

6. MARTIN ~~DIKIN~~ DIGAN (House parent)

Knowledge of incident - No direct knowledge - but had since spoken with R.H. Shom had known for 8 years who confirmed what had happened. R.H. had previously engaged in sexual activities with Knoll View pupils about 7 years ago.

Management Practice - School staff had not met as a whole. Matter had been dealt with by Management team (BA GH + DR) - who had informed AEO (SP) + Adonis.

After the initial response it would have been better if whole staff had been formally notified.

Care Staff have not met as a whole to discuss event.

Administrative Procedures. Professional training, Natu Dagan subscribed to Social Work magazine. The OD. course was not appropriate for him - covered much of what covered a previous course in CSS + other social work training. He would have preferred more relevant issues dealt with eg. sex counselling, drugs, issues etc. He thinks in service training is necessary + desirable but not too relevant.

He thinks that the occurrence could have been avoided if the sleeping arrangements had been better ie with staff on duty sleeping between units. On Tuesday 11 September Brett Adams was a sleeping in duty + had slept in an house. No staff were sleeping in on the senior side.

Supervisory Arrangements Thought that these could be improved - but thought Night Duty staff were probably not necessary or desirable + they would probably be less well qualified but school would benefit from having more resident staff. But the school cannot be made secure - doors must be able to be opened for fire escape purposes.

Father's Comments

Mr Digan was not happy with staff supervision by either Mr Andrews or Mr Cohen. He felt that staff morale was quite low + thought this reflected lack of confidence in leadership. Staff were crying out for purposeful leadership ideally someone experienced + from outside + familiar with residential issues.