

SCOTTISH CHILD ABUSE INQUIRY

SECTION 21 – FOSTER CARE, DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COUNCIL

PART C – PREVENTION AND IDENTIFICATION

4. Policy and Practice

4.1. National

Past

a) Was there national policy/guidance relevant to the provision of foster care for children?

The following national legislation and guidance documents were in place over the specified period.

- Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968
- Code of Practice issued by the Secretary of State under s. 17E of the 1968 Act, the arrangements for the child's education and medical and dental treatment and details of any financial arrangements
- the Education (Scotland) Act 1980
- Foster Children (Scotland) Act 1984
- Children (Scotland) Act 1995
- Disability Discrimination Act 1995
- Circular SWSG 5/1996 Complaints Procedures
- Circular SWSG 2/95 CSWO: Responsibilities
- the Data Protection Act 1998
- the Age of Legal Capacity Act 1991
- The Clyde Report 1992
- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child ratified in the UK 1992
- European Convention on Human Rights
- the Vulnerable Witnesses (Scotland) Act 2004
- Establishing the Responsible Commissioner: Guidance for NHS Scotland 2004
- National Care Standards 2005 Foster Care and Family Placement Services
- the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007
- Getting it Right for Every Child: Guidance on Overnight Stays for Looked After and Accommodated Children
- Guidance on Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009
- The Early Years Framework 2009
- Equalities Act 2010
- Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011
- National Risk Framework to Support the Assessment of Children & Young People 2012
- Private Fostering Practise Guidance Scottish Government 2013
- Managing allegations against Foster Carers 2013
- Staying put Scotland 2013
- Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014
- The Continuing Care (Scotland) Order 2015

b) If so, to what extent was the local authority aware of such?

There is reference to legislation, national policies and guidelines in Committee Minutes therefore the organisation was aware of their existence and made efforts to comply with and adopt these.

Some examples include, a Children's Committee was established and a Children's Officer appointed in 1949 as per The Children Act 1948, increasing Boarding Out Allowances as per COSLA recommendations, becoming a member of the British Agencies for Fostering and Adoption in 1983, the Social Work Committee in 1988 agreed to adopt the 'Who Cares' Scotland Charter of Rights for Young People in Care and in 1991 the Committee discussed implementing the principles of the 'Caring for People' white paper.

Committee Minutes also make reference to circulars from the Scottish Home Department and departmental notes being composed to highlight the implementation of new legislation and regulations.

Dumfries and Galloway Council are aware from both the file reading which has been undertaken and the review of committee papers that Policy and Procedures were developed by Social Work Services over the years in accordance to National Policy, Regulations, Guidance Notes and Research findings.

c) If there was national policy/guidance in respect of any of the following in relation to provision of foster care for children, to what extent was the local authority aware of such?

- (i) Child welfare (physical and emotional)
- (ii) The child's views
- (iii) Reviewing a child's continued residence in a foster care placement
- (iv) Child protection
- (v) Discipline
- (vi) Complaints handling
- (vii) Whistleblowing
- (viii) Record retention
- (ix) Recruitment and training of foster carers
- (x) Requiring employers to divulge details of complaints etc. in relation to prospective foster carers to the local authority

We have only been able to locate an extremely limited number of past national policies/guidance documents however, we do believe the Local Authority were aware of such including legislation as there is evidence in individual case files of some consistency of practice being adhered to. There is also reference in Committee Minutes, as specified above, of Social Work Committee keeping up to date with the latest legislation and guidance. An example of this is the Social Work Committee in 1988 agreed to implement the 'Who Cares' Scotland Charter of rights for young people in care.

Children who were Looked After in foster care were subject to Policy and procedures in relation to Looked After Children which is referenced in the case file reading.

Post 1984 the Fostering and Adoption Panel minutes reference the approval of foster carers which encompassed the review of references, medicals and police checks when each of these requirements became implemented. The Fostering Panel minutes also note the reporting of allegations in accordance with Child Protection Guidelines and the subsequent Allegations Against Foster Carers Policies.

d) If the local authority was aware of such, did they give effect to that policy/guidance?

The Local Authority gave effect to the guidance by implementing changes to practice and developing new schemes as detailed below.

e)	If so, how was effect given to such policy/guidance?
From evidence in the Social Work Committee minutes it can be assumed the Local Authority gave effect to the 'Who Cares' Scotland Charter of rights for young people in care by subsequently approving a community care scheme for children, reviewing and evaluating records of children in care and implementing a consultation scheme for young people in care.	
f)	If not, why not?
N/A	

Present

g)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes, the national policies and guidance above were all in force prior to 2014 and while some still continue to apply there are also a number of new policies and frameworks which the Local Authority has adopted as detailed below.	
l)	If so, please give details.
<p>Today there are a number of national policies and procedures which underpin social work practice and the provision of childcare in Dumfries and Galloway. These policies are instrumental in the way in which we deliver our service including LAC reviews and plans, SHANARRI indicators from the wellbeing wheel and the My World assessment tool to name but a few. In addition to this all social workers must be registered with the Scottish Social Services Council and must meet minimum qualification criteria for their role.</p> <p>Some of the new national policies and procedures which we adhere to and have used as a basis for our own local policies include;</p> <p><u>Child Welfare</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting It Right for Looked After Children: Early Engagement, Early Permanence and Improving the Quality of Care 2015 - The Scottish Government's strategy for Looked After Children and Young People which sets out what we are doing and what we expect other corporate parents to do • Getting it Right for Every Child Approach - GIRFEC is the national approach in Scotland to improving outcomes and supporting the wellbeing of our children and young people by offering the right help at the right time from the right people. It supports them and their parent(s) to work in partnership with the services that can help them. <p><u>Child Protection</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland 2014 - national framework for agencies and practitioners at local level to understand and agree processes for working together to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children. It sets out expectations for strategic planning of services to protect children and young people and highlights key responsibilities for services and organisations, both individual and shared. It also includes guidance for practitioners on specific areas of practice and key issues in child protection including Child Sexual Exploitation and Internet Safety. • West of Scotland Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures 2017 - These procedures have been designed to assist staff in identifying indicators which might suggest that a child is being abused or is at risk of abuse, advise what steps should be taken if there are concerns about a child, and describe what happens once concerns have been reported. 	

Complaints Handling

- Scottish Public Services Ombudsman - is the final stage for complaints about councils, the National Health Service, housing associations, colleges and universities, prisons, most water providers, the Scottish Government and its agencies and departments and most Scottish authorities.
- Social Work Model Complaints Handling Procedure 2016 - This sets out how complaints about social work services must be handled. It will bring social work complaints largely in line with the complaints handling arrangements in place across the wider public sector, and with NHS complaints handling.

Whistleblowing

- Whistleblowing in the Public Sector a good practice guide for workers and employers Nov 2014 - To set out clearly and simply how public sector workers can raise concerns and what they should expect from their employer when they do so. It also provides guidance for public sector employers on how to encourage workers to raise concerns and how to deal effectively with concerns in an open and transparent way.

Record Retention

- Scottish Council on Archives Records Retention Schedule Guidance 2014 - Guidance on how local authorities might best manage records both received from outside and generated within. The sheer scale of present-day creation and exchange of information – in traditional paper format and electronically – means that action is essential if an organisation is to do two things: • find what it needs when it needs it, and • dispose of what it no longer needs

4.2. Local Authority

- (i) Policy

Past**a) Was there local authority policy/guidance in relation to the provision of foster care?**

There is limited physical evidence of local policies and procedures, and committee minutes only make reference to national policies and legislation. When new or amended legislation or national guidance was introduced committee members would be updated on such with departmental notes. Discussions would then take place to agree amending local practices to bring them in line with national guidance or legislation. The procedures we hold relating to foster care include;

- Helping Children when they must move from Temporary to Permanent Placements Procedures 2012
- Feedback from Users of the Service Procedures 2009
- Recruitment of Permanency and Temporary Panel Members Procedures 2007
- Transfer and Supports to Permanent Foster Placements Procedures 2005
- What the Fostering Panel Needs Procedures 2008

b) Was there a particular policy and/or procedural aim/intention?

It is believed that the policy and procedures were deemed relevant to the provision of foster care for children as this can be seen in the inclusion in reports to Social Work committee in relation to Boarding out Allowances and Medical Examinations.

The Procedures listed above were introduced to be in line with the National Care Standards for Foster Care and Family Placement Services. The aim was also to make an easy to use

guidance for social work staff to follow to ensure the department were adhering to legislation and standards in place.

c) Where were such policies and/or procedures recorded?

Of the limited number of past policies and procedures we have located these have been recorded in the Family Placement Team folders in our electronic systems. We have no paper copies of past policies and procedures.

d) What did the policies and/or procedures set out in terms of the following:

- (i) Child welfare (physical and emotional)
- (ii) The child's views
- (iii) Placement of siblings
- (iv) The placement of a child in foster care
- (v) The particular placement of a child with foster carers
- (vi) Contact between a child in foster care with his or her family
- (vii) Contact between a child in foster care and other siblings in foster care
- (viii) Information sharing with the child's family
- (ix) Fostering panels (including constitution, remit, frequency and record keeping)
- (x) Recruitment and training of foster carers
- (xi) Requiring employers to divulge details of complaints etc. in relation to prospective foster carers to the local authority
- (xii) Reviewing a child's continued residence in foster care or in a particular foster care placement
- (xiii) Visits to a foster care placement (including frequency, purpose, content, follow up and record keeping)
- (xiv) Transfer of a child from one foster placement to another (including preparation and support)
- (xv) Transfer of a child between foster care and residential care (including preparation and support)
- (xvi) Child protection
- (xvii) Complaints handling
- (xviii) Whistleblowing
- (xix) Record retention

We have limited evidence of past Local Authority Policies or guidance, so we are unable to answer the question fully.

Of those we have identified they set out the following;

Helping Children when they must move from Temporary to Permanent Placements Procedures 2012 – this detailed that planned moves should be preceded by planning meetings, this included details of who should chair and attend the meeting and what items should be discussed. It also included details on meetings between the temporary and permanent carers and other services who should be involved and informed including education.

Feedback from Users of the Service Procedures 2009 – This documented how and when feedback should be sought and from whom. The procedure included templates for capturing and recording feedback which included the views of the child.

Recruitment of Permanency and Temporary Panel Members Procedures 2007 – This outlined who was responsible for identifying and interviewing panel members and the documentation they should receive. It also stipulated that panel members should observe a panel meeting before commencement.

Transfer and Supports to Permanent Foster Placements Procedures 2005 – This outlined the process for transferring a child to a permanent placement including the responsibilities of the social worker and the purpose of the planning meetings.

What the Fostering Panel Needs Procedures 2008 – This document stipulated all the information and forms that were required to be submitted to fostering panels including new applications, changes to registrations, children being considered for permanent placements, updates to Form E's, temporary carers transferring to permanent carers and approval of placement for permanence.

e) Who compiled the policies and/or procedures?

Of the past procedures we have located these were all compiled by either the Fostering and Adoption Team Manager or the Senior Social Worker.

In the 1980' and 1990's Dumfries and Galloway Council did have a Strategic Planning Team in place who were responsible for the development of Policy and Procedures across Children and Families Social Work. This team ceased to operate in mid-2000 as these responsibilities transferred to the responsible team manager and in relation to Fostering and Adoption this was led by the Service Manager Fostering and Adoption who in turn would delegate this responsibility to the Team Manager or the Senior Social Worker. These arrangements have been in place until the present day.

f) When were the policies and/or procedures put in place?

The procedures were put in place in the years specified in 4.2 (i)a) above.

g) Were such policies and/or practices reviewed?

We are unable to answer this fully as we have only identified a limited number of procedures. As there are still employees working for Social Work Services who were around in the 1990's and 2000 they do recall meeting as managers to review and discuss policy and procedures for the Strategic Planning Team who would facilitate and organise such events in order that they would review existing arrangements and rewrite/redraft them accordingly. Such meetings were held in relation to Child Protection and Looked After Children.

h) If so, what was the reason for review?

As above

i) What substantive changes, if any, were made to the policies and/or procedures over time?

As above

j) Why were changes made?

As above

k) Were changes documented?

As above

l) Was there an audit trail?

There is no audit trail for past policies or guidance as only a limited number of documents were retained.

Present

m)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
n)	If so, please give details.
<p>Social Work practices today are governed by increasing legislation and scrutiny to ensure the best welfare and protection of children, young people and their families. As a result, D&G Council have developed and implemented a number of local policies and guidance to ensure high standards of care for Looked After and Accommodated Children (LAAC). These include; <u>Looked After Children Procedures Aug 2017</u></p> <p>This sets out guidance for the provision of a quality and consistent service for LAC children from the moment of referral to Leaving Care. It incorporates current legislation and national models such as GIRFEC. The procedures incorporate the child's views, child contact arrangements, information sharing, reviewing placements, visits to children in care and movement of LAC.</p> <p><u>Foster Care Policy and Procedure 2020</u></p> <p>This document outlines the process for appointing and approving carers including the skills and abilities expected, the appeals process, obligations of carers and the review process. <u>Foster Placement Referral Procedures 2019</u></p> <p>Sets out the procedures for referring and placing a child in foster care including matching with suitable carers.</p> <p><u>D&G Permanence, Fostering and Kinship Panel Guidance 2020</u></p> <p>Sets out the remit, and constitution of fostering panels including the recruitment and selection process for carers.</p> <p>ISS (Intensive Support Service) Foster Carer handbook</p> <p>Provides guidance on recruitment and review of Intensive Support foster carers (Fee paid), the role and expectations of the carer, the role of the fostering panel, visits to children in care, comments and complaints and allegations of abuse to name a few.</p> <p><u>Foster Carers Handbook</u></p> <p>Provides guidance on recruitment and review of foster carers, the role and expectations of the carer, the role of the fostering panel, visits to children in care, comments and complaints and allegations of abuse to name a few.</p> <p><u>Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures and Supporting Guidance Jan 2017</u></p> <p>Provides guidance on the way all organisations and professionals work together to take action to minimise risk and to respond quickly and effectively to give children the protection they need, at the earliest possible stage. These are founded on the West of Scotland Inter-Agency Child Protection Procedures.</p> <p><u>Social Work Complaints Handling Procedure Apr 2017</u></p> <p>This procedure aims to resolve customer dissatisfaction as close as possible to the point of service delivery and to conduct thorough, impartial and fair investigations of customer complaints so that, where appropriate, we can make evidence based decisions on the facts of the case. The procedure has been developed closely with the SPSO.</p> <p><u>Raising Concerns Policy Mar 2017</u></p> <p>Purpose of policy is to enable individuals to raise serious concerns. It provides a mechanism for accountability and transparency to ensure no employee of D & G Council feels at a disadvantage in raising legitimate concerns.</p> <p><u>Record Retention Schedule 2018</u></p> <p>Provides guidance on social work record keeping regardless of medium or format.</p>	

Providing References Managers Guidance Jul 2018

Provides guidance to managers on how to provide references (written or verbal) on behalf of Dumfries and Galloway Council ensuring that legislative requirements are not compromised. Managers must provide information in the reference of any live disciplinary action or dismissal.

All current Social Work Policies and Procedures must be approved by the Senior Management Team and reviewed at regular intervals. All Policies or amendments to existing Policies must be endorsed by Social Work Committee. The front page of each policy or procedure contains version control which sets out the review period to ensure they are up to date and in line with legislation and national guidance. If changes are made the date of this is also recorded. All current Policies and Procedures are stored on a central SharePoint site which all Social Work Staff can access.

(ii) Practice

Past

a)	Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures in relation to the provision of foster care?
As stated, we have limited copies of old policies and procedures so it is difficult to ascertain adherence however there is reference to following practices in Committee minutes so we can assume there was some compliance.	
b)	<p>Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Child welfare (physical and emotional) (ii) The child's views (iii) Placement of siblings (iv) The placement of a child in foster care (v) The particular placement of a child with foster carers (vi) Contact between a child in foster care with his or her family (vii) Contact between a child in foster care and other siblings in foster care (viii) Information sharing with the child's family (ix) Fostering panels (including constitution, remit, frequency and record keeping) (x) Recruitment and training of foster carers (xi) Requiring employers to divulge details of complaints etc. in relation to prospective foster carers to the local authority (xii) Reviewing a child's continued residence in foster care or in a particular foster care placement (xiii) Visits to a foster care placement (including frequency, purpose, content, follow up and record keeping) (xiv) Transfer of a child from one foster placement to another (including preparation and support) (xv) Transfer of a child between foster care and residential care (including preparation and support) (xvi) Child protection (xvii) Complaints handling (xviii) Whistleblowing (xix) Record retention

As mentioned above we have limited copies of old policies and procedures however there is reference to departmental practice in committee minutes so we can assume there was some level of observance of these in Social Work.

c) How was adherence demonstrated?

We can demonstrate adherence from committee minutes and from reviewing childcare files which would show that processes were followed, and any templates devised as part of procedures were used.

d) How can such adherence be demonstrated to the Inquiry?

Some examples of adherence include;

- Children's Committee 1959, minutes that copies of departmental notes on the implementation of the Children Act 1958 were circulated to members.
- Social Work Committee 1981, minutes that current policies do not need to be revised as a result of the COSLA boarding out allowances
- Social Work Committee 1982, minutes a review of staff training policies
- Social Work Committee 1990, minutes that as a result of the Social Work Planning and Evaluation statement that records of those children in care and on the Child Protection Register are received, reviewed and recorded.
- Social Work Committee 1990, minutes the implications for Social Work Policies as a result of the Implementation of the Caring for People white paper.
- Social Work Committee 1990, minutes the current Children & Families Policies and Procedures and how these apply to ongoing cases of child abuse investigations.
- Social Work Committee 1990, minutes reviewing the Social Work Standards of Practice prior to a proposed child protection inspection
- Social Work Committee 1993, minutes consideration to be given to reviewing Policies and Procedures due to the Inquiry into childcare policies in Fife and from the Orkney Child Abuse Inquiry.
- Social Work Committee 1993, members were asked to agree to proposed changes to the Childcare Policy.
- Social Work Committee 1994, minutes that a development plan was discussed to review the current Social Work Structure and the development of services.
- Social Work Committee 1995, members were asked to endorse a new Policy on the Charter of Rights for Young People in Care.
- Social Work Committee 1995, minutes that a full review of childcare services was to be undertaken as a result of updating policies and procedures in line with the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Social Work Committee 1995, minutes the implementation of the Children's Services Plan for D&G Social Work and a detailed action plan for staff and committee members.
- Social Work Committee 1998, notes the revised procedures for Social Services staff engaged in Child Protection work. The procedures cover all aspects of the child protection process from referral to case conference.

e) Were relevant records kept demonstrating adherence?

Minutes of meetings were kept which can demonstrate some adherence.

f) Have such records been retained?

Records have been retained of Committee Minutes and individual children's files.

g)	If policy/procedure was not adhered to in practice, why not?
We have no evidence to suggest that policy/procedure was not adhered to.	
h)	If policy/procedure was not adhered to in practice, what was the practice?
As above.	

Present

i)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
j)	If so, please give details.
<p>D&G Social Work has developed and implemented a variety of robust Policies and Procedures and we are able to demonstrate adherence to these by our recording, audits and inspections, some of these include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • internal audits on the quality of Child Protection Investigations. • peer-audit reviews of all children who have been Looked after for more than 2 years. • performance reports to the Child Protection Committee. • Care Inspectorate inspections of our fostering services • Development and use of templates to record children's information in line with local policy and procedure • Minutes of committee and sub-group meetings • Minutes of foster panel meetings 	

4.3. Children

(i) Policy

Past

a)	What policies and/or procedures did the local authority have in place in relation to the care of children in foster care?
We are unable to locate any past local authority policy/guidance relevant to the care of children in foster care. There is no physical evidence of local policies and procedures and committee minutes only make reference to national policies and legislation. When new or amended legislation or national guidance was introduced committee members would be updated on such with departmental notes. Discussions would then take place to agree amending local practices to bring them in line with national guidance or legislation.	
b)	Was there a particular policy and/or procedural aim/intention?
As per 4.2 above, it is believed that the aim of policy and procedures were to ensure the safe care of children in foster care. This can be seen in the inclusion in reports to Social Work committee in relation to Boarding out Allowances and Medical Examinations.	
c)	Where were such policies and/or procedures recorded?
We are unable to confirm this as we have no copies of past Local Authority policies or guidance in relation to the care of children in foster care.	

d)	What did the policies and/or procedures set out in terms of the following? (i) Safeguarding (ii) Child Protection (iii) Medical care (iv) Children's physical wellbeing (v) Children's emotional and mental wellbeing (vi) Schooling/education (vii) Discipline (viii) Activities and holidays for children (ix) Sharing a bedroom (x) Contact with family members (xi) Contact with siblings (xii) Celebration of birthdays and other special occasions (xiii) Information sharing by the foster carer with family members
As above we have no copies or evidence of past Local Authority Policies or guidance in relation to the care of children in Foster Care, so we are unable to comment on their content.	
e)	Who compiled the policies and/or procedures?
As above	
f)	When were the policies and/or procedures put in place?
As above	
g)	Were such policies and/or practices reviewed?
As above	
h)	If so, what was the reason for review?
As above	
i)	What substantive changes, if any, were made to the policies and/or procedures over time?
As above	
j)	Why were changes made?
As above	
k)	Were changes documented?
As above	
l)	Was there an audit trail?
As above	

Present

m)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	

n)	If so, please give details.
As mentioned in 4.2 (n) above D&G Council Social Work department has a breadth of policies and procedures governing the care of Looked After Children including those in foster care.	

(ii) Practice

Past

a)	Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures relating to the care of children in foster care?
As mentioned in 4.3 (i)a we have no copies of old policies and procedures in relation to the care of children in Foster Care so it is difficult to ascertain adherence however there is reference to following practices in Committee minutes so we can assume there was some compliance.	
b)	Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures in terms of the following?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Safeguarding (ii) Child Protection (iii) Medical care (iv) Children's physical wellbeing (v) Children's emotional and mental wellbeing (vi) Schooling/education (vii) Discipline (viii) Activities and holidays for children (ix) Sharing a bedroom (x) Contact with family members (xi) Contact with siblings (xii) Celebration of birthdays and other special occasions (xiii) Information sharing by the foster carer with family members
As per 4.3 (i)a we do not hold any copies of old policies and procedures in relation to the care of children in Foster Care however there is reference to departmental practice in committee minutes so we can assume there was some level of observance of these in Social Work.	
c)	How was adherence demonstrated?
We can demonstrate adherence from committee minutes and from fostering panel minutes.	
d)	How can such adherence be demonstrated to the Inquiry?
Some examples of adherence include;	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Committee 1934 makes reference to monthly reports on admissions, visitations and medical examinations of children who were boarded out. • Children's Committee 1934 references an annual report detailing health and progress at school for boarded out children. • Children's Committee 1957 minutes the decision made for the amount to be spent on each boarded out children for Christmas gifts. • Children's Committee 1960 agreed an increase in pocket money rates for children in care, • Children's Committee 1962 agrees that free school meals should be provided for children in care. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Committee 1963 agrees to reimburse a foster carer money which was stolen by a foster child in their care and the child was to pay the committee back on a weekly basis. • Children's Committee 1963 agrees to fund a summer camp for children in foster care. • Social Work Services Committee 2009 agrees to amend the approval criteria for Foster Carers so that carers who smoke to be excluded from fostering children age 5 and under or those with respiratory or mobility difficulties.
e)	Were relevant records kept demonstrating adherence? Minutes of meetings and children's files were kept which can demonstrate some adherence.
f)	Have such records been retained? Records have been retained of Committee Minutes and individual children's files.
g)	If policy/procedure was not adhered to in practice, why not? We have no evidence to suggest that policy/procedure was not adhered to.
h)	If policy/procedure was not adhered to in practice, what was the practice? As above

Present

i)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different? Yes
j)	If so, please give details. As mentioned in 4.2 (ii)) above D&G Council Social Work can demonstrate adherence to current policies and procedures

4.4 Foster carers

- (i) Policy

Past

a)	What policies and/or procedures did the local authority have in relation to foster carers? As stated, we do not generally retain historic copies of policies and procedures, we do however have some from early 2000's. In relation to foster carers there was; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster Care Review Procedure 2005 • Feedback from users of the Service Procedures 2009 • Private Fostering Referral/Notification Procedures 2009
b)	Was there a particular policy and/or procedural aim/intention? The aim of council Policies and Procedures were to standardise processes and ensure we followed legislation and national guidance. The aim of the particular procedures mentioned above were;

Foster Care Review Procedure 2005 – set out the interval periods for review of foster carers, the process for review including the forms to be completed and who held what responsibility as part of the review process.

Feedback from users of the Service Procedures 2009 - This documented how and when feedback should be sought and from whom. The procedure included templates for capturing and recording feedback which included the views of the carer.

Private Fostering Referral/Notification Procedures 2009 – set out the process for referring and placing a child in a private fostering placement including intervals for visits and pre-checks.

c) Where were such policies and/or procedures recorded?

Of the limited number of past policies and procedures we have located these have been recorded in the Family Placement Team folders in our electronic systems. We have no paper copies of past policies and procedures.

d) What did the policies and/or procedures set out in terms of the following?

- (i) Recruitment
- (ii) Standard and size of accommodation
- (iii) Number, age and gender of children accommodated/in the household
- (iv) Pre-approval/registration checks
- (v) References
- (vi) Foster care agreements
- (vii) Induction
- (viii) Transfer of foster carers to or from other organisations or local authorities
- (ix) Review/supervision
- (x) Training
- (xi) Personal development
- (xii) Disciplinary actions
- (xiii) Removal of approval/registration

We have limited evidence of past Local Authority Policies or guidance, so we are unable to comment on their content.

Of those we have identified they set out the following;

Pre-approval/registration checks – checks were to be carried out with Carers GP and Disclosure Scotland

Review - was stipulated that Foster Carers should be reviewed at least once per year

Foster Care Agreements – to be updated at every review

e) Who compiled the policies and/or procedures?

Of the past procedures we have located these were all compiled by either the Fostering and Adoption Team Manager or the Senior Social Worker.

f) When were the policies and/or procedures put in place?

The procedures were put in place in the years specified in 4.4 (i)a) above.

g) Were such policies and/or practices reviewed?

We are unable to answer this fully as we have only identified a limited number of procedures.

h) If so, what was the reason for review?

As above

i)	What substantive changes, if any, were made to the policies and/or procedures over time?
As above	
j)	Why were changes made?
As above	
k)	Were changes documented?
As above	
l)	Was there an audit trail?
As above	

Present

m)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
n)	If so, please give details.
<p>We currently have the following policies and procedures relating to Foster Carers; <u>D&G Permanence, Fostering and Kinship Panel Guidance 2020</u> - Sets out the remit, and constitution of fostering panels including the recruitment and selection process for carers. <u>Foster Carers Handbook 2020</u> – sets out details about the recruitment of Foster Carers, guidance for bedroom sharing, review and de-registration of carers. <u>Procedures relating to Allegations of Child Abuse made against ISS Carers & Foster Carers 2019</u> – sets out the process for investigating allegations of abuse and the potential suspension of the carer and removal of registration. <u>Disruption Meeting Procedure 2019</u> - sets out the need to convene a disruption meeting to address why a placement has broken down and what learning needs there are for the future. <u>Child Protection Procedures for Foster Carers 2019</u> <u>Health and Safety Procedure 2019</u> <u>Incident/Accident Reporting Procedure 2019</u> - for all reports to the Care Inspectorate for children and young people in foster care <u>Dog/Pet Procedure/Guidance 2019</u> - for the assessment of all foster carers who have dogs or pets in their environment. <u>Workload Management Procedure 2018</u> - to review the work of individual team members <u>Chronology Procedure 2018</u> - for all foster carers <u>Privacy Notices for foster carers</u> <u>Foster Carer Agreement 2017</u> – this document outlines the obligations and responsibilities of both the Local Authority and Foster Carer including criminal record checks, training and support.</p> <p>All current Policies and Procedures must be approved by the Senior Management Team and reviewed at regular intervals. The front page of each policy or procedure contains version control which sets out the review period to ensure they are up to date and in line with legislation and national guidance. If changes are made the date of this is also recorded. All current Policies and Procedures are stored on a central SharePoint site which all Social Work Staff can access.</p>	

(ii) Practice

Past

a)	Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures in relation to foster care?
As mentioned in 4.4 (i)a) we located limited copies of procedures in relation to Foster Care so it is difficult to ascertain adherence however there is reference to following practices in Committee minutes so we can assume there was some compliance.	
b)	<p>Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures in terms of the following?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Recruitment (ii) Standard and size of accommodation (iii) Number, age and gender of children accommodated/in the household (iv) Pre-approval/registration checks (v) References (vi) Foster care agreements (vii) Induction (viii) Transfer of foster carers to or from other organisations or local authorities (ix) Review/supervision (x) Training (xi) Personal development (xii) Disciplinary actions (xiii) Removal of approval/registration
As per 4.4 (i)a) we have limited copies of procedures in relation to Foster Care however there is reference to departmental practice in committee minutes so we can assume there was some level of observance of these in Social Work.	
c)	How was adherence demonstrated?
We can demonstrate adherence from committee minutes and Foster Panel Minutes.	
d)	How can such adherence be demonstrated to the Inquiry?
<p>Some examples of adherence include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Assistance Committee 1934 states that the committee is responsible for boarded out children and foster carers must co-operate with the council. Children were to be removed from foster carers if they were found to abuse, neglect or be cruel. • Children's Committee 1962 requests that close surveillance is kept on a foster household where the circumstances of the house has changed. • Social Work Committee 1983 records the Local Authority is now a member of the British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering. • Fostering Panel, no 143, 1993, requests that specific carers are made aware of Departmental Policy regarding physical chastisement and the procedure which would need to be followed if there were any allegations made regarding the care they provide. • Fostering Panel, no 190, 1995, states that it is departmental policy not to recruit foster carers who work for the Department. A Foster Carer who has started a new job with Social Work is discussed however the specific carer does not work with children and families and it is agreed they can continue in their Foster Care role. 	

e)	Were relevant records kept demonstrating adherence?
Minutes of meetings and children's files were kept which can demonstrate some adherence.	
f)	Have such records been retained?
Records have been retained of Committee & Fostering Panel Minutes and individual children's files.	
g)	If policy/procedure was not adhered to in practice, why not?
We have no evidence to suggest that policy/procedure was not adhered to.	

Present

h)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
i)	If so, please give details.
As mentioned in 4.2 (ii)) above D&G Council Social Work can demonstrate adherence to current policies and procedures.	

4.5 Other members of the foster carer's household

- (i) Policy

Past

a)	What policies and/or procedures did the local authority have in place in relation to other members of the foster carer's household?
We are unable to locate any past local authority policy/guidance relevant to other members of the foster carers' household. There is no physical evidence of local policies and procedures. When new or amended legislation or national guidance was introduced committee members would be updated on such with departmental notes. Discussions would then take place to agree amending local practices to bring them in line with national guidance or legislation.	
b)	Was there a particular policy and/or procedural aim/intention?
It is believed that the aim of policy and procedures were to ensure the safe care of children in foster care. It is also believed that the aim was to provide them with a good standard of care in an alternative family environment in which they could grow and develop into health and achieving young people who could then move on to adulthood positively.	
c)	Where were such policies and/or procedures recorded?
We are unable to confirm this as we have no copies of past Local Authority policies or guidance in relation to other members of the foster carer's household.	
d)	Who compiled the policies and/or procedures?
As above	

e)	When were the policies and/or procedures put in place?
As above	
f)	Were such policies and/or practices reviewed?
As above	
g)	If so, what was the reason for review?
As above	
h)	What substantive changes, if any, were made to the policies and/or procedures over time?
As above	
i)	Why were changes made?
As above	
j)	Were changes documented?
As above	
k)	Was there an audit trail?
As above	

Present

l)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
m)	If so, please give details.
<p>The Foster Carer Policy 2020 states that all members of a Foster Carers household must be Disclosure Scotland checked, be interviewed and taken into consideration in all fostering applications and registrations.</p> <p>All members of the Foster Carer household will be subject to assessment, as per the recruitment guidance for Foster carers, if they are to continue to be members of the fostering household when a child is placed. Their role and function as a member of the household will be explored and clarified as per the assessment and subject to ongoing review by the allocated worker. This will be overseen following approval by the Foster Carers Review and ultimately presentation to the Fostering panel.</p> <p>As previously stated, all current Policies and Procedures must be approved by the Senior Management Team and reviewed at regular intervals. The front page of each policy or procedure contains version control which sets out the review period to ensure they are up to date and in line with legislation and national guidance. If changes are made the date of this is also recorded. All current Policies and Procedures are stored on a central SharePoint site which all Social Work Staff can access.</p>	

(ii) Practice

Past

a)	Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures in relation to other members of the foster carer's household?
As mentioned in 4.5 (i)a) we have no copies of old policies and procedures in relation to other members of the foster carers household so it is difficult to ascertain adherence however there is reference to following practices in Committee minutes so we can assume there was some compliance.	
b)	How was adherence demonstrated?
As per 4.5 (i)a) we do not hold any copies of old policies and procedures in relation to other members of the foster carers household however there is reference to departmental practice in committee minutes so we can assume there was some level of observance of these in Social Work.	
c)	How can such adherence be demonstrated to the Inquiry?
We can demonstrate adherence from committee minutes. An example of adherence includes; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's Committee 1963 reports that a Foster Carer wishes to move to Essex and for the Foster children to move with her. The request was agreed however the carer was prohibited from taking in lodgers without approval of the committee. 	
d)	Were relevant records kept demonstrating adherence?
Minutes of meetings and children's files were kept which can demonstrate some adherence.	
e)	Have such records been retained?
Records have been retained of Committee Minutes and individual children's files.	
f)	If policy/procedure was not adhered to in practice, why not?
We have no evidence to suggest that policy/procedure was not adhered to.	

Present

g)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
h)	If so, please give details.
As mentioned in 4.2 (ii)j) above D&G Council Social Work can demonstrate adherence to current policies and procedures	

4.6 Placement of children by the local authority with foster carers approved/registered by other local authorities or organisations

(i) Policy

Past

a)	What policies and/or procedures did the local authority have in place in relation to placement of children with foster carers approved/registered by other local authorities or organisations?
<p>As stated we do not hold historic copies of policies and procedures, we do however have some from early 2000's and in relation to the placement of children with foster carers approved/registered by other local authorities or organisations we have;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private Fostering Referral/Notification Procedures 2009 - Dumfries and Galloway have only had a small number of private fostering arrangements in place and these were historically within the Chinese community in the 1990's but to our knowledge we have no such arrangements in place for some time. <p>Historically Dumfries and Galloway Council did not place children in need of foster care with other Local Authorities or with independent organisations. Existing staff can recall one such incident and the service was an independent organisation.</p> <p>Dumfries and Galloway Council have in the past always had a significant number of foster carers available to them and this has met the needs of the Local Authority which has meant that the use of external placements has been very low. Geographical issues also limit the use of external fostering placements due to the distances involved in travelling to other towns outwith the region.</p>	
b)	Was there a particular policy and/or procedural aim/intention?
The aim of the procedure was to set out the process for referring and placing a child in a private fostering placement including intervals for visits and pre-checks.	
c)	Where were such policies and/or procedures recorded?
The procedure mentioned was recorded and filed in the Fostering and Adoption electronic team files.	
d)	Who compiled the policies and/or procedures?
Of the past procedures we have located these were all compiled by either the Fostering and Adoption Team Manager or the Senior Social Worker.	
e)	When were the policies and/or procedures put in place?
The procedure mentioned was put in place in 2009.	
f)	Were such policies and/or practices reviewed?
We are unable to answer this fully as we have only identified a limited number of procedures.	
g)	If so, what was the reason for review?
As above	
h)	What substantive changes, if any, were made to the policies and/or procedures over time?
As above	

i)	Why were changes made?
As above	
j)	Were changes documented?
As above	
k)	Was there an audit trail?
As above	

Present

l)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
m)	If so, please give details.
<p>All Independent foster placements are now governed by the Scotland Excel Fostering and Continuing Care Framework. Dumfries and Galloway Council adhere to the terms and conditions as set out in the Framework and we only purchase placements from Providers who are part of the Framework.</p> <p>Dumfries and Galloway Council will only consider the use of an external placement if we are unable to accommodate within our own resources. The number of young people in external placements continues to remain very low.</p>	

(ii) Practice

Past

a)	Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures in relation to placement of children with foster carers approved/registered by other local authorities or organisations?
As mentioned in 4.6 (i)a) we have limited copies of old policies and procedures in relation to the placement of children with foster carers approved/registered by other local authorities or organisations so it is difficult to ascertain adherence however there is reference to following practices in Committee minutes so we can assume there was some compliance.	
b)	How was adherence demonstrated?
We can demonstrate adherence from comments in Committee Minutes	
c)	How can such adherence be demonstrated to the Inquiry?
<p>An example of adherence includes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's Committee 1965 reports that 3 children placed in foster carer in Essex should be paid the same allowances as children in that authority which equated to an increase of £38 per annum 	
d)	Were relevant records kept demonstrating adherence?
Minutes of meetings and children's files were kept which can demonstrate some adherence.	

e)	Have such records been retained?
Records have been retained of Committee Minutes and individual children's files.	
f)	If policy/procedure was not adhered to in practice, why not?
We have no evidence to suggest that policy/procedure was not adhered to.	

Present

g)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
h)	If so, please give details.
As mentioned in 4.6 (i)m) all independent foster placements are now governed by a Scotland Excel Framework. All children placed in external foster care must have an 'Individual Placement Agreement' while in their foster placement and this will be updated should there be any changes to the placement. The child is also still subject to the usual LAC procedures and reviews, all of which can evidence adherence to the Scotland Excel Framework terms and conditions.	

4.7 Complaints and Reporting

- (i) Policy

Past

a)	What policies and/or procedures did the local authority have in place in relation to complaints and reporting about foster care?
As stated, we do not generally retain historic copies of policies and procedures, we do however have some from the early 2000's. In relation to complaints and reporting there was; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster Care Review Procedure 2005 – this document also makes reference to an appeal/complaint procedure which we do not have a copy of. From 1984 Fostering Panels were introduced and these held responsibility for reviewing Foster Carers and dealing with complaints and allegations.	
b)	Was there a particular policy and/or procedural aim/intention?
The aim of the procedure was to set out the process for reviewing a foster carer at their scheduled review period but also when there had been any significant incidents, complaints or allegations of abuse. The procedures also included the forms to be completed and who held what responsibility as part of the review process.	
c)	Where were such policies and/or procedures recorded?
The procedure mentioned was recorded and filed in the Fostering and Adoption electronic team files.	
d)	What did the policies and/or procedures set out on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Complaints by children (ii) Complaints by foster carers

	(iii) Complaints by family members of children (iv) Complaints by third persons (v) Whistleblowing (vi) Support, including external support, for those who made the complaint or those who were the subject of complaint (vii) Response to complaints (including response by the local authority) (viii) External reporting of complaints
	In terms of the above the procedure set out the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support – foster carers could access an appeals/complaints procedure • Response – Carers were to be informed of the decision of a review in writing
e)	Who compiled the policies and/or procedures?
	Of the past procedures we have located these were all compiled by either the Fostering and Adoption Team Manager or the Senior Social Worker.
f)	When were the policies and/or procedures put in place?
	The procedure mentioned was put in place in 2005.
g)	Were such policies and/or practices reviewed?
	We are unable to answer this fully as we have only identified a limited number of procedures.
h)	If so, what was the reason for review?
	As above
i)	What substantive changes, if any, were made to the policies and/or procedures over time?
	As above
j)	Why were changes made?
	As above
k)	Were changes documented?
	As above
l)	Was there an audit trail?
	As above

Present

m)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
	Yes
n)	If so, please give details.
	Procedures relating to Allegations of Child Abuse made against ISS Carers & Foster Carers 2019 sets out the process for investigating allegations of abuse and the potential suspension of the carer and removal of registration. The Foster Carers Handbook also outlines the process for complaints and allegations of abuse. There is also a separate Social Work

Complaints Handling Procedure April 2017 for anyone wishing to lodge a complaint about the Local Authority. The Raising Concerns Policy March 2017 is a council wide policy for 'whistleblowing'.

Complaints can also be reported to the Care Inspectorate by children, foster carers of members of the public.

(ii) Practice
Past

a)	Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures in relation to complaints and reporting about foster care?
As mentioned in 4.7 (i)a we have limited copies of old policies and procedures in relation to complaints and reporting so it is difficult to ascertain adherence however there is reference to following practices in Committee and fostering panel minutes so we can assume there was some compliance.	
b)	<p>Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Complaints by children (ii) Complaints by staff (iii) Complaints by family members of children (iv) Complaints by third persons (v) Whistleblowing (vi) Support, including external support, for those who made the complaint or those who were the subject of complaint (vii) Response to complaints (including response by the local authority) (viii) External reporting of complaints
As per 4.7 (i)a we have limited copies of procedures in relation to complaints and reporting however there is reference to departmental practice in committee and fostering panel minutes so we can assume there was some level of observance of these in Social Work.	
c)	How was adherence demonstrated?
Adherence was demonstrated by recording complaints in Fostering Panel minutes, in children's and Foster Carer's files.	
d)	How can such adherence be demonstrated to the Inquiry?
We can demonstrate adherence from Fostering Panel minutes which clearly document complaints and allegations, the nature of these, the outcome and the investigating officer.	
e)	Were relevant records kept demonstrating adherence?
Yes, these were all recorded in Fostering Panel minutes, In Foster Carer files and children's files.	
f)	Have such records been retained?
<p>All Fostering Panel minutes have been retained as have all children's files.</p> <p>There is only a 25-year retention policy for Foster Carer files, so we have don't have a record of all previous foster carers.</p>	
g)	If policy/procedure was not adhered to in practice, why not?
We have no evidence to suggest that policy/procedure was not adhered to.	

Present

h)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
i)	If so, please give details.
As mentioned in 4.2 (ii)) above D&G Council Social Work can demonstrate adherence to current policies and procedures	

4.8 Internal Investigations

(i) Policy

Past

a)	What policies and/or procedures did the local authority have in place in respect of internal investigations relating to abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care?
We are unable to locate any past local authority policy/guidance relevant to internal investigations relating to abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care. There is limited physical evidence of local policies and procedures. When new or amended legislation or national guidance was introduced committee members would be updated on such with departmental notes. Discussions would then take place to agree amending local practices to bring them in line with national guidance or legislation.	
b)	Was there a particular policy and/or procedural aim/intention?
It is believed that the aim of policy and procedures were to ensure the safe care of children in foster care.	
c)	Where were such policies and/or procedures recorded?
We are unable to confirm this as we have no copies of past Local Authority policies or guidance in relation to internal investigations relating to abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care.	
d)	What did the policies and/or procedures set out on the following: (i) Approach to/process of internal investigations (ii) Identifying lessons/changes following internal investigations (iii) Implementation of lessons/changes following internal investigations (iv) Compliance (v) Response (to child and abuser) (vi) Response to complaints (including response by local authority) (vii) External reporting following internal investigations
As above we have no copies or evidence of past Local Authority Policies or guidance in relation to internal investigations relating to abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care, so we are unable to comment on their content.	

e)	Who compiled the policies and/or procedures?
We are unable to confirm this as we have no copies of past Local Authority policies or guidance in relation to internal investigations relating to abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care.	
f)	When were the policies and/or procedures put in place?
As above	
g)	Were such policies and/or practices reviewed?
As above	
h)	If so, what was the reason for review?
As above	
i)	What substantive changes, if any, were made to the policies and/or procedures over time?
As above	
j)	Why were changes made?
As above	
k)	Were changes documented?
As above	
l)	Was there an audit trail?
As above	

Present

m)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
n)	If so, please give details.
<p>As mentioned in 4.7 (i)n) procedures relating to Allegations of Child Abuse made against ISS (Intensive Support Service) Carers & Foster Carers 2019 sets out the process for investigating allegations of abuse and the potential suspension of the carer and removal of registration. All allegations will be noted on the carer's chronology.</p> <p>All allegations of Child Abuse will be subject to scrutiny in accordance to the Children and Families Child protection procedures and such information will be retained within the individual care file of the child. All allegations will be referred to the Multi agency safeguarding Hub (MASH), which has police representation, and subject to consideration as to whether and Initial Referral Discussion (IRD) will take place or not. Joint Investigative interviews will take place if deemed to be appropriate. This will be co-ordinated between the MASH and the Social Work Locality team.</p> <p>All children, young people, their family or extended family members can make a complaint. If this is in relation to the performance of the service this will be investigated by a Senior Social Worker who will report directly to the Locality Manager Centralised Services who will</p>	

feedback directly to the person making the complaint following reviewing the investigating officers report.

Complaints and allegations can also be reported to the Care Inspectorate by children, foster carers or members of the public.

(ii) Practice

Past

a)	Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures in respect of internal investigations relating to the abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care?
As mentioned in 4.8 (i)a) we have no copies of old policies and procedures in relation to internal investigations so it is difficult to ascertain adherence however there is reference to following practices and investigating allegations in fostering panel minutes so we can assume there was compliance.	
b)	<p>Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Approach to/process of internal investigations (ii) Identifying lessons/changes following internal investigations (iii) Implementation of lessons/changes following internal investigations (iv) Compliance (v) Response (to child and abuser) (vi) Response to complaints (including response by local authority) (vii) External reporting following internal investigations
As per 4. (i)a) we have no copies of procedures in relation to internal investigations however there is reference to investigations and outcomes in fostering panel minutes so we can assume there was some level of observance of these in Social Work.	
c)	How was adherence demonstrated?
We can demonstrate adherence from Fostering Panel minutes which clearly document allegations, the nature of these, the outcome and the investigating officer.	
d)	How can such adherence be demonstrated to the Inquiry?
<p>Examples of adherence include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fostering panel 92, 1991, states that after investigating 2 allegations, approval was given for temp carers to continue but noted that the 'Care and Control' document was not yet departmental procedure. • Fostering panel 143, 1993, couple were approved as carers but were to be made aware of Departmental Policy regarding physical chastisement and the procedure which would need to be followed if there were any allegations made regarding the care they provide. • Fostering panel 228, 1998, Concerns were shared by the Panel regarding previous occasions when a boy was smacked by the foster carers when the boy was outwith control. They were aware of Departmental Policy on corporal punishment and acknowledged that they had broken the rules. 	
e)	Were relevant records kept demonstrating adherence?
Yes, these were all recorded in Fostering Panel minutes, In Foster Carer files and children's files.	

f)	Have such records been retained?
All Fostering Panel minutes have been retained as have all children's files. There is only a 25-year retention policy for Foster Carer files, so we have don't have a record of all previous foster carers.	
g)	If policy/procedure was not adhered to in practice, why not?
We have no evidence to suggest that policy/procedure was not adhered to.	

Present

m)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
n)	If so, please give details.
As mentioned in 4.2 (ii)) above D&G Council Social Work can demonstrate adherence to current policies and procedures	

4.9 Record keeping

- (i) Policy

Past

a)	What policies and/or procedures did the local authority have on record keeping in relation to foster care?
As stated, we do not hold historic copies of policies and procedures, we do however have some from early 2000's. In relation to record keeping there was; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Records Retention Schedule (Social Care) 2007 The Council has also implemented electronic databases to hold children's and foster carers information. The historic systems were SWISS, BlueSky and Frameworkki.	
b)	What policies and/or procedures did the local authority have on record keeping by foster carers?
We are unable to locate any past local authority policy/guidance relevant to record keeping by Foster Carers.	
c)	In relation to (a) and (b) above, was there a particular policy and/or procedural aim/intention? Where were such policies and/or procedures recorded?
The aim of the record retention schedule was to ensure that appropriate records were kept in line with national guidance.	
d)	What did the policies and/or procedures set out in relation to record keeping on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Children in foster care (ii) Foster carers (iii) Visits to children and foster carers (iv) Complaints

	(v) Investigations (both internal and external)
	(vi) Discipline
	(vii) Responding to requests from former children in foster care for information/records
	(viii) Other issues relevant to foster care
The schedule set out the following;	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children in foster care – LAC records were to be kept until the child's 75th birthday this would include details of visits • Foster Carers – were to be kept for 10 years after de-registration this would include details of visits and reviews • Complaints & Investigations - were to be kept for 10 years after de-registration of Foster Carer 	
e)	Who compiled the policies and/or procedures?
The schedule was compiled by the Records Management team of Social Services.	
f)	When were the policies and/or procedures put in place?
The above schedule was implemented in 2007.	
g)	Do such policies and/or procedures remain in place?
Yes, the record retention schedule is reviewed and updated regularly, and the current version is dated 2018.	
h)	Were such policies and/or practices reviewed?
Yes, the retention schedule was reviewed and is still in practice.	
i)	If so, what was the reason for review?
The schedule is reviewed to be in line with our legal duties particularly the Scottish Council on Archives Records Retention Schedule Guidance.	
j)	What substantive changes, if any, were made to the policies and/or procedures over time?
The most substantive changes made were to the timelines for retaining LAC and Foster Carer files.	
k)	Why were changes made?
As mentioned in 4.9 (i) above changes were made to comply with national legislation.	
l)	Were changes documented?
Yes, changes have been documented in the various versions of the retention schedules.	
m)	Was there an audit trail?
Yes, there is an audit trail since 2007.	

Present

n)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different?
Yes	
o)	If so, please give details.
<p>There is still a Record Retention Schedule in place however there have been some changes since the 2007 schedule most notably;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster Carer records are to be kept for 25 years after de-registration of the carer • LAC records are to be kept for 100 years from the child's date of birth <p>The current electronic database for record keeping is Mosaic.</p>	

(ii) Practice

Past

a)	Did the local authority adhere in practice to its policy/procedures in relation to record keeping?
It is believed that the Local Authority adhered to the practice of record retention as we have archived children and foster carer files.	
b)	Did the local authority check adherence in practice to its policies and/or procedures in relation to record keeping by foster carers?
As mentioned in 4.9 (i)b) we have no copies of old policies and procedures in relation to record keeping by Foster Carers so it is difficult to ascertain adherence however there are notes and documents kept within children's and Foster Carer's files.	
c)	<p>Did the local authority adhere in practice/check adherence in practice to its policy/procedures in relation to record keeping on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Children in foster care (ii) Foster carers (iii) Visits to children and foster carers (iv) Complaints (v) Investigations (both internal and external) (vi) Discipline (vii) Responding to requests from former children in foster care for information/records (viii) Other issues relevant to foster care
<p>The Local Authority adhered in practice to record keeping of the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children in Foster Care – we have archives of all LAC files • Foster Carers – we have archives of Foster Carer files • Visits to children and foster carers – recorded in the electronic database in place at the time • Complaints & investigations – recorded in children's and foster carers files and in Fostering Panel minutes 	
d)	How was adherence demonstrated?
Adherence was demonstrated at the time by the retention of files which still exist and recording information in the electronic databases.	

e)	Were relevant records kept demonstrating adherence? Yes, when files were retained and archived a list was recorded.
f)	Have such records been retained? Only archive lists of current files held have been retained.
g)	If policy/procedure was not adhered to in practice, why not? We have no evidence to suggest that policy/procedure was not adhered to.
h)	Did the local authority undertake any review or analysis of its records to establish what abuse or alleged abuse of children cared for in foster care may have taken place? We are not aware of any such reviews taking place and have no evidence to support that any such reviews were undertaken.
i)	If so, when did the reviews take place, what documentation is available, and what were the findings? As above
j)	How have the outcomes of investigations been used to improve systems, learn lessons? As above
k)	What changes have been made? As above
l)	How are these monitored? N/A
m)	Did the local authority afford former children in care access to records relating to their time in foster care? Yes, Children in foster care who wished to review their records when attaining the age of 16 years were able to access their records.
n)	If so, how was that facilitated? They would be supported to do this.
o)	If not, why not? N/A

Present

p)	With reference to the present position, are the answers to any of the above questions different? Yes
q)	If so, please give details. We undertook an extensive piece of work a few years ago to centrally locate all Social Work files. These are all coded and archived in a central location for the whole of the region. We

can therefore easily access past records and files for all LAC children and some Foster Carers.

Our current electronic database, Mosaic, is managed by our Business Technology Services Team who ensure compliance and accurate recording. Mosaic is a system for recording all our social work cases, adult's and children and eliminates the need for paper files.

As part of the Inquiry response we have read a total of 4934 case files of 2671 looked after children born between 1930 – 2014, 1580 of whom were in Foster Care.

- r) Please provide details of the types of any records currently held relating to the children in foster care in respect of the following:
- (i) Children in foster care
 - (ii) Staff with responsibilities for foster care
 - (iii) Foster carers
 - (iv) Complaints
 - (v) Investigations (both internal and external)
 - (vi) Responding to requests from former children in foster care for information/records

Records currently held;

- Children in foster care – files are kept and recorded on Mosaic
- Staff – all staff records are held on our electronic system, iTrent
- Foster Carers – files are kept and recorded on Mosaic
- Complaints & investigations – recorded in individual children's and foster carers files on Mosaic as well as in minutes of Fostering Panels. Complaints against the council are recorded on
- Subject Access Requests

SCOTTISH CHILD ABUSE INQUIRY

SECTION 21 – FOSTER CARE, DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COUNCIL

PART D – ABUSE AND RESPONSE

5. Abuse

5.1 Nature

a)	What was the nature of abuse and/or alleged abuse of children in foster care, for example, sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse?
The alleged abuse of children in Foster Care was of a sexual, physical and emotional nature.	

5.2 Extent

a)	What is the local authority's assessment of the scale and extent of abuse of children in foster care?
We have determined that the scale of alleged abuse was low, particularly from 1930's – 1970's.	
b)	What is the basis of that assessment?
<p>This assessment is based on extensive childcare file and foster panel minute reading. All foster panel minutes have been reviewed in the time period 1984-2014. We have reviewed the case files of approx. 2671 Looked After Children (LAC), 1580 of whom were in Foster Care and have identified 85 allegations. This equates to 5% of LAC making allegations of abuse while in Foster Care.</p> <p>The majority of allegations are post 1984 when the Fostering Panel's commenced and there was an increased scrutiny on fostering placements.</p> <p>Since 1984 Social Work Services has also seen an change in perception, attitude and culture towards the raising of children and this has also been supported by increasing legislation, guidance and regulation in relation to children who cannot live at home and who require to live in foster care. It is our view that this has contributed to the increasing number of allegations post 1984 in accordance to national and local changes in relation to the rights of children and how they should be treated which is different pre and post 1984. Changes in society's attitude towards children has contributed to this assessment during the timespan of this enquiry 1930-2014.</p>	
c)	How many complaints have been made in relation to alleged abuse of children in foster care?
We have identified 85 complaints of alleged abuse.	
d)	Against how many foster carers have the complaints referred to at (c) above been made?
There have been complaints made against 74 different Foster Carers.	

e)	How many foster carers have been convicted of, or admitted to, abuse of children?
Only 1 Foster Carer has been convicted of Breach of the Peace against a Foster child and 3 foster carers have admitted to over-chastising a foster child in their care.	
f)	How many foster carers have been found by the local authority to have abused children?
There have been 8 foster carers where the Local Authority had concerns with regards to abuse and as a result de-registered the carers. Only 1 of those carers however was convicted of abuse the rest were either found not guilty or charges were not made.	
g)	Against how many family members of foster carers have complaints been made in relation to alleged abuse of children?
There have been 9 complaints made against family or other household members of a Foster Carer.	
h)	How many family members of foster carers have been convicted of, or admitted to abuse of children?
There have been no convictions of family members of foster carers and no family members who have admitted to abuse.	
i)	How many family members of foster carers have been found by the local authority to have abused children?
There have been no family members of foster carers found by the Local Authority to have abused children.	
j)	Against how many other children placed in foster care in the same placement have complaints been made in relation to the alleged abuse of children?
There have been 2 complaints made against other Foster children in the same placement.	
k)	How many other children placed in foster care in the same placement have been convicted of, or admitted to abuse of children?
There have been no foster children convicted of or admitted to abuse of other children in care.	
l)	How many other children placed in foster care in the same placement have been found by the local authority to have abused children?
There have been no other children in foster care found by the Local Authority to have abused children.	

5.3 Timing of Disclosure/Complaint

a)	When were disclosures and complaints of abuse and/or alleged abuse of children in foster care made to the local authority?
The majority of complaints were made during the child's foster placement however as we don't know the dates of all allegations it's difficult to give a definitive answer.	

b)	To what extent were complaints and disclosures made while the abuse or alleged abuse was on-going or recent?
As we don't have the dates of all the allegations, we are unable to determine this exactly however it would seem that most allegations were made while the child was in placement or had just recently left the placement.	
c)	To what extent were/are complaints made many years after the alleged abuse i.e. about non-recent abuse?
As mentioned above we don't have the dates of when all the allegations were made however there is one allegation that was made 2 years after the child had left the foster placement. Another allegation was made by a child at the time of abuse, but which was considered unfounded and then many years later she made the same allegations again which resulted in charges being made against the carers. There have been few ex foster children who have alleged they were abused and sought a Subject Access requests to see their files, but the files do not reflect or substantiate the alleged abuse they claim.	
d)	Are there any patterns of note in terms of the timing/disclosure of abuse and/or alleged abuse?
It would seem that most allegations were made while the child was still in placement or had just moved placement. We do note that there was an increase in the number of allegations post 1984 and it is believed this is directly responsible for the change in society's attitude towards the rearing of children and the ongoing development in protections and social work services over the years.	

5.4. External Inspections

a)	What external inspections have been conducted relating to children in foster care which considered issues relating to abuse and/or alleged abuse of children?
Throughout our extensive file and foster care panel readings we are not aware of any external inspections which were undertaken directly in relation to the abuse of children in foster care. As a local authority we have been subject to ongoing registration and inspection by our inhouse registration and inspection teams prior to the creation of the Care Inspectorate who now undertake this on behalf of all fostering and adoption services.	

For each such external inspection please answer the following

1

b)	Who conducted the inspection?
N/A	

c)	Why was the inspection conducted?
N/A	
d)	When was the inspection conducted?
N/A	
e)	What was the outcome of the inspection in respect of any issues relating to abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care?
N/A	
f)	What was the local authority's response to the inspection and its outcome?
N/A	
g)	Were recommendations made following the inspection?
N/A	
h)	If so, what were the recommendations and were they implemented?
N/A	
i)	If recommendations were not implemented, why not?
N/A	

5.5 External Investigations

a)	What external investigations have been conducted relating to children in foster care which have considered issues relating to abuse and/or alleged abuse of children?
External investigations have been conducted by other Local Authorities and Police services where the young person has been placed with D&G carers by another Local Authority.	

For each such external investigation please answer the following:

1

b)	Who conducted the investigation?
Tayside Police and Tayside Regional Council Social Work department (hereinafter Tayside Social Work)	
c)	Why was the investigation conducted?
The two children were placed with D&G carers by Tayside Social Work and while in placement they made allegations that the carers had physically and sexually assaulted them.	

d)	When was the investigation conducted?
An exact date is not known however the allegation was made on 18/01/79 and it must have therefore been around this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the investigation in respect of any issues relating to abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care?
The Police did not press charges and the children were returned to the same foster carers.	
f)	What was the local authority's response to the investigation and its outcome?
The children were returned to the same foster carers.	
g)	Were recommendations made following the investigation?
This is not known.	
h)	If so, what were the recommendations and were they implemented?
As above	
i)	If recommendations were not implemented, why not?
As above	

2

b)	Who conducted the investigation?
Staffordshire Police and Walsall Council Social Work Department (hereinafter Walsall Social Work).	
c)	Why was the investigation conducted?
The child was placed with D&G carers by Walsall Social Work and she made an allegation of assault against the carers.	
d)	When was the investigation conducted?
An exact date is not known however the allegation was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 02/06/09 therefore it is likely to have occurred around this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the investigation in respect of any issues relating to abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care?
The Police did not press charges.	
f)	What was the local authority's response to the investigation and its outcome?
We have not found records to indicate the local authority's response and any outcome.	
g)	Were recommendations made following the investigation?
We have not found records to indicate whether any recommendations were made.	

h)	If so, what were the recommendations and were they implemented?
As above	
i)	If recommendations were not implemented, why not?
As above	

3

b)	Who conducted the investigation?
Cumbria Constabulary	
c)	Why was the investigation conducted?
The children were placed with D&G carers by Cumbria County Council Social Work Department and allegations were made about the care being provided.	
d)	When was the investigation conducted?
An exact date is not known however the allegation was made in May 2012 and it is likely to have occurred around this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the investigation in respect of any issues relating to abuse or alleged abuse of children in foster care?
The Police determined there was insufficient evidence to press charges.	
f)	What was the local authority's response to the investigation and its outcome?
We have not found records to indicate the local authority's response and any outcome.	
g)	Were recommendations made following the investigation?
We have not found records to indicate whether any recommendations were made.	
h)	If so, what were the recommendations and were they implemented?
As above	
i)	If recommendations were not implemented, why not?
As above	

5.6 Response to External Inspections/Investigations

a)	What was the local authority's procedure/process for dealing with external inspections and/or investigations relating to abuse, and/or alleged abuse of children in foster care?
This is not known as there is no information recorded on the process for dealing with external inspections/investigations.	

b)	What was the local authority's procedure/process for responding to the outcomes of such external inspections and/or investigations?
This is not known as there is no information recorded on the process for responding to the outcome of external inspections/investigations.	
c)	What was the local authority's procedure/process for implementing recommendations which followed from such external inspections and/or investigations?
This is not known as there is no information recorded on the process for implementing recommendations following external inspections/investigations.	

5.7 Impact

a)	What is known about the impact of abuse on those children in foster care who were abused, or alleged to have been abused?
The impact is unknown as this is not recorded in individual childcare files nor has this been recorded in Fostering Panel minutes. We have not sought any direct feedback from children who were previously in care of the local authority therefore this information is not known at this time.	
b)	Where does the local authority's knowledge/assessment of that impact come from?
As above	
c)	What is known about the impact of abuse on the families of those children in foster care who were abused, or alleged to have been abused?
As above	
d)	Where does the local authority's knowledge/assessment of that impact come from?
As above	

5.8 Known Abusers and Alleged Abusers

a)	Does the local authority know of specific abusers, or alleged abusers, of children in foster care?
There is only one foster carer who has received a criminal conviction in relation to abusive behaviour involving a child.	
b)	If so, what are the names of the abusers, and/or alleged abusers?
Please see Appendix 2 for the names of foster carers against whom complaints of abuse have been made. The one carer who did receive a conviction for breach of the Peace is a Mr FVD .	

c)	<p>For each of these persons, please provide as much as possible of the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the period (dates) during which they are known or alleged to have abused children in foster care (ii) if they were foster carers, or if not, their relationship with the foster carers or what other role they had during the period of abuse and/or alleged abuse (iii) the knowledge sought or received about them by the local authority at the point of approval/registration of foster carers and thereafter (iv) any information (including regarding abuse or alleged abuse) sought by, or provided to, third parties or future employers at any point after the allegation of abuse was made
<p>In relation to the case where a conviction was forthcoming, the young person made an allegation of verbal and sexual abuse against her male foster carer and the dates of her placement were from [REDACTED]/89 – [REDACTED]/95 therefore the abuse must have taken place within that timeframe. The carer was charged with conducting himself in a disorderly manner and making indecent remarks to the child which resulted in him being convicted of breach of the peace. We are unable to determine the sentence/disposal received, the pre-approval/registration information that was sought or any information that was passed to future employers from the records available.</p>	
d)	<p>Were known abusers, or alleged abusers, of children permitted to continue as foster carers?</p>
<p>The child was removed from the foster carers at the point of allegation and no other children were placed with the carers pending the outcome of the court case. Once the carer was convicted the carers were de-registered.</p>	
e)	<p>If so, why was this considered to be appropriate?</p>
<p>N/A</p>	
f)	<p>If so, what process of monitoring/supervision followed?</p>
<p>N/A</p>	

5.9 Specific Complaints

a)	<p>How many specific complaints of abuse of children in foster care have been made to the local authority?</p>
<p>There have been 85 specific complaints of abuse made.</p>	

For each specific complaint, please answer the following:

1 – 1951 – 1961

b)	<p>Who made the complaint?</p>
<p>Mother of sibling group who were in foster care</p>	

c)	When was the complaint made?
	We don't have a specific date, but we know it was sometime between 1951 and 1961.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer and her son.
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	Complaint was made that the Foster Carer instructed her son to mistreat, punish and threaten the children. One specific allegation states the children were made to stand in the hall all evening.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	We don't have a specific date, but we know it occurred between 1951 and 1961.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	This is unknown from the records available.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	This is unknown from the records available.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	This is unknown from the records available.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is unknown from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	This is unknown from the records available.
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	We do not know if a response was provided, so we are unable to answer this question.
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is unknown from the records available
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

2 – 1954 – 1955

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Neighbour of Foster Carer

c)	When was the complaint made?
	There were several complaints made on 13/09/54, 13/01/55 and 08/02/55.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	First complaint was made that the Foster Carer 'thrashed' the children every day. 2 nd complaint alleged that the Foster Carer told the neighbour the child had urinated on the floor so the Foster Carer had rubbed the child's face in it and as a result the child had a mark on her face. 3 rd complaint alleged that the neighbour had witnessed the foster carer 'caning' the child in the back garden.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	Between 1954 and 1955.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The Social Worker visited the house and spoke with the Foster Carer and the child on at least the first 2 occasions.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The Social Worker visited the house and spoke with the Foster Carer and the child on at least the first 2 occasions.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	After the 3 rd complaint the Social Worker deemed the Foster Carer to have been "too hard on the child" and she was removed from the placement and placed with adoptive carers.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is unknown from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	This is unknown from the records available
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	We do not know if a response was provided, so we are unable to answer this question.
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is unknown from the records available
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

3 – 1954 – 1962

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is unknown.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	We don't have a specific date, but we know it was sometime between 1954 and 1962.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer.
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	Complaint was made that the Foster Carer hit the child.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	It was alleged the Foster Carer struck the child on more than one occasion over the period of 1954 – 1962.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	There is little information known about the complaint and how it was dealt with.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is little information known about the complaint however we are aware the Social Work investigated the complaint, but we do not know what this process involved.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	It was deemed that the Foster Carer had struck the child more than once however the child remained in the foster placement.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	This is not known from the records available.
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	We do not know if a response was provided, so we are unable to answer this question.
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	No

n)	If not, why not?
We have limited information about the complaint however as the child remained in the foster placement we can only assume the Social Worker was satisfied that the Foster Carer was using physical punishment to chastise the child as was allowed during that time period.	

4 – 1956

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known	
c)	When was the complaint made?
March 1956	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
Complaint that child was smacked by Foster Carer.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
March 1956	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The Social Worker visited the house and spoke with the Foster Carer to ascertain reasons for the child being smacked.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
As above	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The Social Worker determined that the smacking was justified by the child's behaviours and he remained in placement.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
This is not known from the records available.	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
We do not know if a response was provided, so we are unable to answer this question.	

m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is unknown from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

5 – 1957 – 1967

b)	Who made the complaint?
One child of a sibling group made the complaint.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
We don't have a specific date, but we know it was sometime between 1957 and 1967.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer.	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
Complaint was made that the Foster Carer hit the child's brother with a fish slice and that the children were not allowed access to their wages or to do anything.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
We don't have a specific date, but we know it was sometime between 1957 and 1967.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
There is little information known about the complaint and how it was dealt with.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is little information known about the complaint however we are aware the Social Work investigated the complaint, but we do not know what this process involved.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
This is unknown from the records available.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
This is not known.	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
We do not know if a response was provided or not, so we are unable to answer this question.	

m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is unknown
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

6 – 1963 – 1966

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is not known
c)	When was the complaint made?
	We don't have a specific date, but we know it was sometime between 1963 and 1966.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	Complaint was made that the Foster Carer smacked the children in her care.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	We don't have a specific date, but we know it was sometime between 1963 and 1966.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The Social Worker visited the house and spoke with the Foster Carer.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	As above
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Foster Carer admitted to smacking the children for bad behaviours and they remained in placement.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	This is not known from the records available.
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	We do not know if a response was provided, so we are unable to answer this question.

m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is unknown from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

7 - 1975 – 1986

b)	Who made the complaint?
The Foster child made the complaint	
c)	When was the complaint made?
This is not known from the records available.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
Complaint was made that the Foster Carers had physically chastised the child due to bed wetting.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
We don't have a specific date, but we know the child was in the placement between 1975 and 1986 so must have been within this period.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and investigated by the Social Worker.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The Social Worker interviewed the Foster Carers who admitted to physical chastisement.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
There is no record of an outcome to the investigation.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
The child later instructed a solicitor to sue the Social Work department and a written response was provided then however the case was not progressed.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
The content of the response is not known.	

l)	If there was no response, why not?
	N/A
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

8 – 1979

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
c)	When was the complaint made?
	1979
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The children alleged the male Foster Carer physically and sexually abused them and the female Foster Carer was aware of the abuse and failed to provide medical assistance for the children.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	The abuse was alleged to have taken place over a 12-year period, but the exact dates are unknown. We know the child was in the placement sometime in 1967 therefore the alleged abuse must have taken place around the 60's and early 70's.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The children were placed with D&G Foster Carers by another Local Authority and the complaint was dealt with by both Local Authorities and Police.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The complaint was investigated by both Local Authorities and the Police.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	There is limited information with regards to the allegation, we know the children were removed from the foster placement however the Foster Carers were not convicted of any offences. The Carers sought legal advice and had the children returned to their care after no charges or convictions were brought against the carers.

j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, the Police carried out an investigation, but the Carers were not convicted.	
n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

9 - 1981

b)	Who made the complaint?
The child made the complaint.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
24/03/1981	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged that the male Foster Carer sexually abused her on numerous occasions and the female Foster Carer slapped her once.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
We don't have a specific date, but we know it was sometime in 1980-81.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded and investigated by Social Work.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The Social Worker interviewed the child along with 2 workers from her residential placement. There is no record of the Foster Carers being interviewed.	

i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Social Worker determined that she did not believe the child's allegations and it was not investigated further.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	This is not known from the records available.
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	We do not know if a response was provided, so we are unable to answer this question.
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	There is no record to state that Police were informed.
n)	If not, why not?
	The Social Worker did not believe the allegations and therefore it was not taken further.

10 – 1981

b)	Who made the complaint?
	It was an anonymous complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	August 1981
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the child was being 'ill-treated' by his Foster Carer and had bruising to his face.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	We don't have a specific date, but we know the child was in placement from 1980 – 1982.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file, it was forwarded to the Fostering Panel, investigated and a case conference held.

h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The Social Worker interviewed the child and the school medical officer, and a case conference was convened.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The school medical officer confirmed the child had bruising to the face on 2 occasions. The child however didn't know how it happened and the case conference deemed the allegations to be unfounded.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	This is not known from the records available.
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	We do not know if a response was provided, so we are unable to answer this question.
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

11 – 1982 – 1983

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known from the records available
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the Foster Carers smacked, physically chastised and neglected Foster Child in their care.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however we know the child was in placement from [REDACTED]/82 – [REDACTED]/83 so it must have been within this period.

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information on whether the complaint was investigated.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	It is not known if the complaint was investigated
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

12 – 1983 – 1991

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known from the records available
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the male Foster Carer physically assaulted the child.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known but we know the placement was between 1983 and 1991 so must have been within this period.

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and information was passed to the Police.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no record of the investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	This is not known from the records available
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, it was passed to the Police, but the outcome of a police or social work investigation is not known.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

13 – 1984

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Sibling group made allegation
c)	When was the complaint made?
	17/12/1984
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The children alleged the male Foster Carer hit the children and used excessive punishment on more than one occasion.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known from the records available.

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
There is limited information of the complaint, so we are unsure how it was dealt with.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is limited information of the complaint, so we are unsure how or if it was investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The children remained in the Foster placement.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

14 – 1985

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available	
c)	When was the complaint made?
25/04/85	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
It was alleged the Foster Carer hit the child.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however we know the child was in the Foster placement from 1983 – 1986 so the alleged abuse must have taken place within that period.	

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The complaint was investigated by Social Work who interviewed the Foster Carer.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The Foster Carer admitted to smacking the child on the buttocks.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above.	

15 – 1985 – 1988

b)	Who made the complaint?
Neighbours of the Foster Carers and children in placement made the complaint	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known but it was sometime between 1985 and 1988	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
It was alleged the Foster Carers neglected the children and were verbally abusive. The children alleged they were sexually abused by the male carer.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known from the records available	

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and it was reported to the Police.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The complaint was investigated by Social Work and Police but there is no further information recorded about the investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	A report was sent to the Procurator Fiscal but was not taken further.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, it was passed to Police who submitted a report to the Procurator Fiscal.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

16 – 1985

b)	Who made the complaint?
	A sibling group who were in care made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	October 1985
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The children alleged the Foster Carers sexually, physically and emotionally assaulted them and other children in their care.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	It was throughout the period of the child's Foster placement.

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded by Social Work in the child's case files.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is little information with regards to the complaint however there was an extract of a family assessment report in the case file which states that all girls in the placement experienced sexual assault. There is no further information available but as an assessment was undertaken, we can presume there was some form of investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	This is not known from the records available
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

17 – 1985 - 1995

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known from the records available.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	The foster carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged the female foster carer physically abused her and the male carer sexually abused her.

f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
An exact date is not known however the child was in placement from [REDACTED]/85 – [REDACTED]/95 therefore it must have been within this period.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no record of the complaint being investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
There is no record of the complaint being investigated however the carers went on to adopt the child therefore it must have been deemed unsubstantiated.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

18 – 1985

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available	
c)	When was the complaint made?
01/12/1985	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged that the male Foster Carer hit him on the arm.	

f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	December 1985
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded by Social Work in the child's case files.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is not known from the records available.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	No action was taken
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

19 – 1986

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The child made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	09/01/1986
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged the Foster Carers threatened her with violence whilst in their care.

f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	It was throughout the period of the child's Foster placement
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded by Social Work in the child's case files.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The complaint was not investigated at the request of the child.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The child just wanted the complaint to be recorded but not investigated.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	The complaint was not investigated so there was no response provided.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	No
n)	If not, why not?
	The child just wanted the complaint to be recorded but not investigated.

20 – 1986

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The Social Worker made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	06/10/86
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The Social Worker alleged the Foster Carer smacked the child

f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	06/10/86
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The Social Worker observed the Foster Carer smack the child and addressed it at the time. The incident was recorded in the Child's case file.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The Social Worker addressed the incident at the time.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Social Worker advised the Foster Carer against using smacking as a 'behaviour management technique.'
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known other than the provision of advice to the foster carer as stated above.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

21 – 1986

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known from the records available.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The Foster Carer is alleged to have smacked the child.

f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however the child was in the Foster Care placement from [REDACTED]/86 – [REDACTED]/86 so it must have occurred within that month.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	This not known, there is no record that the complaint was investigated.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	As above
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

22 – 1986

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The children's parents made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known from the records available.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The children's parents alleged the foster carers physically abused both brothers.

f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however the child was in the Foster Care placement from [REDACTED]/86 – [REDACTED]86 so it must have occurred within that period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was referred to the Fostering Panel.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on the process of investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The allegation was not found to have been substantiated.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

23 – 1987

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The Foster child made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	26/11/1987
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged the Foster Carers 'battered' her.

f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however the child was in placement from [REDACTED]/78 – [REDACTED]/79 so it must have been in this period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no record or evidence of an investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	It is not known if an investigation was carried out.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above.
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above.

24 – 1987 – 1988

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is not known
c)	When was the complaint made?
	The exact date is not known however we know it was in the year 1987 or 1988.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Son of Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The son of the Foster Carers is alleged to have sexually abuse the child in care.

f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however we know the young person was in placement from 1977 – 1988 so we know it was within this period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and it was forwarded to the Fostering Panel for discussion.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is little information recorded about the complaint and how was it was investigated so this is not known.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The child was removed from the Foster Placement.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available, other than that the child was removed from the placement.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

25 – 1988

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Foster Child made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	The exact date is not known but we know it was in the year 1988.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers

e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child made allegations against the Foster Carers the nature of which are not known.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however the child was in the Foster placement from [REDACTED]/88 – [REDACTED]/88 so we can assume it was during this period.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and it was investigated by Social Work.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The complaint was investigated by the Social Worker and the Senior Social Worker however the details of the investigation are not known.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The child was returned home however the Social Worker determined that child had manipulated the situation in order to go back home.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

26 – 1989 – 1990

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
This is not known from the records available.	

d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the Foster Carers smacked the children with a slipper on the hands and bottom.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	The date is not known however the children were in the foster placement from [REDACTED] 1989 to [REDACTED] 1990 therefore the alleged abuse must have taken place within that period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the children's case file and it was investigated by Social Work and Police.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The Social Worker referred the complaint to the Police who interviewed the Foster Carers and subsequently charged them.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Foster Carers were charged however this was later not proceeded with by the Procurator Fiscal. The children were removed from the placement.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, the Police charged the Foster Carers however the case was not proceeded with by the Procurator Fiscal.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

27 – 1989 – 1990

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Foster Child made the complaint

c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known from the records available.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer and daughter of Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged the Foster Carers daughter was blackmailing and bribing her and she also alleged the Foster Carer would be drunk and leave her home alone.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however the child was in placement from [REDACTED]/89 – [REDACTED]/90 so it must have been within that period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and was investigated by the Social Worker.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on the process for the investigation or what it entailed.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Social Worker deemed the allegations to be unsubstantiated.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

28 - 1990

b)	Who made the complaint?
The mother of the child made the complaint.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
This is not known but there was an internal memo circulated after investigation which was dated February 1990, so we believe the allegation was in late 1989 or early 1990.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The mother of the child stated she noticed bruises on the child, and she alleged these had been caused by the Foster Carers.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however the child was in placement from [REDACTED]/89 so it must have been sometime between this date and 1990.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and was investigated by Social Work.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The child was interviewed by the Social Worker.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
It was determined that the bruises had been caused by the boy living next door.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
The parents of the child were notified of the outcome of the complaint. The parents also complained to their MP and a response was provided to the MP.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
There is no record of the actual response so this is not known.	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
There is no record of the actual response so this is not known.	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	

n)	If not, why not?
As above	

29 - 1990

b)	Who made the complaint?
The father of the foster children made the complaint.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
09/03/90	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
The foster carers	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child's father alleged the children had facial injuries which the children had told him were caused by the foster carers.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
An exact date is not known however the children were in placement from [REDACTED]/90 therefore it must have been in the days preceding [REDACTED]/90.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was referred to the Police.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The Police led the investigation and they interviewed the children.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The children admitted to the Police that they had made the allegations up.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes	

n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

30 – 1990

b)	Who made the complaint?
Foster Child made the complaint	
c)	When was the complaint made?
24/05/1990	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The children alleged the Foster Carer was overly harsh and insensitive towards her.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known from the records available.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information on whether the complaint was investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
It is not known if the complaint was investigated	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	

n)	If not, why not?
As above	

31 – 1990

b)	Who made the complaint?
The allegations were anonymous.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
22/06/1990	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
Anonymous concerns were raised about the level of care being provided by the Foster Carers.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
An exact date is not known.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was reported to the Fostering Panel and was investigated by Social Work.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information recorded on the process of the investigation.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The allegations were unsubstantiated, and the carers continued in their role.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	

n)	If not, why not?
As above	

32 – 1990

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact dates are not known however the complaint was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 22/06/90 therefore it must have been near to that time.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer's daughter	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
It was alleged the foster carers daughter had hit the foster child over the head.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
An exact date is not known however the child was in placement from [REDACTED]/89 – [REDACTED]/90 therefore it must have been within that period.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was noted in the child's case files, it was referred to the Fostering Panel and it was investigated by Social Work.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information recorded on the process of the investigation.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
It was deemed the incident was a result of play fighting between the foster child and the carers daughter however the carers requested the foster child be moved.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	

m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

33 – 1989 – 1990

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available	
c)	When was the complaint made?
29/11/91	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged that he was slapped in the face by the foster carer	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known from the records available	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no record of the process of the investigation and how it was carried out.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
This is not known from the records available.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	

m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

34 – 1991 – 1994

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
This is not known from the records available.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
It was alleged the Foster Carer slapped the child.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
An exact date is not known however we know the child was in the Foster placement from [REDACTED]/91 – [REDACTED]/94 so the alleged abuse must have taken place within that period.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information on whether the complaint was investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
It is not known if the complaint was investigated	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	

m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

35 – 1992

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Foster Child made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	January 1992
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged the male carer hit him.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however the child was in placement from █████/92 – █████/93 therefore it must have been within that period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and investigated by Social Work.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on the process of the investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The allegation was unsubstantiated, and no further action was taken. The child remained in the placement.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above

m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
No	
n)	If not, why not?
This is not known from the records available.	

36 – 1992

b)	Who made the complaint?
The father of the foster child made the complaint.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
This is not known from the records available.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
The male Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The father alleged the child was being mistreated by the Foster Carer.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however the child was in the Foster placement in 1992 so it must have been in that year.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no record that the complaint was investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
This is not known from the records available.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	

m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

37 – 1993

b)	Who made the complaint?
Foster Child made the complaint	
c)	When was the complaint made?
07/10/93	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers and their son	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged she was mistreated by the Foster Carers who hit her with a slipper and the son of the Foster Carers 'terrorised' her.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known from the records available.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no record of the complaint being investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
This is not known from the records available.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	

m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

38 – 1993

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known however the allegation was discussed at the Fostering Panel on 03/12/93	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster carers	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
It was alleged the carers had physically abused children in their care.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known from the records available.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was referred to the Police and the Fostering Panel were notified.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
A joint Police and Social Work investigation was undertaken but the process of this or what it entailed is not known.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The Police did not press charges however Social Work had concerns and therefore de-registered the carers.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available, other than that the foster carers were ultimately de-registered.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	

l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, however no charges were forthcoming.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

39 - 1994

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Two of the foster carer's neighbours made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	05/11/94
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The neighbours alleged the child was being mistreated by the carers and was forced to stand in the garden naked and made to eat their meals while sitting on the kitchen floor.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however the child was in the Foster placement from █████/89 – █████/92 so we can assume it was during this period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and it was referred to and investigated by Police.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The Police investigated the complaint and there is no record of the process.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Police deemed the allegations to be unsubstantiated.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.

k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, Police investigated but did not press charges.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

40 – 1994 - 1996

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known from the records available.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster child in the same placement.
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged he was sexually abused by another foster child in the placement and the foster carer had told him to keep quiet about it.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	An exact date is not known however the child was in placement from [REDACTED]/94 – [REDACTED]/96 therefore it must have been within this period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and was investigated by Police and Social Work.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on the process of an investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The outcome of the investigation is not known however the carers continued to foster until 2016.

j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, but outcome is unknown from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

41 - 1995

b)	Who made the complaint?
Foster Child made the complaint	
c)	When was the complaint made?
29/05/95	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer's son	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged the foster carers adopted son sexually abused her.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
29/05/95	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was referred to the Police.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The Police investigated the allegation and the boy was charged with indecent assault.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The carers son was charged with indecent assault however when the case went to court the Sheriff abandoned the case due to the foster child becoming upset and unable to give evidence during the trial. The carers were later de-registered.	

j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available, other than the referral to the police and the subsequent de-registration of the carers.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, Police investigated and charged the accused with Indecent Assault.	
n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

42 – 1995

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
01/06/95	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
It was alleged the foster carer had verbally and sexually assaulted the child.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however the child was in the Foster placement from [REDACTED]/89 – [REDACTED]/95 so we can assume it was during this period.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and it was passed to the Police.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information recorded on the process of the investigation.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The foster carer was charged and convicted of Breach of the Peace.	

j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available, other than that the matter was referred to the police to investigate.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, Police investigated and charged the carer and he was eventually convicted of Breach of the Peace.	
n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

43 – 1995

b)	Who made the complaint?
Foster Child made the complaint	
c)	When was the complaint made?
05/09/1995	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged the male Foster Carer grabbed her by the neck and struck her on the head.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however the child was in the Foster placement from ██████'94 – ██████/95 so we can assume it was during this period.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file, it was referred to the Police and it was reported to the Fostering Panel.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The Police tried to interview the child however she would not co-operate. The complaint was also discussed at the Fostering Panel.	

i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Police did not press charges and it was agreed the carers could continue however they chose to be de-registered.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, Police investigated but did not press charges.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

44 – 1995

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	September 1995
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the male foster carer had sexually abused a child in their care.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however the child was in placement from ■■■/94 – ■■■/95 so it must have occurred within that period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file, it was reported to the Fostering Panel and it was investigated by Social Work.

h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no record of how the complaint was investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The allegation was deemed to be unsubstantiated.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

45 – 1995 – 1996

b)	Who made the complaint?
The complaint was made by a friend of the Foster Carers	
c)	When was the complaint made?
This exact date is not known but it was sometime between 1995 and 1996.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
It was alleged the Foster Carer's were emotionally abusing children in their care by name calling them and unnecessarily punishing them.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
An exact date is not known however the allegations were made in 1995 – 1996 therefore it must have been preceding this date.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was reported to the Fostering Panel and investigated by Social Work.	

h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on how the complaint was investigated.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The allegations were unsubstantiated, and the carers continued to Foster.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

46 – 1996

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The complaint was made by the foster child
c)	When was the complaint made?
	29/05/96
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged the female foster carer grabbed him
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	An exact date is not known however the child was in placement from [REDACTED] 1991 to [REDACTED] 1997 therefore it must have been within this period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was reported to the Fostering Panel.

h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information recorded on how the complaint was investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The outcome is not known however the carers continued to foster.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

47 – 1997

b)	Who made the complaint?
Foster Child made the complaint	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known but it was in the year 1997	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged the male foster carer mistreated the child by taping his mouth shut, tied him to a lorry and force fed him.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however the child was in the Foster placement from █████/92 – █████/93 so we can assume it was during this period.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file.	

h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no record that the complaint was investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
This is not known however the carers continued to foster until late 1998.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above.	

48 - 1997

b)	Who made the complaint?
The foster child made the complaint	
c)	When was the complaint made?
31/03/97	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
The foster carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged the female foster carer slapped her on the arm.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
An exact date is not known however the child was in placement from [REDACTED]/96 therefore it must have been between this date and [REDACTED]97.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was noted in the child's case file.	

h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no record of the complaint being investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
There is no record on the outcome of the complaint however the child remained in placement until 2001.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

49 - 1997

b)	Who made the complaint?
The foster child made the complaint.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
03/05/97	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
The foster carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged the male foster carer hit him and pinned him against a wall causing a mark and redness on his neck.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
The exact date is not known however the child was in placement in 1996 therefore it must have been in this period.	

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no record of an investigation being undertaken.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	This is not known however the carers continued to foster until 2002.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

50 - 1997

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The Foster Child made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known however the complaint was mentioned in a Fostering Panel minute on 24/10/1997 therefore it must have been near to this date.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	An allegation was made against the carers, but the nature or detail of the allegation is unknown.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known from the records available.

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was reported to the Fostering Panel.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information on whether the complaint was investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The child later retracted the allegations.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

51 – 1998

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel meeting on 26/01/98 so it must have been near this time.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The Foster Carer was accused of smacking children in their care.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however the carers were registered from 21/02/92 and the allegation was in 1997/98 so it must have been within this period.	

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was referred to the Fostering Panel.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on how the complaint was investigated.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	Social Work spoke with the foster carers and provided them with appropriate advice and guidance.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	As above
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	This is not known beyond advice being given as described above.
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

52 – 1998

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Foster Child made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	1998
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child had a bruise on her face, and she alleged the Foster Carer had made it.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	The abuse was alleged to have taken place between April – Sept 1998.

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and it was investigated by Social Work.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no record of how the complaint was investigated.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The allegation was deemed to be unsubstantiated.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

53 – 1998

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
c)	When was the complaint made?
	There is no exact date for the complaint however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 23/03/98 so it must have been near this time.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the carers were emotionally and physically abusing the children including overly harsh and extreme punishments.

f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however we know one of the children was in placement from [REDACTED]/97 – [REDACTED]/97 so it must have been within this period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was referred to the Police and the Fostering Panel were notified.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	A child protection investigation was launched, and the Police were informed of the allegations.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Police decided not to take any action and no charges were made however the Social Work Department had concerns and decided to de-register the carers.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available, other than to take steps to de-register the carers.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, however no charges were forthcoming.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

54 – 1998

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Foster Child made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	20/07/1998
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer and his son.

e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged they were emotionally and sexually abused by the male Foster carer and his son.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known from the records available.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was referred to the Police and the Fostering Panel were notified.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	A child protection investigation was launched, and the Police were informed of the allegations.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The child refused to co-operate with the investigation and the Police, and the case was not proceeded with.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, however no charges were forthcoming.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

55 – 1998

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The wife of the Foster Carer
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known however it was discussed at a Foster Panel meeting on 23/11/98 so it must have been ear to this time.

d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	The male foster carer.
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the male foster carer was behaving inappropriately with young girls in their care including sleep walking into LAC bedrooms, using sexual innuendo's and suggestive comments.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	An exact date is not known however the cares were registered from 07/06/96 and the complaint was made in 1998 so it must have been within this 2-year period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was referred to the Fostering Panel.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on the process of an investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The foster carers were de-registered following the Fostering Panel on 23/11/98. The carers appealed the decision however it was upheld.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above, the carers were de-registered.
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

56 – 1998 - 2000

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint.

c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	The foster carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged that she was not treated well by the carers and the male carer was witnessed being verbally abusive towards her in a review meeting.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	An exact date is not known however the child was in placement from [REDACTED]/98 – [REDACTED]/00 therefore it must have been within this period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was noted in the child's case file.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no record of the complaint being investigated.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	This is not known however the carers continued to foster.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

57 – unknown

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known from the records available
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged the foster carers hit her.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known from the records available.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was noted in the child's case file.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no record of an investigation being undertaken.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	This is not known from the records available.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

58 – 1999

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Foster Child made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known from the records available
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged he was grabbed round the neck by the Foster Carer
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however the child was in placement in [REDACTED] 1999 so it must have been within this period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no record of how or if the complaint was investigated.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	It is not known if the complaint was investigated.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

59 - 2000

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known however the complaint was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 31/01/00 therefore it must have been near this time.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
It was alleged the Foster Carers had physically and sexually assaulted children in their care.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
An exact date is not known however we know the carers were registered from 09/07/93 and the allegation was discussed in 2000 therefore it must have been within this time frame.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was referred to the Fostering Panel and investigated by Social Work.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information recorded on the process of the investigation.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The allegations were considered to be unfounded and the carers continued to foster.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

60 – 2000

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
This exact date is not known however it was discussed at a fostering panel on 11/09/00 therefore it must have been near this time.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The foster carers were accused of smacking and physically assaulting children in their care.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
An exact date is not known however the carers were registered from 10/05/1996 and the allegation was in 2000 so it must have occurred within this time period.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was passed to the Police and it was referred to the Fostering Panel.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The allegation was investigated by Police.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The allegations were deemed to be unsubstantiated and Police decided to take no action.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, however no charges were forthcoming.	
n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

61 - 2000

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	The exact date is not known however it was discussed at a panel meeting on 20/11/00 therefore it must have been near to this time.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	The male foster carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the male foster carer entered the bathroom while the child was in the bath and then sexually assaulted her.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	An exact date is not known however we know the child was in the placement from [REDACTED]/94 – [REDACTED]/99 therefore it must have been within this period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was passed to the Police and was referred to the Fostering Panel.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The complaint was passed to Police for investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	There was no evidence found and Police did not press charges and the carers continued to foster. The child in later years made the allegation again through a solicitor and on this occasion the foster carer was charged. The case went to court in 2019 however the complainant did not attend court and the case was therefore unable to proceed.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, please see outcome above.

n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

62 - unknown

b)	Who made the complaint?
Foster Child made the complaint	
c)	When was the complaint made?
This is not known from the records available	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers son	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged she was assaulted by her friends Foster Carer's son.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known from the records available.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and was investigated by Social Work and Police.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The complaint was passed to Police who charged the son of the Foster Carers.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The son of the Foster Carers was charged by Police however he was found not guilty when the case went to trial.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known however the child was provided with support from Social Work and psychological services.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	

m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, and the accused was charged but subsequently found not guilty.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

63 - 2001

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
c)	When was the complaint made?
	2001
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the foster carers had slapped children in their care.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known from the records available.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was passed to Police who investigated, and it was noted in the minutes of the Fostering Panel meeting.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The complaint was investigated by the Police and the Fostering Panel were notified.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	There was insufficient evidence and therefore no further action was taken.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above

m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, the Police investigated the complaint and found there was insufficient evidence to press charges.	
n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

64 - 2001

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 15/01/2001 therefore it must have been near to this time.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
An allegation of sexual abuse was made against the foster carers.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
An exact date is not known however we know the carers were registered from 26/01/98 and the complaint was discussed in 2001 therefore it must have occurred within this timeframe.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was passed to the Police, it was referred to the Fostering Panel and a Social Work investigation was conducted.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information recorded on the process of investigation.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The Police investigation found the allegation to be unsubstantiated however Social Work believed there was a body of evidence to suggest the children had been abused and the carers were therefore de-registered.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available, other than that the carers were de-registered.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above.	

l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, however no charges were forthcoming.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above	

65 - 2001

b)	Who made the complaint?
The foster child made the complaint.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
This is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 22/02/01 therefore it must have been near to this time.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
The male foster carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
It was alleged the Foster Carer sexually assaulted the child.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
An exact date is not known however we know the carers were registered from 06/05/98 and the complaint was discussed in 2001 so it must have been within this timeframe.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was passed to police and a joint investigation was conducted with Social Work. The complaint was also referred to the Fostering Panel.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information recorded on the process of the joint investigation.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The carer was charged with assault and de-registered from fostering however the records do not indicate the outcome of the police charges or if the case went to court.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available other than the fact that the carer was de-registered.	

k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, and the carer was charged as noted above.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

66 - 2001

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This exact date is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 11/06/01 therefore it must have been near this time.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the female foster carer drank alcohol during the day and sat around the house in her underwear.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	An exact date is not known however we know the carer was registered from 30/11/92 and the complaint was discussed in 2001 therefore it must have been within that timeframe.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was passed to Police and was referred to the Fostering Panel.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The complaint was investigated by Police however there is no information recorded on the process of this.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Police investigation deemed the allegations to be without substance and no charges were brought. The carers continued to foster.

j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above.
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, however no charges were forthcoming.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

67 – 2001

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	27/11/01
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged he was physically assaulted by the male carer.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	27/11/01
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was passed to Police and was recorded in the child's file.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on the process of the investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The carer admitted to grabbing the boy by the throat to stop him from hitting the female carer. The carer was charged with assault by the Police, but the Procurator Fiscal did not proceed with the charges.

j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above.	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, the Police investigated and pressed charges.	
n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

68 - 2001

b)	Who made the complaint?
Foster Child made the complaint	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known but it was in December 2001.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged the male foster carer invited her into his bed while he was naked and then proceeded to touch her inappropriately over her clothing.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however the child was in the Foster placement from [REDACTED]/00 – [REDACTED]/02 so we can assume it was during this period.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and it was passed to Police.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The Police investigated the complaint but there is no record of the process.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The Police did not press charges.	

j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above.
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, Police investigated but did not press charges.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

69 – 2002

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	We don't have an exact date however the allegation was discussed at a Fostering Panel meeting on 18/03/2002 so the complaint must have been made near this time.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the Foster Carers were physically and sexually abusing children in their care.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known from the records available.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was passed to the Police and it was referred to the Fostering Panel.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The Police investigated the allegations and the Fostering Panel were notified.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The allegation was deemed by Police to be unsubstantiated.

j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, the Police did not press charges as they deemed the allegation to be unsubstantiated
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

70 - 2002

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Foster Child made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	15/04/02
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer and another foster child in placement.
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged the foster carer had physically assaulted her and she also alleged another foster child in placement had raped her on more than once occasion.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	The foster child alleged the physical assault took place on 14/04/02 and 15/04/02. The dates of the sexual abuse allegations are unknown however the child was in placement from 27/12/01 until March 2002 therefore it must have been within that period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was recorded in the child's case file and it was referred to the Police.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The Police tried to interview the child however she would not co-operate.

i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Police did not press charges and the carers continued to foster.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available, other than the matter was referred to the police to investigate.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, Police investigated but did not press charges.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

71 – 2002

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	22/08/02
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged the male foster carer would punish the child by hitting him and pulling him by the ear.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This was for the duration of his Foster placement the dates of which are unknown.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint noted in the child's case file and was referred to the Fostering Panel.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on how the allegation was investigated.

i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The outcome of the allegation is not known however the carers continued to foster.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

72 - 2002

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This exact date is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 09/12/02 therefore it must have been near this time.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	The foster carers' lodger.
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the lodger of the foster carers had sexually assaulted the child in their care.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	An exact date is not known however we know the carers were registered from 20/12/96 and the complaint was discussed in 2002 therefore it must have been within this timeframe.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was passed to the Police and was referred to the Fostering Panel.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The Police interviewed the accused.

i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Police decided to take no further action and charges were not made.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, however charges were not forthcoming.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

73 – 2002 - 2003

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	This is not known.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the female foster carer was verbally abusive towards the foster child.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however the child was in placement from [REDACTED]/02 – [REDACTED]/03 therefore it must have been within that period.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was noted in the foster child's case file and was investigated by Social Work.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The carers were interviewed by Social Work.

i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The allegation was deemed to be unsubstantiated and no further action was taken.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above

74 – 2004

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Foster Child made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	22/09/04
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged the male foster carer shouted at her and pulled her out of bed and dragged her across the floor causing carpet burns to her legs and bruising to her wrists.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known from the records available.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was passed to Police and was referred to the Fostering Panel.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The Police investigated the complaint however the process is not recorded.

i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The Police did not press charges and the carers continued to foster.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available, other than that the matter was referred to the police.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above.
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, Police investigated but did not press charges.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

75 – 2006

b)	Who made the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
c)	When was the complaint made?
	2006
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	It was alleged the female foster carer physically assaulted the child
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known from the records available.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was passed to the Police and it was noted in the minutes of the Fostering Panel meeting.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	The Police investigated the allegations and the Fostering Panel were notified.

i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The foster carer was charged with assault, but this was later not proceeded with.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available other than that the matter was referred to the police.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, the Police initially charged the foster carer with assault, but the charges were later not proceeded with.	
n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

76 – 2006

b)	Who made the complaint?
The foster child made the complaint.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
29/06/06	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child accused the male foster carer of hitting her and pulling her hair.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however we know the child was in placement from [REDACTED]/97 – [REDACTED]/06 therefore it must have been within this period.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was recorded in the child's file.	

h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no evidence of the complaint being investigated.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
This is not known however the child remained in placement and the carers continued to foster.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above.	

77 – 2008

b)	Who made the complaint?
The foster child made the complaint after the end of her placement.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel meeting on 01/04/2008 so it must have been near to this time.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The foster child alleged that she was scared of the female carer and that she would shout at her.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This dates are not known however the carers were registered from 23/06/03 and the allegation was discussed in 2008 therefore it must have been within this timeframe.	

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was referred to the Fostering Panel and investigated by Social Work.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on the process of the investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The allegations were not substantiated, and the carers continued to foster.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above.

78 – 2008

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint.
c)	When was the complaint made?
	The exact date is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 06/05/08 therefore it must have been near this time.
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged they were inappropriately touched by the carers.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	The dates are not known however the carers were registered from 18/08/03 and the complaint was discussed in 2008 therefore it must have been within this timeframe.

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was passed to the Police, it was referred to the Fostering Panel and a Social Work investigation was undertaken.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	A child protection strategy meeting was held, and risk assessment was completed.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The allegations were considered to be unsubstantiated and no further action was taken.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, however no charges were forthcoming.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

79 – 2008

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The foster child made the complaint,
c)	When was the complaint made?
	17/10/08
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carer
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged the foster carer had brandished a knife at him.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however the carers were registered from 28/07/89 and the allegation was made in 2008 therefore it must have been within this timeframe.

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was passed to the Police and it was referred to the Fostering Panel.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on the process of investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	The allegations were considered to be unsubstantiated and no further action was taken.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known from the records available, other than that the matter was referred to the Police and Fostering Panel.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	Yes, however no charges were forthcoming.
n)	If not, why not?
	N/A

80 – 2009

b)	Who made the complaint?
	Foster Child made the complaint
c)	When was the complaint made?
	02/06/2009
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child alleged she was assaulted by the Foster Carers.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known from the records available.

g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The child was placed with D&G Foster Carers by another Local Authority and the matter was primarily dealt with by the placing authority. It was however discussed at a D&G Fostering Panel.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
This is not known from the records available	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
No further action was taken.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, the Police from the placing authority investigated the complaint and they did not press charges.	
n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

81 – 2009

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel meeting on 24/11/09 therefore it must have been near this time.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carer	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
It was alleged the foster carer had left 2 infant children in her car while she went shopping.	

f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however the carer was registered from 20/08/01 and the allegation was discussed in 2009 therefore it must have been within this timeframe.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was referred to the Fostering Panel.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information recorded on the process of investigation.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The carer was provided with advice and guidance from Social Work and the carer continued to foster.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above.	

82 – 2011

b)	Who made the complaint?
The foster child made the complaint.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known however the complaint was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 06/12/11.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers	

e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
The child alleged the carers drank excessively and would argue with and provoke the child.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known however the carers were registered from 25/05/10 and the allegation was discussed in 2011 therefore it must have been within this timeframe.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was referred to the Fostering Panel meeting and investigated by Social Work.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
There is no information recorded on the process of the investigation.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
The foster carers informed the panel that they intended to emigrate, and they were therefore de-registered.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
This is not known from the records available.	
n)	If not, why not?
As above.	

83 – 2012

b)	Who made the complaint?
This is not known from the records available	
c)	When was the complaint made?
May 2012	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers	

e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
Concerns were raised as to the level of care being provided by the foster carers.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known from the records available.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The child was placed with D&G Foster Carers by another Local Authority and the matter was primarily dealt with by the placing authority and the Police from that authority.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
This is not known from the records available	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
It was deemed that there was insufficient evidence and the carers were not charged.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available, other than that the matter was referred to the police.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, the Police from the placing authority investigated the complaint and they did not press charges as there was insufficient evidence.	
n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

84 – 2013

b)	Who made the complaint?
The foster child made the complaint.	
c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known but it was discussed at a Foster Panel meeting on 20/02/13 therefore it must have been near this time.	

d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
	Foster Carers.
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
	The child made several complaints against the carer including swearing at the child, but we don't have a record of the other complaints.
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
	This is not known however the carers were registered from 08/03/06 and the complaint was discussed in 2013 therefore it must have been within this timeframe.
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
	The complaint was referred to the Fostering Panel and the investigated by Social Work.
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
	There is no information recorded on the process of the investigation.
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
	Only one of the complaints was upheld which was swearing at the child, however the carers were allowed to continue to foster.
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
	This is not known, other than what is recorded above by way of investigation and outcome.
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
	As above
l)	If there was no response, why not?
	As above
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
	This is not known from the records available.
n)	If not, why not?
	As above.

85 – 2014

b)	Who made the complaint?
	The complaint was made by another Foster Carer and also the Foster child

c)	When was the complaint made?
The exact date is not known but it was discussed at a Foster Panel meeting on 03/09/14 so it must have been preceding this date.	
d)	Against whom was the complaint made?
Foster Carers	
e)	What was the nature of the complaint?
Concerns were raised as to the standard of care being provided by the foster carers and the child alleged the Foster Carer had physically assaulted him.	
f)	When/over what period was the abuse alleged to have taken place?
This is not known from the records available.	
g)	What was the local authority's process and approach in dealing with the complaint?
The complaint was passed to Police and the child was moved to another placement while it was investigated. The complaint was also noted in the Fostering Panel minutes.	
h)	What was the local authority's process and approach for investigating the complaint?
The Police and Fostering Panel were notified of the complaint and an assessment was carried out by Social Work on the suitability of the carers.	
i)	What was the outcome of the complaint following that investigation?
It was deemed that there was insufficient evidence. The young person was able to return to placement however he refused to go back and remained with his new foster carers.	
j)	Did the local authority provide a specific response to the complaint?
This is not known from the records available other than that the complaint was referred to the Police.	
k)	If so, what was the form of response e.g. apology, redress, pastoral response or any other type of response?
As above	
l)	If there was no response, why not?
As above	
m)	Was the information/content of the complaint passed to police?
Yes, the Police investigated and deemed there to be insufficient evidence to press charges.	
n)	If not, why not?
N/A	

5.10 Civil Actions

a)	How many civil actions have been brought against local authority relating to abuse, or alleged abuse, of children in foster care?
Dumfries and Galloway Council have had no civil court actions brought against the Local Authority. However, we have two cases where claims have been intimated against the Council which are being handled by the parties respective solicitors at the pre-litigation stage. Additionally, we have in the last 4 months received subject access requests for adults who had previously been in foster care to access their records claiming they were abused while living in foster care. These are being processed at this time.	

For each such civil action, please answer the following:

b)	Who brought the action?
N/A	
c)	When was the action brought?
N/A	
d)	Against whom was the action brought?
NA/	
e)	What was the nature of the abuse, or alleged abuse, to which the action related?
N/A	
f)	What were the names of the persons said to have, or alleged to have, committed abuse?
N/A	
g)	When/over what period was the abuse said, or alleged, to have taken place?
N/A	
h)	How did the action progress?
N/A	
i)	What was the outcome?
N/A	
j)	Was the action settled on a conditional basis of confidentiality?
N/A	
k)	Who was/were the local authority's legal representative(s) in relation to the civil action?
N/A	

l)	Did the local authority carry insurance for meeting civil claims at the time the action was live?
N/A	
m)	How/where can copies of the court papers relating to the civil action be made available to the Inquiry?
N/A	

5.11 Criminal Injuries Compensation Awards

a)	Has any criminal injuries compensation been awarded in respect of abuse, or alleged abuse, of children cared for in foster care?
Throughout our extensive reading for childcare files there is no reference to criminal injuries compensation being awarded to any child in respect of abuse while living in foster care. (I don't think I have ever been consulted about CICA claims in these circumstances in 20 years of being in Legal Services within Dumfries and Galloway Council)	
b)	If so, please provide details if known.
N/A	

5.12 Police

a)	How many complaints of abuse of children in foster care have been made to the police?
Of the above 85 complaints of abuse, 30 of them were reported to the Police for investigation.	

In relation to each known complaint to the police, please answer the following questions

1

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carers. Please see no 8 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Tayside Police conducted the investigation the exact date of which is not known however the allegation was made on 18/01/1979 therefore it must have been near to this time.	

e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The carers were not charged, and the foster children were returned to their care.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

2

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 12 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
There is no record of the outcome of the investigation.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

3

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carers. Please see no 15 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The carers were charged, and a report was sent to the Procurator Fiscal however no proceedings were raised.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

4

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carers. Please see no 26 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however the Procurator Fiscal decided not to proceed with the case in May 1990 therefore it must have been near to this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The carers were charged however the Procurator Fiscal decided not to proceed with the case.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
The children were removed from the placement.	

5

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carers. Please see no 29 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
During the investigation the children admitting to making false allegations and the carers were therefore not charged.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

6

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carers. Please see no 38 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	

c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
No charges were brought against the carers.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
The carers were de-registered by the Local Authority.	

7

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 39 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however the allegation was made on 05/11/94 therefore it must have been near to this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The Police determined the allegations were unfounded and no charges were made.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

8

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer's son. Please see no 41 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	

d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however the allegation was made on 29/05/95 therefore it must have been near to this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The foster carers were initially charged however these were later dropped.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

9

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 43 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however the allegation was made on 01/06/95 therefore it must have been near to this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The foster carer was charged and convicted of Breach of the Peace.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

10

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 53 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
No, the Police decided not to take any action over the allegations.	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
N/A	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
N/A	

f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

11

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer and his son. Please see no 54 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however the allegation was made on 20/07/98 therefore it must have been near this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The child was given 2 opportunities to talk to Police however she refused, and no charges were forthcoming.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

12

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 60 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
No, the Police decided not to take action.	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
N/A	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
N/A	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

13

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 61 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known. The child made the allegation again later in life and was investigated for a 2 nd time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The first Police investigation found no evidence of abuse and the carer was not charged however when the child made the allegation again some years later the carer was charged, and the case went to court. The young person who made the allegation did not attend to give evidence at court and proceedings were dropped.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known.	

14

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer's son. Please see no 62 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The foster carers son was charged, and the case went to court where he was found not guilty.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

15

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 63 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	

c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
	Yes
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
	Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known.
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
	The Police determined there was insufficient evidence and did not press charges.
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
	This is not known from the records available.

16

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
	The foster carer. Please see no 64 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
	Yes
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
	Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 15/01/01 therefore it must have been near this time.
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
	The Police determined the allegations were not substantiated and no charges were forthcoming
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
	The Local Authority believed there to be a concern of abuse and they therefore de-registered the carers at the Panel on 15/01/01.

17

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
	The foster carer. Please see no 65 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
	Yes

d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 22/02/01 therefore it must have been near this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The Police charged the carer however the outcome of these charges is unknown.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
The carers were de-registered by the Local Authority at the panel on 22/01/01.	

18

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 66 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 11/06/01 therefore it must have been near this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The Police determined the allegations to be without substance and no charges were forthcoming.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

19

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 67 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however the allegation was made on 27/11/01 therefore it must have been near to this time.	

e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The carer was charged with assault by the police, however the Procurator Fiscal decided not to proceed with the charges.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

20

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 68 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however the allegation was made in December 2001 therefore it must have been near to this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The Police did not press charges.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

21

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 69 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 18/03/02 therefore it must have been near this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The Police determined the allegations were unfounded and no charges were forthcoming.	

f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

22

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer and another foster child in placement. Please see no 70 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however the allegation was made on 15/04/02 therefore it must have been near to this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The child refused to speak to the Police re the allegations therefore no charges were forthcoming (you could also say "brought").	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

23

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer's lodger. Please see no 72 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 09/12/02 therefore it must have been near this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The Police interviewed the accused and decided no further action was necessary.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

24

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 74 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however the allegation was made on 22/09/04 therefore it must have been near to this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The Police did not press charges.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

25

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 75 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 18/12/06 therefore it must have been near this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The Police decided not to take any further action.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

26

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 78 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	

c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
	Yes
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
	Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 06/05/08 therefore it must have been near this time.
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
	The Police decided not to take any further action.
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
	This is not known from the records available.

27

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
	The foster carer. Please see no 79 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
	Yes
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
	Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however the allegation was made on 17/10/08 therefore it must have been near to this time.
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
	The Police decided not to take any further action.
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
	This is not known from the records available.

28

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
	The foster carer. Please see no 80 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
	Yes

d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Staffordshire Police conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel meeting on 02/06/09 therefore it must have been near this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
No charges were forthcoming	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

29

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 83 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Cumbria Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however the allegation was made in May 2012 therefore it must have been near to this time.	
e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The Police determined there was insufficient evidence to prosecute and no charges were forthcoming.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

30

b)	Who was the alleged abuser or abuser?
The foster carer. Please see no 85 on Appendix 2 for the alleged abusers name.	
c)	Did the police conduct an investigation in relation to the complaint?
Yes	
d)	If so, who conducted the investigation and when?
Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary conducted the investigation the date of which is not known however it was discussed at a Fostering Panel on 03/09/14 therefore it must have been near this time.	

e)	What was the outcome of the police investigation?
The Police determined there was insufficient evidence to prosecute and no charges were forthcoming.	
f)	What was the organisation/establishment's response?
This is not known from the records available.	

5.13 Crown

a)	To what extent has the Crown raised proceedings in respect of allegations of abuse of children in foster care?
There have been 3 proceedings raised by the Crown in respect of allegations of abuse of children in foster care.	

In relation to each time the Crown has raised proceedings, please answer the following questions:

1

b)	What is the name of the person(s) against whom the proceedings were raised?
Mr FVD [REDACTED]	
c)	What was the nature of the charges?
Breach of the Peace	
d)	What was the outcome of the proceedings, including disposal/sentence if there was a conviction?
Mr FVD [REDACTED] was convicted of Breach of the Peace however the disposal/sentence is not known.	
e)	What was the local authority's response to the proceedings and outcome?
The carers were de-registered by the Local Authority.	

2

b)	What is the name of the person(s) against whom the proceedings were raised?
Please see no 12 on Appendix 2 for the name of the foster carers.	
c)	What was the nature of the charges?
The exact charge is not known however it was in relation to allegations of sexual abuse.	

d)	What was the outcome of the proceedings, including disposal/sentence if there was a conviction?
The young person did not attend court to give evidence and the case was abandoned.	
e)	What was the local authority's response to the proceedings and outcome?
The carers had already been de-registered by the Local Authority for a number of years when the case went to court.	

3

b)	What is the name of the person(s) against whom the proceedings were raised?
Please see no 15 on Appendix 2 for the name of the alleged abuser.	
c)	What was the nature of the charges?
The exact charge is not known however the allegation was in relation to assault.	
d)	What was the outcome of the proceedings, including disposal/sentence if there was a conviction?
The accused was found not guilty.	
e)	What was the local authority's response to the proceedings and outcome?
This is not known from the records available.	