

M E M O R A N D U M from THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

To: Area Directors and Divisional Directors

Dated: 23rd January, 1975.

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH THE POLICE REGARDING NEGLECTED CHILDREN

I have agreed with the Chief Constable that we should keep each other informed about children who have appeared before the Court under Section, 2a and 2b of the 1969 Children and Young Persons Act.

The procedure will be that Headquarters will inform the Chief Constable of all children placed on Supervision Orders under the above heading. This will enable the Police to be better informed about families and children at risk in the community.

The Police have indicated that where children committed to care under the above heading are likely to return home they would be prepared to give us any information, e.g. convictions about the parents which may assist the decision as to whether the child should be returned. In the light of this I would wish you to make enquiries of the Headquarters of the Police at Sherwood Lodge, Arnold, before we decide either to return a child home on trial or to agree a revocation order where the child was originally committed under Section 1, 2a and 2b.

It is my intention that we and you should begin this procedure from 1st February, 1975.

In the case of the County Areas, in order that Headquarters may notify the Chief Constable I shall be glad if you will ensure that where a Supervision Order is made under Sections 1, 2a and 2b of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1969 that the following information is forwarded to Sovereign House immediately, for the attention of Mrs. Jablonskas.

Name of Child/Children

Court where Order was made

Date of Birth

Date Order was made

Address

Duration of Order

In the case of the City Areas, Mrs. Bromley will forward the details to the Chief Constable upon information given to her by Mr. Andrews and Mr. Johnson.

E.G. CULHAM.

Director.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATIONC/D/8NEGLECTED AND BATTERED CHILDRENPolicy Instructions as at 1st April, 1975.

1. Where we receive information that a child is being neglected or battered we must fully investigate these referrals at once however sceptical we might be about the source of the referral.
2. Senior Social Workers and Area Directors must be advised immediately about such referrals by their Social Workers and Divisional Directors informed of the circumstances within 24 hours.
3. This Department has the statutory responsibility for investigation. This cannot be delegated to any other agency or individual. We cannot and must not make assumptions that where other agencies are known to be involved, investigation is not necessary.
4. When case conferences are called the Police should be invited.
5. We have a policy of exchanging information with the Police see memoranda dated 23.1.75.

Edward Culham