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RESTRICTED

Statement of: **LA-F54**

Form MG11(T)
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WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r27.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5b

Statement of: **LA-F54**

Age if under 18: OVER 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18') Occupation: _____

This statement (consisting of 7 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: **LA-F54**

Date: 27/01/2003

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded (supply witness details on rear)

I started working at SOUTHVALE CHILDREN'S HOME in about **DPA** 77. When I first started I was employed in the capacity of a carer on the boys side of the home.

I worked at SOUTHVALE for a total of thirteen years.

When I started my employment, **LA-F205** and **Name Redacted** were in charge.

Other Senior Management I recall are the Deputy Manager Dave TOWN, and

Name Redacted who was the **DPA** Officer in Charge. **Sensitive/irrelevant**

Sensitive/irrelevant She was initially employed as a Seamstress but then joined the care team.

When I joined SOUTHVALE a White man named Les PAUL was already working there. He had been there for about three or four months. **Sensitive/irrelevant**

Sensitive/irrelevant

Signature: **LA-F54**
2010/11

Signature witnessed by: **LA-F54**

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Sensitive/Irrelevant

Les **Sensitive/Irrelevant** showed great enthusiasm for things which reflected his own interests. He was an avid photographer and also was very into computers. He would therefore get the children interested in these pursuits. Les was never interested in playing football but preferred indoor activities. He would always volunteer to stay in with children who were "grounded" because they had lost privileges.

I can recall a time when Les asked me to go camping with him with a group of children. This was an additional holiday to the children's Summer holiday. I agreed to go with him but remember getting very angry and frustrated because once we had arrived at our destination,

DPA Les was very reluctant to go out anywhere and wanted to stay in his tent with the boys and play computer games. I was in a tent on my own and the boys, about six of them, shared Les tent. **Sensitive/Irrelevant**

Sensitive/Irrelevant

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I can't remember which boys went on this camping trip but think that

two would probably have been

Child

and **Child**

Child

Les was often criticised by other staff for having favourites amongst

the boys.

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

I also remember a boy named **Child** who was a **DPA**

DPA

boy aged about 9 years when he was there. He had some condition, I

don't recall what, which necessitated him having to have a cream

applied to his anus. I remember that Les would always make it his

responsibility to apply this cream. He also always offered to

supervise the boys showers.

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

I am aware that Les PAUL was convicted of child sexual abuse about ten

years ago. It was at the point of his conviction that the things I

have mentioned in this statement took on significance.

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

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Sensitive/Irrelevant

I can remember a time when I questioned Les because he was taking the children to places which I thought were unsuitable. Every time staff took children out of the home an entry was made in an Information Book. I noticed that Les had made several entries on consecutive SUNDAYS that he was taking four boys (I can't remember which to SOHO). I questioned why he was taking boys to SOHO but he told me that it was because there were good photographic shops there.

Sensitive/Irrelevant

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