

I remember that [LA-A19] came to see me at the Offley Road office unexpectedly and he made an allegation of abuse by a male member of staff at Southvale. The name PAUL rings a bell to me, but I do not know if this is because Police mentioned the name Les PAUL to me or not. [LA-A19] did say the male's name to me at the time. [LA-A19] told me that this male had touched his private part and he pointed towards his crotch with both hands. I didn't ask any questions or go into detail about how he was touched. This was completely out of character for [LA-A19] to say this as he was a "toughie" and one of the boys. It must've taken him a lot of courage for him to say this to me. He was very quiet and matter of fact as he spoke. I believed him completely. This was so out of character, it had to be true. I was surprised that [LA-A19] was a victim of abuse because I felt he was a tough little boy. I explained to [LA-A19] that this was a serious matter and we needed to report it to the Police, but he said he didn't want to report it to the Police or anyone else. I tried to encourage [LA-A19] to report it and pointed out that the male will do it to someone else. [LA-A19] would not budge and change his mind. I asked if I could talk it over with my Team Manager and he agreed. I spoke to my Team Manager, [Name Redacted], and explained the disclosure made and [LA-A19]'s reluctance to report it. [Name Redacted] said we had to respect [LA-A19]'s wishes and we could not override this. I later informed [LA-A19] that if he changed his mind, we could report it.

I wrote down what [LA-A19] had said to me at the time, the fact that [LA-A19] didn't want to take it any further and the fact that I talked it through with my Team Manager. I know I would've written it down because I was quite thorough in my work. I would've written it in his file which is where I would normally record any contact with [LA-A19].

I did explain to [LA-A19] that I would try to get him moved from Southvale but in the meantime, because he didn't want to take it any further, he would have to go back there until as placement became available. I was concerned about [LA-A19]'s safety and other children at Southvale. I said to [LA-A19] that we needed to stop this male because he would do it to others. I didn't want [LA-A19] to return to Southvale but I didn't have any alternative. I know that [LA-A19] was resident at Southvale when he said this to me. I remember calling Southvale a few times to progress his move and chase it up. [Sensitive/Irrelevant]

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant It struck me then and now that it was so out of character for [LA-A19] to be a victim of abuse, however, he had nothing to gain out of disclosing his abuse to me as he did not wish to take it further. I felt [LA-A19] could talk to me and trust me. I was probably the only person that [LA-A19] could come to for help.

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Signed: **Name Redacted** Signature witnessed by: DC Elaine HUTTON