From: Anne Sinclair

**Sent:** Fri, 13 Jan 2023 16:49:28 +0000

To: SCAI Solicitors
Cc: talktous

Subject: FW: (Official - Sensitive) Response to SCAI re Foster Care

Attachments: Foster care case study Revised version Part B asac (007) (003) IS.docx

Categories: Read by relevant solicitor

Dear

SCOTTISH CHILD ABUSE INQUIRY FOSTER CARE CASE STUDY

I refer to the above and your letter, addressed to Louise Long, Chief Executive dated 25 November 2022.

The Council is grateful to Lady Smith for allowing it an opportunity to respond to the evidence in the case study because we did not have leave to appear.

As indicated in your letter the Council is the responsible authority in relation to the evidence of the witness "Patricia" (EIG) who gave evidence on 28 June 2022 (day 299).

In response to the Appendix to the letter of 25 November 2022, the Council would respond as follows:

- The Council is deeply saddened to read the evidence of this witness and learn of her experience in foster care and the difficulties she has faced throughout her life. In light of this evidence the Council does wish to submit a revised version of Part B to our original response to the Inquiry's Section 21 Notice dated 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019. Accordingly, a separate addendum to Part B is now attached for consideration.
- 2. The Council is open to learning from the testimony emerging from the Inquiry. In particular, the evidence of the witness "Patricia" highlights the vital importance of secure maintenance of care records, and that careful consideration is given to sibling placements, working with children and young people to explore their personal identity, together with the vital importance of Aftercare or Throughcare support.
- 3. Changes to the Council's policies, procedures and practices have developed over time. In light of the evidence it is vital that the Council continues to maintain effective systemic oversight of current policies, procedures and practice which are in place to protect children from abuse in foster care. The policies, procedures and practices currently in place are set out in the attached addendum in response to question 3.4 (a) of Part B.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding whether the Council can assist further.

Regards,

Anne

Anne Sinclair
Legal Services Manager ( Licensing, Litigation and Committees )
Legal and Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Clyde Square
Greenock
PA15 1LY

Tel:

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