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Mr Gordon Rees  
CS2C  
DHMTA007  
Department of Health

Item posted: Wed 29 Jun 94 12:01  
Message ID: PC1007-940629120132-422A

To: Mr P J Green  
SSI  
DHMTA035  
Department of Health

Cc: Mr John Rowlands  
SSI-CCG  
DHMTA027  
Department of Health

Subject: Name Redacted

1. I refer to your E-mail to Ted Hillier, Jeremy Mean, ID and John Rowlands of today's date.

2. As you are aware, there have been a number of problems at Beechwood Community Home. Indeed you will recall that we briefed the Minister (Tim Yeo) in February last year about an article in the Daily Express which stated that there had been 95 abscondings from this home in twelve months. Your follow-up minute of 17 March 1993 advised that the statistics were accurate and that the SSD had confirmed that there was a small proportion of young men who had a high level of absconding associated with car crime. I mention this as the Minister's office is quite likely to pick up on the fact that little appears to have been done to tighten security at the home since then. The Daily Express might also adopt the line that earlier warnings have been ignored by Nottingham.

3. I am also surprised that given the fact that Name Redacted was prone to stealing cars and had crashed one last April, that Beechwood did not take steps to increase the level of supervision on his transfer to the unit. Indeed there could be a case for saying that Nottingham had failed to protect the welfare of the children in their care.