

# **Investigation into an allegation that Jimmy Savile abused children at Roecliffe Manor in the Village of Woodhouse Eaves, Leicester in the late 1950s/1960s.**

This report is prepared for the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

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## 1. Introduction

This report has been prepared by the Lead Investigator who was commissioned by the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust (“the Trust”) to undertake an investigation into an allegation that Jimmy Saville (“JS”) sexually abused a child at Roecliffe Manor Children’s Convalescent Home<sup>1</sup> (“Roecliffe Manor”) in the village of Woodhouse Eaves in the late 1950s and the 1960s. The matter was referred to the Department of Health (“DH”) by the Metropolitan Police (“the MPS”). The investigation was commissioned after the DH invited the Trust to investigate the allegation, as it was believed at the time that the Trust was the legacy organisation for Roecliffe Manor, which closed in 1969.

The purpose of the investigation was to establish the truth about the allegation and to ensure that, whatever the outcome of the investigation, the Trust’s current safeguarding policies and practices are sufficiently robust to protect children and young adults.

During the course of the investigation, the Lead Investigator established that the legacy organisation for Roecliffe Manor was in fact the Leicester and County Convalescent Homes Society known as ARC Leicester<sup>2</sup>. The investigation, therefore, was undertaken in collaboration with ARC Leicester.

This report provides the background to the investigation and the details of the allegation giving rise to the investigation. It sets out the information collated as part of the investigation and draws conclusions about the allegation based on this evidence. Finally, the report presents recommendations to both the Trust and ARC Leicester.

The terms of reference for the report, along with this Investigation Report, have been agreed by the Trust’s Board. The report has also been reviewed by the Chair of the trustees of ARC Leicester who accepts, on behalf of ARC Leicester, the findings set out in this report.

During the course of this investigation, the Trust referred serious allegations, which came to the attention of the Lead Investigator, to the Leicestershire Police. Leicestershire Police has confirmed that it will investigate these allegations. Prior to publication Leicestershire Police were given access to read the report. It has also confirmed in writing that, notwithstanding its

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<sup>1</sup> A Convalescent Home is a home for children to recuperate after illness or for children to stay whilst family members recuperate from illness at home.

<sup>2</sup> ARC - Association for Recuperation and Care

live investigation, it is satisfied that there is nothing in this Investigation Report which is prejudicial to its investigation. Leicestershire Police has, therefore, no objection to the publication of this report.

Prior to publication, the report has also been shared with both the Informant and a second informant, AB, who came to the attention of the Lead Investigator during the gathering of evidence as part of the investigation.

### **Background Leading to the Investigation**

In October 2012, ITV broadcast the Exposure programme in which a number of women alleged they had been abused by JS. Following this programme, a large number of other members of the public contacted the Police alleging abuse by JS and others. In response Operation Yewtree was established by the MPS to investigate these allegations.

In November 2012, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust and the West London Mental Health NHS Trust set up investigations into allegations that JS had abused at their organisation. Kate Lampard was invited by the Secretary of State for Health to oversee these three investigations.

In light of this new information from the MPS, in 2013 DH asked 10 hospitals and 1 hospice to undertake investigations into allegations of abuse by JS at these institutions. Further, in late 2013, the MPS provided information to the DH relating to allegations which linked JS to a number of other NHS organisations. The DH therefore asked these organisations to undertake separate investigations into these further allegations.

The Trust was contacted by the DH in January 2014 to undertake an investigation following an allegation which had been made of abuse by JS at an un-named Children's Home in the village of Woodhouse Eaves. The DH had identified the Trust as the legacy organisation of the Children's Home. The allegation had been made by an individual who had resided at the Children's Home in the late 1950s/early 1960s.

### **Information provided by the Informant**

In 2013, the Informant contacted Operation Yewtree alleging that he had been subject to abuse by JS. Subsequently, Leicestershire Police interviewed the Informant in February 2013 to obtain further information relating to the allegation. The Informant provided the following information, which is contained within a typed record from the Police:

- When he was 3 or 4 years old, he was placed at the “Woodhouse Eaves Children’s Convalescent Home”<sup>3</sup> in Leicestershire. He remained there until he was 9 years old, at which point he then returned to his family.
- Between the ages of 7-9 years old, he was abused sexually by JS who would visit the home. The Informant could not provide details of the abuse at the time of the police interview.
- JS was between the ages of 26-30 years old at the time of the abuse and he was on the radio.
- He came into contact with JS on 4 occasions.
- He recalls being taken out by JS, with a girl from the children’s home. They were taken in the rear of a white/greyish van which the Informant described as “an old style butcher’s van”<sup>4</sup>. They sat in the back on a thick sponge and were taken to another hospital. They were also taken to two other places, although these locations were not named.
- JS had a friend who had a Scottish or Irish accent.

In February 2013, the Informant placed an advert in the Leicester Mercury, a local newspaper, asking if anyone was a survivor of the “Woodhouse Eaves Children’s Convalescent Homes”<sup>5</sup> from the 1950s onwards. According to the Police note of the interview with the Informant, this advert elicited 47 responses, although no detail was provided of what these responses were. According to the note, the Informant had also received a threatening telephone call from someone accusing him of stirring up trouble.

This is the information which was forwarded to the Trust to investigate in January 2014.

## **2. Terms of Reference**

The Trust’s Board has commissioned this investigation into allegations made about abuse by JS at a Children’s Convalescent Home in the Village of Woodhouse Eaves following an allegation that JS abused children during visits to this establishment. It is understood by the DH that the Trust is the legacy organisation for this home.

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<sup>3</sup> Direct quote from Police’s note of interview with Informant

<sup>4</sup> Direct quote from Police note of interview with the Informant

<sup>5</sup> Direct quote from Police note of interview with Informant

On completion of the report, it will be submitted to the DH and the final report will be published by the Trust.

The investigations aims are as follows:

- to thoroughly investigate and account for association by JS with the Children's Convalescent Home in the village of Woodhouse Eaves and its predecessor bodies, including approval for any roles that he undertook there and the decision making process relating to such roles;
- to determine any access rights and privileges accorded to JS at the Children's Convalescent Home, the reasons for these and whether there was appropriate oversight and supervision;
- to consider whether in any fundraising role or because of his status, JS was afforded inappropriate access to patients or carers
- to investigate whether there were historical and current allegations, complaints or concerns concerning JS at the Children's Convalescent Home and whether these were appropriately reported and investigated;
- to consider if there is evidence that any complaints, concerns or allegations were not reported or investigated at the time and the reasons behind this.
- To consider whether in light of any findings, the Trust's current whistleblowing, safeguarding, complaints and other associated policies and procedures are fit for purpose.

These Terms of Reference were drafted and agreed before it was established that the Children's Convalescent Home was in fact Roeclyffe Manor. As such references in the Terms of Reference to the Children's Convalescent Home refer to Roeclyffe Manor.

### **3. Executive Summary**

#### *Background*

This report has been prepared by the Lead Investigator who was commissioned by the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust ("the Trust") to undertake an investigation into

an allegation that Jimmy Saville (“JS”) sexually abused a child at Roecliffe Manor Children’s Convalescent Home (“Roecliffe Manor”) in the village of Woodhouse Eaves in the late 1950s and the 1960s. The allegation was made by an Informant who resided at Roecliffe Manor from approximately 1959-1965, when he was between 4 and 9 years old.

During the course of the investigation, the Lead Investigator established that the legacy organisation for Roecliffe Manor was in fact the Leicester and County Convalescent Homes Society known as ARC Leicester. The investigation, therefore, was undertaken in collaboration with ARC Leicester.

The Trust has referred serious allegations, which came to the attention of the Lead Investigation during the investigation, to the Leicestershire Police. Leicestershire Police has confirmed that it will investigate these allegations. However, it has also confirmed in writing that, notwithstanding its live investigation, it is satisfied that there is nothing in this Investigation Report which is prejudicial to its investigation. Leicestershire Police has, therefore, no objection to the publication of this report.

#### *Roecliffe Manor*

Roecliffe Manor was a children’s convalescent home located in the village of Woodhouse Eaves in Leicestershire. It opened in 1931 and closed in 1969. It was a 50 bedded unit for children who were referred there by the Local Authorities or the hospitals in the county to recover from illness such as major infectious diseases. Roecliffe Manor was owned by the Leicester and County Convalescent Homes Society (which now trades as ARC Leicester). Children were often transferred to Roecliffe Manor from the Leicester Royal Infirmary (now part of the Trust).

#### *Investigation*

The investigation proved challenging because the alleged incidents were said to have occurred over 50 years ago. Very few witnesses could be located during the investigation and relevant documentation proved scarce.

As part of the investigation, the Informant was interviewed on a number of occasions. The interviews were clearly distressing to him, and often had to be cut short. The Lead Investigator adopted an approach to interviewing the Informant recommended by the National Association of People Abused in Childhood (“NAPAC”) to ensure he was fully supported in the disclosures he wished to make.

At the outset of the investigation, an advert was placed in local papers and on local radio asking people who formerly resided at Roecliffe Manor, or who may have worked there, to come forward with any information they held about the home. Extensive trawls were undertaken by the Lead Investigator of archives held by ARC Leicester, the National Archives and other sources. Contact was also made with a number of organisations such as the Children's Society, Leicestershire Nursing League and the Woodhouse Eaves Local History Society. From these enquiries, only a handful of witnesses could be identified who had either resided at Roecliffe Manor, or who had worked in other homes in the village of Woodhouse Eaves (as detailed in Appendix B).

### *Conclusion*

The following conclusions were reached as part of this investigation:

- That sexual abuse of children is likely to have taken place at Roecliffe Manor, although the extent of such abuse is unknown. This conclusion is reached on the basis of two witnesses who provided convincing evidence that they had been abused whilst at Roecliffe Manor by a man. The evidence obtained to reach this conclusion has been referred to the Local Police and Leicestershire Local Authority safeguarding team.
- That despite the finding that sexual abuse of children is likely to have taken place at Roecliffe Manor, it has not been possible to associate JS with such abuse. Other than the Informant, no other individual interviewed, or record read, made reference to JS being present at Roecliffe Manor. Further, whilst some corroborative evidence to potentially link the individual who abused the Informant with JS was found, this was not of sufficient strength in nature to enable the Lead Investigator to conclude that the man who abused the Informant was in fact JS.
- That it has not been possible to reach a conclusion in relation to two further serious allegations made by the Informant during interview due to a lack of evidence. The allegations were (i) that a child, who was resident at Roecliffe Manor, was seen by the Informant being dragged away by someone who he states was JS and a friend. He was later advised that the child had died; (ii) that children were abused at another children's home in Melton Mowbray. The first of these allegations has been referred to the Police, given its serious nature. Enquires by the Lead Investigator could find no



reference to a death of a child at Roecliffe Manor in any records reviewed. The second allegation has also been referred to the Police and Leicestershire Local Authority for it to consider whether to undertake an investigation. As the second allegation did not implicate JS in any abuse, it fell outside of the terms of reference for this investigation.

- That the Trust's safeguarding policies and procedures are fit for purpose and are robust to protect children and vulnerable adults.
- That ARC Leicester's safeguarding policies are fit for purpose and have been updated in line with the Disclosure and Barring Scheme( DBS)
- Four recommendations are made. These relate to a new VIP/Celebrity Visits policy and a training update for the Trust and a need to have a Supervision policy for volunteers for ARC Leicester as part of a new plan to recruit volunteers in the future. ARC Leicester are also recommended to have a separate recruitment and retention policy In addition both organisations are encouraged to adopt a culture of 'it could happen here' when formulating policies.

#### **4. Approach to the Investigation**

Before the Lead Investigator could embark on a comprehensive investigation, it was necessary to clarify two crucial factors in the initial allegation namely the proper name of the home which was the subject to the allegation made by the Informant, and the timeframe of the alleged abuse. It was only after these were established that the Lead Investigator could properly consider the parameters of the investigation.

##### ***Identifying the Children's Home referred to in the initial allegation.***

Preliminary investigations by the Trust in January 2014 established that a Children's Home with the specific name of "Woodhouse Eaves Children's Convalescent Home"<sup>6</sup> had never existed in the village of Woodhouse Eaves but that a number of children's homes had existed in the village (see Appendix B). Only one of these homes had been a Children's Convalescent Home namely Roecliffe Manor. During an initial telephone discussion between the Informant and the Lead Investigator (further details of which are set out below) the Informant confirmed that the home he referred to in his allegation was indeed Roecliffe Manor. This home became the focus of the Lead Investigator's investigation, therefore.

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<sup>6</sup> Direct quote from Police's note of interview with Informant.

The Lead Investigator established that Roecliffe Manor had been owned by the Leicester and County Convalescent Homes Society from the time it opened in 1931 but had closed in 1969. It did not thereafter reopen as a Children's Home.

### ***Identifying the timeframe for the investigation***

The Informant described to the Lead Investigator sexual abuse taking place at Roecliffe Manor when he was between 7 and 9 years old, but he had first been sent to Roecliffe Manor when he was between the ages of 3-4. The Informant confirmed his current age to the Lead Investigator which enabled her to ascertain that the Informant would have been at Roecliffe Manor from 1959/1960 until 1966 - 1968. The Lead Investigator focused her investigation from 1959 until the late 1960s, therefore.

### ***Methodology of the Investigation***

As noted above, the alleged abuse by JS is said to have occurred in the 1960s, over 50 years ago. Further, Roecliffe Manor closed in 1969. As such, it has been a challenge for the Lead Investigator, and the investigation team, to identify relevant witnesses and relevant documentation. Given these limitations it was necessary for the Lead Investigator to take both a pragmatic and proportionate approach to the investigation.

A work plan was agreed between the Trust and the Lead Investigator at the outset of the investigation.

A note was made of all meetings held and interviews undertaken. Where appropriate, these notes were shared with those interviewed to confirm their accuracy.

### ***Interview with the Informant***

At the beginning of the investigation it was decided that the Informant had to be contacted without delay in order to obtain further information about the allegation he had made. This report has been shared with the Informant prior to publication.

It was clear from the information provided to the Trust by the Police (through the DH) that the Informant was a very vulnerable individual and that it was likely to take time for him to trust the Lead Investigator and provide information to her. A decision was also made by the Trust that the Informant should be offered the services of a Counsellor to help him during the investigation and subsequently.

Contacting the Informant has been a sensitive process. The Lead Investigator initially sent a letter to the Informant introducing herself, explaining the purpose of the contact and to request an interview with him. This letter led the Informant to contact the Lead Investigator by email, which led to telephone contact. At this stage the Informant was reluctant to meet with the Lead Investigator. Once trust had been established with the Informant through further telephone discussions, the Lead Investigator and the Trust's Director of Nursing arranged an interview at the Informant's home to discuss the allegation he had made.

The Lead Investigator adopted an approach to interviewing the witness recommended by the National Association of People Abused in Childhood ("NAPAC"). The Informant was gently questioned and provided with time and space to provide his account of his recollection. Importantly the Lead Investigator did not want the Informant to feel that he was being interrogated during any interview. The Informant was encouraged to tell his story at his own pace. It can be difficult for people abused in childhood to tell their story as memories can be fragmented and jumbled up. It is therefore vital to allow space and time. The Lead Investigator tried to help the Informant to make sense initially by focusing on specific episodes or incidents to help structure the story. It is important to differentiate between the investigation and counselling and therefore the Informant was offered, and has taken up, specialist counselling support. Interviews were often cut short because the Informant was distressed or exhausted by the process of recounting difficult memories. Therefore it took some time to gain the trust of the Informant and for him to share further information. At times the Informant's recollection was limited (which was understandable given the length of time which has elapsed since the alleged incidents and the fact that the Informant was a young child at the time), or he did not wish to disclose more detail about issues because of his distress.

The Informant was provided with details of a counsellor and reminded to contact the counsellor during each meeting with the Lead Investigator to ensure that he was properly supported.

A note of the interviews with the Informant were made, who confirmed their accuracy. Further, the information provided by the MPS to the Trust at the outset of the information, which outlined the Informant's allegations, were also confirmed by the Informant during interview.

## ***Locating Witnesses***

### *Publicising investigation*

On receipt of the Informant's allegation from DH on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2014, the Trust issued a press release which was reported in the Loughborough Echo and the Leicester Mercury. An advert was also placed on Capital FM, a radio station. The investigation was also publicised on the Trust's intranet and was a part of a weekly media bulletin circulated to senior members of staff. This advised members of the public and staff of the investigation and provided details of who to contact should they have information. At that time a request was made in relation to any information about the "Woodhouse Eaves Children's Convalescent Home" (as it had not been established that Roecliffe Manor was the home associated with the allegation). Once the name of Roecliffe Manor had been properly established, the Trust placed a further advert in the Leicester Mercury and on the Trust's intranet. The advert asked people to contact the Lead Investigator by email or on a telephone number on which they could give the Lead Investigator confidential information they held about Roecliffe Manor and/or about any association between JS and the home. No response was received from members of the public or Trust staff to these public requests.

### *Information about witnesses from the Informant*

During telephone contact, and the face to face interview, with the Informant, he advised the Lead Investigator that 47 individuals had contacted him following an advert he had placed in the Leicester Mercury in 2013. He claimed that these contacts could attest to having been at Roecliffe Manor and had relevant information for the purposes of the investigation. The Lead Investigator explored with the Informant the possibility that she could contact these key individuals and interview them. However, the Informant confirmed that the witnesses were not willing to speak to the Lead Investigator. The Lead Investigator drafted three formal letters requesting that the witnesses get in touch with her, which the Informant agreed to send out by email to each witness. According to the Informant, this generated a response from only three people who confirmed that they were not prepared to speak with the Lead Investigator.

The Informant also advised the Lead Investigator that he had had contact in the last two years with a former nurse who used to work at Roecliffe Manor while the Informant was a resident there. The Informant agreed to contact this individual on the Lead Investigator's behalf to ask if an interview could be undertaken with her. However, the Informant was advised by the former nurse's daughter that she is now 90 years old and terminally ill. A request was made by the daughter that no further contact should be made with the former

nurse.

#### *Other witness leads*

The Clerk to the Woodhouse Eaves Parish Council alerted the Lead Investigator to the names of two former members of staff who had worked at Children's Homes in the village of Woodhouse Eaves. Interviews were subsequently undertaken with these two individuals.

During a chance encounter in her investigation, the Lead Investigator also met a former resident of Roecliffe Manor (AB). This individual had resided at the home in 1962 when she was about 7 years old. An interview was undertaken with her. The witness has been offered counselling support.

Finally, during an internet search for any information relating to Roecliffe Manor, the Lead Investigator was alerted to an internet forum called "*Francis Frith*"<sup>7</sup>: Francis Frith is a website collecting photographic archives of Britain, and has a section for people to share memories of different towns, villages and places. It has a discussion section about Woodhouse Eaves and in particular Roecliffe Manor. The Lead Investigator put a request on the forum's noteboard explaining the investigation being undertaken by her and asking if anyone wished to speak to her about any knowledge they had of Roecliffe Manor. This request generated a response from a former resident at Roecliffe Manor, who now lives abroad. The Lead Investigator also had email correspondence with one further individual who was helpful in providing insights into what it was like for children at Roecliffe Manor. No other individuals responded to this further request for information.

The Trust's staff members were helpful to the Lead Investigator in identifying details of organisations which may have information relevant to the investigation and could lead to potential witnesses. The following leads were followed:

- ***The Chair of the Leicestershire Nursing League***: The League is an organisation for former nurses who worked at the Leicester Royal Infirmary ("LRI") from the 1950s. The Lead Investigator interviewed the Chair of the League who confirmed that she had no knowledge of Roecliffe Manor or any children who had been sent to Roecliffe Manor from LRI to convalesce. She kindly circulated a letter from the Lead Investigator inviting contact from anyone who had:

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<sup>7</sup> <http://www.francisfrith.com/woodhouse-eaves/memories/>

- worked at Roecliffe Manor as a nurse;
- known anyone who had worked at Roecliffe Manor;
- nursed children from Roecliffe Manor,
- known children who had been sent to convalesce at Roecliffe Manor from the LRI.

The Lead Investigator received no response to this request.

- ***The Chair of ARC Leicester.*** The Lead Investigator interviewed the Chair of ARC who had no knowledge of any association between ARC and JS or any knowledge of an association between Roecliffe Manor and JS.

### ***Documentary/Archive Search***

The Lead Investigator undertook a wide search for documentary evidence of information relating to Roecliffe Manor, and further details of the information located is set out below. An initial search of relevant information about Roecliffe Manor and the Village of Woodhouse Eaves entailed:

- A general google search
- A search of the National Archive Site
- A search of the Local Records at Leicestershire County Council.

During the course of the investigation, enquiries were made of census information and the records of the LRI.

As expanded on further below, the Lead Investigator established that ARC Leicester is the successor organisation of the Leicester and County Convalescent Homes Society (the owners of Roecliffe Manor until it closed in 1969). The Lead Investigator worked closely with ARC Leicester and established that it held a number of archived documents from the early 1900s to 1969 relating to Roecliffe Manor. Specifically, the following documents were located by ARC and reviewed by the Lead Investigator:

- Annual Reports of the Leicester and County Convalescent Homes Society 1957-1968.
- Undated photographs of Roecliffe Manor and children who were resident there
- Newspaper clippings from the 1950s recording visits by the Lord Mayor to Roecliffe

#### Manor and the Norfolk Adult Convalescent Home

- A “Minute Book” recording the minutes of meetings of the Leicester and County Homes Society from 1963-1968
- A “Visitors Book” recording those who had visited Roecliffe Manor from 1931-1968.

In addition to the archived ARC documentation, the Lead Investigator also reviewed the following information:

- The Informant’s collection of his personal papers which were provided to the Lead Investigator during a face to face interview. These documents were:
  - a copy of the advert which he had placed in the Leicester Mercury newspaper in February 2013.
  - photographs of the Informant as a child provided to the Lead Investigator
  - a written account of the abuse alleged by the Informant prepared in February 2013
- Leicester and County Convalescent Homes Report – 1948 to 1956 and 1964 to 1968.
- A dissertation called *The Rise and Fall of the Woodhouse Eaves Recovery Homes 1997*<sup>8</sup>. The Lead Investigator was advised of the existence of this dissertation by the Chair of the Woodhouse Eaves Local History Society. She located a copy at the Loughborough Public library. This was useful for setting the historical context for the use of convalescent homes from the 1900s. It did not contain any information specific to Roecliffe Manor or the culture of Roecliffe Manor.
- Woodhouse Eaves Parish Council Newsletters from the 1950s to 1970s for any mention of Roecliffe Manor, the names of staff working at Roecliffe Manor or any reference to JS being in the village of Woodhouse Eaves during this period.
- A postcard collection of photos of Roecliffe Manor provided by AB who was interviewed by the Lead Investigator and who was a former resident of the home.
- A book on the History of the Leicester Royal Infirmary (“LRI”) –1771-1971, written by E.R.Frizelle and J.D.Martin (1971) provided by the Director of Nursing. This was useful for explaining the history of the LRI and its potential links with Roecliffe Manor.

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<sup>8</sup> Jill Honisett 1997

- Booklets on the history of Woodhouse Eaves village describing landscape and church history– Loughborough Reference Library.
- Official Biography of Jimmy Savile by Alison Bellamy 2012.

Some key information established from these documents, and from which further enquiries were subsequently made, was:

- the names of four children, who had been resident at Roecliffe Manor in 1959, 1960 and 1965.
- the names of Trustees on the Board of Trustees for Roecliffe Manor.
- the name of the Matron at Roecliffe Manor 1947- 1964 (Miss D Thompson (deceased 1978) and 1964 onwards (Miss B A Makin SRN, RSCN).
- the names of the gardener and handyman who worked at Roecliffe Manor.

### ***Contact with other relevant organisations***

The Lead Investigator also corresponded with the following organisations to seek any relevant information they may hold:

- **Leonard Cheshire Disability.** This organisation bought the Roecliffe Manor building in 1972 from the Leicester and County Convalescent Homes Society. It was asked if it had inherited paperwork/documentation from the previous owners or if it had any knowledge of JS visiting Roecliffe Manor. Leonard Cheshire did not hold any information about JS nor had any knowledge of an association between JS and Roecliffe Manor. Furthermore, Leonard Cheshire did not hold any relevant information about the culture or names and details of staff or children at Roecliffe Manor.
- **The Children's Society.** The Lead Investigator established that The Children's Society owned and ran another children's home in the village of Woodhouse Eaves called Charnwood House. An interviewee had advised the Lead Investigator that sometimes children from Charnwood House and Roecliffe Manor played together at fetes. A request was made to The Children's Society to ask if they had any records pertaining to visits by JS to Charnwood House or the village of Woodhouse Eaves generally. It confirmed that it did not hold any relevant information.



- **Leicestershire County Council (LCC).** The Lead Investigator further established that the County Council undertook an investigation into Child Protection concerns in Children’s Homes in the Leicestershire area in the 1980s. The Lead Investigator asked the County Council if the previous investigation had identified any link with JS, or any documentary evidence demonstrating concerns or complaints about Roecliffe Manor. LCC confirmed that no link had been found with their investigation and no mention of Roecliffe Manor.
- **Leicestershire Nursing League.** In partnership with the Trust, the League had set up a Virtual Museum to celebrate 100 years of the LRI. The Investigator reviewed the information held within the Virtual Museum but established that there was no mention of Roecliffe Manor or any other convalescent home in the museum.
- **The Woodhouse Eaves Local History Society.** The Chair of the Society provided helpful background information about Roecliffe Manor and assisted in the location of a copy of the dissertation on “*The Rise and Fall of the Woodhouse Eaves Recovery Homes*”, as referred to above.

### ***Review of current policies and procedures***

As part of the terms of reference, it was necessary for the Lead Investigator to undertake a comprehensive review of current safeguarding policies held by the Trust. In addition, as this was an investigation undertaken in close collaboration with ARC Leicester, the Lead Investigator also undertook a comprehensive review of its policies. A full list of the policies reviewed is contained in Appendix C.

The policies were reviewed to:

- ensure that they were up to date and reflected current best practice;
- identify procedures for dealing with complaints and whistleblowing processes;
- identify a policy for dealing with requests for celebrity visits and vetting and barring processes;
- show evidence of Board accountability and commitment to safeguarding children and adults.

The names of those victims who allege abuse at Roecliffe Manor have been anonymised in this report to protect their identities. All other witnesses have provided permission for their

initials to be used.

## **5. Roecliffe Manor**

Roecliffe Manor was a children's convalescent home located in the village of Woodhouse Eaves, a village located on the side of Beacon Hill, in the Charnwood Forest area of Leicestershire. According to historical documents and information in "*The Rise and Fall of the Woodhouse Eaves Recovery Homes*"<sup>9</sup>, the village had a number of recovery/convalescent homes, for both children and adults from 1895, all within close proximity of each other.

Roecliffe Manor was a 50 bedded unit for children, who were referred there by the Local Authorities or hospitals in the counties, to recover from illnesses such as major infectious diseases. The children who resided at Roecliffe Manor came mainly from the counties of Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire. A child's length of stay at Roecliffe Manor varied from a matter of weeks to many months. According to the current Chair of ARC Leicester, who also consulted a previous Chair and Trustee, a length of stay at Roecliffe Manor beyond a few months was unusual. Both Chairs found it hard to believe that the Informant would have been in Roecliffe Manor for such a long time. However, they did say that a doctor would recommend extended stays where necessary. In 1959, it is recorded in the Annual Report that 629 children stayed at Roecliffe Manor during that year. Records state that Roecliffe Manor was a home run by trained nurses who lived in a "dormitory" building on the premises. According to Leicester and County Convalescent Homes Reports, admission to Roecliffe Manor was on a Friday and visiting was on a Saturday only, between 2.30pm and 3pm.

Archives also show a number of visitors to Roecliffe Manor. For example in the Matron's Annual Report (1961) it states: "*Sincere thanks to a host of friends for continuance of their personal interest in the welfare of the children; the film shows, concert parties; Guy Fawkes, night events and gifts of toys*".

## **6. The Legacy Organisation to Roecliffe Manor**

In 1905, the Leicester & County Saturday Hospital Society ("the LCSHS") was established, which in 1948 became the Leicester & County Convalescent Homes Society ("the Society"). Today the Society is known by its working name of ARC Leicester.

The LCSHS, and later the Society, owned and ran a number of children and adults homes

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<sup>9</sup> The Rise and Fall of the Woodhouse Eaves Recovery Homes Jill Honisett 1997

offering periods of convalescence to children and adults who were, for example, recovering from an illness. Eligibility for accommodation was based on individuals having made weekly or monthly monetary contributions to the LCSHS and the Society. Roecliffe Manor was owned and managed by the Society from its inception until its closure in 1969.

ARC Leicester no longer works with children in any capacity and does not own or manage any convalescent homes. The core work of the organisation is based on its longstanding principles of improving health and well-being and now deals with the following:

- referrals to a convalescent home for respite in Dawlish (there were 9 such referrals in 2013/14);
- providing complimentary therapies (provided by sub-contracted therapists);
- giving grants for individuals in need; such as medical equipment and access to complimentary therapies

The organisation has a core membership of approximately 800 members, many of whom have been members for over 60 years. Members contribute annually to obtain cover for illness or to access to complimentary therapies.

The organisation has 3 paid staff and is managed by a Charity Manager and a voluntary Board of Trustees. The Trustees are the only volunteer staff and do not have any client contact. There are 6 Trustees.

The Leicester Infirmary (a voluntary hospital founded in 1771), which became the Leicester Royal Infirmary and children's hospital in 1914, had a close association with the LCSHS and the Society. This is because in the early years of the hospital, patients were only eligible for admission to hospital if they had made weekly contributions to the LCSHS. When a patient was then ready for discharge from hospital, they would be sent to a number of adult convalescent homes (such as Swithland in Woodhouse Eaves) and Roecliffe Manor; all of which were run by LCSHS.

Leicester Royal Infirmary merged with Leicester General Hospital and Glenfield Hospital in 2000 to form the Trust.

As noted above, the Lead Investigator established, therefore, that ARC Leicester is the proper legacy organisation for Roecliffe Manor as opposed to the Trust. However, as the

Trust had already commenced its investigation following a direction by the Department of Health, it completed the investigation, in collaboration with ARC Leicester.

## **7. Policy, Practice and Procedures during the Time of the Allegation, including complaints**

The Lead Investigator found no available policies to review emanating from Roecliffe Manor. In all probability, these either did not exist or have been destroyed given that over 40 years have elapsed since Roecliffe Manor closed. Further, the Lead Investigator was not able to find documents from the time of the allegation, or at any other time, which described practices or routines at Roecliffe Manor, or which showed a record of any complaints made.

Witness accounts describe Roecliffe Manor as a strict, almost cruel, place in which children were controlled and punished frequently. A former resident described to the Lead Investigator in an email *'it was a terrible place, the abuse I received has left an imprint on my mind, but sadly we can't do anything about it. I have met other people who were there as children and all hated the place too'*<sup>10</sup>. Another witness stated in an email *"Children were treated very differently in the 1950's and so the system at Roecliffe Manor does now seem so institutionalised and very strict. Perhaps how I imagined a rather unpleasant boarding school to be"*.<sup>11</sup> The Lead Investigator found reference to a complaint on the Frith Forum dated 1961 from a volunteer nurse who had worked at Roecliffe Manor and who had complained to the Matron about the treatment of children at the home, namely tying a child to a chair in the night as a punishment for bedwetting, and force feeding children. A quote on the Frith Forum states *"I woke in the night for a drink and went down to the kitchen to get one, as I passed the children's dining room I saw a little *duel heritage*<sup>12</sup> boy tied onto a chair. He had wet pyjamas on so I went into the room to help him and was confronted by Matron who yelled at me to leave him there, he had been wetting the bed and this was his punishment"*<sup>13</sup>. The Frith Forum also references another complaint dating from 1962. This was a complaint from a parent whose child was at Roecliffe Manor. The complaint related to children's own sweets being confiscated and shared amongst other children.

The only other reference to a complaint the Lead Investigator could find was in the 1965 Annual Report of the Society. This referred to concerns being expressed by a nurse who

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<sup>10</sup> Information given to the Informant in an anonymous email

<sup>11</sup> Former resident at Roecliffe Manor (information from Frith Forum)

<sup>12</sup> The Lead Investigator believes this is a reference to a child of mixed race.

<sup>13</sup> Former volunteer nurse at Roecliffe Manor (information from Frith Forum)

was retiring following a period of sickness. The Annual report refers to her complaining about 'the observations she had made'. However, there was no further detail on the exact nature of such observations.

The Lead Investigator could find no evidence of how, or indeed whether, these complaints were dealt with appropriately at the time they were made.

## **8. Investigation of Current Allegations**

### ***Information from the Informant***

The Informant states that he was born in 1956. When he was 4 years old he suffered from tuberculosis and spent a period of time in hospital. He thinks that this was the LRI as he recalls the hospital was near a prison. The position of the LRI is actually only approximately a 5 minute walk from the prison. However, he also believes that the hospital may have been called Clarendon Park Clinic and the prison is also near the Clarendon Park area of Leicester. He recalls that he was sent to Roecliffe Manor in around 1960 to convalesce and remained there until he was 9-10 years old (1965-1967). He recalls that at the time of his admission to Roecliffe Manor his mother was very ill and this may have been the reason he was sent to Roecliffe Manor. The Informant was unable to provide any documentary evidence to prove that he was at Roecliffe Manor, including any verification from a family member. His recollection is that he was there from the age of 4 until he was 9 or 10 and believes that this is supported through photographs he has found of himself as a page boy when he was 3-4 years old (at a time when he still lived with his mother and he was at his 21 year old sister's wedding) and a further photograph of when he was about 9/10 years old with all of his teeth out (he recalls being taken to the LRI while a resident at Roecliffe Manor and then taken back to Roecliffe Manor after the surgery). He recalls that when he left Roecliffe Manor he went back to the village that he previously lived in to live with his sister.

The Lead Inspector sought to clarify the exact timescales of the Informant's time at Roecliffe Manor and also sought to corroborate that he was at Roecliffe Manor (given that there were a number of other homes in the village of Woodhouse Eaves in the 1950s and 1960). A search was made of all available documentary records, along with a search of census records but no reference to the Informant's name could be found. However, during his interviews the Informant disclosed a description of Roecliffe Manor, such as it had a sun room and very strict discipline, such detail being corroborated by other witnesses. The Lead Investigator concluded that the Informant therefore did in fact reside at Roecliffe Manor as opposed to another children's home in the village of Woodhouse Eaves.

### *First telephone Interview with the Informant*

In an early interview with the Lead Investigator, the Informant recalls a man called “Jimmy” who would visit Roecliffe Manor on weekends. He recalls that on weekends this man would show a cine film at the home “*which was nice and had us cuddling him and kissing him*” in front of everyone. He would also bring in books (history, Robin Hood and William Tell) music and other “stuff”. He recalls that “Jimmy” was like a PE Teacher as he was fit and would help out with fitness during his visits. The Informant thinks that “Jimmy” was on the hospital radio. He was at another hospital as well on the other side of Nottingham – Saxondale. The Informant describes “Jimmy” as a very nice man and stated “*he managed to make you feel loved and cared for*”. “Jimmy” had an air of authority. The Informant even describes “Jimmy” as like a “wonderful” brother to him. “Jimmy” was normally at Roecliffe Manor by himself but he does recall on some occasions that he brought with him somebody with a Scottish Irish accent. This man came with “Jimmy” in his camper van.<sup>14</sup>

The Informant stated that he was sexually abused by “Jimmy”. In this interview, the Informant advised the Lead Investigator that on one occasion he recalls being face down on a large table and that “Jimmy” was behind him. He felt pain in his backside but was unable to provide any further detail. He stated that he has never been able to talk about his time at Roecliffe Manor or the abuse he suffered there. The Informant recalls that when he was 7 years old, and at Roecliffe Manor, he would mix with 13 year old boys. He recalls that some of these 13 year olds also said to the Informant that they had been abused at Roecliffe Manor as well and also in “Melton Mowbray” at a children’s home there. No further detail was provided.

### *2<sup>nd</sup> Telephone Interview with the Informant.*

During this interview, the Informant stated that he recalls 9 “experiences” with “Jimmy” which built up to the sexual abuse (described in his first interview). He could not recall how often “Jimmy” visited Roecliffe Manor but stated that it “seemed a lot”. He recalls that “Jimmy” would take him out, along with a girl called April or Elizabeth, who was also a resident at Roecliffe Manor, for rides in his camper van. He recalls that “Jimmy” would take them to a motorway service station. The Informant stated “*he would do things to us in the camper van and then he would give me money to go to the shop*”. He stated that in the camper van “Jimmy” demanded on one occasion that the Informant kiss “Jimmy’s” penis. “Jimmy” would then say that he wanted to meet the team and recalls that the “team” were Gary Glitter (a pop star), T-Rex and Slade (pop groups). The motorway service station was their meeting

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<sup>14</sup> The information in quotations are from the discussions the Lead Investigator had with the Informant.

point. The Informant recalls that he was given concert tickets for these acts, although did not specify which ones in particular. The Informant also recalls “Jimmy” taking the Informant, and April/Elizabeth to a “rock” or a large stone for a picnic but did not say that abuse took place there.

The Informant also recalls two sisters who were residents at Roecliffe Manor. They would guard the bathroom doors when the girls at Roecliffe Manor were having a bath. The Informant states that he was told by these sisters whilst he was at Roecliffe Manor that someone used to peep into the bathroom doors to watch the children in the bath. The Informant stated that he thought this person was “Jimmy” although he himself was not present. He did not state who the two sisters thought the individual “*peeping*” was.

During this short interview the Informant advised that some 18 months ago he had met a former Roecliffe Manor nurse, who was in her 80s. The nurse did not name “Jimmy” or JS during their discussion.

### *3<sup>d</sup> Interview – Face to Face meeting.*

During this interview the Informant shared further details about his recollections of “Jimmy”. He stated that “Jimmy” would take him, and a girl called April (who after a while stopped coming), out in his campervan to “*somewhere near*” the service station where he would see T-Rex, Slade and Gary Glitter. The Informant was given half a crown by “Jimmy” so that he could go to get something to eat. He did not know what the groups discussed, therefore. He also recalls being taken to a rock or a big stone by “Jimmy” and also took him and April to another hospital which had a Viking’s name (which he thought was Saxondale (see further discussion below)).

He recalls that “Jimmy” would visit the home about 3 weekends every month. He does not recall “Jimmy” being there during the week. He believes that “Jimmy” could come and go as he pleased on weekends as there were many parents and visitors around at that time. Nobody knew who he was.

The Informant recalls that “Jimmy” wore different coats for different venues. He wore white and brown coats. For example, he wore a white coat in Nottingham when visiting Saxondale Hospital. He would bring a projector and they would watch films at Roecliffe Manor. The Informant recalls these as good times as he saw animals in these films that he had never seen before.

The Informant stated during this interview that he recalls that the sexual abuse he disclosed in his first telephone interview with the Lead Investigator took place on a large table (not a kitchen table) in the Sun Room. He recalls being carried by a nurse from his bed and recalls clinging to her. In the interview the Informant refers to having to drink milk at night and states '*I think it was drugged*'. He recalls a hall, with dark lights, full of people. He also recalls that there were many cars outside. It seemed to him like an old style disco.

#### *4<sup>th</sup> Telephone Interview*

During this discussion with the Informant, he recalled that Jimmy wore a white coat when he was inside Roecliffe Manor and a brown one when he was outside Roecliffe Manor and described these coats as doctors' long coats. "Jimmy" would bring films with him to Roecliffe Manor when he visited, films about Billy Smart's Circus, the history of kings and queens including Richard III. He recalls that nurses were sometimes present at the film showing.

A further recollection by the Informant was that "Jimmy" would be in the "*little park*" in the grounds of Roecliffe Manor making sure that the swings were working. He recalls that an older man would help him who he recalls looked similar to "Jimmy".

During this interview, he described the campervan in which he and "April" were taken to the Motorway service station as a grey/cream colour, a "dull" colour. It was like a "*butcher's van with windows down the side and one at the back*". He reiterated again that the service station was a regular meeting spot for the pop band Slade and T-Rex and for pop star Gary Glitter. He stated that years later he heard of other people going to the motorway station to catch a glimpse of them.

The Informant recalls that a nurse was present during the abuse and who would rub his back after the abuse and tell him stories to comfort him.

The Informant also stated that he recalls "Jimmy" being in the bathrooms on occasion monitoring what was going on. There were 5-10 bath, shower and toilet cubicles which he described as similar to cubicles in a school. He recalls that "Jimmy" used to stick his head under the cubicles to see who was in them. He would then open the door and masturbate in front of the children.

The Informant stated to the Lead Investigator during this interview that he also recalls being



abused in a toilet cubicle by “Jimmy” who came in and “touched him”. The Informant also reiterated during this interview the previous allegation that he had been indecently assaulted by “Jimmy” in the campervan at the motorway service station.

The Informant also made a further serious disclosure during this interview. He stated that he witnessed a girl, who he believes was called April or Elizabeth, being dragged across the garden at Roecliffe Manor by “Jimmy” and another man. She appeared to be in a stupor. The next day the Informant was told by the Matron that this girl had died. This serious allegation is dealt with further below.

### ***Description of “Jimmy”***

In the second interview with the Informant, he described “Jimmy” as having “browney, mousey hair”. He often wore a white shirt and jeans. He recalls that “Jimmy” was about 27-33 years old at the time. During the 3<sup>rd</sup> interview, the Lead Investigator showed the Informant photographs of JS in the late 1950s. The Informant’s immediate response was to confirm that the person in the photograph was the individual who he knew and recalled as “Jimmy”. The Lead Investigator noted a very strong reaction by the Informant to the photographs and noted that he was adamant that the photographs were of “Jimmy”. In a follow up discussion with the Informant on 7 April 2014 (the purpose of which was to maintain contact with the Informant to ensure that he felt supported), he reiterated his firm belief that the photograph he had been shown by the Lead Investigator of JS was a photograph of “Jimmy”. In an email sent to the Lead Investigator following the above discussions, he clarified that he believed that “Jimmy” worked at the home. He recalls people saying to “Jimmy” to go to various parts of Roecliffe Manor to fix things. He believed that he was there Friday to Monday.

The Informant remembers that later in 1965 (after leaving Roecliffe Manor) he saw JS on the BBC show, Top of the Pops and recognised him as “Jimmy”. He also recalls seeing JS doing a gig in a school in Market Harborough in 1970 or 1971. At this time, he wanted to confront JS about the abuse but was prevented from speaking to JS by other people who were in JS’ entourage.

The Lead Investigator concluded following her interviews with the Informant that he was a sincere and honest individual. He had provided a broadly consistent account of his memories of his time at Roecliffe Manor. There were some inconsistencies in his account (for example that “Jimmy” visited the Home but also is referred to having worked there) but

this can be explained by the fact that the Informant was a young boy when he was a resident at Roecliffe Manor, and that this was over 50 years ago. It would have been surprising and indeed unconvincing, if he had a clear and thorough recollection of events.

### **Other evidence reviewed to corroborate the above account**

#### ***Other Children at Roecliffe Manor***

The Informant states that 47 former residents at Roecliffe Manor contacted him after he made a personal request for information in February 2013. He states that 42 of these individuals can provide evidence to corroborate the information provided by the Informant although, according to the Informant, not all support the contention that JS was present at the home nor do they recall a member of staff named "Jimmy". As noted above, the Lead Investigator made attempts to contact these potential witnesses but all refused to speak with her. No reliance can, therefore, be put on the hearsay information provided by the Informant of the evidence these witnesses may be able to give.

During the 4<sup>th</sup> telephone interview with the Informant, he advised the Lead Investigator that two women (of the 47 who responded to the advert) had recently contacted him again by telephone. The Informant advised that these two women talked about children in Roecliffe Manor in the 1960s huddling in corners in the toilets to try to hide from "Jimmy". The two women did not want to talk to the Lead Investigator when asked by the Informant. Again, the Lead Investigator could not obtain any further details from these witnesses as they did not wish to contact her.

According to the Informant, another man also telephoned him after placing the advert in the Leicester Mercury (of the 47 who contacted him) and said that JS 'molested' him but did not provide any further information or dates.

The Lead Investigator interviewed another former Roecliffe Manor resident during the investigation (AB). AB recalled being sent to Roecliffe Manor in 1962 for 3 weeks when she was 7 ½ years old. She recalls a big house that from the outside looked nice. However, inside there were dormitories that had nothing in them apart from cots and a dull light. What stands out for her about her time there was the fact that even though she was 7 years old, she was put in a baby's cot. The play room was very bare with basket chairs and tables. There were few toys or activities. She does not recall anyone coming into Roecliffe Manor to show films and does not remember seeing any films herself. Meals for the children were very

basic – she recalls being given jam sandwiches.

She described Roecliffe Manor as a cruel place, where children received punishment for bedwetting and being ill. Most staff were horrible and treated the children “*really horribly, roughly*”. She does not think that those who worked there were trained nurses. However, there were some nice staff members who would take the children out and run through the woods with them, which was fun. She stated “*they couldn’t say anything as they would get the sack*”. She recalls that Saturday was a visiting day and that things were ok on these days but during the weekdays children were treated badly. She does not recall any male staff at Roecliffe Manor.

She recalls being placed in a bath and scrubbed with a harsh brush until her skin was red and sore. AB recalls being inappropriately touched by someone (she thinks it was a male although cannot be sure as hair was getting longer in those days) who came into the bathroom wearing a white coat. She recalls that the Matron, and another nurse, remained in the bathroom during the assault. This happened on one occasion only. She cannot recall seeing the man before and did not recall seeing him after this event. This witness thinks that the person who touched her had “*darkish hair*” but was uncertain. The man then left and the nurses dried her and put night clothes on her. She did not say anything to anyone about the incident as “*you just kept quiet in those days*”.

This witness confirmed that she has no recollection of hearing the name ‘Jimmy’ whilst she was at Roecliffe Manor. Further she confirmed that she cannot recall seeing JS at Roecliffe Manor at any time.

### ***Frith Forum***

As noted above, the Lead Investigator joined the Frith Forum and left a request with forum members for information about Roecliffe Manor. A member of the forum contacted the Lead Investigator by email and was able to give useful insights into life for children at Roecliffe Manor in 1962. This individual (CD) described being force fed at Roecliffe Manor, gaining a lot of weight and that children were subject to strict discipline from staff. She believes some incidents occurred at the home, referring to potential abuse, which had caused her problems later in her life. CD did not elaborate on whether this was sexual abuse. She did not remember JS being present at Roecliffe Manor nor does she recall a staff member known as “Jimmy”.

The Lead Investigator noted that some Frith Forum members had posted comments about Roecliffe Manor, including a volunteer nurse who was told to leave her employment at Roecliffe Manor after complaining about the treatment of children. The Lead Investigator sent a private message to those who had made these posts but received no response.

There were no posts referring to sexual abuse, about JS or of a man known as “Jimmy” on the forum.

***Ex Staff Members of other Children’s Homes in Woodhouse Eaves***

The Lead Investigator spoke to GA (now 93 years old) and a former manager at another Children’s Home (Empitts) located in the village of Woodhouse Eaves. He had no recollection of any visits by JS to Empitts or to Woodhouse Eaves in general. GA was a Special Constable in 1960 and cannot recall any negative comment being made about Roecliffe Manor at the time. He was also never called out to Roecliffe Manor to deal with any issues there.

SD was also contacted by the Lead Investigator. SD is a former nurse who worked at another children’s home namely Charnwood House, and she continues to live in the village of Woodhouse Eaves. She had no recollection of any visits by JS, or any association between JS and Charnwood House.

Both GA and SD confirmed that they had lived in Woodhouse Eaves since the 1960s and cannot recall any concerns or complaints being made about Roecliffe Manor. Both also confirmed that they have no recollection of JS having visited the village during the time that they both lived there.

The Lead Investigator concluded from the evidence provided by the witnesses that some of the details they had provided corroborated the information provided by the Informant. She was able to conclude that Roecliffe Manor was a bleak place for children to live, where children were harshly punished and subject to strict discipline. Although only one witness (AB), other than the Informant, could provide direct evidence of sexual abuse at Roecliffe Manor, the Lead Investigator concluded that both accounts were credible and consistent and that it is more likely than not that sexual abuse of children took place there.

However, the witness evidence did not provide any corroborative evidence to support the Informant’s disclosure that JS had been at Roecliffe Manor in the late 1950s or 1960, or had

any association with the home. Further, no witness spoken to could recall a member of staff named “Jimmy”.

### ***Documentary Evidence***

The Lead Investigator did not find any information of JS being present in Roecliffe Manor, or indeed in the Village of Woodhouse Eaves in the 1950s and 1960s, in the documentation that could be located. No mention was made of his name, or that of a member of staff called “Jimmy”. There was reference to two gardeners and two handymen in the documentation seen who had worked at Roecliffe Manor. Only one of these staff members fits the profile of “Jimmy” in terms of age (born in 1929). However, he was not called Jimmy. The other staff members were born in 1900, 1914 and 1916 and, therefore, would have been in their 50s and 60s at the time of the alleged incident. This made them considerably older than the age the Informant states the abuser was. One of these members of staff was called James and it is possible, although there is no evidence to support this, that he may have been known by the name of Jimmy. There is no record of any other male member of staff working at Roecliffe Manor.

The Lead Investigator did see reference in the documentary evidence that a number of individuals appeared to have visited Roecliffe Manor in 1961 as the Matron’s Annual Report refers to “*a host of friends*” showing films, hosting concerts, parties and bringing gifts and toys to the children of Roecliffe Manor. The Leicester and County Convalescent Homes Report (1957- 1963) state mention visitors and gifts from the Loughborough branch of TOC H<sup>15</sup> and the social committee of the Swithland Camp<sup>16</sup>. The Lead Investigator did find the name of a Trustee who, according to minutes of meetings from Roecliffe Manor, was a frequent visitor to Roecliffe Manor in the 1960s and showed cinefilm and took gifts to children there. However, this line of inquiry could be taken no further as the individual has since passed away.

### **Information about JS at the time of the allegation**

The Lead Investigator sought to corroborate the Informant’s allegation with information known about JS’s appearance in the late 1950s and 1960s and his known whereabouts at that time. She also sought to corroborate some other issues raised by the Informant namely the use of a camper van, JS’s connection with the pop bands (Slade and T-Rex) and the pop star “Gary Glitter” (known as Paul Gadd and Paul Raven in the 1960s), along with the

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<sup>15</sup> An international philanthropic movement started in 1915 by a Minister who set up a soldiers club in Belgian.

<sup>16</sup> A holiday camp in Leicester.

locations that the Informant was taken to by “Jimmy”.

#### *Appearance of JS*

Photographs show that in the 1950s and early 1960s, JS had mousey brown hair and brown eyes and did not have the trademark white/blonde hair of the mid-sixties onwards. This therefore accords with the Informant’s description of “Jimmy” as a man with mousey brown hair at the time he states that “Jimmy” worked at Roecliffe Manor.

#### *JS’s whereabouts in 1950s and 1960s*

According to searches undertaken on the internet by the Lead Investigator, and details within a biography of JS by Alison Bellamy, following the Second World War JS worked in dance halls becoming a manager of a number of them, including the Mecca Ballroom in Manchester and Ilford, Essex. Internet searches ascertained that JS was a cyclist and also a wrestler in the 1950s, competing as a cyclist in the Tour of Britain and later running hundreds of marathons. The Informant describes “Jimmy” as a fit man who helped with PE.

JS was born in 1926 and so would have been around 33 – 39 years old between 1959 and 1965, and not between 26-30 years as “Jimmy” is described as being. However, not much weight has been accorded to this discrepancy in the Informant’s description as he was very young at the time of the alleged incidents; there is likely to be little difference to a young child between a person aged in their early or late 30s.

#### *JS’s Radio/Television Career in 1950s/1960s*

JS began working as a DJ at Radio Luxembourg in London in 1958 until 1967 and on Tyne Tees Television in 1960. The Lead Investigator established that JS presented Radio Luxembourg broadcasts on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays from a studio in London. However, one comment found on the Radio Luxembourg website suggested that some broadcasts may have been pre-recorded so would not preclude JS from having the opportunity of going to Roecliffe Manor on a weekend. The Informant stated that “Jimmy” worked in radio and visited on weekends. In 1964 JS presented the first edition of Top of the Pops and from 1968 worked on BBC Radio<sup>17</sup>. The Lead Investigator could find no corroborative evidence in the documents that she read, and general internet searches undertaken, that JS visited, or had a presence, in the Leicestershire area in the 1950s and 1960s.

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<sup>17</sup> Giving Victims a Voice Jan 2013 NSPCC

### *Campervan*

Internet research has also shown that JS had a number of camper vans. Again, photographs on the internet show JS in a number of camper vans. The photographs are not of the traditional camper van but rather they are similar to small coaches with windows along each side. The Lead Investigator could not find any photographs of a grey/cream camper van, as described by the Informant. However, this may not be surprising given that it would have been owned by JS in the late 1950s early 1960s and a photograph of it may never have been taken (or has simply not been kept).

### *Involvement at Saxondale*

The Informant recalled that "Jimmy" also worked at Saxondale Hospital. Saxondale hospital has also investigated JS's association with it. As such the Lead Investigator contacted the Lead Investigator undertaking the Saxondale hospital investigation. She was advised that it had found no evidence that JS had an association with Saxondale hospital in the 1950s and 1960s. It seems that JS's association with the hospital was in the 1970s when JS took part in fun runs there. The Saxondale investigation confirmed that it had did not come across any staff member known as "Jimmy" who had worked at the hospital.

### *JSs association with Slade, T-Rex and Gary Glitter*

The Lead Investigator was unable to find a clear connection of a relationship between JS and these other pop acts in the early 1960s. There is some uncertainty as to whether all of these acts were in existence when the Informant was at Roeclyffe Manor. Gary Glitter was certainly a pop star in 1960 but was known as Paul Gadd or Paul Raven. He did not use the name Gary Glitter until 1971. The group Slade was formed in 1965 and T-Rex formed in 1967. Therefore these acts were formed either at the end of the Informant's stay at Roeclyffe Manor or after he had left.

### *Motorway Service Station*

The Lead Investigator has undertaken an internet search to determine the motorway service station that the Informant may have been taken to. Originally the Lead Investigator thought that this might be the Leicester Forest East Service Station as this is close to the village of Woodhouse Eaves. However, this was not built until 1966, therefore after the Informant is likely to have left Roeclyffe Manor or close to when he was due to leave.

The Lead Investigator did find that the Blue Boar Services, Watford Gap service station was a popular destination in the 1960s as a meeting point for Pop bands. An internet search

discovered that bands such as The Who and T-Rex would meet there. *“There were established stop off points on your way home one of these was the famous Blue Boar Cafe (Watford Gap) frequented by all the bands and roadies of that time being about half way back to London from the north, you would run into people like Marc Bolan (T-Rex) in the toilet next to you”*<sup>18</sup>. The Informant recalls that there was always an energetic musical atmosphere at the station that he recalls being taken to and so this may have been the one he is referring to. However, this station is some distance from Roecliffe Manor; one hour by reference to the AA guide today but would have been significantly longer in the late 1950s/ and 1960s. The Lead Investigator sought to determine from the Informant if he remembered how long it would have taken him to go to the service station. He stated that it seemed a long way to him in those days, an understandable answer given that he was very young at the time and that a relatively short distance can seem long to a child. He recalls sleeping in the back of the van when being taken there.

Contact was also made by the Lead Investigator with Road Chef, the current owners of Blue Boar Services at Watford Gap. Road Chef hold an autograph book which is believed to have been used by a former Blue Boar employee at Watford Gap Services during the 1960s and 1970s. The Lead Investigator was provided with a copy of an undated autograph from this autograph book, purported to be JS’s (although there is no way to attest to its authenticity or the time and place of its signing). No such autographs could be found for T-Rex, Slade and Paul Gadd (later known as Gary Glitter).

#### *Rock/Large Stone near Woodhouse Eaves*

The Lead Investigator has found that there is a place called the Hanging Stones in Charnwood Forest, on the edge of Woodhouse Eaves. It is likely, therefore, that the Informant is referring to these stones when he states he was taken to a big stone by “Jimmy”.

#### **Other allegations**

As noted above, the Informant advised the Lead Investigator that he witnessed one child (he thinks she was called Elizabeth or April) being dragged away in a stupor by “Jimmy” and another person and that the next day she was told that she had died. The Lead Investigator notes that this information was passed to the MPS and Local Police force by her for it to undertake further investigations should it wish to given its extremely serious nature. The

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<sup>18</sup> <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b012fcyk>



Lead Investigator sought further to corroborate this information through referring to any reference to a child's death in any of the documentary evidence relating to Roecliffe Manor still in existence. A search was also made of census information. No reference could be found in any record of a child's death at Roecliffe Manor.

The Informant stated in interview that other boys who were at Roecliffe Manor when he was there said that they had also been abused at another children's home, in Melton Mowbray. However, the Informant did not indicate that these boys had been abused by JS at these homes and further, no information can be provided by the Informant as to which home in Melton Mowbray was actually the subject of such abuse. The terms of reference to this investigation is to investigate allegations of abuse by JS and therefore this further allegation falls outside of the remit of the current investigation. The information about this alleged abuse has been forwarded to the Local Police and Leicestershire County Council for it to consider as part of its safeguarding responsibilities.

## **9 The Trust's Current Policies, Practice and Procedures**

It is important to note that the Trust (or predecessor bodies) did not at any time run, or indeed have any connection with Roecliffe Manor other than that at one time children from the LRI were occasionally discharged there to convalesce. However, as part of this investigation it has been important to ensure that the Trust's policies and procedures relating to child protection and vulnerable adults are robust.

### *Review of Trust policies and practice in 2012/2013*

In November 2012, Sir David Nicholson wrote to all NHS Trust Chief Executives asking them to undertake a review of NHS Trust policy and guidance on volunteers and visits by VIPs/Celebrities to NHS premises.

During the review, which the Trust subsequently undertook, the Trust identified the following risk areas:

- That the service specifications with an external contractor (Interserve) should include a requirement that policies and procedures for recruitment training, and development of staff, is in line with local safeguarding guidance. The Trust has actioned this point.
- That there is a need to ensure that staff are made aware of local changes to vetting and barring procedures. In order to ensure that staff are aware of vetting and barring

procedures, the Trust has used a number of communication methods to raise awareness with all staff such as local briefings via Directorates including a CEO briefing in February 2014. The message has also been re-enforced within safeguarding training.

- That there was no policy relating to visits from celebrities and VIPs, either planned or otherwise. As an interim measure following the review, the Trust introduced Best Practice Guidance<sup>19</sup>– which specifically mentions ‘unless *you have received notification of this, do not allow celebrities access*’. This remains an interim measure at the time of this investigation and the Lead Investigator recommends that it should now be formalised into a policy and firmly embedded into the Trust’s practice.

Following the above review, the Trust strengthened safeguarding training in the summer of 2013 in terms of staff being vigilant about visitors and access to controlled areas, such as children and maternity wards.

### *Trust policies and practices*

A comprehensive list of the Trust’s policies and practice in relation to the protection of children and vulnerable adults can be found in Appendix C of this report.

The Trust is a partner agency of the Safeguarding Adults Boards and the Safeguarding Children’s Boards<sup>20</sup> for Leicestershire and Rutland County Councils and Leicester City Council. Safeguarding Children Boards are the key statutory mechanisms for agreeing how the relevant organisations in each local area will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in that locality, and for ensuring the effectiveness of what they do.

The Trust has a number of policies and procedures in place in relation to safeguarding vulnerable people and children, access to patients and listening to and acting on patient concerns. The Trust website also has information for the public to access, which tells them what to do if they have concerns about the abuse of a child or vulnerable adult. The Trust has a ‘whistleblowing’ policy to encourage staff or volunteers to raise concerns and is accessible to Trust staff via the intranet.

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<sup>19</sup> Guidance for staff managing patient, celebrity and official visitors to the Trust

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.lcitylscb.org/about-lscb/what-the-lscb-does/>

The Trust has taken an active approach to ensure that policies are embedded and, as well as the Safeguarding Team of advisors, has a safeguarding lead in each Clinical Business Unit who has the following role:

- to ensure that effective safeguarding practice is actively maintained.
- to support and provide time for staff to attend training and to participate in any required safeguarding investigations.
- to ensure staff receive and have the time to get appropriate brief/debrief/counselling where requested/needed.
- to support the delivery of new safeguarding initiatives through the effective sharing of information.

Safeguarding processes are monitored via the Trust Safeguarding Assurance Group and any serious incidents are taken to the Quality Assurance Committee.

During an unannounced visit by the Care Quality Commission in August 2012, the Trust was found to be compliant with Outcome 7 – Safeguarding People. Outcome 7 is specifically concerned with ensuring that the Trust has made suitable arrangements to ensure that service users are safeguarded against the risk of abuse by means of (a) taking reasonable steps to identify the possibility of abuse and prevent it before it occurs; and (b) responding appropriately to any allegation of abuse.

The Trust Board has an updated integrated action plan to ensure that recommendations and key lessons learnt from the Keogh Review<sup>21</sup>, the Berwick Review<sup>22</sup> and the Francis reports<sup>23</sup>, including the government's final response to the Francis report<sup>24</sup>, are embedded in the Trust's day to day practices.

#### *Recruitment procedures for Trust staff and volunteers*

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<sup>21</sup> Professor Sir Bruce Keogh's 2013 review into the quality of care and treatment provided by 14 hospital trusts in England.

<sup>22</sup> A report by Professor Don Berwick on patient safety in the NHS in England.

<sup>23</sup> Robert Francis QC's reports on the failings at the Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust.

<sup>24</sup> 'Hard truths - the journey to putting patients first' 2014

Disclosure and Barring Service (“DBS”) checks are required for all employed staff and volunteers at the Trust. The level of check required is dependent on their contact with patients. Where appropriate, staff and volunteers at the Trust are required to have enhanced DBS checks.

#### *Staff training*

Safeguarding vulnerable people training, whether for adults or children, is mandatory for all Trust staff, including volunteers. Compliance is monitored and reported to the Board. Full compliance has been achieved at the time of writing this report. Staff are required to attend annual training and training is reviewed and monitored on a monthly basis at the Safeguarding Assurance Group, and quarterly at the Quality Assurance Committee.

#### *Protocols for visiting celebrities and VIPs*

All visits by celebrities are managed and coordinated by the Director of Marketing and Communications. There is no separate written protocol for managing VIP/Celebrity visits by the Trust other than the interim guidance put in place as noted above. There is also a Security Policy which encourages vigilance from staff with regard to people acting suspiciously, setting out clear reporting and taking seriously the safety of both patients and staff.

There is, however, no mention of what would happen if a VIP/Celebrity arrived unannounced on Trust premises. This is not mentioned in the interim guidance. Although this should in theory be covered by the Security Policy’s guidance on reporting strangers in controlled access areas.

The Lead Investigator recommends that the Trust should create a specific policy in relation to visits by VIPs and celebrities, including unplanned visits, and ensure that this is embedded in Trust day to day practice.

#### *Policies and Practice – Fit for Purpose*

The Lead Investigator concludes that the Trust’s current policy and practice at the Trust embraces learning from the Francis Report and is taking on board learning from the wider JS allegations. In the Safeguarding Children and Adults Annual Report 2012-2013 the Trust makes specific reference to the JS national review and that it has reviewed policies. The report states:

*'The Trust can confirm that recruitment procedures are compliant with the revised national procedures introduced in December 2012 by the Vetting, Disclosure and Barring Service. There is no evidence to suggest that official visitors and celebrities have been in the Trust without appropriate supervision and staff have been reminded about the importance of challenging and escorting visitors and celebrities. The Trust can further confirm that it is working with partner agencies to seek assurances that staff working in these agencies have undergone appropriate vetting procedure.'* (Annual Safeguarding Report 2012-2013).

In the same report, the Trust states that it plans to re-launch the Trust Safeguarding Forum, with a series of events to promote the work of safeguarding for Adults and Children.

The Trust has, therefore, undertaken a thorough review of policies, including Safeguarding and DBS checks. It is the Lead Investigator's view that the safeguarding policies are fit for purpose and are robust to protect children and vulnerable adults.

## **10 . ARC Leicester – Current Policies, Practice and Procedures**

A comprehensive list of ARC Leicester's policies and practice in relation to the protection of vulnerable adults can be found in Appendix C of this report. ARC Leicester is a small charitable organisation but nevertheless has a clear set of policies and procedures and has updated all policies in light of new Disclosure and Barring procedures. It is to be commended for the way in which it seeks to keep up to date. ARC Leicester has recruitment procedures in place for staff and potential volunteers. Disclosure and Barring Service ("DBS") checks are required for all employed staff and volunteers.

It is the Lead Investigators view that ARC Leicester has a clear and robust set of policies to protect vulnerable adults.

## **10. Overall Analysis and Conclusions**

This investigation has focused on the children's convalescent home known as Roecliffe Manor, which closed in 1969, in the village of Woodhouse Eaves. Further, the investigation focused on a timeframe of the late 1950 until the end of the 1960s, as this is when it is alleged sexual abuse by JS took place.

### ***Allegation of abuse by JS at Roecliffe Manor***

The Informant has alleged that he was sexually abused at Roecliffe Manor on a number of occasions. He also alleges that he was sexually abused when he was taken out of Roecliffe

Manor on trips. He alleges that an individual called “Jimmy” was the perpetrator of this abuse. “Jimmy” would visit Roecliffe Manor on weekends and assumed a number of roles at the home (helped with PE and provided entertainment to the children by showing films). The Informant recalls that he was told “Jimmy” worked in radio and would visit Roecliffe Manor on weekends. The Informant states that “Jimmy” was in fact JS. The Lead Investigator witnessed a strong emotional reaction by the Informant when she showed him a photograph of JS in the late 1950s; the Informant was adamant that the photograph was one of “Jimmy”.

The Lead Investigator concluded following her interviews with the Informant that he was a sincere and honest individual. He had provided a broadly consistent account of his memories of his time at Roecliffe Manor. There were some inconsistencies in his account but this can be explained by the fact that the Informant was a young boy when he was a resident at Roecliffe Manor, and that this was over 50 years ago. It would have been surprising, and indeed unconvincing, if he had a clear and thorough recollection of his time at Roecliffe Manor. It was clear to the Lead Investigator that the Informant found it very difficult to recount details of a traumatic period of time in his life and a period in his life that he had kept silent about for over 50 years.

The Lead Investigator sought to corroborate the allegations made by the Informant by pursuing a number of avenues. This was through tracing any relevant witnesses who were resident, or indeed worked at, Roecliffe Manor in the 1950s and 1960s; through reviewing any archived material on Roecliffe Manor and through any other leads that could be found. Further, corroboration was pursued through trying to trace JS’s whereabouts during this time, along with details of his appearance. The pursuit of corroborating evidence proved to be challenging given that the incidents alleged occurred more than five decades ago and so very few witnesses could be located; similarly relevant documentary evidence, where such evidence could be found, was vague and did not provide a complete photograph.

Only a small number of witnesses could be located (or were prepared to speak to the Lead Investigator) and none recalled a man named “Jimmy” visiting Roecliffe Manor. No witness had any recollection of JS visiting Roecliffe Manor, or that Roecliffe Manor had a known association with him. The documentary evidence reviewed by the Lead Investigator (as detailed in section 4 above) held no reference to visits by “Jimmy” or any reference to JS. The Lead Investigator could find no evidence that JS had a regular presence in the Leicestershire area in the late 1950s and the 1960s. Given the subsequent popularity of JS in the 1960s, it seems surprising that no reference could be found of him in the literature for

Roecliffe Manor, or that he would not have been identified, or recalled, as being in the Woodhouse Eaves area at some time.

However, the Lead Investigator did not find evidence to discredit or indeed disprove the information provided by the Informant. The description of “Jimmy” did fit with a description of JS in the late 1950s along with the profile of a man who was fit and healthy, and worked in radio. JS was of course known for his marathon running (and this was the case in the 1950s and 1960s) and worked for Radio Luxembourg on Thursday, Saturday and Sundays three weekends each month. It is possible that these broadcasts were pre-recorded and so does not rule out the possibility that JS could have visited (or worked at) Roecliffe Manor on weekends as alleged. Further, “Jimmy” had a camper van and it is well known that JS did have a number of camper vans during his lifetime.

The Lead Investigator’s concern is that whilst helpful, this corroborative evidence is generic in nature and does not provide strong conclusive proof that “Jimmy” was in fact JS. It is also of significance that the Informant was very young at the time of his association with “Jimmy” (which was over 50 years ago) and so any description of “Jimmy” needs to be used carefully and cautiously given the passage of time. The allegation made that JS abused the Informant, and indeed other children, at Roecliffe Manor is very serious and as such proper and strong corroborative evidence is required to link JS to such abuse. Other than the Informant’s word, no other evidence has provided this link. As such, the Lead Investigator has been unable to conclude one way or the other that JS abused the Informant, and other children, at Roecliffe Manor, in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

The Lead Investigator is mindful that other witnesses who may have been a resident, or who worked at Roecliffe Manor, could not be interviewed because they did not want to be, may have evidence which could lead to corroboration at a later stage. As such, the Lead Investigator believes that the matter should be reopened if such evidence comes to light.

### **Sexual Abuse at Roecliffe Manor**

The Informant provided accounts of sexual abuse at the home. One of these related to abuse in the bathroom at the home. A witness other than the Informant stated that she was abused on one occasion whilst she was at Roecliffe Manor when she was in the bath. Both witnesses conclude that the matron was present at the time of the abuse.

The investigation concludes that sexual abuse of children did take place at Roecliffe Manor

in the late 1950s and 1960s (some of which may have taken place outside of the Roecliffe Manor premises). The Lead Investigator believed the account of both witnesses and the similar accounts of sexual abuse occurring in the bathroom by a male were made independently of each other.

It is not within the terms of reference of this investigation to explore the extent of such abuse at Roecliffe Manor over the years (this investigation being firmly focused on any abuse perpetrated by JS). Therefore, this conclusion, along with the evidence found, has been forwarded to the Police and Leicestershire Local Authority as the authority with safeguarding responsibility for children and vulnerable adults in the area.

The Lead Investigator also concludes that children were subjected to cruelty at Roecliffe Manor, even by the very different standards of the 1950s/1960s compared to the present day. It is acknowledged by the Lead Investigation that discipline in the 1950s and 1960s was considered harsh by today's standards. Corporal punishment such as caning was evident in both schools and in the home and not considered abnormal by most parents. Strict routines and regimes existed in children's hospitals, with a lack of attention to emotional well-being. Further, it was normal to restrict family visits when children were in these Children's Homes<sup>25</sup>. However, the evidence collated as part of this investigation shows that the regime at Roecliffe Manor included more extreme forms of punishment and discipline than was acceptable at that time. These included scrubbing of children in a cold bath as a punishment for bed wetting, and for having diarrhoea and sickness, taking children from their beds at night and tying them to chairs for bed wetting and force feeding children who refused meals. It is the Lead Investigator's conclusion that this was excessive and cruel treatment of children by some of those staff members who worked at Roecliffe Manor.

### ***Other Allegations***

The Informant states that he witnessed "Jimmy" and another man dragging a girl across Roecliffe Manor, whom he recalls as being called April or Elizabeth, who appeared to be in a stupor. He was then told the next day that this person had died. The Lead Investigator has been unable to find any evidence of a death occurring at Roecliffe Manor and cannot link this allegation to any other evidence. Further, as noted above, the investigation has been unable to conclusively link "Jimmy" with being JS. As such, the investigation cannot find that a child died at Roecliffe Manor, and that JS had involvement in it. As noted above, this serious allegation has been referred to the Police for it to take forward should it decide it appropriate

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<sup>25</sup> Ruth Davies "Marking the 50th anniversary of the Platt Report" - Journal of Child Health Care 2010



to do so.

The Informant alleges that he was told by other boys, who were resident at Roecliffe Manor when he was there, that abuse took place at another children's home in Melton Mowbray. The Informant could not provide any further information on which home that might be and further did not claim that such abuse was perpetrated by JS. The terms of reference to this investigation were limited to the investigation of abuse by JS and in the absence of such an allegation in relation to a children's home in Melton Mowbray, the Lead Investigator did not investigate the issue further. However, recognising the serious allegation, the information has been forwarded to the Police and Local Authority to consider and investigate should it consider it necessary to do so.

### ***Policies and Procedures***

The Lead Investigator undertook a review of all Trust safeguarding policies and found that they were fit for purpose. However, a recommendation is made to strengthen the Trust's procedure in relation to visiting VIPs and celebrities who visit the Trust.

The Lead Investigator has also reviewed ARC Leicester's policies relevant to safeguarding vulnerable adults and found that they were fit for purpose. However, it is recommended that recruitment and retention policies are separated from within other policies, and that a supervision policy is part of the new recruitment pack for potential volunteers.

## **12. Recommendations**

There is a need for an NHS Trust, and other organisations caring for vulnerable individuals, to be vigilant at all times to ensure that its processes are reviewed and monitored regularly to ensure that they are fit for purpose and effective. The Board has a particular responsibility to continue to challenge and analyse such policies and practices to ensure that they are embedded and become the responsibility of all individuals who work at a Trust. The Trust has a robust structure in place through the Safeguarding Assurance Group and monitoring of training compliance at Board level.

As noted above, the Lead Investigator is satisfied that the Trust's safeguarding policies and procedures are fit for purpose. However, the Lead Investigator has noted that there is a need to strengthen the Trust's procedure in relation to visiting VIPs and celebrities who visit the Trust. This is particularly in relation to a VIP who may arrive unexpectedly and unplanned onto the Trust's premises.

It is recommended that the Trust:

**Recommendation 1**

Puts in place a policy for VIP/Celebrity visits to Trust premises, to include unannounced visits. This policy should be properly publicised to Trust staff and embedded in every day practice.

*[Responsible Director: Director of Marketing and Communications By: June 30<sup>th</sup> 2014]*

**Recommendation 2**

Updates the existing Safeguarding Adults and Children's training to ensure that staff are aware of the new policy in relation to VIP and Celebrity visits.

*[Responsible Director: Director of Nursing by April 30<sup>th</sup> 2014]*

It is recommended that ARC Leicester:

**Recommendation 1**

Put in place a separate Recruitment and Retention Policy

*(Responsible Office: Charity Manager Lenore Headey July 31<sup>st</sup> 2014)*

**Recommendation 2**

Put in place a supervision policy as part of the volunteers pack

*(Responsible Office: Charity Manager Lenore Headey by September 2014)*

## **Appendix A**

### **Biography of the Investigation Team**

Sue Walters is an experienced consultant and has a long history of working with Children's Services in a variety of roles, from frontline as a Health Visitor to Director Level. She has experience of working to develop Integrated Adult and Children's Safeguarding services and policies. She previously set up and managed a national project working with adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse (The Surviving Homeless Project in Nottingham).

Ms Carole Ribbins is currently the Director of Nursing/Deputy Director of Infection Prevention and Control at the Trust. Carole qualified in 1987 and specialised in Intensive Care nursing before moving on to Transplant Co-ordination. Carole has worked in the Central London, Cambridge and Midland regions of England in a variety of nursing and general management roles before being appointed as Director of Nursing for the Trust.

Stephen Ward is a qualified Chartered Secretary and has served as Director of Corporate and Legal Affairs at the Trust since its establishment in 2000. Before then, Stephen held the role of Director of Corporate Administration at Leicester Royal Infirmary NHS Trust and he has also worked for a number of local authorities.

## **Appendix B**

### **Former Children's Homes in the village of Woodhouse Eaves**

It has been established by the Lead Investigator that the following children's homes existed in Woodhouse Eaves between 1895 and 1987:

- Charnwood Forest Convalescent Home Adults 1895-1933.
- Cooper Memorial 1900-1966 (26 children). Taken over by the Children's Society in 1966 and managed by them until 1987.
- Empitts/Hemp Pit Hill House (18 children) 1920-1931. Staff moved to Roecliffe Manor in 1931 when this home closed.
- Roecliffe Manor 1931-1969 (50 children). Leonard Cheshire Disability opened a home in 1972.
- Swithland Recovery Home 1912-1974. This home closed between 1946 and 1959 and was then taken over by the NHS until 1974.
- Zachary Merton -1937 – 1987.

## Appendix C

### List of Key Policies Reviewed

The Trust

Policy/Procedures	Review due	Last Review
Disciplinary Policy	November 2013 Consulting on amendments with Staff Side, nearing final draft, and will be taken for ratification to Policy and Guidelines Committee shortly.	June 2007, November 2010
Whistleblowing in the NHS	May 2014	July 2011
Safeguarding children	January 2015	February 2014
Recruitment and Selection	November 2014	March, July and November 2011
Protecting patients when an safeguarding allegation is made against an employee	May 2014	February 2014
Volunteer policy	April 2015	November 2013
Safeguarding adults	December 2015	December 2012
Guidance for staff managing patient, celebrity and official visitors to the Trust	Recommended that this becomes a formal policy	Completed December 2012
<b>Disclosure and Barring</b> replaces the Policy for the Protection of Children and Safeguarding Adults. (Locally known as the CRB Policy)	March 2016	March 2013
Security Policy	November 2014	November 2011

## ARC Leicester

<b>Policies/Procedures</b>	<b>Review Due</b>	<b>Last Review</b>
Secure Storage , Handling, Use, Retention and Disposal of Disclosures and Disclosure information	In the process of reviewing all documents by the end of September 2014. Policy is clear and unambiguous	May 2009
Policy Statement on the Recruitment of Ex-Offenders	Reviewing all policies by September 2014. Clear checks in place and clear understanding of new procedures around Disclosure and Barring.	May 2009
Vulnerable Adults Policy	Reporting procedures for making complaints, allegations or expression of concerns. Makes clear links with recruitment and retention, ensuring that all staff whose roles include working with vulnerable adults are carefully selected, screened, trained and supervised. As part of the recruitment procedure, all newly appointed staff that have contact with vulnerable adults will be disclosure checked at a level appropriate to their role.	Sept 2011
Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure	Reviewed May 2014.	September 2011
Environment Policy	Reflects the importance attached to protecting the environmental concerns and issues relating to the workplace and protecting the welfare of its employees, visitors and other persons who may be affected. Review to be completed by September 2014	September 2011

<b>Policies/Procedures</b>	<b>Review Due</b>	<b>Last Review</b>
Equality and Diversity policy for paid staff	For paid staff, but mentions volunteers. Therefore recommended to change the title	September 2011

## Appendix D

### Letter to interviewees



28<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Trust Headquarters  
Leicester Royal Infirmary  
Infirmary Square  
Leicester  
LE1 5WW

**To whom it may concern**

#### **Confidential Investigation into matters relating to Jimmy Savile and potential contact with Woodhouse Eaves Childrens Convalescent Home in the 1960s**

I have been appointed as the External Investigator to investigate the above matter. University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust have received details relating to Jimmy Savile and potential contact with Woodhouse Eaves Childrens Convalescent Home in the 1960s (now considered to be Roeclyffe Manor)

I am seeking information from anyone with relevant information about Jimmy Savile's association with or contact with Woodhouse Eaves Childrens Convalescent Home. I believe that you may have responded to an advert in the Leicester Mercury asking for 'survivors' from the Woodhouse Eaves Childrens Convalescent Home.

#### **Request for evidence**

I am therefore writing to invite you to speak with the investigation team in private on a date to be arranged. Could you telephone me as soon as you are able to so that we can arrange a time for us to meet? If you are unable to travel, or it is not convenient to be interviewed in person, then we can discuss how best to obtain your information. In order to shorten the time that we need to spend with you during your interview and to help clarify matters in advance, it would be helpful if you could let us have a written statement. It would be helpful if this



included the following –

1. Your name (then and now) and date of birth
2. Your position at the time of the incident and now. For example patient, staff or visitor.
3. Any involvement you had with Jimmy Savile. Please include what happened, where and when.
4. Whether anyone else was there and if so, who?
5. Whether you told anyone else about what happened and if so, who and when?
6. Anything else that you think the investigation team would find useful.

There may be additional questions which we will need to ask you during the interview. Information given during the interview will be recorded and a summary transcript provided for you to check for accuracy and sign. The interview will only last as long as necessary to clarify information- unlikely to last more than an hour and a half. It is expected that all information disclosed to interviewees will remain confidential .You are able to bring a friend or colleague to the interview but all questions will obviously be directed at yourself.

What you say will be treated sensitively. However, relevant information (e.g. Allegations of a crime) may need to be shared with the police or professional bodies Information provided will be used for the purpose of preparing the report .The report will be made public and information taken directly from interviews may be included. You may choose to be anonymous, and we can agree about the terms in which you be referred to in the report.

### **Support**

I appreciate that this investigation may be stressful for you and shall do all that I can to reduce that anxiety. If you are concerned about the impact of writing or talking about these events then please contact me to discuss these concerns and to access the support services available.

### **Contact details**

- Name : Sue Walters Telephone: 07854040826  
Email:info@sewconsultancy.com

I am extremely grateful for your willingness to be interviewed and look forward to meeting with you

Yours sincerely,

Sue Walters External Investigator