



10th 15th April  
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CC: SASS  
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London Borough of Croydon

Telephone 01-686 4433  
Ext [DPA]  
Your ref [DPA]  
My ref [DPA]  
Date 10th April, 1986.

H. N. Grindrod, M.A. (Oxon.), Dip., Ed., D.P.A.  
Director of Social Services  
Social Services Department  
Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 2BA

Mr. R. Osmond,  
Director of Social Services,  
London Borough of Lambeth,

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

[DPA]

Dear *Robin*

Re: Mr. M.J. Carroll

I refer to our recent telephone conversation concerning Mr. Carroll, an employee of your Authority, and a recent foster parent applicant to this Department. I am able to confirm the information which I understand Mr. Carroll has now shared with you.

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll responded to a specific advert for a foster child in November 1985, and were subject to initial assessment, including the obtaining of confidential statutory references. On receipt of a Police reference the case was immediately referred to this agency's Adoption and Fostering Panel on the [DPA] [DPA] 1986. The Panel were obliged to consider the implications of an offence against a minor some twenty years earlier, when the applicant was himself still a young adult. Bromborough Magistrates Court in Merseyside imposed 2 years probation on 8.11.86 for indecent assault on a male person under 16 years, contrary to Section 15 (1) of the Sexual Offences Act 1956.

The Panel recommendation upon which this agency has acted was as follows:

"The Panel recommend that the agency does not proceed with the assessment for the following reasons;

- i. The standards applied in employing staff in residential child care would preclude the registration of Mr. C. A standard approach should apply also to family placements.
- ii. The concern that the issue had not been shared, and apparently "blocked" by the applicant either at home or with the Social Worker.

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- iii. The Local Authority's responsibilities placing a child "in trust" with a family precludes the nature of this risk.

Panel Members wished to relay that this was not a comment on Mr. C's current lifestyle or employment. However, it must be recognised that this offence will never become "spent" under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, as it applies to employment. The Chairman was asked to discuss with the Director of Social Services whether the other Local Authority employer should be advised of the information now on this agency's confidential file".

It was subsequently determined that Mr. Carroll's employing agency should be advised of the conviction, and that he would be asked to tell his employer, confirming his actions in writing. Croydon would then check out that this has occurred. Alternatively, if Mr. Carroll did not advise his employer, Croydon would, with his knowledge communicate direct.

I hope this assists you in responding to Mr. Carroll's current situation. Please contact me or my Assistant Director, Roger Missing if you require any further clarification.

Yours sincerely,

**DPA**

H.N. Grindrod,  
Director of Social Services.