

REPORT

To: SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE		Subject: RE-APPOINTMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF SAFEGUARDERS
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION		
Date: 13 January 1998	Ref: CA/SW/1/ LD/IG	

1 Background

- 1.1 In terms of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, the Children Act 1975 and the Social Work (Panels of Persons to Safeguard the Interests of Children) (Scotland) Regulations 1984, North Lanarkshire Council is required to appoint panels from which persons may be appointed to safeguard the interests of children:-
- (a) In proceedings before Children's Hearings or, thereafter, before the Sheriff when it is considered that there is or may be a conflict of interest between the child and his/her parent(s), and
 - (b) In cases before a Sheriff dealing with resolutions by a local authority on the assumption of parental rights and powers, or with access to children with such rights have been assumed.
- 1.2 A reasonable number of Safeguarders are required to ensure that both Children's Hearings and Sheriffs have access to the service.
- 1.3 The Social Work Committee, at its meeting on 4 March 1996, appointed individuals as members of the Panel of Safeguarders for North Lanarkshire with effect from 1 April 1996.

2 Proposals

- 2.1 The individuals appointed in 1996 are now eligible for re-appointment for a further term.
- 2.2 Of the existing Panel, all four members have confirmed an interest in being re-appointed as Safeguarders. Details of these individuals are set out in Appendix 1 to the report.
- 2.3 In view of the diminished numbers of Panel members, applications had been invited from individuals who either live or work within North Lanarkshire with relevant experience in dealing with children. A number of applications were subsequently received and references have been taken up. As a result of the trawl, twelve applicants were interviewed. Details of these individuals are set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

- 2.4 Local authorities are required to consult with the Chair of the Children's Panel, the Sheriff Principal and the Children's Reporter before appointing Safeguarders. The necessary consultations regarding the persons detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 have been carried out and no adverse comment has been received.
- 2.5 Of the four existing Panel members, it is recommended that Ross Brown and Mhari MacTaggart be re-appointed. Michael Bailey is an experienced Safeguarder, but in view of the distance of his home from North Lanarkshire, it is not recommended that he be re-appointed. James Muir is, likewise, an experienced Safeguarder but, having regard to inaccuracies in a number of documents submitted by Mr Muir to the Council, his re-appointment is not recommended.
- 2.6 Following interview, it is recommended that each individual detailed in Appendix 3 to the report be appointed to the Panel of Safeguarders for North Lanarkshire, the term of appointment expiring on 31 December 1999.

3 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee approve the re-appointment of Ross Brown and Mhari MacTaggart as specified in Appendix 1 to this report and the appointment of the individuals specified in Appendix 3 as members of the Panel of Safeguarders for North Lanarkshire with immediate effect until 31 December 1999.


Director of Administration

APPENDIX 1

EXISTING MEMBERS OF THE PANEL OF SAFEGUARDERS

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE	QUALIFICATIONS	EMPLOYER	EXPERIENCE
Michael Bailey	7 Westend Dailly GIRVAN	55	B.A. in Social Science	McLaurin Art Gallery AYR	8 years Member of Children's Panel (Alloway) 19 months - Safeguarder (North Lanarkshire)
Ross Brown	2 Lochaber Road STRATHAVEN	34	LLB, Dip LP, NP	G.L. Barrowman & Co 30 Ettrick Walk Town Centre CUMBERNAULD	5 years in adoption, case work from Children's Panel matters arising from court referrals
Mhari MacTaggart	5 Lochknowe Street Braidwood CARLUKE	32	LLB, Dip LP, NP	Milligan, MacTaggart & Perkins Solicitors 105 Main Street WISHAW	Extensive experience in adoptions and children's referrals on court panel preparing custody access reports
James Muir	"Dunvegan" 71 Wildman Road Law	35	LLB (Hons), Dip LP, NP, SSC	Sneddons, SSC Calder Chambers 201 Station Road Shotts	Adoption placements

APPENDIX 2

APPLICANTS SHORTLISTED FOR APPOINTMENT AS SAFEGUARDERS

NAME	ADDRESS	D.O.B/AGE	QUALIFICATIONS	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	EXPERIENCE
Kenneth Baddon	2 Wamphray Place EAST KILBRIDE	18/1/56 41	L.L.B. (Hons) M.I. Mgt.	Solicitor Criminal Injuries Compensation Board Tay House 300 Bath Street Glasgow	Experience in dealing with child abuse cases
Thomas Bradshaw	7 Alice Avenue BELLSHILL ML4 2EG	26/6/47 50	MA L.L.B. N.P.	Solicitor T.G. Bradshaw & Co. The Old Library, Bellshill (Partner)	19 years experience in dealing with matrimonial matters, family custody, access and Children's Panel referrals to the Sheriff Court
Francis Carolan	90 Kirkfield Road Kirkfieldbank LANARK ML11	8/12/40 56	C.Q.S.W.	Retired	Former Senior Social Worker (Child Care) 28 years experience in Social Work
Philip Dolan	160 Camphill Avenue GLASGOW G41 3DT Tel: 0141 649 0050	26/4/36 61	Certificate in Social Studies Diploma in Applied Social Studies	Retired	Former Area Manager 20 years experience in Social Work
Elaine Grant	1 North Grange Road Bearsden GLASGOW G61 3AE	23/7/60 37	L.L.B. (Hons) Dip. L.P.	Solicitor Jack Grant and Co. 14 Hamilton Road Motherwell	Experience in dealing with adoption petitions and family/children's matters
Jannette Hamilton	6 Highburgh Avenue LANARK ML11 7DS	24/3/51 46	L.L.B.	Solicitor Murray Hamilton and Chalmers, Bellshill	Experience in dealing with family law cases including adoption, custody and Children's Panel

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Michael Higgins	12 Leesland Tannochside UDDINGSTON G71 6TW	22/2/66 31	L.L.B. (Hons) Dip. L.P. N.P.	Solicitor T.G Bradshaw & Co. The Old Library, Bellshill	7 years of experience in compiling reports on custody, access and paternity cases
Mary MacLennan	18 St. Thomas's Well Cambusbarron STIRLING FK7 9PR Tel: 01786 463142	25/6/43 54	MA Certificate in Social Studies Diploma of Social Work (C.Q.S.W.) Certificate in Child Protection	Unemployed	Former Senior Social Worker (Child Care) 18 Years Experience in Social Work Experience as a Safeguarder for West Lothian and Perth and Kinross Councils
Brain Mohan	58 Caldercuilt Road Maryhill Park GLASGOW G20 0AL	22/5/64 33	L.L.B (Hons) Diploma in Legal Practice	Solicitor Robert Carty & Co. 17 Main Street, Wishaw	Experience in dealing with Adoption Reports, Case Work in Family Law, Childrens Panel referrals
Brenda McGilliard	Dervaig Lodge Bonkle WISHAW ML2 9PH Tel: 01698 383880	28/3/51 46	MA Diploma in Social Administration	Freelance Writer	Former Senior Social Worker (Child Care)
Paul Nicolson	7 Brackenbrae Road Bishopbriggs Glasgow G64 2AD	25/1/60 37	LLB (Hons) Dip. LP N.P.	Solicitor Nicolson O'Brien 12 Stirling Street Airdrie	Experience in dealing with custody/access disputes, children's hearing referrals and other child related cases

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Jacqueline Young	43 Marywood Square Strathbungo GLASGOW G41 2BN	04/11/62 35	L.L.B. Diploma in Legal Practice BSC (Hons) Behavioural Science	Solicitor Robert Carty & Co. 10 Anderson Street Airdrie	Reporter for Airdrie Sheriff Court (Residence) Solicitor (Family Law)

APPENDIX 3

APPLICANTS RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENT AS SAFEGUARDERS

NAME	ADDRESS	D.O.B/AGE	QUALIFICATIONS	EMPLOYMENT STATUS	EXPERIENCE
Kenneth Baddon	2 Wamphray Place EAST KILBRIDE	18/1/56 41	L.L.B. (Hons) M.I. Mgt.	Solicitor Criminal Injuries Compensation Board Tay House 300 Bath Street Glasgow	Experience in dealing with child abuse cases
Francis Carolan	90 Kirkfield Road Kirkfieldbank LANARK ML11	8/12/40 56	C.Q.S.W.	Retired	Former Senior Social Worker (Child Care) 28 years Experience in Social Work
Elaine Grant	1 North Grange Road Bearsden GLASGOW G61 3AE	23/7/60 37	L.L.B. (Hons) Dip. L.P.	Solicitor Jack Grant and Co. 14 Hamilton Road Motherwell	Experience in dealing with adoption petitions and family/children's matters
Michael Higgins	12 Leesland Tannochside UDDINGSTON G71 6TW	22/2/66 31	L.L.B. (Hons) Dip. L.P. N.P.	Solicitor T.G Bradshaw & Co. The Old Library, Bellshill	7 years of experience in compiling reports on custody, access and paternity cases

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Mary MacLennan	18 St. Thomas's Well Cambusbarron STIRLING FK7 9PR Tel: 01786 463142	25/6/43 54	MA Certificate in Social Studies Diploma of Social Work (C.Q.S.W.) Certificate in Child Protection	Unemployed	Former Senior Social Worker (Child Care) 18 Years Experience in Social Work Experience as a Safeguarder for West Lothian and Perth and Kinross Councils
Brain Mohan	58 Caldercuilt Road Maryhill Park GLASGOW G20 0AL	22/5/64 33	L.L.B (Hons) Diploma in Legal Practice	Solicitor Robert Carty & Co. 17 Main Street, Wishaw (Partner)	Experience in dealing with Adoption Reports, Case Work in Family Law, Childrens Panel referrals
Jacqueline Young	43 Marywood Square Strathbungo GLASGOW G41 2BN	04/11/62 35	L.L.B. Diploma in Legal Practice BSC (Hons) Behavioural Science	Solicitor Robert Carty & Co. 10 Anderson Street Airdrie	Reporter for Airdrie Sheriff Court (Residence) Solicitor (Family Law)