

MUCKAMORE ABBEY HOSPITAL INQUIRY
SITTING AT CORN EXCHANGE, CATHEDRAL QUARTER, BELFAST

HEARD BEFORE THE INQUIRY PANEL
ON THURSDAY, 22ND SEPTEMBER 2022 - DAY 13

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1 THE INQUIRY RESUMED AS FOLLOWS ON THURSDAY, 22ND
2 SEPTEMBER 2022

3
4 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much. Just give me a
5 second, please. Yes, Mr. McEvoy. 10:05

6 MR. McEVROY: Good more morning, chair. Good morning,
7 panel members. So the programme for today of the
8 Inquiry is that this morning the Inquiry will hear from
9 the sister of former patient P21, and then this
10 afternoon the Inquiry will hear from the mother of 10:06
11 former patient P23.

12
13 In relation to the evidence this morning from P21, who
14 can be known by her first name, which is Kathleen --

15 CHAIRPERSON: Sorry, I thought it was P22. It's P21? 10:06

16 MR. McEVROY: She can be known by her first name, which
17 is Kathleen, and she is going to talk about her sister,
18 who is now deceased, and her name was Mary.

19
20 Before the witness is called, chair, I'd like just to 10:06
21 set out the background to the evidence that will be
22 given so that the Inquiry and those present are clear
23 as to what's going to be led.

24
25 There are, in total, three statements, but two of 10:06
26 principal significance that are in the possession of
27 the Inquiry and which have been shared with core
28 participants. And if you bear with me, I will set out
29 the background so that everybody is sort of orientated

1 in what is to be called.

2
3 The witness has given to the Inquiry a statement dated
4 6th May 2022, and a further statement dated 9th
5 September 2022. Now, the respective references for 10:07
6 those two statements, just so everyone is clear, the
7 6th May statement is 013-69, and the 9th September
8 statement is 060-1.

9
10 Now, there are six exhibits with that first statement 10:07
11 and there is one exhibit with the second statement.
12 I'll turn to the exhibits to the first statement in a
13 moment, but importantly for present purposes, the
14 exhibit to the second statement, which starts at 060-8,
15 is in fact an amended version of the statement of 6th 10:08
16 May and it is, therefore, exhibited -- it is an
17 exhibit, as I hope is clear, to that 9th September
18 statement. And the...

19 CHAIRPERSON: So that's the corrected version?

20 MR. McEVOY: That can be considered the corrected, if 10:08
21 you like, version, yes. You're one step ahead of me,
22 chair, as ever. The point is, as I hope the witness
23 will explain, if it is necessary, having made the first
24 statement, some further matters occurred to her which
25 she wanted to tell the Inquiry about, hence the 10:09
26 additional statement and then the amended version.

27
28 So if it is in order, what I propose to do is to read
29 the amended -- or the corrected version, that is the

1 one that commences at 060-8, firstly, and I'll take the
2 witness through that and the exhibits, but the exhibits
3 to which I refer will be the exhibits to the initial
4 statement. So I'll simply refer to the page reference
5 number when I do that, for ease of reference. I hope 10:09
6 that works out. It seems to be the most navigable way.
7 Although the proof of the pudding will be in the
8 eating, I guess. So that's what I propose to do in
9 respect of what is the corrected first statement and
10 exhibits. 10:10

11
12 I should say in relation to that first set of exhibits,
13 there is one substantial exhibit. I'm not going to
14 read it. It's a report. I'm not going to read it.
15 There isn't a great deal of reference to it in the 10:10
16 statement anyway.

17 CHAIRPERSON: No.

18 MR. McEVOY: There are some others which I will read in
19 to the record - and they are briefer. And there is
20 then a number of photographs which I think the team 10:10
21 will ensure are circulated on screen.

22 CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

23 MR. McEVOY: There is then also, core participants will
24 be aware and the Inquiry will be aware, a video in the
25 possession of the Inquiry. I should say, just for 10:10
26 clarity, the video is not going to be played. It's not
27 relied upon or intended to be relied upon by the
28 Inquiry team.

29 CHAIRPERSON: okay.

1 MR. McEVOY: Because it was produced in the event that
2 the witness may not have been able to come physically
3 to the Inquiry and give evidence. She is here today.
4 CHAIRPERSON: Yes. Well, we've got the witness, so we
5 don't need the video. 10:11
6 MR. McEVOY: Exactly.
7 CHAIRPERSON: That's fine. And has this been -- first
8 of all, all CPs are present in the room, have you
9 spoken to them and do they understand the approach
10 that's going to be taken? 10:11
11 MR. McEVOY: Everybody should be...
12 CHAIRPERSON: And don't dissent?
13 MR. McEVOY: Everybody should be aware of the approach.
14 CHAIRPERSON: All right.
15 MR. McEVOY: And I don't foresee a difficulty, because 10:11
16 I don't understand this to be at all a controversial
17 witness
18 CHAIRPERSON: No, I'm sure she isn't. And does the
19 witness herself know what you're going to do?
20 MR. McEVOY: She does. She does. 10:11
21 CHAIRPERSON: Okay, lovely. So shall we have her in?
22 MR. McEVOY: We'll should have her in.
23 CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you. And just for
24 transparency, I should mention I've met this witness.
25 I met her at, I think, the first engagement session and 10:12
26 I've spoken briefly to her.
27
28
29

1 KATHLEEN, P22' S SISTER, HAVING BEEN SWORN, WAS EXAMINED
2 BY MR. McEVOY AS FOLLOWS

3
4 MR. McEVOY: Good morning, Kathleen.

5 A. Good morning. 10:13

6 1 Q. You're very welcome to the Inquiry. We've met. As you
7 know, my name is Mark McEvoy. I'm one of the
8 barristers assisting the Inquiry with its work. What
9 I'm going to do now is read out the statements that you
10 have made for the purposes of the Inquiry. I'll pause, 10:13
11 because there are some documents, press cuttings,
12 principally, that I'm going to read out. And then when
13 I've finished reading out the two statements, I'll have
14 some further questions for you. Is that okay?

15 A. Yeah. 10:13

16 2 Q. So, Kathleen, the first statement that I'm going to
17 read out is one dated 6th May 2022. And you might not
18 be able to see it, but everybody else, hopefully, can.
19 There's a little mark up in the corner which is 060-8.
20 And you hopefully can see that there is a box in the 10:14
21 corner which says Exhibit 1?

22 CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Just before you start, Mr. McEvoy,
23 just for the transcript, we need the cipher number, the
24 witness' cipher number.

25 MR. McEVOY: The witness' cipher is P22. 10:14

26 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much.

27 CHAIRPERSON: I thought it was P22. You told me
28 earlier it was P21.

29 MR. McEVOY: It's P22.

1 CHAIRPERSON: It is P22? Right. Thank you.

2 MR. McEVROY: So, Kathleen, I'm going to start reading
3 out that statement now.

4 A. Okay.

5 3 Q. And, as I say, I'll pause at one or two points along 10:14
6 the way.

7

8 "I, Kathleen, make the following statement for the
9 purpose of the Muckamore Abbey Hospital Inquiry. In
10 exhibiting any documents, I will use my initials KM. 10:14
11 So my first document will be KM1. In addition to the
12 statement, I have today made a video statement which is
13 appended to the statement at KM1.

14

15 My connection with Muckamore is that I was a relative 10:15
16 and carer of a patient who was at Muckamore. My sister
17 Mary... "

18

19 I beg your pardon, "Mary, was a patient at Muckamore".

20 CHAIRPERSON: Can we just pause the feed, please? 10:15
21

22 [Short pause in proceedings]

23

24 MR. McEVROY:

25 10:15

26 "I, Kathleen, make the following statement for the
27 purpose of the Muckamore Abbey Hospital."

28

29 CHAIRPERSON: Sorry, I thought we were ciphering this?

1 MR. McEVOY: It's first name.
2 CHAIRPERSON: I appreciate that, you've just read out
3 the surname.
4 MR. McEVOY: I beg your pardon. I beg your pardon.
5 CHAIRPERSON: All right. Let's just stop for a second. 10:16
6 Slow down.
7
8 [Short pause in proceedings]
9
10 MR. McEVOY: Forgive me. 10:16
11
12 "I, Kathleen, make the following statement for the
13 purpose of the Muckamore Abbey Hospital Inquiry.
14 In exhibiting any documents, I will use my initials KM,
15 so my first document will be KM1. In addition to the 10:16
16 statement, I have today made a video statement which is
17 appended to the statement at KM1.
18
19 My connection with Muckamore is that I was a relative
20 and carer of a patient who was at Muckamore. My 10:16
21 sister, Mary, was a patient at Muckamore. The relevant
22 time period that I can speak about is between 1969 and
23 2018.
24
25 Mary was the baby of the family. I am the second 10:16
26 oldest of eight children. Richard Junior, Kathleen,
27 Patrick, Peggy, Alice, Brian, Anne and Mary. Our
28 mother, Catherine, had been orphaned at 12 years old
29 and was brought up by her local community following the

1 death of her mother and subsequently her aunt. She
2 married my father, Richard, who lived in the same
3 street. He worked in the docks. My father taught me a
4 lot.

5
6 Mary was born on 1st April 1951. We lived in a two bed
7 house in McCleery Street off North Queen Street. With
8 all the children in the house, I was never without a
9 pram. Our mother did her best. My father took a
10 drink.

11
12 I was about 14 years old and about to start work in
13 Gallagher's Cigarette Factory when Mary was born. I
14 was a busy teenager. My mother would have done
15 messages.

16
17 I remember when our mother was expecting Mary. I slept
18 in the same room as our mother and father and, although
19 they had not told me, I knew that our mother was
20 expecting. I remember one night she took bad."

21
22 CHAIRPERSON: Hold on a second. Are you following
23 this?

24 THE WITNESS: No.

25 CHAIRPERSON: Or are you lost?

26 THE WITNESS: There's some confusion.

27 CHAIRPERSON: Yeah. Okay. So let's just stop a second
28 to make sure the witness has got the right version.
29 I've got a spare if you need it.

1 MS. RICHARDSON: No, it's fine.

2 CHAIRPERSON: Yeah. So you're on paragraph 6?

3 MR. McEVOY: 6.

4 CHAIRPERSON: Do you want to go from the top of 6
5 again? 10:18

6 MR. McEVOY: Yeah.

7 CHAIRPERSON: Please don't be afraid to just -- if
8 you're not following, shout.

9 THE WITNESS: Okay. Yeah.

10 CHAIRPERSON: Tell us. It's much better than, you 10:18
11 know, pretending you're following. Okay.

12 MR. McEVOY: So I'll start at 6 again:

13

14 "I remember when our mother was expecting Mary. I
15 slept in the same room as our mother and father and, 10:18
16 although she hadn't told me, I knew that our mother was
17 expecting. I remember one night she took bad. I
18 pretended to be asleep, but I heard my mum crying in
19 pain. Our local doctor lived close by. I stayed with
20 our mother and father and our father went to get the 10:18
21 doctor. A neighbour also attended my mother during the
22 night. The doctor wasn't in and our father had to go
23 looking for him. My mother had a long and difficult
24 labour with Mary getting stuck at one point.

25 10:19

26 The doctor finally arrived at 4:00 in the morning and
27 by this stage the baby, Mary, had started to come out.
28 The doctor delivered Mary and I found out later from
29 our parents that the doctor was drunk. We weren't sure

1 whether there was anything wrong with Mary and the
2 doctor told us that he wouldn't be able to tell until
3 Mary was at least six weeks old. I recall our mother
4 and our neighbour discussing Mary's progress and the
5 fact that she couldn't see properly and I remember them 10:19
6 saying that Mary suffered some sort of birth related
7 injury that accounted for her disability.

8
9 When Mary was a baby, she wasn't really noticing
10 things, but they didn't think it was as bad as it was. 10:19
11 She took longer than other children to walk. She was
12 almost two years old. This was explained as being
13 because of the difficult birth.

14
15 I attach at KM2 a photograph of Mary when she was a 10:20
16 toddler.

17
18 Growing up with Mary being the youngest, we didn't
19 treat her any differently. Mary had a lovely nature.
20 We could all understand Mary, but it was like she had 10:20
21 her own language. Other people wouldn't really have
22 been able to understand her. Mary was perfectly
23 capable of carrying out some household chores by
24 herself, such as make the beds, which she did
25 regularly, and would re-make them if someone else's 10:20
26 effort was not to her satisfaction.

27
28 Mary went to Glenravel Special School in Glenravel
29 Street, North Belfast. We used to walk Mary to the

1 corner of our street and then she would have walked the
2 rest on her own. She would have walked home on her
3 own. Mary went there until she was around 18 years
4 old.

5
6 When Mary was around 18 years old, our mother took Mary
7 to our general practitioner, Dr. McKeown, because the
8 school said that Mary was starting to scream and her
9 nature had changed. Dr. McKeown said that he couldn't
10 explain it and recommended that we send Mary to
11 Muckamore. I also noted a significant deterioration in
12 Mary.

13
14 Our family was told that Mary's admission was for
15 assessment and diagnosis, as well as the prescription
16 of medication, as the general practitioner said he
17 could not do.

18
19 Our family understood that Mary would only be in
20 Muckamore for a short period to deal with the
21 deterioration in her behaviour and then she would be
22 back home. I believe that our family was told this
23 information by our general practitioner.

24
25 When Mary went to Muckamore, she couldn't settle and
26 she didn't like it at all. When Mary first went into
27 Muckamore, she was in Villa 4. After a while, she was
28 moved to Venice Ward.

1 Muckamore tried a number of different drugs, but they
2 didn't have any effect and Mary didn't get any better.
3 Muckamore kept saying that it was a matter of getting
4 Mary stabilised, but she was never stabilised and she
5 never came home. 10:22

6
7 When Mary lived at home, she communicated in her own
8 wee language that our family could understand. This
9 largely stopped in Muckamore. Mary could, at one time,
10 have indicated whether something was wrong via her own 10:22
11 language. Mary didn't speak very much when she went
12 into Muckamore, but she would have been crying to get
13 home. Mary continued to cry throughout her time in
14 Muckamore. I saw this when I was visiting. Although
15 Mary didn't speak very much, we knew what she meant. 10:22

16
17 We never got to know any of the staff in Muckamore.
18 They weren't friendly at all. There was one Sister who
19 Mary knew. The sister worked in Villa 4 and Mary
20 always wanted to talk to her, but the staff would keep 10:23
21 Mary away from her. Mary had no contact with this
22 Sister when she moved from Villa 4 to Ennis Ward.

23
24 Mary really didn't like the staff in Muckamore. If a
25 member of staff walk into a room where Mary was, Mary 10:23
26 would have closed her eyes and looked away, shielding
27 her face from view.

28
29 We used to take Mary out at weekends, but it would have

1 taken a number of us to mind her. We were not informed
2 about the medication Mary was on, nor did she have any
3 medication when she was at home with us at weekends.
4

5 Mary was clingy to our mother. I recall one time, 10:23
6 although I am not sure when this was, that we were
7 taking Mary back to Muckamore and she became really
8 frustrated and put her head through the window. This
9 self-injurious or otherwise dangerous behaviour only
10 started when Mary had been in Muckamore for a while. I 10:24
11 do not recall the precise year this started.
12

13 We visited Mary at Muckamore three or four times per
14 week, each of us taking turns. Our family operated a
15 rota system for visits. We, the children, took turns 10:24
16 going up with our mother. Our father was never in
17 Muckamore. We were never really inside and most of the
18 time we would have taken her for walks outside. As our
19 siblings moved away, my husband and I would visit Mary
20 every week, with the others seeing her when they 10:24
21 returned and on special occasions like her birthday.
22 Before our mother died, she asked me to look after
23 Mary.
24

25 Prior to Mary being admitted to Muckamore, our family 10:24
26 collected Mary's benefits. With this money, we
27 provided her with clothing. After Mary was admitted to
28 Muckamore, Muckamore or the Trust received Mary's
29 benefits, which I understood should have been used to

1 purchase clothing for Mary. However, when we visited,
2 Mary would have been very poorly dressed and I found it
3 very upsetting to see Mary looking a mess, as that was
4 not how she was at home, where she had been properly
5 dressed and had her hair done. We didn't have much, 10:25
6 but we would have bought her clothes on a Sunday and
7 dressed her.

8
9 I remember on one occasion, although I do not remember
10 when, that we visited Mary and she was wearing this 10:25
11 rabbit costume, which zipped up at the back or looked
12 as if it had been put on back to front. It was like a
13 fancy dress costume. I don't know why Mary was wearing
14 it. Maybe she was taking off her clothes. I recall
15 that, on this occasion, the family members visiting 10:25
16 considered what Mary was wearing to be so inappropriate
17 that we were not able to take her out.

18
19 Muckamore wasn't like a hospital, it was more like a
20 prison. All you could hear were keys and locks. There 10:26
21 always seemed to be about four doors that we would have
22 to go through. In each part there were people, and
23 maybe they were segregated for some good reason.

24
25 There were always these four children who were 10:26
26 together. I recall one of them, P38, who was in
27 Muckamore with Mary, and then with Mary again later at
28 Apple Mews. P38 was a dwarf and she would have gone up
29 on my knee. The staff at Muckamore would pull her off

1 my lap, but she wasn't doing any harm. I do not recall
2 the name of any of the staff involved.

3
4 Sometimes we went into the canteen, known as Cosy
5 Corner, at Muckamore for visits. However, the canteen 10:26
6 staff weren't very nice and didn't really take time
7 with patients, even when their families were there. I
8 recall some occasions, although I cannot remember
9 dates, visiting Mary and being in the canteen. Mary
10 was inclined to go up to the counter, even if she had 10:27
11 already just finished eating her bun or whatever. The
12 staff would chase her, telling her to go away, and were
13 rude to her.

14
15 I recall on one occasion, although I am not sure of the 10:27
16 dates, that I told them off for the way they were
17 speaking to the patients and that they shouldn't be
18 working in Muckamore with handicapped children with
19 that attitude. I said that it wasn't the children's
20 fault, because they didn't know any better. 10:27

21
22 The whole time Mary was in Muckamore, dad never went
23 near it. Our mum would have gone if someone was with
24 her. She was really annoyed at herself for allowing
25 Mary to be put in there. It upset Mary when mum went 10:27
26 there, as Mary wanted to go home with her and couldn't.

27
28 The whole time that Mary was in Muckamore, I never met
29 a doctor who was involved in Mary's care. When Mary

1 was in Muckamore, we never, ever got any calls to say
2 that Mary had been in a fall or that she had been
3 injured.

4
5 When it was in the news about the whistleblower and the 10:28
6 girl brought back from Australia, I got a call from
7 Muckamore to say that Mary had been in an incident and
8 had been hit in the mouth and was injured. A police
9 woman... "

10
11 UNNAMED SPEAKER: Stop, please. 10:28

12 CHAIRPERSON: Let's stop the feed first of all. What's
13 the issue?

14 MR. McEVOY: I don't know what the issue is?

15 CHAIRPERSON: Do you want to speak to the PSNI? I'm 10:28
16 going to sit here, because I don't want the witness to
17 have to leave. There may be an issue about the name.

18
19 [Short pause in proceedings]

20
21 CHAIRPERSON: All right, let's take a break. I'm 10:29
22 really sorry, there are sensitivities around lots of
23 things. Do you mind popping through the door? Okay,
24 we'll just stop for five minutes.

25
26 SHORT PAUSE IN PROCEEDINGS 10:30

27
28 CHAIRPERSON: Before we bring back the witness, so we
29 don't disturb her, if you just want to tell me what's

1 going on.

2 MR. McEVOY: Yeah. It's an entirely uncontroversial
3 issue, chair --

4 CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Just let the witness sit down and
5 then you can explain it to me what's happening. Just 10:36
6 take a seat for a moment. So what's the problem?

7 MR. McEVOY: It's an entirely uncontroversial issue, as
8 it transpires, chair. The matter has been discussed
9 with those present today on behalf of the PSNI. The
10 person involved is not relevant. For present purposes 10:36
11 we're content not to identify the person concerned. I
12 would like to ensure the Inquiry on behalf of the
13 Inquiry team that there will be no further disruptions
14 or interventions of that kind and the matter will be
15 followed up after today's proceedings. 10:36

16 CHAIRPERSON: Well, okay. Are you asking for the...

17 MR. McEVOY: what I propose to do is to restart at the
18 beginning of paragraph 22, just for the benefit of the
19 technicians.

20 CHAIRPERSON: And simply not name that person? 10:36

21 MR. McEVOY: Yeah, just to account for -- there's a
22 time lag I think.

23 CHAIRPERSON: Can I just say this: There are only, I
24 think, two general restriction orders that I have made.
25 This is a public hearing. This is a public inquiry. 10:37
26 Unless I make a restriction order then everything
27 should be read out. The only restriction orders are in
28 relation to patient names and staff. I have not been
29 asked to make a restriction order in relation to any

1 police officers' names. It is a statutory procedure
2 that I have to go through. So on this occasion, simply
3 through irrelevance, I will allow that name not to be
4 read. But if there is to be an application for a
5 restriction order, it has to be done formally, and it 10:37
6 is a formal process, and then I have to make a decision
7 about it.

8
9 Right. Mr. McEvoy, not your fault at all. Nothing to
10 do with you at all, Madam. 10:37

11 THE WITNESS: Okay.

12 CHAIRPERSON: So apologies for the interruption.

13 Right. Let's crack on.

14 MR. McEVROY: Thank you, sir. Again, Kathleen, I would
15 like to apologise. Absolutely nothing to do with you. 10:38
16 You were doing very well.

17 CHAIRPERSON: Okay. We were on paragraph 24.

18 MR. McEVROY: Yeah. So I think the technicians have
19 asked me to start at 22, sir, just for the benefit of
20 the... 10:38

21 CHAIRPERSON: All right.

22 MR. McEVROY: So we'll take it up there again:

23
24 "The whole time Mary was in Muckamore, dad never went
25 near it. Our mum would have gone if someone was with 10:38
26 her. She was really annoyed at herself for allowing
27 Mary to be put in there.

28
29 It upset Mary when mum went there, as Mary wanted to go

1 home with her and couldn't. The whole time that Mary
2 was in Muckamore, I never met a doctor who was involved
3 in Mary's care. When Mary was in Muckamore we never
4 got any calls to say that Mary had been in a fall or
5 that she had been injured.

10:38

6
7 When it was in the news about the whistleblower and the
8 girl brought back from Australia, I got a phone call
9 from Muckamore to say that Mary had been in an incident
10 and had been hit in the mouth and was injured. A
11 police woman notified me that Mary had been involved in
12 an incident. Muckamore told me nothing about it. H158
13 told me nothing about it. The police woman kept me
14 updated.

10:38

15
16 A member of Muckamore staff, H159, I think, had pulled
17 a patient down. A patient, whose name Muckamore
18 refused to tell me, had hit Mary. H159 had encouraged
19 Mary to fight back. H159 had said to Mary "go on, hit
20 her back you big softy". This must have been
21 entertainment for them. H159 was investigated and was
22 in the newspaper. I attach a cutting at KM4."

10:39

10:39

23
24 So, Kathleen, I'm going to stop there just for a second
25 and I'm going to just take everybody to the cuttings.
26 They should be, just for the reference of those
27 present, 013-17. So I'm just going to read those out.
28 The first - there are two cuttings. The first is a
29 cutting, I think, from the Belfast Telegraph, and it's

10:39

1 dated December 16, 2014.

2 CHAIRPERSON: I think we can summarise it probably.

3 MR. McEVOY: And here we have a cutting where it
4 discusses a two month suspended jail term given to a
5 nursing assistant at County Antrim Mental Hospital. It 10:40
6 indicates her wish to appeal, and the sentence was
7 given for an assault upon a patient by pulling her from
8 a sofa and joking about it.

9
10 It also notes the District Judge who passed sentence 10:40
11 saying that while the assault was completely
12 unjustified, he accepted that the nursing assistant and
13 her colleagues worked in highly stressful
14 circumstances. And it then mentions witness evidence
15 given by a prosecution witness who had travelled from 10:40
16 Australia to assist.

17
18 The second press cutting then is a slightly more
19 extensive account from the Irish News, and it's dated
20 November 21st, 2014. It again discusses the same 10:41
21 incident in the same terms. It gives a little bit more
22 detail about the particulars around the assaults. It
23 gives the date as being November 7th, 2012 in relation
24 to the index incident, and it indicates also that one
25 of the assistants involved had some 40 years of nursing 10:41
26 experience, and her plea that she would never have
27 behaved in the way that was alleged against her.

28
29 So those are the two press clippings.

1 A. Okay.

2 CHAIRPERSON: Just to finish that off. Right at the

3 end of the bundle - and we might as well deal with this

4 in this passage.

5 MR. McEVOY: Yeah. Sure. 10:42

6 CHAIRPERSON: Is a notification of an outcome of a

7 Court hearing.

8 MR. McEVOY: Yeah

9 CHAIRPERSON: And I have to confess I'm confused by it,

10 because I can't work out if this individual 10:42

11 successfully appealed the conviction or not? Do we

12 know what the answer is?

13 MR. McEVOY: we don't. My understanding is that the --

14 and indeed the -- I was going to ask the witness about

15 this afterwards, if I may. 10:42

16 CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Fine. Well we'll come back to

17 that.

18 MR. McEVOY: So I may park it. We may be able to

19 elucidate it a little bit, but we'll hopefully be able

20 to try and... 10:42

21 CHAIRPERSON: Okay. It may not matter.

22 MR. McEVOY: -- have clarity or not, as the case might

23 be.

24 CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

25 MR. McEVOY: Picking up then, Kathleen: 10:42

26

27 "I attach a copy of the Ennis Ward ASI report dated

28 23rd October 2013 as KM5. "

29

1 And at the outset I described a detailed report that I
2 wasn't intending to open, and I'm not going to do that.
3 But then you go on to say:

4
5 "I was not provided with this report until it was
6 provided to me by my solicitor."

10:43

7
8 Then you say:

9
10 "H159 was convicted at Coleraine Courthouse of common
11 assault in February 2015, and I attach a copy of that
12 letter as KM6."

10:43

13
14 And the chair was just mentioning it there, but we can
15 see then there is a document which is 013-92, which is
16 a notification of outcome of court hearing, and it
17 tells us that H159 appeared at Coleraine Courthouse on
18 3rd February 2015, which would have been a few months
19 after the newspaper clipping in November 2014, and
20 details the offences prosecuted and the outcome. It
21 talks about the offence of common assaults, a plea of
22 not guilty, a finding of guilty, but then it says
23 "appeal allowed. Conviction and order reversed". It
24 then says "suspended sentence. Prison or YOC. Two
25 months imprisonment suspended for two years".

10:43

10:44

10:44

26
27 Then if you just turn over the page then you'll see
28 that's the letter, I think, that you mentioned that you
29 got from victim and witness care unit with that

1 document attached. And I think we can see, if we look
2 at the letter itself, it's addressed to Mary at the
3 Hospital.

4 A. Yeah.

5 4 Q. Okay. So, Kathleen, you then go on to say in the 10:44
6 statement that you recall:

7
8 "...one incident at a Christmas party, although I do
9 not recall the date. I was always there for these
10 events, but there seemed to be no staff there 10:44
11 supervising things. I remember one man, a patient,
12 going around every female patient. I found out that he
13 was from the paedophile wing there. He was asking them
14 to get up and dance and pushing himself into females
15 provocatively. It was disgusting. The way he was 10:45
16 treating them was unbelievable. I think he was picking
17 on the ones who were most vulnerable and who didn't
18 have family with them. He came up to Mary and me, but
19 I got rid of him. I went up to the staff and told them
20 what he was doing, but they didn't do anything. I 10:45
21 don't remember their names, but they just ignored me.
22 He was pushing himself on one of the women patients and
23 he left the party with her, just the two of them. I
24 went up to the staff because it wasn't right, but they
25 didn't do anything. 10:45

26
27 I recall a lady, whose name I do not recall, whose son
28 was in Muckamore telling me that while she was walking
29 in Muckamore grounds she had witnessed the same male

1 patient in a state of undress with another female
2 patient in bushes. The suggestion from this woman was
3 that the two patients were engaged in sexual activity.
4 This lady also told me that there was a paedophile wing
5 and that she attended the Christmas party I have
6 mentioned. 10:46

7
8 I received no adequate information from Muckamore staff
9 as to Mary's care, treatment or medication. I was
10 never provided with any brochures or leaflets dealing 10:46
11 with admission, patients' and family's rights, care and
12 services provided by Muckamore or resettlement from
13 Muckamore. I never saw Mary's bedroom in Muckamore. I
14 was not aware of Mary ever being provided with
15 meaningful leisure or other activities in Muckamore. I 10:46
16 do not know whether Mary was detained at Muckamore, but
17 I do not believe so.

18
19 We, Mary's family, were never informed that Mary could
20 be transferred to a care home until we were told Mary 10:46
21 had to be moved out because either Muckamore or Mary's
22 ward was closing. Had we known that this was possible,
23 we would have removed Mary from Muckamore earlier
24 because she was so unhappy there. I do not recall the
25 date, but I think that it was H158 who told me. I took 10:47
26 that as fact. Muckamore is still open. I think that
27 Ennis Ward just closed because there was so much
28 happening in it.
29

1 The resettlement team gave me a list of places that
2 they thought would be suitable for someone with Mary's
3 needs. I recall one they suggested, Bohill Nursing
4 Home. I didn't go for that as it was too far away and
5 would have meant me getting three buses. I never had 10:47
6 any meetings with the resettlement team when Mary was
7 moving.

8
9 I feel that I was not advised of the true or complete
10 reasons for the closure of the Ennis Ward. I now 10:47
11 believe I was only advised that it was closing down so
12 that Mary would have to move out.

13
14 One of the places that I viewed was Apple Mews in
15 Armagh. This is the nursing home I selected for Mary. 10:48
16 Although it was far away as well, it was only one bus.

17
18 The staff at Apple Mews were so nice. The part of it
19 offered to Mary wasn't finished yet, but I looked round
20 one of the other completed parts. It was such a 10:48
21 difference from Muckamore. I saw Mary smile for the
22 first time in a very long time. Mary was provided with
23 a wheelchair by Apple Mews. This meant that she was
24 able to move herself about the facility, which was
25 something that did not happen at Muckamore, where she 10:48
26 had less mobility without the use of a wheelchair. The
27 staff found out that I was getting the bus down to
28 Armagh and they would have met me at the bus stop and
29 left me down again, even though it was only a short

1 walk. The staff at Apple Mews couldn't do enough for
2 me or Mary.

3
4 P38 was there and she was able to sit on my knee with
5 no difficulties from staff. 10:49

6
7 I never got a photo of Mary at Muckamore. At Apple
8 Mews I got photos of Mary at her birthday - they had
9 cake - taking her out places and at Christmas. It was
10 so different seeing Mary with a dress and a handbag. I 10:49
11 attach photos of Mary taken at Apple Mews at KM3.

12
13 I was going to Apple Mews for a while when one of the
14 staff, H158, asked for a meeting with me. I do not
15 recall the date. H158 said that they could pay for 10:49
16 some of the travel and insisted that I took some money.
17 H158 said that it was Mary's money and that she had
18 lots of it. This money was Mary's benefits and
19 allowances. It was about £40,000. Mary died not long
20 after I was told about this money and the amount. 10:50

21
22 Mary died on 5th January 2020 from a pneumonia like
23 infection at Craigavon Hospital. She was in and out of
24 the hospital a bit. She was only out of hospital one
25 day when Apple Mews sent for me. They said that 10:50
26 nothing could be done for Mary, so they were bringing
27 her home. I went down to see her two days before she
28 died. Although she never usually held my hand, on that
29 day, Mary did. Mary must have known.

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After Mary passed away, I got a letter from Muckamore from the Patient's Property Department. I'm not sure of the date. The letter said that I should contact them to arrange for collection of some of Mary's property. I thought that this would be clothes or personal belongings. When I called them, they told me that it was money. This was the money that H158 had been talking about and it was going into an account that Muckamore controlled. However, there was only £20,000 in it. I never received any form of apology from or on behalf of Muckamore.

10:50

10:51

I would still welcome a public apology in this regard. I didn't make a complaint or fuss about the money at the time, as I thought what's the use?

10:51

I believe that I was an early advocate for a public inquiry. I attended at Phoenix Law and provided a statement for them to submit to the Minister of Health in support of a public inquiry into the abuse at Muckamore. I saw the advertisement for Muckamore Abbey Hospital Inquiry and I couldn't wait to take part, as I seemed to have been knocking my head against a brick wall with Muckamore and H158.

10:51

10:51

I went on my own to Muckamore Abbey Hospital Inquiry and I got two buses. I was the first person into the meeting room, as I was anxious to get in. I felt so

1 satisfied that I had gone to the Muckamore Abbey
2 Hospital Inquiry and I brought some closure to it.

3
4 I want the Muckamore Abbey Hospital Inquiry to explain
5 how it came to be that Mary was subject to abuse and 10:52
6 ill-treatment. I am concerned that this treatment
7 occurred both before and after."

8
9 CHAIRPERSON: Both before.

10 MR. McEVOY: 10:52

11
12 "...both before and after I was notified by police of
13 the incident with H159. This incident is described in
14 the newspaper article attached as KM4.

15 10:52
16 I hope that nobody else goes through the same thing
17 that I and Mary went through. You don't realise what
18 people go through and I would like the whole truth to
19 come out. We probably won't like the truth when it
20 comes out." 10:52

21
22 So that's the end of the first statement, Kathleen.
23 And I'm going to move across then to the second one.
24 And this time I'm not going to read your whole name
25 out! 10:53

26 CHAIRPERSON: The second one is quite a lot shorter.
27 Are you okay to keep going for a bit?

28 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

29 CHAIRPERSON: If you need a break at any stage, will

1 you just let me know?

2 A. No, I'm fine.

3 CHAIRPERSON: All right.

4 MR. McEVOY: So, Kathleen, this one has a number at the
5 top of 060-1. 10:53

6

7 "I, Kathleen, make the following statement for the
8 purpose of the Muckamore Abbey Hospital Inquiry. In
9 exhibiting any documents, I will number the documents.
10 So my first document will be Exhibit 1." 10:53

11

12 I should say before I move on that this is dated the
13 9th day of September 2022.

14

15 "This is my second written statement to the Inquiry. I 10:53
16 gave my first statement on 6th May 2022 and which I
17 signed on 9th May 2022. A copy of this first statement
18 incorporating the amendments/clari f i c a t i o n s I l i s t e d
19 below is attached as Exhibit 1 for the assistance of
20 the Inquiry." 10:54

21

22 Then you say:

23

24 "My connection with Muckamore is that I was a relative
25 and carer of a patient who was at Muckamore. My 10:54
26 sister, Mary, was a patient at Muckamore.

27

28 The relevant time period that I can speak about is
29 between 1969 and 2018.

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My sister, Mary, was born on 1st April 1951.

My mother had a long and difficult labour with Mary getting stuck at one point. During the labour a neighbour also attended our mother during the night, as well as me. I recall our mother and our neighbour discussing Mary's progress and the fact that she couldn't see properly, and I remember them saying that Mary suffered some sort of birth related injury that accounted for her disability. 10:54 10:54

Growing up, Mary was perfectly capable of carrying out some household chores by herself, such as making the beds, which she did regularly and she would re-make them if someone else's effort was not to her satisfaction. 10:55

I noted a deterioration in Mary's behaviour when she was around 18. 10:55

Mary was admitted to Muckamore in 1969. At the time our family was told by our general practitioner that Mary's admission to Muckamore was for assessment and diagnosis, as well as the prescription of medication, as the general practitioner said that he could not do this. Our family understood that Mary would only be in Muckamore for a short period to deal with the deterioration in her behaviour and then she would come 10:55

1 back home.

2

3

When Mary lived at home, she communicated in her own
wee language that our family could understand. This
largely stopped when she was admitted to Muckamore.

10:55

6

Mary could, at one time, have indicated whether
something was wrong via her own language.

7

8

9

Mary continued to cry throughout her time at Muckamore.

10

I recall witnessing this during my visits to Mary at
Muckamore. We were not informed about the medication
Mary was on, nor did she have any medication when she
was at home with us at weekends.

10:56

11

12

13

14

15

I refer to an incident in paragraph 16 of my first
statement in relation to Mary putting her hand through
a window. I would like to correct this, as it was
Mary's head which went through a window. I would like
to add that this self-injurious or otherwise dangerous
behaviour only started when Mary had been in Muckamore
for a while. I do not recall the precise year this
started.

10:56

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19

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22

23

24

As my siblings moved away, my husband and I would visit
Mary every week. Others in our family would visit her
when they returned and on special occasions like her
birthday. Before our mother died, around 41 years ago,
she asked me to look after Mary.

10:56

25

26

27

28

29

1 Prior to Mary being admitted to Muckamore, our family
2 collected Mary's benefits. With this money, we
3 provided her with clothing. After Mary was admitted to
4 Muckamore, Muckamore or the Trust, I'm not sure which,
5 received Mary's benefits, which I understood should 10:57
6 have been used to purchase clothing for Mary. I am not
7 sure what happened to the money that was due to Mary
8 when she was in Muckamore and I never asked. I would
9 not have known about Mary's finances, but I became more
10 aware of this when H158, Mary's social worker, said to 10:57
11 me that Mary had plenty of money and I should take some
12 money for bus fares.

13
14 I found it upsetting to see Mary looking a mess, as
15 this was not how she was at home. She had always been 10:57
16 properly dressed and had her hair done.

17
18 I refer at paragraph 19 in my first statement to a
19 rabbit costume. I would like to explain that this
20 zipped up at the back and looked as though it had been 10:58
21 put on back to front. I recall that, on this occasion
22 the family members visiting considered what Mary was
23 wearing to be so inappropriate that we were not able to
24 take her out.

25
26 I refer at paragraph 21 to the canteen in Muckamore.
27 This was known as Cosy Corner. I was not provided with
28 the Ennis Ward ASI report dated 23rd October 2013, a
29 copy of which I attached to my first statement, until

1 it was provided to me by my solicitor.

2
3 At paragraph 25 of my first statement I wrote about my
4 recollections of attending a Christmas party at
5 Muckamore and I recall further detail. I recall 10:58
6 speaking with a lady, whose name I do not recall, whose
7 son was at Muckamore. I do not recall when I spoke to
8 her. She told me that she witnessed the same male
9 patient in a state of undress with another female
10 patient in bushes. The suggestion from this woman was 10:59
11 that the two patients were engaged in sexual activity.
12 This lady also told me that there was a paedophile wing
13 and that she had attended the Christmas party I have
14 mentioned.

15 10:59
16 During Mary's time in Muckamore, I received no adequate
17 information from Muckamore staff as to Mary's care,
18 treatment or medication. I was never provided with any
19 brochures or leaflets dealing with admission, patients'
20 and families' rights, care and services to be provided 10:59
21 by Muckamore, or resettlement from Muckamore. I never
22 saw Mary's bedroom in Muckamore. I was not aware of
23 Mary ever being provided with meaningful leisure or
24 other activities in Muckamore. I do not know whether
25 Mary was officially detained at Muckamore, but I do not 10:59
26 believe so.

27
28 We, Mary's family, were never informed that Mary could
29 be transferred to a care home, until we were told Mary

1 had to be moved out because either Muckamore or Mary's
2 ward were closing. I feel that had we known that a
3 transfer was possible, we would have removed Mary from
4 Muckamore earlier, because she was so unhappy there. I
5 selected Apple Mews Nursing Home, Armagh.

11:00

6
7 Mary was provided with a wheelchair at Apple Mews.
8 This meant that she was able to move herself around the
9 facility, which was something that did not happen at
10 Muckamore, where she had less mobility, as she did not
11 have use of a wheelchair.

11:00

12
13 I was an early advocate for a public inquiry into
14 Muckamore. I attended my solicitors and provided a
15 statement for them to submit to the Minister of Health
16 in support of a public inquiry into the abuse at
17 Muckamore. I have never received any form of apology
18 from or on behalf of Muckamore. I would welcome a
19 public apology.

11:00

20
21 I want the Muckamore Abbey Hospital Inquiry to explain
22 how it came to be that Mary was subjected to abuse and
23 ill-treatment. I am concerned that this treatment
24 occurred both before and after I was notified by the
25 PSNI of the incident with H159."

11:01

26
27 okay. So, Kathleen, those are the two statements now
28 into the record, and I don't have very much more to ask
29 you about, because they're very detailed and

1 comprehensive statements, but it may help the Inquiry
2 to know a little bit more about Mary, the person, just
3 in your own words really, rather than me reading it
4 out. You talked about how, when she was at home with
5 you, she had her own wee language that you understood? 11:01

6 A. Yeah.

7 5 Q. Can you tell the Inquiry a wee bit more about that?

8 A. Well, she couldn't really put sort of words together,
9 you know, she would have just pointed and she could
10 have said "mum" and "dad", and she called me "kaki" or 11:02
11 something. She'd all different sort of wee words for
12 -- but we all knew what she was saying. It was just
13 that she could -- her speech wasn't very, very good.
14 So we accepted that and just we went along with it and
15 that was it. 11:02

16 6 Q. When she went in to Muckamore, you were telling us in
17 your statement that she spoke less then, or she --

18 A. Spoke less. well, maybe they couldn't understand what
19 she was saying, you know. But she didn't speak at all.
20 And when staff would have come in, she would have just 11:02
21 turned her head. (INDICATING).

22 7 Q. Yeah. Did the staff, at any time over the period - and
23 I appreciate she was there for a very long time - but
24 did the staff ever talk to you or your mum about
25 finding ways to -- 11:03

26 A. No.

27 8 Q. -- communicate better with her?

28 A. No. No, they never, they never spoke about that at
29 all.

1 9 Q. And you told us in your first statement that, as an
2 observation really, that the staff at Muckamore were
3 not friendly at all.
4 A. They weren't friendly at all. They would hardly have
5 spoken to you. 11:03
6 10 Q. So Mary was there from 1969?
7 A. Yeah.
8 11 Q. She was there for quite a while. would you say that
9 that was true of the whole time she was at Muckamore?
10 A. Well, we would have been there maybe once a week 11:03
11 sometimes, or sometimes three times a week. We were
12 only meant to call at the villa and get her, but you
13 were sort of kept in the hall until they went and got
14 her.
15 12 Q. Yeah. 11:03
16 A. And, like, you never seen about the place until a
17 couple of times she was sick and then they brought you
18 down to where she was, and you went through three or
19 four or five doors before you got to her.
20 13 Q. And did any of the staff ever give you -- were you ever 11:04
21 given like a regular update as to how she was getting
22 on, the things she was doing, activities and things
23 like that?
24 A. No. They never discussed anything.
25 14 Q. And throughout the statement, one of the things that 11:04
26 anybody listening to that might notice is that you
27 don't name very many staff members?
28 A. Yeah.
29 15 Q. You said that you don't recall them. But did you

1 actually know -- were you told names? were you given
2 identities?

3 A. Pardon?

4 16 Q. Were you given the names of staff members? Did you
5 know who they actually were? 11:04

6 A. No, not really.

7 17 Q. Did they ever tell you who they were?

8 A. No.

9 18 Q. Or what their roles were?

10 A. No, they didn't. 11:04

11 19 Q. Okay. You described Mary as closing her eyes when she
12 was in Muckamore?

13 A. Yeah.

14 20 Q. Can you tell the Inquiry...

15 A. In disgust. She would have, you know, closed her eyes 11:05
16 like that there (INDICATING), looked away when the
17 staff came into the room.

18 21 Q. Okay. So if you can -- maybe we'll just try and
19 describe that in a wee bit more detail. So you'd have
20 been visiting with Mary? 11:05

21 A. Pardon?

22 22 Q. You would have been visiting with Mary. I'm going to
23 pull the microphone over, okay? You'd have been
24 visiting with Mary?

25 A. Yeah. 11:05

26 23 Q. Up at Muckamore.

27 A. Yeah.

28 24 Q. And would you have had your own sort of wee like family
29 room to see her?

1 A. No.

2 25 Q. Or where would you have seen her?

3 A. No. They would just have went down this corridor,
4 which was made of about four doors in a row, and got
5 her. But sometimes I followed them. 11:05

6 26 Q. Mm-hmm.

7 A. Just to, you know, to get Mary, you know, thinking that
8 she'd be smiling when she seen me.

9 27 Q. Mm-hmm.

10 A. And sometimes she just said, you know, "we'll go down 11:05
11 and get her", and they came back with her.

12 28 Q. Mm-hmm. And did you have, did you have a space like to
13 talk to her on her own, you know, have some privacy?

14 A. No, I took her to the Cosy Corner.

15 29 Q. Okay. 11:06

16 A. If it was a good day, I took her for walks around the
17 grounds.

18 30 Q. Yeah. So in the Cosy Corner, you'd have been having a
19 chat and catching up, I suppose?

20 A. Yes, with other parents. 11:06

21 31 Q. Yeah.

22 A. Yeah, we'd have -- that's mostly where I would have sat
23 with her, if it was raining or it was too cold to go
24 out.

25 32 Q. Okay. 11:06

26 A. We'd have brought her there.

27 33 Q. And if you're in the Cosy Corner then and a staff
28 member approached then, what would happen?

29 A. Mary went to the counter.

1 34 Q. Yeah.

2 A. And she was pointing -- she didn't know that she sort
3 of needed money -- she was pointing to another bun that
4 she wanted.

5 35 Q. Okay. 11:06

6 A. And they were very rude to her and told her to go away.

7 36 Q. Mm-hmm.

8 A. And I went up to the counter and I told them, you know,
9 "you shouldn't be working here if you can't handle
10 handicapped children". 11:07

11 37 Q. Mm-hmm. How old would Mary have been at that time, do
12 you think?

13 A. Well, she probably was in her 20s then.

14 38 Q. Mm-hmm. Okay.

15 A. I couldn't recall exactly the age. 11:07

16 39 Q. Yeah.

17 A. She would have been in her 20s.

18 40 Q. And at that time do you think the people that you
19 scolded, do you think they knew that you were Mary's
20 sister? 11:07

21 A. Oh, yes, of course they did. They knew that we were
22 family. Because I went up to the counter and brought
23 her away from the counter and told her that she
24 shouldn't be working here if she can't handle
25 handicapped children. 11:07

26 41 Q. Yeah. So that was when Mary was in her 20s, we think?

27 A. Yes.

28 42 Q. So that would have been quite a few years ago, I
29 suppose. Were there any other incidents in the time

1 since that like that?

2 A. Not really. Not really that I recall. Like we were --

3 I wouldn't have been in the villa that long to see

4 anything.

5 43 Q. Yeah. 11:08

6 A. You know, we'd have been mostly out, brought her out.

7 Although sometimes there was incidents when I couldn't

8 take her out, that she was so badly dressed.

9 44 Q. Mm-hmm. And just on that point about the way she was

10 dressed, and you described that, the rabbit costume? 11:08

11 A. Yeah. It was -- like it was an all-in-one like fur

12 suit. Grey, dark grey. I can still see it to this

13 day. And it was zipped up the back. She was like

14 something dressed up for a fancy dress or -- if she had

15 have had a rabbit's head on her she would have looked 11:08

16 like a rabbit.

17 45 Q. Mm-hmm.

18 A. And we were unable to take her out.

19 46 Q. Mm-hmm. And why do you think she was wearing that?

20 A. Well, they didn't explain it. But I was only putting 11:08

21 my own thoughts to it, why it was or -- and I thought

22 maybe it was because maybe she was taking her clothes

23 down or something, you know, or...

24 47 Q. Is that something she might have done from time to

25 time? 11:09

26 A. That was part of sort of -- she would have done that,

27 like, you know. But we were unable to take her out and

28 they didn't, they didn't try to get us another outfit.

29 48 Q. Yeah.

1 A. -- for her. You know, they didn't say, "well, we'll
2 take that off and put something else on". They kept
3 her in the suit. So we were compelled to stay there
4 for the two hours visiting time.

5 49 Q. And, Kathleen, you were saying that when Mary was at 11:09
6 home, she was always very well dressed and had her hair
7 done?

8 A. Yeah.

9 50 Q. Apart from that incident with - and that obviously
10 sticks in your mind, the incident with the rabbit 11:09
11 costume, but generally, you mentioned the way she was
12 dressed when she was at Muckamore, can you tell the
13 Inquiry a wee bit more, just give a wee bit more detail
14 around that?

15 A. A wee bit more about what? 11:10

16 51 Q. About the way she was dressed when she was in
17 Muckamore?

18 A. She wasn't very good. Like we mostly brought clothes
19 and we'd have taken her into the ladies and changed
20 her. 11:10

21 52 Q. Yeah.

22 A. You know.

23 53 Q. Yeah. And when it wasn't very good, like what sort of
24 thing would she have been wearing that you wouldn't
25 have considered... 11:10

26 A. It wasn't appropriate.

27 54 Q. -- appropriate?

28 A. Like, you know, it was either too tight or too long or
29 there was something, you know.

1 55 Q. Yeah.

2 A. It wasn't for her age.

3 56 Q. Right.

4 A. It wasn't clothes for her age. Which means I think

5 they put on just everybody's clothes on them, you know. 11:10

6 57 Q. Yeah. Sorry, you think she might have been wearing

7 somebody else's clothes?

8 A. Yeah. Yeah.

9 58 Q. Okay. Was she clean? Was she generally speaking...

10 A. Well, I would say she was clean. Her skin and all was 11:10

11 clean, you know, like, it was clean.

12 59 Q. Yeah. Okay. One of the things that people listening

13 to your statement will have picked up on is you

14 describing Muckamore as being a bit like a prison, more

15 like a prison than a hospital. When you say that, are 11:11

16 you talking about a particular part of Muckamore or a

17 particular ward?

18 A. I'm talking about the ward.

19 60 Q. The ward. And do you know which ward?

20 A. That was Villa 4, the first one she went into. 11:11

21 61 Q. Okay.

22 A. She was only in two wards, that was that and Ennis. So

23 it was that one there, the first one.

24 62 Q. So Villa 4 is the one?

25 A. Yeah. 11:11

26 63 Q. And what would you say about Ennis in comparison? Was

27 it better other worse?

28 A. Well, it was more like a bungalow, which meant there

29 was more space for her to walk about in. She wasn't --

1 she didn't seem to be locked up as much there.

2 64 Q. Yeah. Okay.

3 A. You know, it was a bungalow.

4 65 Q. And do you know how long ago she would have moved from
5 villa 4 into Ennis? It doesn't matter if you don't? 11:11

6 A. I'm not quite sure about that, how long it took.

7 66 Q. Yeah. That's okay. You also mentioned that you
8 remember four children who were always together.

9 A. Yeah.

10 67 Q. Were they brothers and sisters? 11:12

11 A. No, they weren't. They were just, they were just
12 patients. But I had sort of got to know them, you
13 know.

14 68 Q. Yeah.

15 A. And then they were all moved to the same place in 11:12
16 Armagh.

17 69 Q. Okay. And you say they were children; were they much
18 younger than Mary?

19 A. You wouldn't really have known their age, to be
20 truthful. 11:12

21 70 Q. Yeah.

22 A. You wouldn't have known their age, you know. Like the
23 same as Mary, we classed her as a baby and yet she was
24 60.

25 71 Q. Of course. 11:12

26 A. You know.

27 72 Q. Of course.

28 A. You wouldn't have known their ages.

29 73 Q. You told us that you didn't get seeing a doctor in

1 relation to Mary's treatment when she was at Muckamore,
2 you don't remember speaking to a doctor or seeing a
3 doctor?

4 A. Never.

5 74 Q. During your mum's time - I know your mum died some 11:13
6 years ago now - but do you know whether your mum was
7 able to ever get speaking to doctor?

8 A. Oh, my mother never got speaking to a doctor. Never
9 got speaking to a doctor. She would always say to me
10 "If you're there" -- if I went on my own or with one of 11:13
11 the other members of the family -- "try and see
12 somebody and see", you know. But they really couldn't.
13 They'd just tell you she was on medication. They never
14 told you what kind of medication or how much or...

15 75 Q. Yeah. So when Mary moved to -- before I do that, maybe 11:13
16 I'll maybe ask you, just I was going to ask you about
17 the Christmas party that you described.

18 A. Yeah.

19 76 Q. Do you remember you were talking about the Christmas
20 party? where did that party take place? 11:13

21 A. It took part in the canteen.

22 77 Q. Okay. So it wasn't on a ward then, it was in --
23 A. Yeah, like they'd a wee band and whatever.

24 78 Q. And in the canteen, I mean if you don't remember, it
25 doesn't matter, but do you remember whether there were 11:14
26 patients there from other wards?

27 A. There was people there that I had never seen before,
28 you know.

29 79 Q. Yeah.

1 A. I more or less just seen the people that were visiting
2 in the Cosy Corner.

3 80 Q. Mm-hmm.

4 A. And most of them would have got the bus with me in town
5 and travelled to Muckamore. So we all sort of sat 11:14
6 together.

7 81 Q. Yeah.

8 A. But there was -- the hall was packed at the Christmas
9 party, and all, all the villas were there, you know,
10 all the patients would have been brought down. 11:14

11 82 Q. Yeah. I know that you can't remember the year, but at
12 a guess, was it 5, 10, was it 20 years ago?

13 A. Oh, maybe 50.

14 83 Q. Okay.

15 A. 50 to 60. 11:15

16 84 Q. Okay. In relation to the time after Mary moved to
17 Apple Mews and you were describing one of the staff
18 members there - they have a number, a letter and a
19 number, so we'll not name them, but you know the person
20 I'm talking about, who was helpful with you? You 11:15
21 describe them as being helpful...

22 A. Yeah.

23 85 Q. -- in terms of getting...

24 A. Yeah.

25 86 Q. -- Mary's money and things sorted out? 11:15

26 A. Yeah.

27 87 Q. Was there anybody like that that you could speak to at
28 Muckamore? Did you have a person that you could speak
29 to like that at Muckamore?

1 A. Never. Never.

2 88 Q. Okay.

3 A. Never got speaking to anybody. They just -- when you
4 went to collect a patient, they would have just: Get
5 her there and get her out. And that was it. 11:15

6 MR. McEVOY: Okay. Kathleen, I don't have any more
7 questions for you, all right? But it might be that the
8 chair, or Dr. Maxwell, or Prof. Murphy have questions.

9

10 END OF EXAMINATION BY MR. McEVOY 11:16

11

12 CHAIRPERSON: Before I turn to my colleagues, I've just
13 got a couple of things that I want to understand about
14 timing.

15

16 KATHLEEN WAS THEN QUESTIONED BY THE INQUIRY PANEL AS
17 FOLLOWS 11:16

18

19 CHAIRPERSON: So she went into Muckamore when she was
20 18? 11:16

21 A. Yeah.

22 89 Q. So that would be back in around 1969?

23 A. Excuse me, could you move that jug? Because I can lip
24 read. The jug.

25 90 Q. Oh, the jug? 11:16

26 A. Yeah.

27 91 Q. Can you see my mouth?

28 A. Yeah.

29 92 Q. Okay. She went into Muckamore when she was 18?

1 A. Yeah.

2 93 Q. So that would have been around 1969?

3 A. Yeah.

4 94 Q. I know you can't give us a date, but when,
5 approximately, did she move to Apple Mews? Can you 11:16
6 help us or not?

7 A. I think it's on one of the statements that I made, you
8 know.

9 95 Q. I couldn't see a date, I'm afraid.

10 A. 2018. 11:17

11 96 Q. 2018?

12 A. 2018.

13 97 Q. Ah, okay. There was a mention of 2018. So that's when
14 she left Muckamore?

15 A. (Witness Nods). 11:17

16 98 Q. Right. So she was actually in Muckamore for well over
17 40 years, about 48 years?

18 A. Yeah. Yeah.

19 99 Q. And in all that time, once she'd move to Ennis Ward,
20 did you see her room? 11:17

21 A. Did I see?

22 100 Q. Her room. Where she was living.

23 A. No, I never seen her room.

24 101 Q. Did you ever ask to see her room? Did you want to see
25 her room or... 11:17

26 A. No, I think I seen it once when she was ill, she was
27 sick, and Mary got into a really bad state, you know,
28 crying and shouting and screaming. So I left her for a
29 while and went back again and then she was sleeping.

1 But I didn't take much notice of the room.

2 102 Q. No. No, all right. But in terms also - and you've
3 been asked about this by Mr. McEvoy - medical staff,
4 nurses and doctors, you don't seem to have had - in all
5 that time, you don't seem to have had much of a 11:18
6 relationship?

7 A. No.

8 103 Q. -- with anyone there?

9 A. No. Not with the staff.

10 104 Q. Not with the staff? 11:18

11 A. No.

12 105 Q. And can you explain why that was? Was that you weren't
13 really interested or you would have liked to have had a
14 relationship with the staff?

15 A. Yeah. 11:18

16 106 Q. So why didn't that work? Do you understand what I
17 mean? You know, for all that, that's a long time for
18 somebody to be in hospital?

19 A. I know. And why did it not what?

20 107 Q. Work. Why did you not -- 11:18

21 A. I don't really know. They didn't have much time for
22 the patients to talk to them, you know, they wouldn't
23 -- you wouldn't have heard her saying "Oh, your
24 sister's here", or "your mummy's here", you know. They
25 just went and got her. They were just a number. You 11:19
26 know, there was no...

27 108 Q. As far as you understood, was there anybody there who
28 was actually responsible for her, for Mary?

29 A. Anybody responsible?

1 109 Q. For her. You know, to look after her, somebody who was
2 sort of a key person?
3 A. In Muckamore?
4 110 Q. Yeah.
5 A. No, there was no special, special one. 11:19
6 CHAIRPERSON: No. All right. We don't have any other
7 questions.
8 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
9
10 END OF QUESTIONING BY THE INQUIRY PANEL 11:19
11
12 CHAIRPERSON: So, Kathleen, can I just thank you very
13 much indeed for coming along. We last met -- well, we
14 first met back on 18th October last year.
15 THE WITNESS: Yeah. That's true. 11:19
16 CHAIRPERSON: And it seems a long time since then.
17 THE WITNESS: Yeah.
18 CHAIRPERSON: But we're here now. You can see the
19 Inquiry's running.
20 THE WITNESS: Yeah 11:20
21 CHAIRPERSON: And I want to thank you very much for
22 coming along to help the Inquiry's work.
23 THE WITNESS: Yeah.
24 CHAIRPERSON: So it's a pleasure to see you again.
25 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 11:20
26 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.
27 MR. McEVROY: Thank you.
28 CHAIRPERSON: Okay, if you'd like to go with Jaclyn.
29 Thank you.

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THE WITNESS WITHDREW

CHAIRPERSON: Is it two o'clock for the next witness?

MR. McEVOY: It is. It is.

11:20

CHAIRPERSON: All right. There's nothing else we can read, is there?

MR. McEVOY: There's nothing else we can usefully do in the room. I know the Inquiry will appreciate with often vulnerable witnesses, we like to budget more time to ensure that there's no - they're not under any time pressure when they're coming to give evidence. So it's worked out well in that respect this morning.

11:21

CHAIRPERSON: Yes. And I don't wish to be overly critical of those in the room, but it is important not to have any interventions. I mean, this sort of thing -- I'm referring, obviously, to the name of the police officer. But these statements have been available for a considerable time and it has to be assumed that unless something is redacted, it will be read out. And in fact it was fine with this witness, but with other witnesses, to have that sort of intervention would be pretty disturbing. But I'm sure you can speak to your colleagues and get that sorted. All right. Thank you very much everybody.

11:21

11:22

MR. McEVOY: Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON: Two o'clock.

LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT

1 THE INQUIRY RESUMED AS FOLLOWS AFTER THE LUNCHEON
2 ADJOURNMENT

3
4 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much.

5 MS. KILEY: Good afternoon, chair and panel. This 14:03
6 afternoon's witness, as you can see on the schedule, is
7 P23's mother. I have spoken to the witness, she is
8 content that she be known by her first name, which is
9 Margaret, and that the patient also be known by her
10 first name, which is Roberta. 14:03

11 CHAIRPERSON: Excellent.

12 MS. KILEY: The witness will be accompanied at the
13 witness table by her husband, Robert, and the witness's
14 other children as well, just for information, will be
15 in the public area. So they are Tracey and Curtis. 14:03
16 They're also referred to.

17 CHAIRPERSON: Right. We haven't allowed that before, I
18 don't think. We've only allowed that for core
19 participants.

20 MS. KILEY: I think they will be in Hearing Room B. 14:03

21 CHAIRPERSON: Oh, in Hearing Room B? I'm sorry. Yes,
22 that's fine. Absolutely.

23 MS. KILEY: So I think we're ready to call her, if
24 you're ready, chair?

25 CHAIRPERSON: You appreciate why. Because there's a 14:04
26 delay in the feed.

27 MS. KILEY: Absolutely.

28 CHAIRPERSON: And we may need to control things.

29 MS. KILEY: Yeah.

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MARGARET, ROBERTA'S MOTHER, HAVING BEEN SWORN, WAS
EXAMINED BY MS. KILEY AS FOLLOWS

CHAIRPERSON: Good afternoon. Can I just welcome you 14:05
to the public inquiry. And I think it's your husband
sitting next to you?

THE WITNESS: Yes

CHAIRPERSON: So, sir, welcome as well.

THE WITNESS: This is Roberta's stepfather. It's not 14:05
her father.

CHAIRPERSON: Okay, fine. Just to make it clear that
when you're giving your evidence you mustn't speak to
each other about it, unless you're given permission.
All right? Thank you very much. Yes. 14:05

MS. KILEY: Afternoon, Margaret. We met just before
you came in here this afternoon and I explained briefly
the process of giving evidence. So as you know, the
first thing that I will do is read the statement that
you have made to the Inquiry aloud, and then I'll ask 14:06
you some questions arising from that. Okay?

A. Yeah.

111 Q. And as I also explained, you will see that some of the
names of staff members who you refer to in the
statement have been redacted and replaced with a 14:06
cipher, and that is an H followed by a number. So I
will refer to staff members using that cipher whenever
I read your statement aloud, and I'd ask you to do the
same, please, whenever I'm asking you questions. And

1 to help you with that, I think you have been provided
2 with a cipher list, is that right?

3 A. Yeah.

4 112 Q. You have that. Okay. And you have a copy of the
5 statement that you made to the Inquiry on the 28th 14:06
6 June?

7 A. Mm-hmm.

8 113 Q. Okay. Well, I will start then by reading that now.
9 A. Could I just say I'm a wee bit hard of hearing. Could
10 you just speak up? 14:06

11 114 Q. I certainly will. I'll move the microphone closer.
12 And if, Margaret, at any time you can't hear me or the
13 panel, if they're speaking to you, please do say, okay?

14 A. (Witness Nods).

15 115 Q. 14:07
16 "I, Margaret, make the following statement for the
17 purpose of the Muckamore Abbey Hospital (MAH) Inquiry.
18 In exhibiting any documents, I will use my initials MM,
19 so my first document will be MM1.
20 14:07
21 My connection with MAH is that I am a relative of a
22 patient who is or was at MAH. My daughter, Roberta,
23 was a patient at MAH. I have attached a photograph of
24 Roberta to my statement at MM1.
25 14:07
26 The relevant time period that I can speak about is
27 around the mid 1990s to the early 2000s.
28
29 I have four children, three girls and a boy. Roberta

1 is my second oldest child. Gillian is my eldest
2 daughter, then Roberta, then Tracey, then Curtis, who
3 is my youngest child. She was born on a date in 1980.
4 Roberta has Mosaic Syndrome and has the mental age of
5 around an eight or nine years old. She is 41 years old 14:08
6 now.

7
8 Everybody loves Roberta. Everybody knows her. Roberta
9 used to go to United Responses for three days a week
10 and home for four days. We went to Belfast Castle to 14:08
11 mark the opening of the houses at United Responses and
12 Mo Mowlam was there. Roberta was not in good form that
13 day, as she really wanted a drink of Coke and we
14 couldn't get her one. The TV cameras were there. Mo
15 Mowlam came over to Roberta to say hello and Roberta 14:08
16 said out loud: I don't even like you. We were all
17 laughing, even Mo Mowlam.

18
19 Roberta is also in Sinn Fein's Facebook page with
20 Michelle O'Neill as she was pictured with her during 14:09
21 the election.

22
23 Roberta loves music and is always wearing her
24 headphones. She doesn't sleep much, maybe three or
25 four hours a night. She has some behavioural problems. 14:09
26 She would steal anything, but she doesn't know what she
27 is doing. She can also be known to self harm by
28 pinching herself on her chest and legs.

1 Roberta used to be one-to-one with a care worker to go
2 in a car as she once attacked someone on a bus.
3 However, that is not the case anymore.

4
5 Roberta loves routine and a structured day. She goes 14:09
6 to Everton Day Centre, which she calls "going to work".
7 This is her life and she loves it. She gets £6 a week
8 and she now lives full-time at home.

9
10 Roberta used to go to school at Glenveagh until she was 14:09
11 19 years old. Her dad and I split up around 1990. I
12 was managing four kids at home and Roberta with her
13 behavioural problems. I had to send Tracey to live
14 with my mum for a while, as Roberta would attack her.
15 I told the social worker, Shane Colter, that I needed a 14:10
16 break. I think Roberta may have been around 14 years
17 old at the time, so around 1994.

18
19 He organised for Roberta to have weekend respite care
20 at MAH. This was for a few months and she went to 14:10
21 either C1 or C3, I can't recall which. I think one is
22 the children's ward and one is the adult ward. She was
23 in the children's ward at this stage.

24
25 I would drop her off on a Friday and she was met at the 14:10
26 front door by a staff nurse. It was nearly always H31,
27 a male nurse. I was never invited in and I never saw
28 her room. Roberta normally went very happily and I was
29 very grateful to get the respite care.

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When I picked her up on a Sunday, I was again met at the door. The staff nurse would tell me the activities they got up to. They said she did swimming, walks, etc. I never asked to go in, as I thought that was just the way things were done. 14:11

The MAH staff never reported any particular incidents to me and Roberta isn't really one to say what happened. She might tell me some things which I know didn't happen, so it was difficult to get a reliable account of what she was up to. She could talk nonsense at times. However, Roberta seemed to enjoy this time. 14:11

There was only really one strange thing that stood out about this time. A male nurse called H45 told us that his girlfriend - who you name - had taken over as Roberta's community nurse. Roberta was fixated on H45. He said he didn't want us to tell Roberta that - the person you name - was his girlfriend. We thought it was strange at the time and even now thinking back. 14:11

The next time Roberta was in MAH was for behavioural therapy, BNT, once a week on a Friday. She went there for quite a few months, but I can't recall exactly which year that was. She was in BNT as she would attack my youngest daughter Tracey. I went up the corridor to get her one day, I cannot recall exactly when this was. I could hear the furniture being thrown 14:12

1 around before I even got to the door. I knew it was
2 Roberta as I could hear her. H46, the behavioural
3 therapist, said to me to go and get a cup of coffee, as
4 she had to win this one. She said she had to teach her
5 the consequences. I came back around 45 minutes later 14:12
6 and Roberta was sitting in the chair very quietly, not
7 crying, just sitting quietly. It wasn't normal for her
8 to calm down so quickly. I'm not sure what H46 did,
9 but looking back I did ask myself about how Roberta was
10 treated. H46 said she just let her burn herself out. 14:13
11

12 I asked Roberta what happened, but I couldn't get
13 anything out of her. This was normal enough. She
14 wouldn't say anything.

15 14:13
16 I brought Roberta home and tried to talk to her, but
17 there was still no response.

18
19 On another occasion, I do not recall when, I went to
20 pick up Roberta from BNT with my mum. We were early, 14:13
21 so we were sitting in the car park. It was a sunny
22 day, so I had the window of the car down. I could see
23 the lockup. Everyone referred to it as "the lockup".
24 The back of it was facing me and I could see it from
25 the car park. It is like a courtyard area. There were 14:13
26 men walking around the lockup with no clothes on, which
27 I thought was very strange. I asked a member of staff
28 and they said "they don't keep their clothes on". I
29 can't recall the staff member's name, but this was

1 around the mid to late 1990s.

2
3 One other day, I do not recall when, I was waiting in
4 the car park for Roberta, who was in BNT. I could see
5 that three male patients were coming down and going 14:14
6 into the lockup. They were with a female staff member,
7 who looked like a small girl. One caught my attention,
8 as he was trying to catch a bee. The next thing I
9 knew, one of them had stuck his head into the car
10 window, which was down. I got quite a fright. The 14:14
11 staff member pulled him out and away. I thought to
12 myself that the patients weren't properly supervised,
13 with only one female staff member, who was half their
14 size.

15
16 I mentioned the incident later that day to H47 at BNT
17 and she said that was P14. She said that I was lucky,
18 as he had knocked her out walking past her a few weeks
19 before that.

20
21 Roberta went back to MAH between the ages of 15 to 19
22 years old for weekend respite care. This was still the
23 children's ward at this stage. She was supposed to
24 leave the children's ward at 16 years old, but she was
25 kept there until she was 19 years old. I dropped her 14:15
26 off on a Friday at the front door and picked her up on
27 a Sunday at the front door. I never had any concerns
28 and I didn't really ask many questions, I was just very
29 glad to get the respite care.

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My observations, however, would have been that she was never washed when I picked her up, and obviously Roberta couldn't do it for herself.

14:15

She seemed to love the children's ward. She would be sitting at home waiting at 6:00 a.m. with her bag packed, ready to go back to MAH.

Roberta was moved to the adult ward for weekend respite care when she was 19 years old. She went from loving going to MAH to hating it. She would be kicking and screaming, not wanting to go. She began to say that someone was hitting her. Roberta did not give an indication of who was hitting her. Roberta could hit out, so I thought it was that, although I never received any incident reports from the staff. I thought it must have been another patient and never thought it could be a staff member. The penny never dropped with me.

14:16

14:16

After all the news reports about MAH, I thought back and thought maybe it wasn't a patient. It is hard to get reliable information from Roberta. She lives in the moment and has no concept of time.

14:16

I thought that now she was on the adult ward, people hit back and maybe on the children's ward they didn't. She liked the children's ward, as she could mother the

1 other patients.

2

3 Roberta can self-harm and would have bruises from

4 nipping herself on her chest and on her legs, sometimes

5 on her hands. She had bruising, but I thought that it 14:17

6 was from the self-harming and she did it to herself, so

7 I never raised any issues with the staff. The staff

8 would hand her over on a Sunday and say "all went well

9 and she enjoyed herself". I trusted the staff and they

10 didn't alert us to any incidents that happened. 14:17

11 Roberta could not tell me if anything happened, I let

12 alone provide the names or times.

13

14 Looking back, I should have listened to her when she

15 said that someone was hitting her. Roberta was always 14:17

16 very glad to see me.

17

18 I never went in to the adult ward. I assumed that it

19 was like the children's ward and that's how things were

20 done. I never asked to go on to the ward, but 14:17

21 similarly, I was never invited to go on to the ward

22 with Roberta to settle her.

23

24 I had a good relationship with H48, our community

25 nurse. He was great, and if I had any problems, I went 14:18

26 to him. If I needed something for Roberta, he brought

27 it up to MAH for me. He went to appointments with me.

28 H48 previously worked in MAH and then became a

29 community nurse. H48 always offered to take stuff up

1 to Roberta at MAH and the staff at MAH were happy to
2 accommodate that. Roberta called H48..."

3
4 - and then you say the nickname that she called him:

5
6 "...but he wasn't the real..."

7
8 - and you repeat the nickname.

9
10 "Looking back now, I think that something must have
11 happened on the adult ward to change her behaviour and
12 enjoyment of MAH so dramatically. Although Roberta
13 could not tell me why, she began to not want to go. I
14 would say to her about MAH and ask her about it. You
15 could see her sitting, thinking about it. She would
16 sit down and then lay down sideways thinking about it.

17
18 In or around the early 2000s, Roberta began to go to
19 Squires Hill. This was an independent living house
20 that they used to try to domesticate her. She would go
21 there three days a week and come home for four days a
22 week.

23
24 One day I got a phone call to say that Roberta had
25 attacked another girl who attended Everton Day Centre
26 on the bus. Roberta would have hundreds of triggers
27 that might set her off, but it is anything repetitive.
28 I know to keep her away from those triggers and to
29 de-escalate the situation. The other girl would suck

1 her fingers repeatedly. Roberta told her to stop, and
2 when she didn't, Roberta attacked her.

3
4 Due to this incident, Roberta was sectioned under the
5 Mental Health Act. She got a police escort to MAH, but 14:19
6 I believe that she didn't need it. I was not allowed
7 to see her for four weeks after that. The MAH staff
8 said that they wanted to see her on her own to assess
9 her medication. I asked to bring her home, as we could
10 settle her, but I wasn't allowed, as she had been 14:20
11 sectioned. I can't recall who I spoke to. I was not
12 happy. It was terrible. However, the staff told us
13 that they had to assess her. I trusted them and
14 thought I understood why they were doing it at the
15 time. However, I thought she would think I had 14:20
16 abandoned her. Everton and her mummy are her life.

17
18 After four weeks I finally got in to see her. This was
19 the first time I had been in to the ward, MAH. I had
20 been ringing and ringing MAH to get in to see her. I 14:20
21 had to fight to get a visit. Myself and my husband
22 were brought in through the doors by a nurse. I can't
23 recall who. We were in the hall. I can't remember
24 which ward she was on.

25
26 Roberta came down the hallway and the nurse left. We
27 were to have our visit in a waiting room off the
28 hallway. However, Roberta said straightaway "come here
29 and see this". She took us to a padded cell beside the

1 waiting room. She said "this is where you go if you
2 are bad". I looked at my husband and said "she
3 shouldn't be here".
4

5 We had the visit in the waiting room beside the padded 14:21
6 cell. Roberta never said she had been in it, but she
7 knew where it was. She could have been just being
8 nosey, but looking back, maybe she was in it.
9

10 There was another room off the hallway with a window in 14:21
11 the door. I could see a girl I knew in there. She
12 used to come into the garage when I worked there. Her
13 name was P15 and she had learning difficulties. P15
14 recognised me and came to the window to say "hello". I
15 looked in and there were lots of patients just walking 14:21
16 around the room, with no stimulation, like zombies. A
17 staff member pulled P15 away.
18

19 We had to leave Roberta after the visit, but I fought
20 to get her out. Roberta wanted to come home with us 14:22
21 then. I was told that she was being discharged in a
22 few days time, and after she got out I had her at home
23 full-time after that. We could manage the triggers
24 much better.
25

26 I spoke to H41, the psychiatrist at MAH when she was
27 being discharged, and she said that Roberta should
28 never have been in there. I asked about the medication
29 and there was no change in her medication. There was
14:22

1 no discussion about it, but we thought she was in to
2 have her medication assessed.

3
4 I was told to go to a clinic and discuss a change in
5 her medication. She was sent home with the same
6 medication. 14:22

7
8 There are a few other things to mention about Roberta.
9 Roberta was always well dressed, clean and tidy when
10 she went to MAH. However, when I picked her up, she 14:23
11 was very disheveled and hadn't been washed. I always
12 sent her in with a bag filled with plenty of clothes,
13 but when she came out she was never wearing her own
14 clothes. I gave her enough clothes so that the staff
15 didn't have to do any washing, but I never got her 14:23
16 belongings back. She lost jumpers, leggings, trainers
17 and other clothes. They just generally went missing.
18 She came home in old clothes belonging to other people.
19 They never fitted her. I didn't question the staff,
20 I trusted them. I just bought her new clothes. She 14:23
21 always had the best of everything.

22
23 I didn't send a lot of valuables to MAH. Roberta had
24 her headphones, but she never took them off. She was
25 obsessed with them. She wouldn't have let people take 14:23
26 those. However, I did give an envelope every week with
27 £10 in it. This was spending money for Roberta. I put
28 it in her bag when I handed it over to staff to let
29 them know it was there. This was for crisps or drinks.

1 I just took it for granted that the staff would spend
2 it on Roberta. I wanted them to have some money to buy
3 her things when she was out. However, I never
4 questioned them on what they spent it on and I never
5 got any receipts or change. 14:24

6
7 Roberta doesn't say much about her time at MAH. She
8 just says she didn't like it. There are no specifics
9 when I ask her. If she hears us talking about MAH, she
10 still says she doesn't want to go back. She puts her 14:24
11 head in her hands when we talk about it. I believe
12 something happened on the adult ward to change her
13 behaviour, but I do not know what that was."

14
15 And then if you look over to the page that's entitled 14:24
16 "Section 5", you say that the witness statement is true
17 to the best of your knowledge and belief and you have
18 also signed that, Margaret.

19 A. (Witness Nods).

20 CHAIRPERSON: Before you ask any further questions, 14:25
21 it's been pointed out to me that we have allowed family
22 in the main room before, and I just, I'm afraid, missed
23 that. So what I'm going to invite the Inquiry
24 Secretary to do is to bring the family in so they can
25 sit at the back of the room. My apologies, that's my 14:25
26 fault. They have been listening to what's going on,
27 but obviously they'd prefer to have a direct view. So,
28 apologies, and we'll just wait for them to come in.
29 Sorry to interrupt you.

1 MS. KILEY: That's okay. We'll wait, Margaret, until
2 Tracey and Curtis come in then.

3 CHAIRPERSON: They'll miss the last two minutes, but
4 since it's just the reading of the statement, it may
5 not matter.

14:25

6
7 [Short pause in proceedings]

8
9 CHAIRPERSON: Right.

10 MS. KILEY: Thank you.

14:26

11 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

12 MS. KILEY: Okay, Margaret. So having heard me read
13 your statement out, are you happy with the contents of
14 it?

15 A. Yes.

14:26

16 116 Q. There's nothing that you'd like to change?

17 A. No.

18 117 Q. So are you happy to adopt that as the basis of your
19 evidence before the Inquiry?

20 A. Yes.

14:26

21 118 Q. Okay. Thank you. So, Roberta is 42 now, is that
22 right, Margaret?

23 A. Yeah.

24 119 Q. And you explain in your statement that she has Mosaic
25 Syndrome?

14:26

26 A. Yeah.

27 120 Q. How does that affect her?

28 A. It's like Downs, it's like Down syndrome. She just --
29 she can't read, she can't write, she's no concept of

1 time, behaviour.

2 CHAIRPERSON: Just pull the microphone a bit closer

3 towards you just so that everybody can hear.

4 THE WITNESS: Sorry.

5 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. You said it's a bit like Down 14:27

6 Syndrome, or it is like Down Syndrome?

7 THE WITNESS: Sorry?

8 CHAIRPERSON: Did you say it was like Down's Syndrome?

9 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes. And she's no -- she's what

10 they call educationally subnormal. She's never been 14:27

11 able to read or write or anything like that.

12 MS. KILEY: And you mentioned also some behavioural

13 problems.

14 A. Yeah.

15 121 Q. Is that right? 14:27

16 A. Big time, yeah.

17 122 Q. Can you tell the panel a bit more about what sort of

18 behavioural problems she has?

19 A. She would be like schizophrenic; one minute she'd be

20 sitting laughing and joking with you and the next 14:27

21 minute, you know, she doesn't like you, stamping about,

22 would attack, you know. She's never attacked me or

23 Rob, but she would attack her siblings or younger

24 people or more vulnerable people.

25 123 Q. And you also mentioned that you've known her to 14:28

26 self-harm as well, is that right?

27 A. Oh, big time, yeah. Yeah. At one stage I used to have

28 to take her to the Royal Victoria Hospital for hand

29 dressings every day because she bit lumps out of her

1 skin.

2 124 Q. So you had described pinching her chest and legs in
3 your statement, but she also would have bit bitten
4 herself, is that right?

5 A. Oh, yes. Yes. 14:28

6 125 Q. Now, can I ask you, Roberta's first experience then of
7 Muckamore was weekend respite care?

8 A. Yeah.

9 126 Q. And that was whenever she was about 14, is that right?

10 A. Yeah. 14:28

11 127 Q. And at that stage she was on the children's ward?

12 A. Yes.

13 128 Q. And I think you say that that was either C3 or C1?

14 A. Yes.

15 129 Q. You're just not sure? 14:28

16 A. I wasn't sure of the two of them. She was in both, but
17 I don't know which one was the children's ward and
18 which one was the adult ward, I can't remember.

19 130 Q. Yes. But at that time she was in the children's ward?

20 A. Yes. 14:29

21 131 Q. And you say she enjoyed that time?

22 A. Loved it. Really loved it.

23 132 Q. And looked forward to going?

24 A. (Witness Nods).

25 133 Q. And then she attended Muckamore for behavioural 14:29
26 therapy, isn't that right?

27 A. Yes. Yes.

28 134 Q. And I know you said in your statement you're not sure
29 of the precise time that that took place. Can you

1 remember how old she was, roughly?

2 A. I would say probably about 15.

3 135 Q. Right. So that would have been then in the mid 1990s
4 as well?

5 A. Mm-hmm. 14:29

6 136 Q. Okay. And you also described Roberta going back to
7 Muckamore for respite care between the ages of 15 and
8 19, isn't that right?

9 A. Yes. Yes.

10 137 Q. So between the age of 15 and 19, she went back to the 14:29
11 children's ward?

12 A. Mm-hmm.

13 138 Q. And did she continue to enjoy her time there?

14 A. Yeah. Yeah.

15 139 Q. But then it was whenever she was 19 that she was moved 14:29
16 to the adult ward, isn't that right?

17 A. Yes. Yeah.

18 140 Q. And is it fair to say that that was the time that you
19 noticed a change in Roberta's attitude to Muckamore?

20 A. Definitely, yeah. 14:30

21 141 Q. And you described her going from loving it to hating
22 it?

23 A. Yeah. Yeah.

24 142 Q. You also said in your statement that she began to say
25 that someone was hitting her? 14:30

26 A. Yes.

27 143 Q. Can you remember when she told you that?

28 A. Just when she moved into the adult ward.

29 144 Q. Pretty shortly after she moved in?

1 A. Yeah. Yeah.

2 145 Q. And what did she tell you, can you recall that?

3 A. She just says "I'm not going back there". The girl
4 that she said was hitting her was in the adult ward and
5 she says she wasn't going back because she hit her. 14:30

6 146 Q. And so I don't want you to name any names at the
7 moment, but did Roberta, whenever she told you about
8 someone hitting her, did she name a particular person
9 to you?

10 A. Yes. 14:31

11 147 Q. Okay. And do you still know the name of that person,
12 without saying it?

13 A. I know her first name, yes.

14 148 Q. Was it a patient or a staff member?

15 A. Well I don't know. 14:31

16 149 Q. Okay. Well, in due course we might --- I think to err
17 on the side of caution, I'm not going to ask you to say
18 that name in evidence, but in due course we might ask
19 for that name, if that's appropriate, chair.

20 14:31

21 Did you, at that time, see bruises on Roberta, or other
22 marks?

23 A. Well, she would have come home with bruises, but we
24 never knew whether she had done it herself, you know,
25 in temper, self-harming. It never dawned on me at the 14:31
26 time that it could be from the girl that was hitting
27 her.

28 150 Q. And, so, did you ever mention that to staff members at
29 Muckamore?

1 A. No. Because Roberta was, as I say, she was good at
2 hitting out, so I just took it that she'd hit out at
3 somebody and they'd hit her back - you know, a patient.
4 which happened in school, everywhere she went, you
5 know, we had this scenario. So it wasn't unusual. 14:32

6 151 Q. Did Muckamore staff ever report to you that Roberta had
7 been hitting out?

8 A. No.

9 152 Q. And did they ever report that she had been
10 self-harming? 14:32

11 A. No.

12 153 Q. Did they ever report any incidents to you that you can
13 remember?

14 A. No.

15 154 Q. You then -- 14:32

16 CHAIRPERSON: Sorry, was that a no? I didn't hear.

17 MS. KILEY: No. You then described, Margaret, an
18 incident where Roberta attacked another patient on the
19 day centre bus.

20 A. Yes. 14:32

21 155 Q. And that was what led to her detention at Muckamore
22 Abbey Hospital?

23 A. Yeah.

24 156 Q. And you describe her being detained under the Mental
25 Health Order. 14:32

26 A. Mm-hmm.

27 157 Q. Can you recall when that happened?

28 A. No. She was at the Everton Day Centre at the time, so
29 it had to be after she left school.

1 158 Q. After she left school. There was -- whenever -- in a
2 part of your statement before you discuss that
3 incident, you refer to the early 2000s when Roberta
4 began to go to Squires Hill?

5 A. Mm-hmm.

14:33

6 159 Q. would it have been in and around that same time?

7 A. Yes. She was in Squires Hill at that time.

8 160 Q. She was. Okay.

9 A. Yeah.

10 161 Q. So it was roughly the early 2000s that this happened?

14:33

11 A. Yes. The girl that she attacked actually lived in
12 Squires Hill.

13 162 Q. Okay. And you described her detention at Muckamore
14 Abbey Hospital and you described at the time not being
15 happy about it, if I can summarise it that way?

14:33

16 A. No. No.

17 163 Q. why did you feel that way about it?

18 A. Because when we got the phone call to say that she was
19 going, I offered to come and get her and bring her
20 home, because we knew how to settle her and how things
21 would settle down without escalating it, putting her in
22 Muckamore, getting police escorts. And I was told, no,
23 that she was now an adult and that I had no control
24 over it.

14:33

25 164 Q. And did anyone explain what the purpose of the
26 detention was?

14:34

27 A. They just says when they got her in that they would
28 look -- they would review her medication to see if
29 maybe there was something else they could give her to

1 stop her lashing out at people.

2 165 Q. Was it ever explained to you how long the detention was
3 likely to last?

4 A. No.

5 166 Q. And I think you said that at the time you asked to 14:34
6 bring her home - and you've described that now. Can
7 you recall, again without saying names, but the role of
8 the person, if you know it, can you recall who you
9 asked?

10 A. Yes. 14:34

11 167 Q. Okay. And was that someone at Muckamore?

12 A. No, it was somebody in United Response in Squires Hill.

13 168 Q. Okay. So someone that --

14 A. It was in that, yeah.

15 169 Q. -- who was the operator of -- okay. During the period 14:35
16 of detention, were you ever told that you could -- was
17 it ever mentioned to you, a mental health review
18 tribunal or commission, were you ever told that you
19 could try and get Roberta home?

20 A. No. 14:35

21 170 Q. I wanted to ask you about visiting her. You said that
22 you couldn't get in to see her for four weeks?

23 A. Mm-hmm.

24 171 Q. And I think you said you had been trying to get in?

25 A. Yes. Yeah. 14:35

26 172 Q. Can you tell the panel a bit about that? So how were
27 you trying to get in and who was refusing to allow you?

28 A. We phoned Muckamore Abbey itself to ask could we come
29 up and visit and they said, no. They felt that if we

1 came up it would influence her behaviour. And we were
2 just flatly told no, no matter when, and we'll speak to
3 the doctor. And nobody ever came back to us.

4 173 Q. I think you described having to fight to get in to see
5 her? 14:36

6 A. Yeah. Yeah.

7 174 Q. You did eventually get in then, and that was after she
8 had been detained for four weeks, is that right?

9 A. Yes.

10 175 Q. Can you recall what ward she was on whenever you went 14:36
11 to visit her?

12 A. No.

13 176 Q. But you recall the visit took place in a waiting room?

14 A. Sorry?

15 177 Q. The visit took place in a waiting room type area? 14:36

16 A. Yes. Yes.

17 178 Q. At that time did you ever get in to see Roberta's
18 bedroom or where she was staying?

19 A. (Witness shakes head).

20 179 Q. Did you ever ask? 14:36

21 A. No.

22 180 Q. To see that?

23 A. No.

24 181 Q. How long was Roberta detained in total at Muckamore,
25 can you remember? 14:36

26 A. At that time when she was at lockup?

27 182 Q. At that time. Yeah.

28 A. Ehm, five weeks. About four and a half weeks.

29 183 Q. Five weeks.

1 A. It was when we went up and seen her after the four
2 weeks that, you know, we kicked up a stink with the
3 doctor and then they eventually said that they would
4 release her.

5 184 Q. Can you tell the panel a bit more about that? You said 14:37
6 that you kicked up a stink. You weren't happy about
7 her being there, is that right?

8 A. (Witness nods).

9 185 Q. And you spoke to the doctor. Was that during your
10 visit? 14:37

11 A. Yes.

12 186 Q. Okay. And what did you say to the doctor?

13 A. I said that I wanted her home, and if she wasn't coming
14 home we wanted visitation to her. And he just says
15 that he would speak with the team and all this. So 14:37
16 then they eventually released her. But it was another
17 doctor, it was H41.

18 187 Q. Yes.

19 A. Said that she should never have been there.

20 188 Q. Yeah. 14:37

21 A. There hadn't been an incident in the whole time she was
22 in and she should never have been there.

23 189 Q. When did H41 tell you that?

24 A. When she was being released, the day she was coming
25 home. 14:38

26 190 Q. And were you ever told anything about the outcome of
27 any assessments that took place at Muckamore?

28 A. No.

29 191 Q. And Roberta has been home with you since then, is that

1 right?

2 A. Yes. Yes.

3 192 Q. One of the other things you mention, Margaret, is
4 Roberta losing clothes whenever she was at Muckamore.

5 A. Mm-hmm. 14:38

6 193 Q. And I just wanted to clarify when that was. Was that
7 the times that she was attending for respite or was
8 that during this period of detention?

9 A. During the period of respite.

10 194 Q. Okay. And you also described how you would have given 14:38
11 her £10 a week spending money.

12 A. Mm-hmm.

13 195 Q. When did that take place? Was that during the respite?

14 A. Yes. Yes.

15 196 Q. Okay. And you describe putting the £10 in her 14:38
16 backpack, I think, isn't that right?

17 A. Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

18 197 Q. Were you ever asked to sign a cash register or record,
19 anything of that kind to record how much you were
20 sending in? 14:39

21 A. No.

22 198 Q. And you say you never got receipts?

23 A. No.

24 199 Q. And Roberta never came home with the money, is that
25 right? 14:39

26 A. Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.

27 200 Q. Okay. Did you ever question how Roberta's money was
28 being used?

29 A. No. Because Roberta would just go out and spend a

1 tenner no problem in the space of five minutes. So I
2 just took it that she went out and bought -- she would
3 have maybe had wee small headphones or a phone case or
4 something.

5 201 Q. But that was based on your assumption. No one in 14:39
6 Muckamore ever explained that to you?

7 A. Mm-hmm.

8 202 Q. Okay. Margaret, you also have some photographs that
9 you mentioned that you have attached to your statement.
10 There are three of those. And I think we're going to 14:39
11 be able to see those on the screen. Yeah. They should
12 be on the screen in front of you too, Margaret. Can
13 you see those?

14 A. Yes. Yes. Yes.

15 203 Q. So the first one, I think, is Margaret and her brother. 14:40
16 Is that right?

17 A. Yes.

18 204 Q. When was that taken?

19 A. That was taken -- it must have been about four years
20 ago. 14:40

21 205 Q. And that's at home, is it?

22 A. Mm-hmm.

23 206 Q. And then there's another one - I think if we can flick
24 to the next one.

25 A. Yeah, that was at a wedding we were at. That was about 14:40
26 three years ago.

27 207 Q. And then the final one, please. You just explain to
28 the panel what that shows?

29 A. That was Roberta's - she was 30. That was her 30th

1 birthday party. We had a big party for her. We booked
2 a room and that and had food and all on, and that was
3 me and her for her 30th.

4 208 Q. Yeah. And how is she doing now?

5 A. She's doing well. The Muckamore Inquiry, because she 14:40
6 heard us talking about it at home, she started to get a
7 bit upset, she thought she was getting sent back to
8 Muckamore, and we had to sit her down and tell her she
9 wasn't going back and it wasn't happening. She has
10 settled down quite a bit now. She had no respite or 14:41
11 day care there the whole of Covid, and she's back at
12 the day centre and loving life at the minute.

13 209 Q. Does she talk about her experiences at Muckamore?

14 A. No.

15 210 Q. No. Okay. 14:41

16 A. Will not even -- we actually drove past it and Rob had
17 pulled in to phone in to get us something to eat, and
18 we didn't realise it was at the bottom of the lane of
19 Muckamore, we just pulled in, and she would not turn
20 her head to look. I says to her "what's up there?", 14:41
21 and she just wouldn't look and she wouldn't answer me.
22 And I knew, and I says "we may move here, because this
23 is upsetting her".

24 211 Q. Okay.

25 A. And even now, she wouldn't stay in hospital, she 14:41
26 wouldn't have a hospital stay. She broke her leg and I
27 ended up having to bring her home straight after
28 surgery because she just wouldn't stay in the hospital.

29 MS. KILEY: Yeah. Okay. Margaret, I don't have any

1 more questions for you. The panel members might. So
2 I'll ask the chair to - if you have any questions.

3

4 END OF EXAMINATION BY MS. KILEY

5

14:42

6 CHAIRPERSON: Yes. Prof. Murphy.

7

8 MARGARET, ROBERTA'S MOTHER, WAS THEN QUESTIONED BY THE
9 INQUIRY PANEL AS FOLLOWS

10

14:42

11 PROF. MURPHY: Thank you for telling us about your
12 daughter, and thank you for the pictures. I thought
13 the photos were lovely. But what I wanted to ask you
14 about was what you describe as the "triggers". Because
15 it sounds like at home you can manage those in such a
16 way --

17 A. Yes.

18 212 Q. -- that she doesn't get upset. Now, I would have
19 expected if somebody was in hospital that, (a) they
20 would be asking you what you thought the triggers were,
21 but (b), they'd be looking to find out the triggers in
22 the hospital and try to arrange things so that those
23 triggers didn't occur.

24 A. (Witness Nods).

25 213 Q. Did that ever happen, do you think?

14:42

26 A. No.

27 214 Q. Nobody ever asked you about them?

28 A. No.

29 215 Q. Okay. Thank you.

1 THE WITNESS: She actually attacked a doctor one day
2 because he was clicking a pen. You know, that was one
3 of the triggers.

4 216 Q. Yes, being repetitive.

5 A. But no one ever asked me in any, Muckamore or any, you 14:43
6 know, what would trigger off a tantrum.

7 PROF. MURPHY: Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON: Just following on from that, can I just
9 ask: did you have a point of contact at Muckamore?

10 A. No. 14:43

11 217 Q. To speak to anybody about --

12 A. No.

13 218 Q. -- Roberta's care?

14 A. I would have done it through the community nurse.

15 219 Q. Say that again. You? 14:43

16 A. I would have done it again through the community nurse,
17 which was H48.

18 220 Q. Yeah. And in terms of doctors or nurses actually at
19 Muckamore, there was nobody that you sort of had
20 regular contact with? 14:43

21 A. No. Well, there was one, would have been H31. It was
22 normally him who met us and...

23 221 Q. The male nurse?

24 A. Yeah.

25 222 Q. But is that simply because you'd be met at the door by 14:44
26 him?

27 A. Yes.

28 223 Q. Or did you have telephone conversations --

29 A. No.

1 224 Q. -- with him about how she was getting on or anything
2 like that?

3 A. No, just because -- no.

4 CHAIRPERSON: All right. Anything else? No.

5

14:44

6 END OF QUESTIONING BY THE INQUIRY PANEL

7

8 CHAIRPERSON: Can I thank you very much indeed for
9 coming along to assist the Inquiry and telling us all
10 about Roberta. And it's nice to hear that she's at
11 home and, you know, getting on with things. And can I
12 apologise again to your relatives, who should have been
13 in the room. It's entirely my fault.

14:44

14 THE WITNESS: That's okay.

15 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much for assisting us.

14:44

16 MS. KILEY: Thank you.

17 CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. If you'd like to go with the
18 Secretary to the Inquiry.

19

20 THE WITNESS WITHDREW

14:45

21

22 MS. KILEY: Chair, can I just mention, before the
23 session closes, you and the panel might recall
24 yesterday afternoon Mr. McEvoy mentioned an issue
25 arising out of one of the statements which was read -
26 P31.

14:45

27 CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

28 MS. KILEY: There was a reference, you might recall, in
29 that statement to a patient and the patient was

1 allocated an H cipher instead of a P cipher.

2 CHAIRPERSON: Oh, yes.

3 MS. KILEY: And Mr. McEvoy brought it to your
4 attention. So it's just to clarify that that patient
5 cipher has now been allocated. It has been changed. 14:45

6 CHAIRPERSON: Can you just give me a second to find the
7 statement again.

8 MS. KILEY: Yeah.

9 CHAIRPERSON: Do you know...

10 MS. KILEY: It's 0484 is the number at the top. But 14:46
11 the patient is - it's P31's statement.

12 CHAIRPERSON: All right. I might ask you to remind me
13 of that later. Thank you. Thank you very much.

14 MS. KILEY: But the cipher allocated has been P48, and
15 it's to assure the Inquiry and others that that has now 14:46
16 been changed on the record and also on the transcript.

17 CHAIRPERSON: Excellent. Okay. Well, thank you very
18 much for that. All right, tomorrow -- not tomorrow at
19 all. We're not sitting tomorrow. Monday, we're going
20 to make a grand effort to get three witnesses in. 14:46

21 MS. KILEY: Yes.

22 CHAIRPERSON: So we'll see how that works. In the
23 meantime, I wish everybody a good weekend when it
24 eventually comes. Thank you very much indeed.

25 14:47

26 THE INQUIRY WAS THEN ADJOURNED UNTIL MONDAY, 26TH
27 SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 10:00 A.M.

28

29