasn't wanted anywhere, and they said the best
20 thing for me would be a short, sharp shock. This would
21 have have been taken from my records. They asked me why
22 I did it. I told them it was because I was hungry and
23 needed food. No family member came to court with me,
24 nobody even paid the pound bail.

25 "It was a place where they thought they would teach

1 me a lesson. It did scare me, because it was the first
2 time I had been behind bars. I remember it very well.
3 They waited until 4 o'clock, when the courts finished,
4 to see if anyone would pay the bail, but nobody did.

5 "This was the first time I had been taken away about
6 the police in a Black Maria. All the other times I was
7 actually taken back to places by the police. I went to
8 a juvenile court. I was hand cuffed with a block sort
9 of thing. I didn't understand what they were talking
10 about, nothing was explained to me until I went to the
11 detention centre. I had a solicitor representing me,
12 but the first time I met him was in the holding cells at
13 Paisley Sheriff Court."

14 And he has a short passage about a short period in
15 Barlinnie. He says:

16 "Initially Longriggend didn't have a closed
17 schoolboy unit, so I went to Barlinnie for seven days.
18 I was petrified. I had heard a lot about it, but it
19 wasn't too bad. There were three other children and we
20 were kept away from the adults. It was tight and
21 strict, but not as bad as Longriggend or Glenochil.

22 "In Longriggend I was in a cell by myself at first.
23 I was mixed with the adults, but I wasn't allowed to
24 associate with them. There was a gate that separated
25 us. I was cocky, a chancer. I didn't like it at all.

1 "There was a piss pot in the cell, not a toilet. We
2 had a shower once a week. I was on the shit parcel
3 patrol because there were no toilets in the cell.
4 Prisoners would do the toilet and throw it out the
5 window and for four days I had to walk around the
6 outside myself with a wooden barrow, like a four-wheeled
7 trolley and pick it up. After the four days there was
8 three or four of us doing it. Sometimes you would be
9 shouted at by the older prisoners and they would throw
10 shit parcels and piss pots over you. It was awful.

11 "They shaved your head on the first day. It was an
12 old Victorian place. Every day there were different
13 screws that would hit you. You had to say 'yes sir',
14 'no, sir', and stand to the side if the prison officers
15 came walking towards you. If you didn't call them 'sir'
16 you would be punched and kicked. There used to be
17 a cold water bucket and there was a towel in it. They
18 would drag you to a room, wrap a towel in cold water
19 round their hand and punch you. It stopped you
20 bruising. It was awful. I can't remember any of the
21 screws' names.

22 "I was thrown into Longriggend as a number, a shit
23 collector, but it was the start of my criminal side. By
24 the time I went to adult jails I was institutionalised,
25 but the adult jails were a lot different to the juvenile

1 ones. In the young offender places, they got away with
2 knocking you black and purple."

3 He then has a section about HMP Glenochil, at 143 to
4 156:

5 "All these places, Longriggend, Glenochil,
6 et cetera, were similar in routine. They were
7 regimental with no schooling. Banged up all the time,
8 except for half an hour of TV.

9 "I was given three months in Glenochil and I did the
10 full three months. As soon as I was sentenced at
11 Paisley Sheriff Court I thought it would be the same as
12 the rest of the places I had been in. How wrong I was.

13 "When I got there we went through these big gates,
14 it was like Fort Knox. We went into a reception and
15 there were young boys arriving from different courts.
16 Some were crying, some were laughing. You could see the
17 hurt and the fear. When I got in, it all went silent in
18 the room. I went through a door and was told not to
19 speak to anyone unless they spoke to me and to call them
20 'sir'. It was shouted right in my face, 'Do you
21 understand?', I said, 'Aye', and I got a punch in the
22 side. I said, 'What was that for?', and was told, 'It
23 is sir'.

24 "In reception I was trying to whisper to someone and
25 I heard someone shouting, 'No, fucking talking'. They

1 shouted at me and I said, 'What?', and I was shouted at
2 again [and his name] and again I said, 'What?' Three
3 screws grabbed me, kicked me, punched me and told me to
4 call them 'sir'. I thought: I am not doing that.

5 And in doing so I made it hard for myself. I was in
6 isolation more than anything for refusing orders, no
7 discipline, disobeying orders and assaulting a prison
8 officer.

9 "The first day I went in was the worst day of my
10 life, and this became the norm all my life. I was
11 assaulted every day. I refused to do anything they told
12 me. It was like an army concentration camp, march,
13 stand to attention, stand at ease. If you did anything
14 wrong, you got extra work or put up in front of the
15 governor.

16 "When you went to see the governor there were four
17 screws with you. The first day I went to see him I was
18 in the block the next day, which is isolation. This was
19 for disobeying an order, cheek, and insolence. They put
20 me through a degrading body search and strip search."

21 He then describes routines:

22 "I had a cell to myself, which was just a bed and
23 a piss pot. In the morning you were allowed one trip,
24 that was to carry your piss pot, a bowl and a jug. You
25 had to empty your piss pot down a slop out and rinse it

1 out. There were no cleaning products or chemicals. You
2 put it down, filled your jug with cold water, and half
3 cold and half hot in your bowl, which was for washing
4 yourself. This water was to last all day. You couldn't
5 empty your bowl and piss pot again until dinner time.
6 After emptying your things you had gym and then
7 breakfast. We then went to work, and then back to your
8 cell for the cell check, a head count. This took ten to
9 15 minutes. You picked up your meal, then went back to
10 your cell. You ate your meal in your cell. There was
11 no dining hall in Glenochil. You were then banged up
12 until the staff had their dinner. Your cell was then
13 opened up and you filled your jug and emptied your piss
14 pot and cleaned your food tray until the morning.

15 "They gave me these prison clothes, grey and brown
16 jeans and a little grey jacket. You also got a kit
17 pack. When I was meant to be marching I walked normally
18 and they would push me. I got my kit thrown at me by
19 the screws. They showed me how to make up a bed pack,
20 but I said, 'I am not doing that'.

21 "The food was disgusting. It was like a ruined pot
22 of stovies all thrown together. If you didn't eat it,
23 you got slapped and you would be given the food at the
24 next meal time. So I threw it all over the place. This
25 is why the screws started getting hard on me. I was

1 getting treated like a wrong one. I accept that I broke
2 into a shop to get some food, but there was no need to
3 treat me like they did. I shouldn't have done it, but
4 they were excessive."

5 And then he has a section headed "Abuse at
6 Glenochil":

7 "In Glenochil they also shaved all your hair off.
8 They humiliated you, degraded you. None of the other
9 prisoners mocked you because we were all in the same
10 boat. We were all young, we were all scared. I was
11 done for three things the first day. I went down to the
12 block for good order and discipline, cheek and insolence
13 and disobeying an order. Three things by the time I had
14 left the reception.

15 "In the morning, I had to do circuit training at the
16 gym. I was still half asleep. If you spoke, you would
17 get punched in the side, kicked, slapped, or a dig to
18 the side of the head. I went to the governor in the
19 morning and I left my bed how it was. I was told
20 I should have been up with my bed pack. I said, 'I am
21 getting sick of this. I hate being abused by official,
22 authorised bullies'. They pushed me through the
23 governor's door. He said to me that I was only just in
24 and had three reports already. As soon as I started to
25 speak I was told to shut up. The screw then gave his

1 evidence. I wasn't allowed to speak. It was a kangaroo
2 court.

3 "After the governor fished, he said, 'We are going
4 to get on very well, great, and guess I will be seeing
5 you a lot more than I should be'. I got three days all
6 round. That means three days in the block, three days'
7 loss of earnings, a week's wages, which was about 70p
8 then, and three days' loss of privileges. In solitary
9 I had nothing in my cell. It was a concrete block with
10 a mattress on it, and a Bible sitting on the side.
11 I lay on the bed with no blanket. They would get me up
12 to clean around the block or do some scrubbing and
13 things like that, being watched over. If a screw came
14 towards you, you had to get up, stand to the side at
15 attention and say, 'Excuse me, sir'. I never did this
16 and kept getting battered, hit, things like that. They
17 had me scrubbing this big tiled floor, like a kitchen,
18 but not. There was a screw called GRK who would hit me
19 on the side of the head if I ever spoke. He would say,
20 'Are you fucking yacking?', and hit me on the side of
21 the head. This was my third day, and I wouldn't get up
22 from the floor. GRK came up and shouted, 'Why are you
23 not scrubbing?' And he kicked me on the ankle and he
24 pulled my ear, saying, 'Why are you not scrubbing that
25 floor?', I said, 'You fucking scrub it', and threw the

1 bucket all over him. This was down in the block.

2 "There were no alarm bells in those days; it was
3 whistles. He blew his whistle and a few screws came
4 running. Some slipped on the water, which made it
5 worse. I knew what was coming, so I curled up in a ball
6 and was dragged into a room by three or four of them.
7 If you tried to explain things to a senior officer or a
8 principal officer, you would get battered.

9 "This is what happened constantly for three months.
10 I was only meant to do two months, but I think I was
11 only out of the block for a day or a day and a half,
12 then back in it. I spent most of my time in it. They
13 wanted me to polish these little metal bins to make them
14 shiny. I wouldn't do it. They wanted me to strip the
15 telephone wires. I refused. I refused to do any work.
16 Every day I refused. I got a week's remission.

17 "I could have got out after two months, but I did
18 three because I wouldn't conform to the system."

19 Then he says that he had no more contact with his
20 social worker after leaving Thornly Park, at 154. That
21 nobody spoke to him from any of the services. He did
22 his three months and was let out. There was no training
23 for freedom. He was given a travel warrant and a nylon
24 holdall with prison issue clothes and a discharge. He
25 says he was nearly 17.

1 He says he went back to live with his sisters, and
2 he describes Glenochil, at 154, as:

3 "A horrible government authorised legalised bullying
4 of kids, physically and psychologically. All they knew
5 was violence."

6 He says it wasn't long before he was back in young
7 offenders institutions and he recalls, at 155, that he
8 was in Glenochil three times. Every time was the same.
9 And he says he thinks he was 17 when he went in to
10 Polmont and was there when he turned 18.

11 He says that the second time he went to Glenochil he
12 went back to the Paisley Sheriff Court, where he was
13 detained on a recall licence. He was in for three more
14 months.

15 He then went back to his sisters. When he was out,
16 I think in the community, I think he was slashed and had
17 32 stitches on his cheek. And he thinks this was due to
18 being mistaken for one of his brothers. And he says it
19 was clearly a deep cut and he had 16 stitches, both
20 inside and outside of his mouth. He said he has had to
21 grow up with this [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED] And he says this happened when he was 17.

23 He says he has never told the police who was
24 responsible, which perhaps does accord with the
25 normal --

1 LADY SMITH: It is not unusual.

2 MR PEOPLES: It is not unusual.

3 Then he tells us a bit about Polmont, from 157 to
4 169, if I could pick it up again:

5 "I was arrested again, this time I went to Polmont.
6 I was sentenced to 1 to 3 years and completed 18 months
7 of it. I again went from Paisley Sheriff Court to
8 Polmont. It was the very same as Glenochil, a strict
9 regimental routine.

10 "The first 6 weeks you had to do your Ally Cally,
11 which is marching, training, that sort of thing.
12 I don't remember the names of staff there. Everything
13 was the same in Polmont. You got inspections on
14 a Saturday. You did your running and circuits outside.
15 If you didn't do it right, you got whacked with
16 a cricket bat or a cane or battered. The routine was
17 the same: breakfast in the dining room and then you went
18 to work. You returned to your cell about 11.30 for
19 a head count. You then had your dinner and went back to
20 the cell. The buzzer went and then you went back to
21 work until 3.00 or 3.30, then back to your cell. You
22 got out of your work clothes and went for tea, then back
23 to your cell. There was an association for half
24 an hour, to an hour, and then you were locked up for the
25 night.

1 "On Saturday morning we got an inspection from the
2 deputy governor or the governor himself. Everything had
3 to be spotless, they checked your kit, too. You were
4 pulled up for a bit of fluff on your jacket or dust on
5 your shoes. You would get a warning, but I was put on
6 report all the time and put in the Digger. That would
7 be for 24 hours. You were put in either blue or yellow.
8 Yellow was when you were escapee or absconder. Blue was
9 if you were a danger to screws or other inmates.

10 "I spent most of my time in the Digger. I regularly
11 got seven days confined to cell. I got 28 days once for
12 hitting a prison officer because he hit me. When you
13 are in isolation you had nothing; all you could do was
14 read the Bible.

15 "We were banged up all day on Sundays. You could go
16 to church, but I wasn't religious. I went now and again
17 just to get out of my cell. The washing facilities,
18 there were four or five sinks in a row, with a mirror
19 along them. You had to shave every morning in cold
20 water. I found it hard shaving [REDACTED] but
21 they had a close-up shave inspection. If you had a few
22 hairs or a day's stubble, you got a clout and put on
23 report. There were showers, but you were only allowed
24 one a week.

25 "The food was terrible. If you didn't eat it, you

1 went hungry. I made up a saying years ago: for what we
2 are about to receive, pigs have refused.

3 "I put it on the hatch door in the dining room and
4 was put on report for it. The recreation was playing
5 pool, table tennis, drafts or chess, or watching TV when
6 you were on association. The TV stayed on whatever
7 channel was being watched at the time."

8 On healthcare:

9 "I wouldn't say there was a real doctor. It was
10 a locum, a prison doctor. You never left the place, you
11 went to the hospital wing. My stitches were out, [REDACTED]
12 [REDACTED]. I can't recall seeing
13 a dentist.

14 "We wore a uniform and it was washed once a week.
15 We wore jeans and a shirt when we weren't working. You
16 had a net sack with your name and number on it and you
17 put your washing in it so it would come back to you.
18 The work was cleaning and scrubbing. You could go to
19 the gardens, or in the kitchens or on the farm,
20 et cetera. I never got any of them as I was always in
21 the Digger.

22 "Christmas was celebrated by everyone kicking their
23 cell door at midnight and wishing everyone a merry
24 Christmas and a happy new year. We got a Christmas
25 dinner, if you could call it that. There were no

1 birthday celebrations. I turned 18 when I was in
2 Polmont. I don't even remember it. It just passed me
3 by. Nobody wished me a happy birthday.

4 "People took their own life in there. I didn't see
5 it, but it happened while I was in, because
6 they couldn't cope.

7 "I didn't have any visitors from my family and I was
8 finished with social services. A chaplain visited me in
9 my cell once a week. I felt as if he was there to try
10 to make it easier for you. I don't think it helped.
11 I felt I got no help from anyone. I didn't get any
12 advice from anyone when I was leaving.

13 "I might have wrote a couple of letters to my
14 sister. Someone from the prison read them and sealed
15 them. I never got a reply. There was no money allowed
16 in the prison. You got 70-odd pence a week for working
17 and that went on tobacco. You got a free letter of one
18 page a week that they paid the postage on. The only
19 difference between Glenochil to Polmont was that it was
20 a longer sentence. It was the same routine, same
21 regime, same orders, and same bullying."

22 He has a section headed "Abuse at HMP Polmont", at
23 169:

24 "There was a lot of physical abuse, punches, kicks,
25 with cold water, with mattresses, truncheons. The

1 guards were just legalised, controlled bullies. It is
2 what I had been used to all my life. It was
3 demoralising, nothing but thugs getting away with
4 beatings. Their way of solving things was beatings."

5 He then tells us a bit about his life after care, at
6 170 to 171. He says he left Polmont in 1979, which
7 would be about 18.

8 LADY SMITH: Yes.

9 MR PEOPLES: As he puts it, and I think it is borne out by
10 what he says:

11 "My life was wild, hectic after that, with lots of
12 ups and downs."

13 And he tells us about that. Indeed, he tells us he
14 has 15 children by 13 mothers, but he has never married.

15 Indeed, at 171, he says he has never had a job, and
16 most of his life he has been in trouble and he has been
17 in jail for a large part of his adult life and, indeed,
18 before that, as we have discovered.

19 According to his statement, from the age of 5 he
20 reckons he spent 48 years in homes, mental institutions
21 and prisons. Although the longest sentence, he says,
22 was five years. He has had sentences mostly for
23 assaults. He has a lot of police assaults on his
24 record.

25 As far as impact is concerned, at 172 to 177, again

1 it is familiar themes, that he says he can't trust
2 people. And towards the foot of 172, he says:

3 "I was taken away for care and protection when I was
4 five years old and over all those years I was never
5 cared for and never protected in these places. It was
6 all violence and discipline and the discipline was
7 violence."

8 He talks, at 173, of a lack of education, which has
9 had its impact, and he says, at 174, he can't stay in
10 his house because he feels like a prisoner,
11 institutionalised in his own home.

12 At 175, he says he has frequent flashbacks and
13 nightmares and wakes up panicking and crying, and
14 sometimes wets the bed. He tells us about the various
15 treatment and help he has sought from healthcare
16 professionals.

17 At 176, he talks about medication, and clearly he
18 has suffered poor health, certainly in recent years --

19 LADY SMITH: I see that.

20 MR PEOPLES: -- as you can see.

21 He says in the past he was a -- as he puts it at
22 177, a bad alcoholic for a long time. Although he says
23 he hasn't drunk for more than 20 years.

24 As far as reporting is concerned, at 178, he says he
25 complained to the police many times about the abuse he

1 suffered when they picked him up when he ran away. He
2 says:

3 "I didn't report it after being in these places
4 because no one listened to me or believed me. I tried
5 to tell heads of staff, but nothing ever got done about
6 it."

7 He says, under "Lessons to be learned", at 181 to
8 183:

9 "If kids are taken in for care and protection, then
10 they should be cared for, protected, loved and wrapped
11 in cotton wool, shown the rights and wrongs."

12 At 182, he goes back to, I think, an earlier theme:

13 "I feel like I was illegally abducted, kidnapped,
14 taken away, and my life was destroyed by these people in
15 authority."

16 And he contrasts, because he says in those days --
17 this is at the top of page 44 -- people in authority
18 were quick to take kids away; whereas now they try to
19 keep them with the family, and they give the family
20 a chance.

21 As for hopes for the Inquiry at 184 to 188, he says
22 this:

23 "My hopes would be that the places where children
24 are ... whether they have disabilities or mental health,
25 or whatever problems they have, they are protected and

1 cared for, treated with dignity, love, and protected
2 from harm."

3 And towards the end, at 188, he says this:

4 "I don't want people to feel sorry for me. I just
5 want people to listen to me, to hear me."

6 At 189, on page 45, he ends by saying he has no
7 objection to his witness statement being published as
8 part of the evidence to the Inquiry, and he believes the
9 facts stated in his witness statement are true, and his
10 statement has been signed by 'Alex' on 24 February 2022.

11 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much, Mr Peoples.

12 MR PEOPLES: I can see the time.

13 LADY SMITH: That is very neat. It is now 12.59.

14 MR PEOPLES: I think we can perhaps break for lunch.

15 LADY SMITH: I think we can stop for the lunch break and
16 will sit again at 2 o'clock. Thank you.

17 (12.59 pm)

18 (The luncheon adjournment)

19 (2.00 pm)

20 LADY SMITH: Before I turn to the next read-in, in the
21 course of Mr Peoples' read-ins this morning a couple of
22 names were mentioned, the surname **GH** and the surname
23 **GRK** and they are protected by my general restriction
24 order and mustn't be repeated outside of the room.

25 Ms Rattray, where do we go next?

1 MS RATTRAY: My Lady, the next read-in is by an applicant
2 who is anonymous and has the pseudonym 'Louis', and
3 'Louis's' statement is WIT-1-000001156.

4 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

5 'Louis' (read)

6 LADY SMITH: Thank you, when you are ready.

7 MS RATTRAY: "My name is 'Louis'. I was born in 1959. My
8 contact details are known to the Inquiry."

9 From paragraph 2, 'Louis' speaks of his life before
10 care. He lived in Glasgow with his parents and three
11 siblings. He says their living conditions were good for
12 that era. His dad was a seaman in the merchant Navy and
13 his mum was a housewife. He says his dad was very
14 religious in a sectarian way. He would bring them
15 presents, but then get drunk and batter their mum. He
16 would try to thump it into them to support his football
17 team. His dad's carry on had an effect on 'Louis', that
18 he can still remember to this day.

19 The household was quite reasonable with just his mum
20 there. But, when his dad came back from sea, he would
21 be drunk and ranting and raving.

22 'Louis' says he was an average pupil at school, but
23 was easily distracted. He enjoyed sports and played
24 football for local teams.

25 Moving now to paragraph 8, on page 2:

1 "As I got older there was an altercation one night
2 in the street with a man and his son. I had been
3 drinking El Dorado in the park. One thing led to
4 another and I got done with assault. Sheriff
5 Irvine Smith sent me to Glenochil Detention Centre.
6 Everyone had heard of it as being a place that you
7 didn't want to end up in.

8 "Before I went to Glenochil, I was remanded in
9 Longriggend. I had been done with breach of the peace
10 before then. I had been at children's panel hearings
11 for truanting from school, when I was about 13 years
12 old. I remember my mum taking me. They just told me to
13 do what I was told. I didn't have a social worker until
14 I got remanded at Longriggend, and they had a social
15 worker to do a social inquiry report.

16 "I think it was at the bail court once before that,
17 but I can't remember what that was for. My mum had to
18 pay £10 bail as assurance that I would come back.

19 "When I got remanded, I didn't know that Sheriff
20 Irvine Smith was a High Court Judge. He had left a note
21 saying that he wanted to deal with my case. My mum had
22 gone back to the Sheriff Court for my sentencing, but my
23 name got called at the High Court. That's when I knew
24 it was serious. When I was looking around at all the
25 ceremonial stuff.

1 LADY SMITH: Ms Rattray, I probably should interject there.

2 Sheriff Irvine Smith was a Sheriff, just for the record.

3 Not a High Court judge.

4 MS RATTRAY: Yes:

5 "I remember sitting in the big holding cell
6 underneath the High Court. There were all these older
7 men with beards talking about getting ten years. They
8 were all ages with my dad, and I thought they must be in
9 for murder or something serious. I just sat quietly.
10 I thought if I mentioned my three-month sentence they
11 would set about me.

12 "Another boy got sentenced with me for the fight.
13 He died in Glenochil when he got four years for another
14 assault on a boy.

15 "When I got remanded I understood what I had done.
16 I was around 16 years old. When the judge told me I was
17 getting remanded I was scared. I was going into the
18 unknown. I didn't get a chance to speak to my mum
19 before I went to Longriggend, I was just able to give
20 her a look. I didn't think at the time what I was
21 putting my mum through. To begin with, I was held in
22 Barlinnie for a couple of days, waiting on the bus to
23 Longriggend.

24 "We went by bus to Longriggend. It was a minibus
25 that took us there. I was 16 or 17 years old. It was

1 [REDACTED] when I was remanded. I had never been
2 outside Glasgow before. There was a real attitude of
3 keeping your mouth shut on that bus. Not just me,
4 everybody.

5 "The minibus drew up to a red building that looked
6 brand new to me. It didn't look like a jail; it looked
7 like a school. It was once you got inside that you
8 realised you were in jail. You knew who was in charge
9 of you because of all the guards' uniform. You knew
10 which boys were comfortable in there. I certainly
11 wasn't comfortable in there.

12 "I remember one guard in particular. He was sneaky.
13 He was always covered in dog hair, as if he had slept in
14 a stable. [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED] I can't
16 remember his name.

17 "Longriggend was just in and out. I was there to
18 get my social inquiry report done. The staff would
19 shout and swear to us, but there was no violence.
20 Violence tended to be between the inmates. It was to do
21 with gangs: I come from here, he comes from there,
22 therefore there will be violence.

23 "There was no introduction to the governor when you
24 arrived. You would see the governor if you got put on
25 report. But, at the start, you hadn't done anything

1 wrong. The routine at Longriggend was a 23-hour
2 lockdown and one hour for exercise.

3 "I think the cell doors were opened at 6.00 am. You
4 got dressed, then you knew it was breakfast time and
5 they took you to the dining hall, then back to the cell
6 until it was your landing's time for exercise.

7 "After exercise, you would be back in your cell to
8 just read a book or a paper. Then it was down for
9 lunch. About 8.00 pm they would open up your cell again
10 and give you a cup of tea and a sandwich or something,
11 but you weren't out of your cell. The pass man would
12 come along and give you your tea. There would be
13 a guard standing next to him. After that, it was bed
14 time. That was you until the next morning.

15 "The food at Longriggend was like slops thrown on
16 a plate. You would sometimes pass it on to the next guy
17 rather than eat it.

18 "They had one big dining hall in Longriggend with
19 different tables. The food was rubbish. There were the
20 usual eagle eyes watching you. There was the usual kind
21 of talk amongst young boys.

22 "The uniform was a grey jacket, like a donkey
23 jacket. The material was itchy. Everybody wore the
24 same. The shirts were different for untried prisoners.
25 That's how we were identified. Those that were

1 convicted wore blue and white shirts. The unconvicted
2 wore pink shirts.

3 "You got an hour of exercise. I think it was about
4 10.00 am and that was for the whole landing. You would
5 go out and just walk around in circles. Those that
6 could see out of their windows on to the exercise yard
7 would be throwing stuff out of their windows. You could
8 talk to your mate or anyone in your vicinity. Then you
9 would get brought in after the hour and go back to your
10 cell and read.

11 "Some guards were all right. If you wanted a book
12 or a paper from someone else, you could ask the guards
13 and they would take it along for you, but other guards
14 would take it off you.

15 "In Longriggend you had the choice to go to church
16 on Sunday, if you wanted to.

17 "I wasn't in Longriggend for my birthday or
18 Christmas.

19 "You weren't allowed your own clothes in
20 Longriggend. You would be suited and booted for court,
21 to show respect, but those clothes would be taken off
22 you and put in storage. You could fill out a pro forma
23 and get them sent home and get other clothes sent in,
24 but they would be kept in storage as well until you were
25 getting out.

1 "My mum was a good visitor to me, considering she
2 had three other children to bring up and my dad was at
3 sea. You were allowed a visit every day, but my mum
4 couldn't come up every day, as she didn't drive. She
5 had to get a train and then a taxi from the station to
6 Longriggend, which she did, whatever the weather. The
7 guards would be looking out for you trying to pass any
8 message out about the way things were in there. My dad
9 came up with his neighbour. They were both drunk.

10 "The social worker doing my social inquiry report
11 visited the family household to see what their
12 impression was and they interviewed me in Longriggend.
13 I can't remember the name of the social worker. I can't
14 even remember if they were male or female. The social
15 worker was basically asking what my crime was about, why
16 it happened, how it happened. Is there a reason why it
17 happened? And that sort of thing. They were just
18 trying to work out what kind of person you were, and to
19 see if they could pick up whether or not your offence
20 was a one-off.

21 "If you had a good social inquiry report you would
22 think that it meant you were going to get out. You got
23 a copy of your report at court and we would be reading
24 each other's reports to compare and try and work out
25 what our sentences would be.

1 "The social worker didn't ask whether I was having
2 any problems in Longriggend. None of that staff asked
3 about our welfare either. You were locked up and that
4 was it. You put your emotions to one side wherever you
5 go in these places. It wouldn't cross your mind at that
6 age to show emotion in front of people like yourself.
7 Maybe at night, when it was all quiet, you would have
8 a cry. Some might go on request to see the doctor
9 because they were upset and missing their mums. I just
10 took the attitude that I had put myself there, so there
11 was no point in moaning about it.

12 "The discipline was like night and day, in the sense
13 that if you thought a guard was being cheeky or you felt
14 threatened by him you would just take it. You knew you
15 would just have to take it. He was the guard, they did
16 all the shouting and bawling. If you did anything
17 wrong, you would just get a governor's report. You
18 could get put in the Digger, solitary confinement. You
19 would get that if you were a disruptive Prisoner or
20 something like that. The solitary confinement looked
21 like a dungeon. It was under ground. It looked out
22 into the exercise yard, so those prisoners who were
23 exercising could see you.

24 "I just got verbal abuse at Longriggend. I was just
25 frightened at being in jail. I got teased by one

1 officer when my sister wrote me a letter. At that time,
2 the guard read all our mail and my sister had put at the
3 end of her letter 'meow' from our cat. The officer
4 called me to get my mail and was saying 'Meow, meow'.
5 I didn't report any of the verbal abuse at Longriggend;
6 I was too scared.

7 "I felt sick and sorry for myself at Longriggend,
8 like I was just a stupid wee boy. I wanted my mum and
9 I swore I would never do anything bad again. I felt
10 sick that I had drunk a bottle of El Dorado and
11 committed this crime. But, at the same time, I was
12 trying to be tough and not take any abuse from anyone.
13 I generally got on with people.

14 "My report said I was a good boy, pleasant to talk
15 to. It said the house was nice and tidy. I thought
16 I was going to be getting out, but it was a shock when
17 I went back to court and it was the High Court. Sheriff
18 Irvine Smith just looked over his wee glasses and said,
19 "Three months". I just thought: it's just three months,
20 at least I have missed borstal.

21 "Maybe I would have been better off in borstal.

22 "Someone said to me that they had another part of
23 borstal that was like a detention centre for six weeks
24 before you went into the system.

25 "They had a system of grades at Glenochil with

1 different colours, like yellow and red. It was just
2 a cloth patch of coloured material on your shoulder. It
3 was psychological. The better you did, the more
4 responsibility you got. If you only had a yellow grade
5 and you did something wrong, like not putting something
6 away properly, and you were with someone who had a red
7 grade, the person with the red grade got into trouble,
8 not the person with the yellow grade, because the red
9 grade had the responsibility for the yellow grade. It
10 meant that you could try your hardest, but could you end
11 up losing seven days' remission because someone else
12 wasn't marching in time. If you were overweight in that
13 place, you could be in trouble.

14 "I got to the red grade, but no one told me I was
15 responsible for someone in the yellow grade, or
16 responsible for something they decided on. The red
17 grade was a threat because they could keep you in there
18 for an extra seven days. I was doing my best to do what
19 I was told so I could get out of there faster, but the
20 threat of an extra seven days was always there. You
21 could get seven days if the governor found a bit of dust
22 in your room. As soon as he showed you it on his white
23 gloves you knew what it was.

24 "I didn't see the point in it at all. I didn't
25 understand why they were doing that, but you didn't ever

1 ask them. It all got stupid. The higher you got, the
2 more you lost.

3 "There was an older guy who got off the bus first
4 and he got hit. I thought it was just because he was
5 the first one off. I thought all these stories about
6 jail were going to come true. It was an older guy,
7 standing at the front of the bus, who hit him. I don't
8 know the name of that man, but he was punching the guy.
9 He wasn't in uniform; he was in civilian clothes and he
10 was hitting the first guy who got off the bus. The
11 officers were all shouting at us, 'Move your fucking
12 selves', but then we all got hit, not just the first
13 guy.

14 "Glenochil was like night and day compared to
15 Longriggend from as soon as you stepped off the minibus.
16 You knew that as soon as you got off the bus and a man
17 as old as your dad was punching you in the back of the
18 head. You went in the governor's room when you first
19 got there, but I can't remember the governor. I would
20 consider that every part of being at Glenochil was
21 abusive, from the minute you walked in the door, where
22 it said, 'Welcome to Glenochil'. People had long hair
23 in those days, but that was shaved off right away.
24 Everyone got a number one. Then there was more shouting
25 and bawling.

1 "You were then stripped and put into the toilet.
2 You had to pee on a blue stick. If it turned pink it
3 meant that you didn't have any diseases. It was all
4 bawling and shouting, with a prison officer watching
5 you. I was nervous and I couldn't pee due to fear,
6 which meant another clout to the head. My pink didn't
7 turn pink, which confused me.

8 "After that, still in the reception area, there was
9 another room with a red grade inmate with an ironing
10 board. You were issued with your prison clothes and
11 your civilian clothes were put to one side. The red
12 grade was the one who was showing you how to iron, where
13 the creases were to be and how to fold your clothes. He
14 never taught you how to iron your own clothes, you
15 learned that yourself or somebody told you. You were
16 that frightened that you would just tell the red grade
17 that you had got it. I remember the red grade that did
18 me tipped me off about watching what I was doing. He
19 told me that he said that he had said he understood when
20 he came in as well, but that I would learn. He helped
21 me settle in.

22 "Then you were taken into a massive area from which
23 the hall split off. I can't remember the name of my
24 hall, but the walls and floor were painted red. Another
25 hall was painted blue. You were issued with your cell

1 number and the hall you were going to, then you were
2 escorted to that cell. The cell would be set out the
3 way they expected it to be, with the cup at a certain
4 angle and the bed block laid out. You would have to
5 decide whether to sleep on the floor to keep the bed
6 block until you could get used to doing it or take it
7 apart and get a proper sleep. I took it apart and got
8 into my bed.

9 "I was petrified my first night in Glenochil. I
10 didn't know what it was going to be like, but I knew it
11 wasn't going to be nice. There was no cell mate; I was
12 just there myself. Then the guards would be screaming
13 and bawling at 5.00 am, when they shouted, 'Stand by
14 your doors'. You would have to stand there with your
15 toothbrush and your razor blade, that you didn't need at
16 my age, until they told you to march. They would shout,
17 'One step forward', and we all to to take a step out
18 with our left leg. Then it was right turn and we all
19 had to turn the same way and walk to the ablutions. You
20 tidied yourself up, then it was back in to the cells to
21 do our bed blocks.

22 "You had to do your bed block in your cell and the
23 handle of the cup you drank from had to be pointing
24 towards the door. Your shirt had to be folded as if you
25 had just bought it from a shop. Everything had to be

1 square. You had to be able to that well to be a red
2 grade.

3 "Then the prison officer in charge of your landing
4 would come in to make sure it was up to scratch, because
5 if you got an unexpected visit from the governor or
6 assistant governor and it wasn't up to scratch, then
7 they would get in to trouble, so you would get into
8 trouble. That surprise could be the threat of seven
9 days' loss of remission.

10 "When the officer in charge of your landing came in,
11 he would praise you if you had done a good job. He
12 opened the cells up every morning. If one boy did it
13 wrong and upset him, everybody got it.

14 "Mr GUY was SNR . Every
15 morning he held a kind of parade. He would stand high
16 up, like a general and all the halls would have to come.
17 The governor would come along for an inspection once
18 a week. If he found even the simplest thing wrong, the
19 other staff would come in and turn everything upside
20 down. There was one time that the governor said I was
21 fine, but then he moved on to my friend. He was
22 a yellow grade and he had only been shown how to do
23 a bed block once at reception when he came in, but the
24 guard would have been showing that to ten boys at once.
25 My friend asked me to show him again how to do it.

1 I made his bed block for him, even though I could have
2 got to trouble for it. My friend ended up sleeping on
3 his floor, so he could keep his bed block intact for
4 inspection. He was too frightened to ask any of the
5 staff to show him again how to make a bed block.

6 I had to say to my friend that I couldn't come in
7 every morning to do his bed block for him. I had to
8 tell him off about that. I showed him and told him to
9 watch carefully, but I heard the guards shouting one
10 morning, telling him to get up off the floor. He was
11 sitting with the bed block that I had made.

12 "At meal times had you to go in to the dining room,
13 grab a chair, swing it round a certain way, put it under
14 you, and sit down with your heels together. Then they
15 would say, 'Right, eat'. You couldn't talk at the
16 dinner table, like I was used to doing at my mum's
17 dinner table, instead I had a guard shouting and bawling
18 behind me. The food in Glenochil was brilliant. The
19 reason for that was simple. It was because of the
20 amount of exercise you were doing. The food had to be
21 good for you to keep up. Glenochil is the only prison
22 I have heard of where red grades would get the first
23 option of extras if there was anything left because they
24 were good boys.

25 "If you didn't eat your dinner quick enough, they

1 would end up taking it off with you with half of it
2 still on the plate. There was no point moaning that you
3 were hungry if you hadn't eaten it quick enough.

4 "You didn't get a shower every day in Glenochil.
5 You would have a wash, but you only got a shower when
6 the guard said. We called the toilets the ablutions.
7 They would send six of us at a time to the showers once
8 or twice a week. You couldn't shower quick enough in
9 there. You would only just be in the shower and then
10 you would get a clout, and you were getting shouted at
11 to get out by the staff. You could end up sliding along
12 the floor from being hit. They would have been, as
13 well, putting a bowl of water down for us.

14 "They gave us these jail razors to shave with.
15 I was just 16 or 17 years old; I didn't have a heavy
16 enough growth to shave, but they wanted everyone neat,
17 just like they wanted the floors shiny enough to see
18 their faces in. It was a great opportunity for them to
19 have a dig at you without any witnesses because the only
20 witnesses were other prisoners like you. They could do
21 anything.

22 "When you went in you took your nice fancy clothes
23 off and then you had your best blue suits and working
24 clothes. On a normal day, you would put your best blues
25 on in the morning to go to parade before Mr G.V.Y. the

1 SNR . He would be making sure that his
2 officers had got us up to scratch. You might have
3 a hair on your clothes, but you had just had your hair
4 cut. We would then come in from parade, take off our
5 best blues and get into our work clothes.

6 "You were issued with a shirt, trousers and a jacket
7 the same colour as the trousers. They were your
8 everyday clothes, but they still had to be up to
9 scratch. When Mr GYV came down to do his
10 inspections, he would walk up and down the line to
11 inspect you. You might get overalls if you were working
12 on a garden party. We wore our best blues for visits,
13 for the morning inspection by Mr GYV and on Sundays.

14 "It was a feeling of being trapped when you were in
15 Glenochil. When we had to march, I thought I was doing
16 all right, but then there was a cry of, 'You call that
17 marching?', and I got a crack on the back of the head by
18 the staff. You were in fear. It felt like you were
19 trapped. You didn't do anything unless you were told
20 you to and there was no point in going to the governor
21 about the staff. If you were angry or upset, you had
22 nobody to turn to.

23 "We did exercise every day, as well as the work
24 party. You had to run a mile and beat your time from
25 the day before. If you didn't beat your time, you would

1 get hit by KFL . Who hits young boys like that?
2 We were all trying our hardest to get out of that place.
3 We had circuit training in the gymnasium as well.
4 I think of the circuit training was done before we went
5 to work. It would be a different hall doing circuits
6 each day.

7 "After tea, and after the guards had their tea, they
8 would call us out for recreation; that was just sitting
9 in a room watching TV or reading the paper, if you were
10 lucky enough to have one or if the guards had left one.
11 Red grade inmates got the paper first, just like they
12 got the extras at dinner first. We had recreation for
13 about an hour and then it was back to the cell for about
14 8.00 pm, I think. It was definitely earlier than in
15 Longriggend. Then that was you until the morning.

16 "We played football on Saturday. The guards would
17 have their wee bets on which hall they thought was going
18 to win. That was their entertainment. Mr IBG
19 thought he was it. That he could play football well.
20 He used it as an excuse to pull you about."

21 (Technical difficulties with the transcript)

22 LADY SMITH: Very well. I will rise while you sort that
23 out.

24 (2.25 pm)

25 (A short break)

1 (2.30 pm)

2 LADY SMITH: I believe we are okay to carry on, Ms Rattray.

3 When you are ready.

4 MS RATTRAY: Yes, I finished at the end of paragraph 70.

5 LADY SMITH: Yes, thank you.

6 MS RATTRAY: Moving to paragraph 71:

7 "You wouldn't dare ask for medical attention. If
8 you did, you would get hit because you were talking back
9 to the guards.

10 "I had a headache one time and I had a sore backside
11 for eight weeks from being kicked. They wouldn't hit
12 you in the face; they didn't want to leave a mark.
13 These guys were all ex-army, so if you got a belt in the
14 back of your head, you felt it. You couldn't start
15 greeting like a bairn or would you get hit again. You
16 just wouldn't ask for the doctor, you wouldn't dare.
17 You would get your arm put up your back.

18 "There was one time when a boy lifted his bed up,
19 put his leg underneath it and broke it. He was the only
20 boy I remember going to hospital. It was only after
21 I got out that I found out he had done it deliberately.
22 I can understand what he was thinking.

23 "On Sunday, you went to church. I think you had to
24 in Glenochil, rather than having a choice like you did
25 in Longriggend. There was a hall which was used for the

1 different services. If you were Roman Catholic, you had
2 a green card with your name on and your sentence. If
3 you were Church of Scotland, you had a white card. The
4 card was kept on the outside of your cell door. It was
5 so the cards would know who was going to which service,
6 but we would swap our cards so that we could meet up
7 with our pals from different religions. The guards
8 tipped to that though.

9 "The Laundry party would get marched off to the
10 laundry, the garden party would get marched off to the
11 garden and so on. I worked in the laundry room, which
12 was quite relaxed. There was a lot of peace and quiet.
13 You could get a chance to talk to the other boys.
14 Because I was a trustee in the last few weeks, I was put
15 into a garden party, to work on the gardens outside the
16 jail. We had a wee tractor. There were houses along
17 the wall from the prison. This woman came out and asked
18 us if we would like a cup of tea. We had tea and
19 biscuits. It turned out she was KFL wife, but
20 you couldn't have met a nicer woman. I don't know what
21 KFL would have done if he had come round corner
22 and saw his wife giving us tea. He probably wouldn't
23 have said anything in front of her, but he would have
24 got us later on.

25 "You would do a bit of gardening work in the morning

1 and then go in for lunch under escort of a guard.
2 Mr Brown would have his lunch in his shed. After lunch,
3 a guard would escort you back out for work.

4 "It was good working outside and you didn't get hit
5 because Mr Brown was there as a witness. Although you
6 were there to be punished, Mr Brown didn't treat you the
7 way the guards did, but you knew you were going back in
8 to that after your tea.

9 "You weren't allowed to smoke in Glenochil, but
10 KFL found cigarettes on someone and accused the
11 garden party of bringing them in, even though he had no
12 proof. Mr Brown was in charge of the garden party. He
13 was a civilian worker who went home at night. He was
14 a nice man. Mr Brown jumped in and told KFL that his
15 boys wouldn't do that. I think that because Mr Brown
16 was a civilian he wasn't pals with the guards and he
17 didn't like the way that KFL was talking to us and
18 accusing us.

19 "When you were in your cell you would work on
20 polishing your boots or the floor, so you didn't get
21 into trouble. You would get punished if they couldn't
22 see their face in your floor or if they saw a mark. My
23 floor was gleaming. Red was easy to shine up, but it
24 would also show up marks easily. You would use buffers
25 from the hall to polish the floor or lie down and polish

1 it with your backside, if you had to, as long as it was
2 shiny.

3 "My mother was the only one who visited me in
4 Glenochil. You wore your best blues for visits, so you
5 would look smart, so your visitor would think you were
6 in good hands. I think I only had two visits in there
7 because I was only in there for eight weeks. I can't
8 remember the name of the prison officer on my landing,
9 but he was all right, he would speak to you. If he
10 opened up your cell and everything was in order, then
11 the governor was happy, so he was happy. If anything
12 was wrong, it fell back on him.

13 "I didn't get any visits from social work or anyone
14 in Glenochil. There was no one checking on our welfare.
15 You could lose remission if you did something wrong.
16 The guards could immediately tell if you were a red
17 grade or a yellow grade by the patch on your shoulder.
18 There were certain offences that if the guards thought
19 you had committed, then you would lose seven days
20 remission if you were a red grade; three days if you
21 were a yellow grade. If you got put in segregation it
22 was frightening, but at least you still had your seven
23 days.

24 "If you didn't get your red grade by a certain time
25 and you were still a yellow grade, then you lost three

1 days' remission for failing that.

2 "It was eight weeks of horror at Glenochil, but it
3 felt like eight years. You didn't have to do anything
4 wrong to get hit, you didn't have to do something to
5 spark it off, you could just be standing there. Most
6 days you were getting hit or getting kicked up the
7 backside. You had to say, 'Yes, thank you sir', when
8 the guards walked past you and I got hit a few times for
9 not saying it. You couldn't report it; you were too
10 scared. I guarantee if you went back you would find no
11 boys who did report any officer.

12 "If they stopped all the punching and the kicking,
13 then it would have been good for you. The fitness, the
14 bit of football, and things you might not do in school
15 or in the street to pass the time in there.

16 "For all the punching that went on over the eight
17 weeks I was in Glenochil, I never saw anyone with a sore
18 face. Nobody was marked; you were just left angry.

19 "These guards were booting you for not moving
20 quickly enough or for nothing. You soon learned not to
21 answer them back.

22 "I have never forgotten the two main people who
23 belted me. The two names I remember clearly are

24 KFL and Mr IBG.

25 "KFL had ginger hair and a beard covering his

1 features. I am not good with ages, but he looked like
2 an old man to me. He was probably in his 40s. I don't
3 know if he was Irish or Welsh; he had a different
4 accent. He always wore brown overalls. Other staff
5 wore their civilian clothes. He was nasty for no
6 reason. If you saw him coming towards you, you could
7 expect a clout on the back of the head or a boot up your
8 behind. It was as if he was wanting you to break the
9 rules. I think if you asked most people in Glenochil at
10 that time who the worst was, they would say it was
11 KFL. When I think about him now, I still get
12 angry. He had no right to do what he did.

13 "The other one was Mr IBG, one of the PT
14 teachers. He did the circuit training. He always wore
15 a black tracksuit. He was skinny and probably in his
16 40s. He was a nasty piece of work. He would beat you
17 across the backside with a cricket bat if you weren't
18 beating your times on the laps around the field.
19 I played a lot of football, so I could manage to do
20 these things. I enjoyed them. But Mr IBG couldn't
21 help himself. He wouldn't let me play football because
22 he knew I liked football. There was a psychological
23 thing about the way he was.

24 "Mr IBG did the circuit training every day.
25 I did the mile at a reasonable rate for a boy of my age.

1 Nobody said you had to beat your time from the day
2 before. You would run round, the staff would be
3 shouting and bawling at you, especially IBG. As
4 you ran past him, he would hit you with a cricket bat.
5 I couldn't comprehend it. You would try to beat your
6 time from the day before, but even at that age you knew
7 what you were capable of. He was just a horrible wee
8 man. He just liked swinging a bat around. It wasn't
9 just me who got that, everybody got that.

10 "I got into trouble one day. I went past
11 Mr IBG and he hit me on the back of the head.
12 I fell down and, as I got back up, I started swearing
13 under my breath, just as a reaction. He asked me what
14 I had said and I said, 'Nothing, sir'. I didn't want to
15 get punched about for eight weeks, so I did my damndest
16 to do what they told me.

17 "They were bullies and they should be in court for
18 what they did. I know it is shut down now, but they
19 should be punished. They wouldn't get away it it now.
20 It was horrendous.

21 "The guards wouldn't say anything nasty about your
22 family, but they would make abusive comments about you.
23 They would say you were thick if you didn't progress
24 from yellow grade to red grade. I wouldn't say I was
25 living in fear, but you were fearful of KFL or any of

1 the other nasty guards.

2 "You soon learned not to report to the governor what
3 the guards had done to you because you were frightened
4 to. That's assuming the governor would even listen to
5 you. That is what it was like when I was there.

6 "I did eight weeks and four days in Glenochil. They
7 didn't do anything to prepare us for leaving. They took
8 us back down to reception and we got our civilian
9 clothes on. Then they put us on the minibus and brought
10 us to Stirling train station. They would stand there
11 until we got to the train for Glasgow or wherever we
12 were going. There were all sorts of rumours that there
13 would be guards on the train watching us. I remember
14 getting off the train and smelling the diesel and then
15 the fresh air of the soot burning in the city. It was
16 different from the smell of Glenochil, out in the
17 countryside. I have been on holiday since then, but
18 I didn't notice the smell of Glasgow when I came back
19 the way I did returning from Glenochil.

20 "I went home to my mum after I got out of Glenochil.
21 I started folding dish cloths and things the way we had
22 to fold everything in prison, until my mum asked me what
23 I was doing. I think I was just trying to keep
24 everything tidy. I had a couple of breaches of the
25 peace after that, and because I didn't pay the fines

1 I would have to go to Low Moss for seven days. I have
2 never been sentenced to any jail sentence for any
3 offences after being in Glenochil."

4 Moving now to paragraph 105, on page 21, where
5 'Louis' speaks about impact:

6 "If the intention was to send me to Glenochil for
7 a short, sharp shock and to stop me from committing
8 crime, then it didn't work. I don't know about anyone
9 else, but I have mental health problems.

10 "I don't know if it has had an impact on my health.
11 I was diagnosed with diabetes when I was 60 years old,
12 but I was told that I had had it all my life. I don't
13 know if my dad's behaviour had an impact on me. I have
14 mental health problems, but I don't know if that was
15 because of my dad or Glenochil, or something else.

16 "I came out angry from Glenochil. As I got older,
17 I got angrier. None of us should have been put through
18 what I went through. I learned a lot of bad things in
19 Glenochil, but I also learned to make sure my clothes
20 were presentable. I wouldn't say I was
21 institutionalised, but maybe I was trying to show off to
22 my mother.

23 "I have been dependent on alcohol, but I don't like
24 drugs. I maybe didn't get into a lot of trouble after
25 I left Glenochil. But if one of my mates was drinking

1 one bottle of El Dorado, I would have two. I moved on
2 to cans of beer. I couldn't go for a pint of milk
3 without buying a couple of cans of lager. I would say
4 that was to do with Glenochil. I wanted to blank out
5 what had happened. I didn't think I was an alcoholic at
6 that time, although I was going up to the canal to drink
7 with my friends.

8 "My wife told me she was going to leave me if
9 I didn't deal with the drinking. I was at
10 Gartnavel Hospital as an out patient for a year. I got
11 a prescription for Antabuse and eventually I was trusted
12 by the doctor to take it myself. I didn't drink for
13 14 years. That's when I had all my different
14 businesses. I owned two houses. I thought I had done
15 well. I don't know how I drifted back into drinking.

16 "I can't remember any of my kids' date of birth, but
17 I can remember Glenochil, even though I am 63 years old.
18 I haven't sought any treatment or support from groups
19 about what I experienced in Glenochil. I have seen
20 pictures of Glenochil after I left, but I have never
21 gone back to see it.

22 "I have never made a report of what happened to me
23 in Glenochil. If one of us had been brave and reported
24 it and not worried about seven days' lost remission,
25 maybe it would have made a difference. You wouldn't

1 have put up with someone treating you like that outside
2 of Glenochil.

3 "I have never tried to get my records, but they
4 should still have them.

5 "Based on my experience, I think they should vet
6 staff better for these places and look into their
7 backgrounds. There should be more people like Mr Brown,
8 the gardener. You need people who will talk to young
9 people and educate them, not treat them like the guards
10 treated me. There should be more education. I don't
11 think Glenochil would have been a bad thing if they had
12 the right people. They have to check if the staff would
13 be good with teenagers, calming them down if they got
14 upset and showing them some humanity, not slamming doors
15 in their faces.

16 "My son who is in prison has told me that in Shotts
17 Prison they can open and close their doors themselves
18 during the day, but they will get the shout for lock up
19 at night.

20 "There should be a meeting with people like
21 yourselves sitting round the table with the governor.
22 There should be opportunities for inmates to speak to
23 their personal officer and for them to be heard.

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

1 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are
2 true."

3 And 'Louis' signed his statement on
4 13 December 2022.

5 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much. Before we move on, three
6 names, I think, of Mr G V Y Mr I B G and
7 K F L whose identities are all protected by my
8 general restriction order and they can't be identified
9 outside this room.

10 Where next?

11 MS RATTRAY: I will pass to Ms Forbes for the next read-in.

12 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

13 MS FORBES: My Lady, good afternoon. The next statement is
14 from an applicant who is anonymous and has the pseudonym
15 'Andy'.

16 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

17 MS FORBES: The reference number for his statement is
18 WIT-1-000001170.

19 'Andy' (read)

20 MS FORBES: My Lady, 'Andy' was born in 1975 and raised in
21 Govan on the south side of Glasgow. He talks about his
22 life before going into care between paragraphs 2 and 16
23 of his statement.

24 In summary, he tells us that he lived with his
25 mother and father, and he has a younger sister,

1 five years younger, and a younger brother, ten years
2 younger to them. They moved from Govan to a different
3 area in Glasgow at one point. His dad started his own
4 business, and his parents got their first mortgage. He
5 describes life then as being good, and describes
6 himself, at paragraph 3 of his statement, as being a wee
7 spoilt character. His dad was a bit of a womaniser
8 though, and his parents' marriage failed through that.
9 He then moved with his mother back to Govan. He was 11
10 turning 12 at the time.

11 He describes his dad failing him as a father and
12 remembers repeatedly standing at a window waiting for
13 him to arrive home, and his mother in the background
14 saying that he may have been called to an emergency.

15 He does state that he was fortunate that he had
16 a good upbringing and went to a good school, which he
17 says was Govan High. Whilst growing up, the closest
18 person to him was his uncle, who was his mum's youngest
19 brother, but was like a big brother. But he was taking
20 heroin, and asphyxiated at his gran's house one new
21 year. At that time 'Andy' was 13 years old and was in
22 his mum's house nearby when it happened.

23 Losing his uncle had a bad effect on 'Andy' and
24 changed a lot of things. He describes himself, at
25 paragraph 7, as being "wired differently" after that.

1 His mum met someone else and he realised quite
2 quickly that this man was a very controlling person,
3 domineering. From a certain age, he didn't want to have
4 anything to do with him, so he stayed with his gran, who
5 he was very close to. There were also some physical
6 altercations between this man and his mum, and he
7 remembers catching him one time when he had his mum by
8 the throat, and they did eventually separate.

9 Once his uncle died, 'Andy' describes a wee part of
10 him dying for a while, and that interfered with his
11 schooling. With his dad not being there, he could run
12 about the streets and do things he wanted to do. He
13 started going a bit wayward, got caught up in certain
14 situations with friends, and got in to trouble with the
15 police. He was put on a supervision order, and for him
16 that meant his mum could come to the police station and
17 take him home with her, and that made him think that his
18 mum could just get him out of trouble.

19 He received a more serious charge eventually. He
20 tells us, at paragraph 16, that the court thought
21 a short, sharp shock was in order to teach him a lesson.
22 So instead of being out on bail he was remanded, and
23 because he was only 15, they remanded him to Kibble
24 Education & Care Centre and he was taken straight from
25 court to Kibble. He tells us that there were only boys

1 in Kibble and most of them could go home for the
2 weekend, but because he was remanded he wasn't allowed
3 to leave and he was there for between four and
4 six months.

5 'Andy' talks about his time at Kibble between
6 paragraphs 18 and 66 of his statement. In summary, he
7 tells us that he was in a unit which had individual
8 bedrooms which were locked in at night, which he didn't
9 like. There was no toilet in the room, and he would
10 have to shout if he needed to use the toilet.

11 He describes a lot of bullying, and that would take
12 place sometimes in the toilet, even staff bullying. If
13 they wanted to get somebody, it would be in the toilet.
14 If anybody wanted to settle anything, it would be in the
15 toilet. But, as far as facilities were concerned, he
16 describes Kibble as being a good place.

17 He talks about abuse he suffered at Kibble between
18 the paragraphs 42 and 62. In summary, he says that he
19 and others were assaulted by a member of staff with
20 a big medieval key and he had to have stitches in his
21 head on one occasion as a result of that, and he still
22 has the scar.

23 He describes some inappropriate conduct by some male
24 and female staff members in the shower area, where they
25 would stand and stare at them. It made him feel very

1 uncomfortable. He talks about being locked in
2 a cupboard with no light on more than one occasion.

3 He describes a situation one night with a member of
4 staff who came into his room and started undoing his
5 trousers, but that was interrupted. And he tried to
6 tell another member of staff about what had happened,
7 but they rubbished his claims. As a result of that, he
8 decided to smash the unit up, but up until then he had
9 been doing well and had been enjoying being taught
10 joinery there.

11 As a result of what happened he was taken from the
12 Kibble straight to the court, and then Gateside Prison,
13 and he talks about his time at Gateside Prison at
14 Greenock between paragraphs 71 and 80.

15 Whilst there he shared a cell with someone who was
16 in for murder, albeit he describes that person as being
17 quite young. He doesn't speak of any abuse whilst there
18 and remarks that "back then the prisoners ran the
19 prisons". He went there just before [REDACTED] 1990 and
20 left at the beginning of [REDACTED] 1991, after which he
21 went to Polmont. He would only have still been 15 years
22 of age at that time.

23 He tells us about Polmont from paragraph 81 onwards.
24 I will just read from his statement from that paragraph:

25 "On [REDACTED] 1991, I was taken to the High Court

1 and sentenced to three and a half years. I was to serve
2 that in Polmont Young Offenders. I was taken there
3 straight from court. I remember someone saying to me
4 that I was going to be eaten alive at Polmont, that at
5 the first sign of trouble I should pick the biggest boy
6 and make an example of myself.

7 "Polmont was wild. It was like gladiator school.
8 It was the same type of prison as Gateside in terms of
9 looking like it had been built in the Victorian era.
10 There was a main allocation centre where there were
11 maybe 50 cells on the right and 50 on the left, and on
12 three floors. There were wrought iron stairs in the
13 middle of the hall and they would take you up to each
14 floor. It was bit like Barlinnie with the different
15 flights, the whole circle of the building. The
16 allocation centre was called the ally-cally.

17 "The allocation centre was a mad place, fights
18 everywhere you turned. Every couple of minutes someone
19 would shout for assistance and you would see the
20 officers running towards a brawl somewhere. The hall
21 would get locked up at any given time. I couldn't wait
22 to get out of there.

23 "On arriving at Polmont we met a PO, the principal
24 officer. He would wait until all the new arrivals were
25 in. There were buses from Stirling, Glasgow and other

1 places. Once all the new arrivals for the day were in,
2 he would sit us down, give us the rules and tell us what
3 we were supposed to do if we needed something. He told
4 us to address all the officers as 'sir'. You were only
5 supposed to be in there for a couple of nights until
6 they decided what hall you were going to. If you were
7 in for a certain amount of time, you would be sent to
8 North Wing. In was a short stay hall. Some prisoners
9 were serving a short stay, but were known to the prison
10 so they went to the West Wing. The West Wing was called
11 the 'Wild West'. I was unknown to the prison, but
12 because of the length of sentence I was doing I started
13 in the West Wing. If I behaved, I was to be sent to the
14 long stay hall, which was the East Wing.

15 "Not many people lasted in East Wing. It was
16 a privileged hall. I was there on and off throughout my
17 sentence.

18 "I was a quiet as prisoner. It was just certain
19 things that sparked me off. Officers entering my cell.
20 I still have this issue. I have carried it with me
21 throughout my life.

22 "I was so small. I walked about there and for
23 two years I never met anyone as small as me.

24 "I think I was taken to solitary confinement before
25 my first couple of days were finished in there. I had

1 come from the High Court and was shell shocked at first.
2 I think coming from the High Court, and the light I had
3 shined on myself from Kibble, I was regarded as being
4 unruly and an uncontrollable character.

5 "West Wing had individual flats, so instead of the
6 big, round gantry Victorian-style cells, this was
7 different. You went up the stairs and there were four
8 sections in each area. You would stay in your section
9 and settle there. If you behaved, you would be there
10 for the duration. Everyone had door cards. If you were
11 Church of Scotland, you would had a white door card and,
12 if you were Catholic, you had a green door card. If
13 anyone was sectarian, they could pick you out in
14 a second.

15 "I had my own cell in West Wing. It had a bed,
16 a plastic chair and a cardboard table. I was locked in
17 there overnight and I had a chamberpot to use as
18 a toilet. There was slopping out back then. I was
19 initially locked in my cell for 23 hours a day. We
20 would get up in the morning and make a bed block and
21 officers would come in with a ruler and measure to make
22 sure it was square. If it wasn't, they would pull it
23 apart and you would have to start again.

24 "The problems with other prisoners came and went.
25 It was really a case of us living on top of each other,

1 just too much of the same people. It wasn't something
2 I had much of a problem with, although I would see
3 problems between prisoners. I would just try to keep my
4 head down and be as quiet as I possibly could be.

5 "In the allocation centre we went downstairs to the
6 main hall where we all ate. In the West Wing we did the
7 same, but we had our own dining hall in there. We ate
8 our breakfast, lunch and dinner in there.

9 "I didn't really have any issues eating in Polmont.
10 I got used to the food, although it was a bit grim.
11 I remember getting bread and butter pudding. I didn't
12 even know what such a thing was. We would get stovies,
13 that was just a combination of leftovers. Food was
14 quite grim. But, if you were in there for any length of
15 time, you were going to get used to it and you would eat
16 it. There was no other option, nothing else. By the
17 time I finished my sentence I thought the food was good.

18 "If I was in solitary confinement, they would serve
19 the food through the door and you ate it in your cell.
20 You didn't get out of the cell to eat.

21 "If you were in Polmont as a remand prisoner you
22 would wear a blue and white pinstripe shirt and jail
23 jeans. Once you were convicted, it was a red and white
24 pinstripe shirt with jail jeans.

25 "I was out of my cell between 7.00 and 8.00 pm. We

1 went down to the recreation hall. That was the same
2 place where ate our dinner. There was a TV in there
3 with some chairs at it. You had to get close to the TV
4 to see it. So, if you were at the back, you couldn't
5 see.

6 "There was a library with a small amount of books.
7 The books were by authors I didn't know, but I did get
8 into reading in Polmont. There was also a table tennis
9 table and two pool tables in there. There was no
10 outside area we could go to; it was all inside. PT was
11 indoors, too, down in a different area.

12 "They actually had a [REDACTED] in Polmont.
13 I got my bronze medallion in there, my [REDACTED] badge.
14 I always liked [REDACTED] and was allowed to use [REDACTED]
15 after a while. There was an ex-army coach in there,
16 Mr ^{GIH} [REDACTED], he was the [REDACTED] PT. He either liked you or he
17 didn't, but he took a wee shine to me. He was a nice
18 guy and whipped you into shape. I became BT orientated
19 and got myself really fit.

20 "We were locked up 23 hours a day, unless we took
21 a job. Doing the length of time I was doing, I was
22 encouraged to do one. They told us what was on offer
23 and it was your luck if you got what you wanted. I was
24 quite fortunate and did get what I asked for, which was
25 joinery. I probably started working about four months

1 after I arrived there.

2 "I worked in the joinery unit, they were called the
3 'inside joiners'. I soon realised it was a business
4 they were running. They were making things like huts
5 and garden benches for B&Q. That was the main joinery
6 work. But, if you were any good and enjoyed it, there
7 was also vocational joinery training. They were called
8 the 'VT joiners'. I ended up in there because I had
9 enough time to take it further and got some
10 qualifications.

11 "I ended up a time served joiner. My qualification
12 was from Falkirk College. The staff from the college
13 would come into Polmont and assess our work. I actually
14 went on to do advanced joinery and started making
15 guitars and things like that. I still do things like
16 that to this day. It's a hobby now.

17 "There wasn't a doctor in Polmont, but there was
18 a medical nurse who would come in. If you had anything
19 serious, you would get taken somewhere. There were
20 horror stories about the dentist. I never went near
21 them.

22 "Polmont did recognise Christmas and they put on
23 a Christmas dinner in the hall. It was prison after
24 all, but they did try to do something.

25 "There was a visiting committee, the VC, it was

1 laughable. They could come and see you when you were
2 lying, beaten half to death, in solitary confinement.
3 The door would open and they would ask you if you were
4 all right. Whether you said aye or no, they would say
5 okay, and the door would shut. That was it. It was
6 an outside visiting committee. Nothing to do with the
7 prison, apparently. I think they were just collecting
8 wages for doing it.

9 "We were allowed two visits per month. That was
10 more than enough for people travelling to Falkirk from
11 Glasgow. My mum visited me. My dad also visited me,
12 but I wasn't about to converse with him. By the second
13 time my dad came to visit, I had realised that even if
14 I didn't speak to him, he was using up my visits.
15 I told him that and gave him abuse about it. I remember
16 asking him why he was even there.

17 "If you made mistakes, you got reprimanded quickly
18 and you could lose your privileges. A lot of the
19 officers in there were ex-army and it felt a bit like
20 army camp. We were making bed blocks in the mornings
21 and were not allowed to sit on our beds. If our bed
22 block wasn't square, they would pull it apart and you
23 would have to start again. They would do that once
24 a week, but you were never allowed to sit on your bed.
25 You had to have it made to a decent standard every day.

1 If you lost privileges, they could take away your
2 recreation, PT, your TV, phone, your canteen money, they
3 could take all of these things off you.

4 "I hated anyone coming in to my cell. If
5 authorities were to linger in my cell, I felt as if
6 someone was encroaching on my space. I think that went
7 back to the carry on in the Kibble. It was something
8 I had never thought of before that. It happened quite
9 a lot in Polmont and my issue was probably unknown to
10 some of the prison officers. They must have wondered
11 what was up with me when I started to freak out.
12 I would feel under pressure and start reacting to them
13 being in my cell. Not that I wanted to share, but
14 I think it may have been better if I had shared a cell
15 with someone. He could have calmed me down if I started
16 freaking out and being unreasonable.

17 "Staff were very physical back in those days. If
18 I was cheeky to one prison officer, they would press
19 a button and the whole lot would come. One would say,
20 'Locks on', and they would put the locks on, pressure
21 point locks. Your arms would be put up your back and
22 they had a lock they would put on your legs. When your
23 arms were twisted in a certain way and put up your back,
24 they only had to touch your thumb and you got a jolt,
25 a pain through your whole body. It was grim. They

1 called it 'getting carted'. Even as an adult, I have
2 heard grown men scream when getting these locks put on.
3 I never heard anyone being carted who wasn't wailing.
4 They obviously passed the technique on to each other.

5 "Polmont was bad and, if you were in West Wing, you
6 were furthest away from solitary, so you would get
7 carried down a mile long corridor with those locks on.
8 Sometimes they would stop and take a break to readjust
9 the locks. It's crazy what a human being can endure and
10 get used to. It toughened us up, but it went way beyond
11 that. They would take me to solitary confinement. They
12 called it 'the Digger'. Being in solitary confinement
13 for more than three months was supposed to be against
14 your human rights. You were put in there for
15 three months at a time and you were in your cell
16 24 hours a day. There was nothing in the cell and it
17 had a concrete floor. You had your mattress brought in
18 to sleep on at night. They didn't want you lying on the
19 mattress during the day, so they would come in and take
20 it off you. You would get battered off it, if you were
21 acting as if you didn't want to give it up.

22 "The visiting committee could would come to see if
23 you were all right. But, as I have said, they would
24 have a quick look in the door and that was it. Your eye
25 could be swollen and it wouldn't matter. One time I was

1 actually in there for a nine-month stretch, they would
2 come in on a regular basis at night and beat the shit
3 out of me. I didn't communicate with anyone else in
4 solitary. No one else could hear me or see me in there.
5 I wasn't going to speak to the guards about what was
6 happening, because they were the ones doing it to me.
7 They were the last people I was going to communicate
8 with.

9 "Leaving solitary after a couple of months, you had
10 no voice. Every time I tried to speak my voice box
11 dried up. I had to sit with a big glass of water.
12 Everything was fast and loud, and it took a while to get
13 used to things again. It really messed with your head.

14 "If I was in solitary confinement and had visible
15 injuries, my mum would be told I was refusing visits.
16 My mum knew something was up. She knew I wouldn't
17 refuse a visit from her. She would be putting money in
18 my account, but there was nothing she could do to see
19 me.

20 "You could get beaten anywhere in the prison. But,
21 in solitary, the officers were called the 'Mufti Mob',
22 they were the riot squad. They would come in and kick
23 the utter shit out of you.

24 "I met one of them at a later date, Mr IGL He
25 told me he wasn't proud of himself. He was honest and

1 quite likeable, but he hated Catholics and was really
2 biased. He wouldn't even speak to Catholics. My best
3 friend in there was a Catholic, and when Mr IGL found
4 that out, he opened my cell door and said that he had
5 thought I was all right until he found this out. He
6 actually got to like my friend in the end.

7 "Mr IGL used to be solitary staff. He opened up to
8 me and told me that he used to ask specifically for
9 night shift work. He told me that he used to come into
10 work drunk and walk about solitary looking for
11 Catholics. He never actually assaulted me. I could be
12 lying on my bed in solitary and my cell door would open
13 and I would get booted up and down the cell. Sometimes
14 I used to think I was going to die. It was systematic.
15 They would strip me naked, take everything out of the
16 cell, and leave me lying on a concrete floor for
17 30 minutes before they came back. I would rather they
18 kicked me between the legs there and then and not have
19 to wait for them to return. After a few times, I knew
20 what their plan was, I knew what was coming.

21 "They would come in with the shields as well. Three
22 of them would pile in the cell door and spread out. You
23 knew one of them was going to pull their shield back and
24 whack you with their truncheon, either that or they
25 would corral you into the corner with the shields and

1 press you down. Then you would get battered.

2 "One time they broke a bone in my elbow. I lay
3 overnight and I knew something was wrong. I just knew
4 I had a broken bone. I wasn't one to complain,
5 normally, so they knew something was wrong. I got to
6 see a nurse and she put a cast on it. That was all done
7 in solitary confinement. I wasn't getting out of there.
8 The nurse absolutely knew what was happening. They were
9 part of the same team. I wasn't getting to go anywhere,
10 and nothing was ever written down. Every time I was
11 carted after that my elbow went.

12 "Even though you could be taken down to solitary and
13 smashed about the place, you still lost time off your
14 sentence for being in solitary.

15 "One of the officers who used to assault me was
16 a Mr HJX, they called him 'HJX'. He was a big,
17 6-foot, blond haired guy. He was well built and
18 apparently a Scottish champion kick boxer. He loved to
19 hit us. He was always trying to goad people into
20 hitting him, but no one could get near him before he
21 reacted and put you in a hold and physically beat you.
22 I don't remember his first name, it could be
23 HJX, but I am not sure. I could name a few of
24 them and have come across some of them outside.
25 I argued with some of them in Barlinnie years later and

1 said that some of the things they did to us I wouldn't
2 do to an animal.

3 "I don't know why I can speak about these things so
4 easily. I think I became used to being treated like
5 that from day dot. I didn't know any other way and
6 transitioned into it and think that's why I can talk
7 about it.

8 "I have spoken to some people about the things that
9 happened to me in that place, and they look at each
10 other in disbelief.

11 "If time passed in Polmont and you hadn't had any
12 issues, you could get some of your remission time back.
13 I did lose quite a lot of remission in there.

14 "Polmont had a governor who looked a bit like my
15 mum. She was the only governor who I could deal with on
16 a respectful basis. That was because the rest of them
17 didn't ever give you any respect. I remember her saying
18 to me, 'What are we going to do with you?' She knew
19 I had been locked up since I was 15. There was no
20 training for freedom and nothing I was going to get that
21 would help me. She asked if I could stay out of trouble
22 for even a week. I told her of course I could. She
23 said that if I stayed out of trouble, she would write
24 a report which would allow me to go down to Castle
25 Huntly in Dundee for the remainder of my sentence. That

1 was an open prison.

2 "I think she recognised that I needed some training
3 for freedom before I went out on the street. To give
4 her her due, she got me into Castle Huntly. That
5 was decent of her and she didn't need to do it."

6 He then talks about his time in Castle Huntly, in
7 Dundee, in paragraph 134:

8 "I was a bit shell shocked with the easier
9 conditions at Castle Huntly. You could literally walk
10 out the door and walk round the grounds. I didn't
11 actually do that for a wee while; I thought the staff
12 were just waiting for me to go outside. There was no
13 getting beaten up and, if you had an issue with anyone,
14 you could hold them to it. There were people could you
15 complain to. It was run the way prisons should have
16 been run.

17 "I had access to phones night and day and to a whole
18 lot more people I could speak to. By that time
19 I realised there were people out there I could contact
20 if I had a problem, people I could ask my family to
21 contact, if necessary. Even just a lawyer.

22 "In Polmont there was a complaints form, but it
23 never reached outside the prison.

24 "By then I was just looking at getting out of
25 prison. I didn't do any joinery work at Castle Huntly.

1 I was only there for the last couple of months of my
2 sentence. I had been told my release date before going
3 to Castle Huntly, so I knew when I was being released.
4 All the staff were decent. I think most of them were
5 approaching retirement age, so they were looking for
6 a quiet life."

7 He then talks about an incident in Castle Huntly, at
8 paragraph 139:

9 "I remember this incident happened in a dormitory.
10 The prisoners were all about to get out on five days
11 home leave over Christmas. There were five prisoners in
12 the dorm at the time it happened. A prisoner who had
13 come from Jessiefield Prison in Dumfries raped another
14 male prisoner in the dorm. The other three males in the
15 dorm watched on. It was astonishing. The boy who did
16 it was hospitalised that very night. I think he ended
17 up in intensive care, after other prisoners belted him
18 with metal ashtrays and socks. He was lucky he escaped
19 with his life. The boys who watched on were all set
20 about by prisoners for doing nothing about it. That was
21 Christmas 1994.

22 "I remember the name of one of the boys who watched
23 on [he names him] ... he was the one who came down and
24 told us what had happened. The boy who did it was
25 convicted."

1 He then talks about his life after being in care
2 from paragraph 140:

3 "I left Castle Huntly and went back home to my
4 mum's. It was a bit strange for a while. I did relapse
5 and ended up in prison again. Not for some time, but it
6 did happen. I have done a few remands since leaving.
7 I would have been approaching 21 at that time. There
8 were a few stints of remand, but I must have been really
9 lucky not to get sentenced for one reason or another.
10 I would have been locked up until I went to court, but
11 either the case fell apart or they were rubbish charges
12 and I shouldn't have been there in the first place.
13 Maybe I had been in the wrong place at the wrong time
14 and it sorted itself out at court. All of these times
15 were in Barlinnie prison.

16 "Then my first kid was born and that made me see
17 a different picture; that's when I started getting my
18 act together. Then I had years without issues, but it
19 was a bumpy start. I separated from my partner
20 a few years ago, the two of us lost our mums in the same
21 year and she had some issues. But she's coming back to
22 her old self. We are still close. She is someone
23 I have known since I was 11 years of age.

24 "I have a son and a daughter and my fourth
25 grandchild is on the way.

1 "I also had a partner who died. She was 25, fit as
2 a fiddle, didn't drink, didn't smoke, she passed in the
3 night. They put it down to sudden death syndrome. Her
4 heart stopped and they don't know why. She had
5 a one-year old daughter at the time, I brought her up as
6 my own. She is approaching 20 now.

7 "Other than joinery, I have worked with the council
8 Parks' Department for a wee while. I've had a couple of
9 businesses, a car wash, and I bought a beauty salon for
10 my missus."

11 He talks about impact from paragraph 145:

12 "The years in Polmont turned me into an animal and
13 I don't think I would have made it on the outside if
14 it hadn't been for the input from my mum. I was
15 volatile when I came out of the jail, a pure lunatic,
16 really bad:

17 "I remember my mum coming into my room at home and
18 saying, ''Andy' you're home, son', I must have been
19 segregating myself away from my family. I wasn't even
20 aware of it. I wasn't venturing out. In prison,
21 canteen day was on a Wednesday and I wasn't going out to
22 the shops unless it was a Wednesday. It must have taken
23 me months before I settled back into family life.

24 "That was sorted in months and I got better
25 gradually. Other things took me years. I remember

1 hearing myself say stupid things, as if I missed being
2 in prison. My mental health goes up and down and I have
3 been in touch with Breathing Space.

4 "I have been quite fortunate with my physical
5 health. My elbow is still a bit dodgy and anything can
6 make it go. But, other than that, I don't have any
7 physical issues.

8 "I do still have issues with people coming into my
9 room. I am 47 and it still bothers me. In certain
10 situations something just triggers and I get aggressive.
11 I was always spoken to in a very derogatory manner
12 whilst I was in prison, as if I was nothing, as if I was
13 a dog. If I am spoken to in a similar way out here,
14 I find myself reacting in an adverse way. I am not that
15 wee guy anymore. I don't have any issues in terms of
16 friendships. I know who my friends are and I treat them
17 accordingly. I don't consider anyone a friend who
18 hasn't been a lifelong friend. I am a good judge of
19 character and I will give anyone the time of day, but
20 'friend' is a word I don't use lightly.

21 "I have spoken to a few different people for
22 support. I contacted Breathing Space and they did help
23 me. They were decent, compassionate and not biased in
24 any way. I can phone them any time I want. I was
25 having a bad time last year and I contacted them.

1 I have to get my head in the right place to look after
2 my family. That's paramount to me. Even before my own
3 wellbeing I am thinking about my family, but my head
4 needs to be in the right place if I am going to be able
5 to do anything for them."

6 He then says, in relation to reporting of abuse,
7 that he never told his mum about the abuse, and he is
8 glad that he never did, because she feels that she was
9 guilty for him being in prison, thinking it was her
10 fault, and he has never told the police or any authority
11 about the abuse.

12 He then says he doesn't have any of his records and
13 they are not something that he would be interested in
14 reading. When it comes to lessons to be learned, from
15 paragraph 156 he says he thinks complaints need to be
16 listened to and that people should be held accountable,
17 and staff need to be keeping an eye on other staff:

18 If I read from paragraph 156:

19 "They can't be operating like a gang, able to do
20 what they want. I would hate things I have experienced
21 to be repeated and hope that people can now be held
22 accountable. I have watched things online and on TV
23 showing these things are still happening, but I would
24 like to think things have progressed since my day.
25 I would hate to think people are still going through the

1 same sort of issues. That's my whole point of going
2 through this today, to make sure history doesn't repeat
3 itself. It is not just the things I am pointing out;
4 there must be so many different things happened. When
5 all that is looked at as a whole, surely there must be a
6 plan of putting things into operation to prevent these
7 things being repeated."

8 He states:

9 "I have no objection to my witness statement being
10 published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry and
11 I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are
12 true. He has signed that. It is dated 13 January 2023.

13 Apologies my Lady, I know we went over the break.

14 LADY SMITH: Don't worry, we have had one or two other
15 breaks. Shall we take a short break now, and sort out
16 where we are going next? We will do that. Thank you.

17 (3.15 pm)

18 (A short break)

19 (3.21 pm)

20 LADY SMITH: Now, before we move on to the next read-in, two
21 names from the last session, Mr IGL and HJX
22 were both mentioned, and they are protected by my
23 general restriction order, not to be identified outside
24 the hearing room.

25 Mr Peoples.

1 MR PEOPLES: My Lady, the next read-in is from a statement
2 provided by 'Joe', and the reference for that statement
3 is WIT.001.002.5426.

4 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

5 'Joe' (read)

6 MR PEOPLES: My Lady, 'Joe' was born in 1964 in Glasgow, and
7 he has a section in his signed statement dealing with
8 life before going into care, between paragraphs 2 and
9 15. I will just maybe pick out some of the matters that
10 he deals with there.

11 LADY SMITH: Of course.

12 MR PEOPLES: 'Joe' tells us that he lived with his family in
13 a single end tenement on the east side of Glasgow, with
14 an outside toilet. When 'Joe' was about five years old
15 the family moved to [REDACTED], to a house with
16 an inside toilet. 'Joe' has two younger brothers.

17 Just after he started primary school his parents
18 split up, and he says that's when it all went wrong. He
19 says he didn't see his father again for five or
20 six years. During that time the family moved from house
21 to house and his mother started to drink heavily. He
22 tells us that she had a new partner, who was
23 an alcoholic, and there were constant arguments. When
24 'Joe' was around 10, or perhaps 11, which I think would
25 be about 1974/1975, if my arithmetic is correct --

1 LADY SMITH: Yes.

2 MR PEOPLES: -- he went to live with his maternal
3 grandmother in Livingston. His mother went on to have
4 four more children with her new partner. Social
5 services became involved with the family. Then 'Joe's'
6 father took 'Joe' and one of his brothers to live with
7 him and his second wife in East Kilbride.

8 'Joe' says -- I think it is paragraph 7 -- that the
9 house felt, to use his words "emotionally cold" and that
10 there was no love shown to him and his brother.

11 When he was 13, which would be about 1977, he says
12 he went back to live with his gran in Livingston. He
13 attended a local school and was, he says, doing well.

14 Then his mother had his step-siblings taken from her
15 and came, pregnant again, to Livingston, to the maternal
16 grandmother's home. 'Joe' resented her presence and
17 says, at paragraph 9:

18 "I took the wrong path and started getting into
19 trouble with the police."

20 The local social work department became involved.
21 'Joe' started sniffing glue and skipping school. He was
22 also drinking and was stealing cheap wine and glue from
23 shops. He also says he started to have some panic
24 attacks. He went before children's panels in 1978 and
25 was facing a number of charges and, on the

1 ██████████ 1978, he tells us he was sent for assessment
2 to Howdenhall Assessment Centre.

3 I will perhaps do what I did previously and just --

4 LADY SMITH: That's fine.

5 MR PEOPLES: -- say this: 'Joe', in his statement, tells us
6 about places he was in other than SPS establishments.
7 He appears to have been in the assessment centre on
8 three occasions, according to his statement and he
9 experienced physical and sexual abuse. He spent time
10 also in Kerelaw, in the open unit. I think there he
11 again experienced abuse, physical, sexual, some abuse by
12 other young people, and he witnessed emotional abuse of
13 others.

14 So the evidence he has given about these two places
15 in his signed statement is another example of someone
16 who has experienced abuse in more than one care setting
17 before going into the Scottish Prison Service.

18 LADY SMITH: Yes.

19 MR PEOPLES: And that abuse included sexual abuse. So
20 perhaps echoes what I said this morning, really.

21 LADY SMITH: Indeed.

22 MR PEOPLES: It is not an unfamiliar pattern.

23 LADY SMITH: And that's following an unstable and unsettled
24 childhood.

25 MR PEOPLES: Yes. So, if I could just look, then, at what

1 he says more specifically about his time in one place
2 run by the Scottish Prison Service, which was
3 Longriggend in North Lanarkshire, and he tells us a bit
4 about that.

5 If we start, perhaps, on page 24, just to get the
6 broad background. He had been in Kerelaw, and he tells
7 us that he ran off with another boy, I think. Yes, and
8 they managed to steal a car in Kilmarnock and were
9 driving across Ayrshire, were breaking into places to
10 get food. Four boys, he says:

11 "Four of us were court in the car on the way to
12 Paisley."

13 This is 118. They were arrested and taken to
14 Paisley Police Station, and then the following day were
15 taken to Kilmarnock Sheriff Court and all were remanded
16 in custody to Longriggend. He tells us, I think, about
17 Longriggend, between 119 to 121, where he says he was
18 there for about three weeks. I will just maybe pick it
19 up from there.

20 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

21 MR PEOPLES: "When I was remanded to Longriggend prison
22 I got the shock of my life. I was a 14-year old on
23 remand in a jail. There is not much to say about the
24 place. It was a prison with a prison regime. It was
25 very violent and we were regularly assaulted by the

1 prison officers. There is not much more I can tell you
2 about Longriggend.

3 "There were a lot of boys, with the oldest being
4 about 18. You had to stand up for yourself in front of
5 the other boys and the prison officers. A lot of the
6 boys had major issues. I do recall having to clear up
7 the shite bombs in the yard outside. The boys would
8 make them of excrement and paper and throw them into the
9 yard. As a punishment, I was made clear them up using
10 a shovel and bucket they provided.

11 "Because I was still of school age I had to attend
12 school in the prison. There were a lot of fights
13 between the boys and the prison officers would jump into
14 the fight. I have no recollection of the names of other
15 boys or prison officers that were there. There was just
16 violence all the time."

17 Then he says he appeared again at Kilmarnock Sheriff
18 Court and was given a two year sentence or order to be
19 served in a secure unit. He simply tells us that he was
20 supposed to go to Rossie, but SNR ██████████ of Kerelaw,
21 who we have encountered before, a name we are familiar,
22 which Mr MTT ██████████, spoke up and he then returned to
23 Kerelaw. His statement then deals with what happened at
24 Kerelaw when he went back.

25 He then, I think, tells us -- going to page 28, just

1 to pick up the story -- having gone back to Kerelaw he
2 left, officially left the care of Kerelaw on
3 ██████████ 1980, and I think that's just before he was
4 turning 16, and he got work. But it does seem that
5 under some ad-hoc arrangement he was allowed to stay on
6 at Kerelaw for a time thanks to the efforts of
7 Mr ██████████ MTT. Although he does make the point, at 135,
8 that he perhaps realises that Mr ██████████ MTT was perhaps
9 involved in a degree of grooming, because Mr ██████████ MTT --
10 the reason he left Kerelaw -- the reason that 'Joe' left
11 Kerelaw was because Mr ██████████ MTT was leaving to go and
12 work elsewhere and he seemed to want 'Joe' to go with
13 him.

14 After that he says that he left Kerelaw in 1981, and
15 started working with his father's company, but it didn't
16 last too long because he fell out with his father. He
17 said his life started to spiral out of control and he
18 started drinking in the local pub.

19 On page 29, he went back to his grandmother's home
20 at Livingston for a time and then he was in trouble with
21 the police again, he tells us. He tells us all his
22 offences were drink related and, as he put it, he had
23 had literally "pressed the self-destruct button". He
24 appeared in court and was sentenced to three years in
25 a young offender's, when he was nearly 18 years of age,

1 which would have been about 1982. He said he spent part
2 of his sentence at Glenochil Young Offenders Institution
3 and then moved to Jessiefield Prison in Dumfries.
4 Indeed, he tells us while he was there he was involved
5 in editing the prison magazine and he feels this earned
6 him parole.

7 He tells us about life after care and the impact, as
8 well. But I will not, perhaps -- it is there to read.

9 He says, on page 32, the final page of his signed
10 statement, that he has no objection to his witness
11 statement being published as part of the evidence to the
12 Inquiry and believes that the facts stated in his
13 witness statement are true. He signed his statement on
14 24 April 2019.

15 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

16 MR PEOPLES: If I can now pass back to Ms Forbes for
17 a further --

18 LADY SMITH: Noting in passing, Mr MTT name, he is
19 protected by my general restriction order.

20 Yes, thank you, Ms Forbes.

21 MS FORBES: My Lady, the next statement is from an applicant
22 who is anonymous and has the pseudonym 'Alexander'. His
23 witness statement is WIT-1-000000665.

24 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

25

1 'Alexander' (read)

2 MS FORBES: 'Alexander' was born in 1957 in Paisley, and he
3 talks about his life before going into care between
4 paragraphs 2 and 22. In summary, he tells us that he
5 lived with his parents and had two older sisters and
6 a younger brother and a younger sister.

7 His father was a policeman, and describes him as
8 being "a career policeman who put his job before
9 everything else". He was away a lot [REDACTED]
10 [REDACTED]. His parents didn't get on, and
11 ultimately they split up, his mother having had
12 an affair and fallen pregnant.

13 So, when he was 11, his father told him that his
14 mother was gone and she wasn't coming back. There was
15 no explanation, and he was just told to go off to
16 school.

17 It was a few months before he was allowed to see his
18 mother, who was living in Glasgow with her new partner,
19 but his father had legal custody of all of his children.
20 He used to run away a lot from home and he also used to
21 hang around with the son of another policeman who had
22 been disgraced and sacked from the police, who he knew
23 his father didn't like. He was regularly being beaten
24 by his father, but he can't recall his father ever
25 hitting any of his sisters.

1 When he ran away, he was usually brought back by the
2 Paisley Police, which was very embarrassing for his
3 father. As things continued, his father was hardly ever
4 home and someone would come in and cook them meals and
5 look after he and his sisters. However, his father then
6 married another police woman and she became his step
7 mother. She was initially quite nice to him, but that
8 changed and they didn't get on. His mother told him,
9 once he was allowed to see her, that she was never
10 allowed to have him live with her. He describes his
11 mother as being his protector, and he thinks that not
12 being allowed to live with her was the cause of him
13 running away.

14 They moved house to a new area. His two older
15 sisters had left home and he attended high school in
16 Johnstone. He was being bullied at that time because
17 other pupils knew that he was the son of a policeman,
18 and he spoke with a posh accent. But after a holiday in
19 Scarborough, where he had made friends and enjoyed their
20 company, he decided to hitchhike back to Scarborough to
21 be with these new friends.

22 He describes himself as a very immature 13-year old.

23 He recalls his father having to travel to
24 Scarborough to pick him up after a few days, when he was
25 picked up by police. When he got home he was made to

1 strip down to his underpants, had everything taken out
2 of his room, so it was like a police cell. He was then
3 locked inside, given food on a tray, and had a small
4 bowl to use as a toilet. He thinks he was there for
5 about three days, and during which time he didn't see
6 his stepmother and it was the one occasion when his
7 father didn't beat him.

8 On the last day of being locked in his room, his
9 father brought him some school clothes and told him to
10 get dressed. He was allowed to use the bathroom to wash
11 and told to be ready to go in half an hour. He wasn't
12 told where they were going, but was taken before a court
13 building in Paisley. He appeared before a panel of
14 three people in a small courtroom. He didn't know who
15 they were. He remembers his father telling this panel
16 that he was causing disruption in the family and the
17 only way he could keep him at home was to take all of
18 his clothes off him and lock him in his room. He
19 doesn't having any input himself at all.

20 The next thing he remembers is being in a police
21 cell in the court building and was then taken by the
22 police, in a police car, to Bellfield Remand Home in
23 Dumbarton. He says he would have been about 13 years
24 old at that point.

25 In later life, his sister told him a few weeks after

1 he had gone to Bellfield his father took all his
2 clothes, including his scout uniform, and put them out
3 to the rubbish. It seemed clear that he was not going
4 to be returning to the family home.

5 Over the next five years or so whilst he was in
6 care, he only saw his father on one occasion, when he
7 came to visit him at a children's home for a brief time.
8 Then he saw him again when he was in his late 20s at his
9 brother-in-law's funeral.

10 He talks about his time in Bellfield Remand Home,
11 Dumbarton, between paragraphs 23 and 52. He doesn't
12 know how long he spent there. It may have been just
13 a few months. He doesn't know why he was sent to
14 Bellfield, as no one took the time to explain it to him.
15 He got a job in the kitchen there, which kept him away
16 from the other boys. He was one of the youngest there,
17 at 13, but he says there were no boys who were over the
18 age of 16. It did get out that he was the son of
19 a policeman, but he spent most of his day in the kitchen
20 with an older boy who was well respected by the other
21 boys and took him under his wing. That meant he was not
22 subjected to any bullying. He didn't run away there,
23 even though he could have, because he was terrified of
24 the consequences.

25 It was a strict routine, and there was always things

1 going on after lights out. He talks about boys who did
2 run away being returned and placed in a locked room for
3 a period of time, with windows that were nailed shut.
4 If you needed to calm down or were being punished, you
5 would be placed in the locked room. There were always
6 fights going on this between the boys, but he was
7 fortunate because he was under the protection of his
8 co-kitchen worker who was feared by the other boys.

9 He does speak about peer assault and inappropriate
10 and cruel conduct by staff, and describes some of the
11 staff being "just bullies". There was physical abuse
12 from staff as well, which he describes:

13 "It was like a sport to them, to keep them amused."

14 He was then moved to a children's home in Ayrshire.

15 Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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Secondary Institutions - to be published later

. But says that

1 when you left school at 15, it meant that you had to
2 move from the children's home, and when he turned 15 he
3 was moved to an adolescent unit.

4 Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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18 He talks about his time at that second adolescent
19 unit between paragraphs 97 and 107. Secondary Institutions - to be pub

20 Secondary Institutions - to be published later

21 Secondary Institutions - to b He was then moved into a bedsit in which
22 he describes the landlady being an alcoholic. He
23 started working in a butcher's and then got a job as
24 a trainee chef, but that only lasted a few months.

25 He was no longer under the care of the authorities

1 and he started to run wild. He describes it as running
2 around the streets of Glasgow. He got into a life of
3 petty crime. He was associating with youths who he says
4 were just like him, and they would steal cars together.
5 He was living on the streets, although the trouble he
6 was in never involved any violence. But if he needed
7 a bed for the night he would go with men who were in the
8 area looking for young boys to pick up.

9 Then if I could read from paragraph 114 of his
10 statement, where he talks about ending up in a detention
11 centre:

12 "Inevitably, as a result of my lifestyle, I ended up
13 going to Glenochil Detention Centre for what was known
14 as that time as the short, sharp shock treatment. The
15 prison systems at that time were there to punish you and
16 not to rehabilitate. Three months at Glenochil was pure
17 hell. It was like being in the army and all the staff
18 were ex-army. They tried to make it that you would
19 never want to go back there, but all the prisoners knew
20 that you only did the short sharp treatment once and
21 wouldn't go back anyway.

22 "I also spent short prison sentences in Polmont,
23 Longriggend and Barlinnie. When I was 14, I do recall
24 being in Perth Prison for one night because I lied about
25 my age. I was terrified when I was there, so I told

1 them my true age and I was sent to a remand home in
2 Dundee, which I can't remember the name of.

3 "When I was about 18 I moved down to England and
4 spent some time in the prison system in England. I was
5 in and out of several English prisons until I reached
6 the age of 23, when I met my wife and my life of petty
7 crime stopped.

8 "When I was in the prison system, it is well
9 documented what went on. I do recall that the more
10 brutal places were Glenochil, Longriggend, and
11 Barlinnie, where assaults on prisoners by members of
12 staff were regular occurrences.

13 "In Glenochil you had to run everywhere. The prison
14 officers who didn't wear uniform would give you dead
15 legs all the time. They were mainly ex-services and all
16 wore steel capped boots which were used to good effect
17 when kicking you. In the young offenders' unit at
18 Barlinnie the mainstream prisoners and the younger
19 prisoners were all mixed in together.

20 "I learned to be the silent one and that way you
21 didn't stick out. The loud mouths had a difficult time
22 and it didn't go well for them. I was never sexually
23 assaulted and I conformed to the routine. Everyone was
24 physically assaulted at some time, but it was part and
25 parcel of being in jail. I learned how to survive in

1 that environment."

2 He then talks about his life after being in care
3 from paragraph 118. He tells us that Bellfield was
4 a wild place and not a pleasant experience

5 Secondary Institutions - to be published later

6 When he was about 23 he served his last 21-month
7 prison sentence at Wormwood Scrubs and on release he met
8 the woman who became his wife and, after he met her, he
9 never had so much as a parking ticket. That was his
10 first proper relationship and the turning point in his
11 life. He was married to her for 15 years, and he had
12 two children.

13 He tells us he worked principally as a funeral
14 director, but stopped once the business was taken over.
15 He did many other jobs and eventually retired in 2019.
16 He is still doing some part time jobs to supplement his
17 pension.

18 Secondary Institutions - to be published later

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22 From paragraph 132, he talks about his hopes for the
23 Inquiry. But, in particular, there he asks how his
24 father was able to manipulate him being put into care
25 and especially into a remand home like Bellfield.

1 At paragraph 133 of his statement, he says that he
2 has no objection to his witness statement being
3 published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry and he
4 believes the facts stated in his witness statement are
5 true. He has then signed that and it is dated
6 19 April 2021.

7 LADY SMITH: As far as that remand into Bellfield is
8 concerned, looking at the dates we have, it sounds like
9 the very early days of the children's panel starting to
10 sit; would that be right?

11 MS FORBES: Yes, my Lady.

12 LADY SMITH: Possibly in their first year.

13 MS FORBES: Yes.

14 LADY SMITH: We think it is 1969/1970.

15 MS FORBES: Yes.

16 LADY SMITH: The legislation was 1968, and I think they were
17 up and running by 1969; would that be right?

18 MS FORBES: Yes.

19 LADY SMITH: No. I am too soon.

20 MR PEOPLES: April 1971.

21 LADY SMITH: What was the before the children's panel?

22 I should remember and I can't. What was its
23 predecessor?

24 MR PEOPLES: My Lady, there was the juvenile court or the
25 ordering court, depending on how they were dealt with.

1 So sometimes when they talk about going before the
2 panel, I think some of them, when they are talking about
3 the 1960s, the late 1960s, around the Social Work
4 (Scotland) Act, are probably meaning a juvenile court
5 process. Because I am pretty confident, if I remember
6 my dates, it was about the 1 April, or around, of 1971
7 that the panel system was up and running. It took
8 a little time to establish that system after the 1968
9 Act.

10 LADY SMITH: In the Juvenile Court, there could be a sort of
11 panel. There could be more than one person making the
12 decisions about the child; is that right?

13 MR PEOPLES: Yes, or it could be -- yes, some sort of
14 magistrate or -- it would appear to someone, perhaps.
15 It could be, I think, to be a panel.

16 LADY SMITH: It would explain the memory of a panel.

17 MR PEOPLES: Yes. I think, if we had the dates, then it was
18 pre-April 1971, it wasn't a panel, a children's panel,
19 but it could well have been a panel of people who
20 decided the child's fate.

21 LADY SMITH: Yes.

22 MR PEOPLES: In the various ways we have seen.

23 LADY SMITH: And children could be going there for a number
24 of reasons?

25 MR PEOPLES: Care and protection, or possibly offending,

1 yes.

2 LADY SMITH: Thank you. Where now?

3 MR PEOPLES: Do we have time? I think we have.

4 LADY SMITH: We have a shortish one, yes. Let's do it.

5 MR PEOPLES: I think Ms Forbes is nodding that she could fit

6 in another one.

7 LADY SMITH: Is that possible, Ms Forbes?

8 MS FORBES: I think so, my Lady. It is shortish, I think.

9 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

10 MS FORBES: My Lady, the next statement is from an applicant

11 who is anonymous and has the pseudonym 'Anderson', and

12 his witness statement reference, his applicant statement

13 reference is WIT-1-000000954.

14 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

15 'Anderson' (read)

16 MS FORBES: 'Anderson' was born in 1960, and raised in

17 Shettleston in Glasgow. He tells us about his life

18 before going into care, between paragraphs 2 and 13.

19 In summary, my Lady, he lived with his parents, four

20 brothers and three sisters. Neither of his parents had

21 full time jobs and they moved various times. There were

22 issues with money and paying bills. They were very poor

23 and had broken windows covered with army blankets or

24 jackets, and they were sharing three or four to a bed.

25 He started to notice that his brothers and sisters

1 were disappearing, and he didn't know where they were
2 going. There were issues with asthma, his parents
3 smoked, and there were various illnesses. One of his
4 sisters had TB.

5 He went to the first primary school, St Mungo's,
6 when he was 5, and that is bullying initially started.
7 He describes himself as being a wee wimp, who was
8 dressed like a tramp. He states that they had nothing,
9 and what was put on the table he ate. They moved again,
10 so he never got settled with any friends and, for
11 a while, they lived with his grandparents in Possilpark,
12 but they only had a small house and they were all
13 cramped into it. He was there for about a year and went
14 to St Teresa's primary school. Again, he was bullied,
15 but they moved from there because his granny couldn't
16 cope; there was too many of them.

17 So he went to several schools and each time he
18 experienced bullying, and various of his brothers and
19 sisters would disappear into convalescing homes.

20 He and his brother then stopped going to school and
21 would just walk about the streets and in and out of the
22 old tenements, and they were taken to a panel.
23 A Sheriff decided they should be put into St Ninian's,
24 Gartmore. He was seven years old at the time and his
25 brother was nine. He thought they were getting sent

1 somewhere for convalescence.

2 He talks about his time in St Ninian's between
3 paragraphs 14 and 69. He was there for a period of
4 three years, he thinks, and describes peer bullying on
5 a daily basis, older boys were going wild and, if you
6 didn't join in, you were further bullied. It was
7 systematic. There were assaults by staff. There was
8 a sexual assault by one of the brothers, and a civilian
9 member of staff, which he suffered. But one day he just
10 went home.

11 Things at home were still the same, though, and he
12 stopped going to school because he was so far behind
13 other children just laughed at him. Again, he ended up
14 before a panel and was sent to St Joseph's, but in
15 Tranent. Before that he was in Larchgrove for a couple
16 of weeks, waiting for a space to being available.

17 He talks about Larchgrove between paragraphs 75 and
18 77. There was a lot of bullying there and assaults by
19 staff. He then talks about going to St Joseph's,
20 Tranent, between paragraphs 78 and 123, and he describes
21 peer bullying in the form of intimidation and assaults.
22 He was kicked in the mouth and lost his two front teeth.
23 Staff would be screaming in his face. The belt was
24 dished out on a daily basis, but he didn't get it.

25 Punishments were stopping home leave, and he didn't

1 get to go to his sister's wedding because he was caught
2 having one puff of a cigarette. There was emotional
3 abuse from the Brothers and the teachers, as well as
4 assaults, like the odd slap to the back of the head. He
5 can't think of a memory from St Joseph's that he would
6 consider a good one. He would dread getting up every
7 day and was on edge.

8 He was there from about 8 to 14 years old. One day
9 he was told to pack a bag and he was going home. But
10 when he got home he saw all the windows were smashed out
11 of the house and the house was derelict. He didn't know
12 where his parents were.

13 He walked to his sister's house, and they were
14 living with her, but nobody had told them he was getting
15 out, and nobody had checked everything would be okay at
16 home. So he ended up, after a period of time, staying
17 with his brother and his wife.

18 From there he went to school for about three or four
19 months. But his brother's wife was pregnant and he felt
20 like he was a burden, so he left. He was staying in
21 an old empty house and then sleeping in railway
22 carriages. He got a job cutting carpets. He was
23 15 years old at the time. But he wasn't kept on at the
24 job and he started going into old houses and stealing
25 copper. He was shoplifting to get things like a pair of

1 trainers.

2 From paragraph 128, he talks about when he met his
3 girlfriend. She fell pregnant and his daughter was born
4 in 1976, when he was only 16. They were then staying
5 with her sister, when he was charged with stealing scrap
6 out of old houses and was remanded to Longriggend.

7 If I can go to paragraph 140 of his statement, where
8 he starts to tell us about that. I will read from
9 paragraph 140:

10 "I had been in Longriggend for about a week when [he
11 talks about his partner sending him a 'Dear John'
12 letter] ... the screws came in with the letter to the
13 cell I was sharing with another boy. The screw was
14 holding the letter and said: did you know your
15 girlfriend is splitting up with you?

16 "I said I did, but I didn't. The Dear John letter
17 said she had met somebody else and didn't want me to
18 have any further contact with her. As far as I was
19 concerned that was me, I had lost my world, my wee
20 daughter. I [REDACTED] and the other guy in the cell
21 panicked and pressed the alarm. The screws came in and
22 dragged me out. They took me into some other room and
23 punched the absolute shit out of me. The screws then
24 [REDACTED] put me in a cell, where they
25 knelt on top of me and gave me an injection, and

1 I didn't wake up for two days.

2 "My only other complaint about Longriggend was that
3 they kept you completely locked up at the weekend.
4 That's all I really have to say about it.

5 "I then went to court at the end of my remand and
6 got a fine. I had no further problems with [REDACTED]
7 thereafter.

8 "In 1978, I had been stealing lead or shoplifting
9 and got arrested. I probably appeared at Glasgow
10 District Court and was remanded to Barlinnie for two
11 weeks, before getting 30 days at Glenochil. The only
12 thing about Barlinnie was that you were locked in for
13 the weekend, and there is not really much else to say
14 about my time there."

15 He then goes on to talk about his time at Glenochil,
16 from paragraph 145:

17 "It was the usual in Glenochil, guys with their wee
18 cliques, all getting their wee digs in here and there.
19 Most of it was quite good, because it was the year of
20 the 1978 World Cup in Argentina, and Scotland were
21 there. That was the focus for most people in there,
22 including the screws. I was there for 30 days. It
23 wasn't the nicest of places, but it was what it was."

24 He then talks about his life after being in care,
25 from paragraph 146 to 169. He says that he was homeless

1 after leaving Glenochil, but he and his girlfriend
2 worked things out for a while. They got married and had
3 another two daughters, but then split up. He ended up,
4 at 21 or 22, looking after his three girls on his own
5 for a period of time. But, eventually, all three went
6 back to stay with their mum. He had a daughter with
7 someone else, and then he married a different person,
8 moved to Inverness, and had a variety of jobs, including
9 several businesses. He has grandchildren now.

10 He talks about the impact between paragraphs 170 and
11 184, which is there for us to read, my Lady.

12 Lessons to be learned and hopes for the Inquiry
13 mostly relate to his time at St Ninian's and
14 St Joseph's.

15 Then, if we go to paragraph 211 of his statement,
16 the final paragraph of his statement, he tells us that
17 he has no objection to his witness statement being
18 published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry, and he
19 believes the facts stated in his witness statement are
20 true. He has signed that and dated it 24 March 2022.

21 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much indeed. Thank you. It is
22 neatly just about 4 o'clock.

23 MS FORBES: My Lady.

24 LADY SMITH: I will rise for the day now. Is the plan still
25 to start with the video link tomorrow morning?

1 MS FORBES: Yes, at 10.00 am.

2 LADY SMITH: Good. Very well. Until tomorrow morning.

3 (4.00 pm)

4 (The hearing adjourned until 10 am the following day)

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I N D E X

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