

Witness Name: Alison Fossey
Statement No: Second
Exhibits: AF53 – AF62

Dated: 9/12/15

THE INDEPENDENT JERSEY CARE INQUIRY

Exhibit AF61

Select Message

Actions:

120 / 166



From: "Gull, Stewart" [REDACTED]
 To: "Batho, Abigail" [REDACTED]
 CC: "Boulour, Andre" [REDACTED]; "Fossey, Alison" [REDACTED]
 Delivered To: [REDACTED]
 Date Sent: 25 October 2011 17:18:54 BST
 Attachments: (none)
 Subject: Letter to Stuart Brook - Director Social Services (please check on title)

html text/plain

Abigail -- letter to Stuart Brook please :

Dear Stuart

Subject: Missing Children from Care

I write in relation to the above subject matter, which I recall featured as a specific action within the recent draft Inspection report.

During my 3 months in post here, I have been concerned at the high levels of incidents that children and young people seem to be reported as missing from care.

Last year the SoJP recorded a total of 684 incidents and this year at the end of month 9, we have already recorded some 544 incidents.

These are of course vulnerable young people who put themselves at even greater risk when missing and whilst our primary concern will always be their safety and wellbeing, the costs linked to policing these incidents, as you can imagine, is significant. A small number of these young people have been involved in at least 50 incidents of criminality when missing from care, which emphasises the vulnerability & risk they place themselves in when missing from care. I have enclosed some data with this covering letter which you may find helpful.

Whilst the challenges of managing some of these children & young people is not lost on me, I do believe we need to explore a better and more effective way in partnership of addressing and responding to these high incidents of missing from care -- clearly whatever we are doing now is not working. My sense is we are just responding to the problem as opposed to seeking a longer term sustainable solution.

I would welcome your views on the way forward but I understand there is a monthly multi agency forum where perhaps this subject could be a standing agenda item with perhaps a sub-group seeking options for the best way forward. Whilst not wishing to develop a problem solving approach on the hoof, it strikes me that some of these incidents and young people would perhaps benefit from a case conference approach.

Thanks in anticipation of your support.

Yours sincerely

Stewart J Gull QPM
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