



Cafcass Case Analysis

Court:	Northam - Family Court
Court Case Number:	XY12345678
Cafcass Number:	11002233
Hearing Type:	Part 25 Application
Hearing Date:	31.03.25
Cafcass Family Court Adviser:	Emily Dunn
Office Address:	Cafcass Post PO BOX 1111 Northam
Date Report Completed:	13 th January 2025
Filing Date:	13 th January 2025
Details of any current orders:	Court Order directing for an Addendum Section 37 Report

WARNING: This report is restricted by rules of court. Unauthorised communication of the information in it is a serious matter and may constitute contempt of court

NOTE: Significant factual errors (not matters disputed by the adults) in this report should be referred to the author. Any concerns about other aspects of the report (for example, the extent of enquiries, the opinions expressed in it or matters disputed by the adults) must be addressed

Name of child/ren	Gender	Date of birth	Age	Ethnicity
Katie Hope	Female	31.07.2024		White: Other White

Name of adults involved in the proceedings (adult parties)	Gender	Relationship to child	Date of birth	Ethnicity
Susan Hope	Female	Mother	01.01.1990	White British
Adam Pappa	Male	Father	01.02.1980	White British

1. In compiling this report, I have had regard in particular to the welfare checklist as required by Rule 16.20/16.33 Family Procedure Rules 2010 and I have applied a welfare checklist analysis to the facts of the case throughout.
2. Katie Hope is an 8-month-old child who was born on 31.07.24 to Ms Hope. She was born with symptoms of foetal alcohol syndrome. She was treated in intensive care following birth seizures and became stabilised after 5 weeks when she was ready for discharge.
3. This is 3rd child of Susan Hope who is taken into care following reports of extensive drugs and alcohol abuse. She misused alcohol while she was pregnant with Katie. As such, the matter was in the Family Drug & Alcohol Court (FDAC). However, there had been no psychiatric reports available.
4. Susan Hope has extensive mental health problems of self-harm and attempted suicide subjecting her child to gross neglect and emotional deprivation. A threshold assessment outlines the risk placing the child at significant harm.
5. The previous hearing took place following Mother's withdrawal from the FDAC process. Since the last hearing, on 30.12.24, the scientific DNA paternity testing returned positive result of Adam Pappa as the biological father of Katie.
6. Pursuant to a conditional order he became a party automatically.
7. The Local Authority has filed its evidence and the threshold document. It concluded that the threshold is met and that it was necessary and proportionate to impose an Interim Care Order. An ICO was imposed on 30.12.24 and Katie was placed in foster care placement.
8. Mr Pappa's position is unknown at the time of filing the case summary. He is shortly going to be released from prison and presents a risk to Katie. The potential contact is yet to be established.

9. The LA also propose a full psychiatric assessment including a risk assessment.
10. The Mother has filed her final statement where she confirms she does not oppose the Local Authority's care plan including full psychiatric assessment.
11. The Guardian supports the Local Authority's care plan and supports continuation of ICO to facilitate a full psychiatric report.
12. A contact risk assessment and Family Group Conference will be undertaken. An urgent updated position statement had been uploaded to the digital portal.

CHILD IMPACT ANALYSIS

13. If not immediately removed, I am of the view that Katie will suffer serious physical and emotional harm by her mother who has serious mental health problems and alcohol and drug dependence.

PROFESSIONAL JUDGEMENT

14. The information provided to me from all parties, I am of the opinion that in the safety of the child, ICO should continue and foster care placement needs to be found.
15. I therefore respectfully recommend the following:

RECOMMENDATIONS

- i. Continuation of the Interim Care Order
- ii. Continuation of foster care
- iii. Immediate psychiatric assessment of Susan Hope

THE CHILD'S VIEW OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THEIR OWN WORDS

16. Katie is only 8 months old. She has little or no ability at this stage to provide any opinion. She is represented by the child's guardian who is in support that the threshold is met. It is necessary and proportionate to continue interim care order and in the safety of the child to be placed in foster care.
17. The guardian also supports a full psychiatric assessment of the mother to elicit her diagnosis and risk of parenting her child.

Signed:

Dated:

CASE SUMMARY ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT LOCAL AUTHORITY**BEFORE HHJ JUDGE****RE: KATIE HOPE****31.03.25****1. The children**

Name	Age and date of birth	Living arrangements	Orders/S20 including the date
Katie Hope	31.07.2024	Living in Local Authority foster placement	ICO – 30.12.2024

2. The parties and their representatives and other persons

Party	Name	Representation
Applicant	The Local Authority is Responsible Council The social worker is A Servant.	The local authority is represented by Mr A. Counsel Instructing Solicitor Mr A Pritchard
1 st Respondent	Susan Hope	Represented by Mrs Doubtfire.
2 nd Respondent	Adam Pappa	Represented by Mr A Proctor
3 rd Respondent	The child, through her Guardian, Ms I Care	Represented by Ms Love

3. Case summary:

- 3.1 Katie Hope is an 8-month-old child who was born on 31.07.24 to Ms Hope. She was born with symptoms of foetal alcohol syndrome. She was treated in intensive care following birth seizures and became stabilised after 5 weeks when she was ready for discharge.
- 3.2 This is 3rd child of Susan Hope who is taken into care following reports of extensive drugs and alcohol abuse. She misused alcohol while she was pregnant with Katie. As such, the matter was in the Family Drug & Alcohol Court (FDAC). However, there had been no psychiatric reports available.
- 3.3 Susan Hope has extensive mental health problems of self-harm and attempted suicide subjecting her child to gross neglect and emotional deprivation. A threshold assessment outlines the risk placing the child at significant harm.
- 3.4 The previous hearing took place following Mother's withdrawal from the FDAC process. Since the

last hearing, on 30.12.24, the scientific DNA paternity testing returned positive result of Adam Pappa as the biological father of Katie.

- 3.5 Pursuant to a conditional order he became a party automatically.
- 3.6 The Local Authority has filed its evidence and the threshold document. It concluded that the threshold is met and that it was necessary and proportionate to impose an Interim Care Order. An ICO was imposed on 30.12.24 and Katie was placed in foster care placement.
- 3.7 Mr Pappa's position is unknown at the time of filing the case summary. He is shortly going to be released from prison and presents a risk to Katie. The potential contact is yet to be established.
- 3.8 The LA also propose a full psychiatric assessment including a risk assessment.
- 3.9 The Mother has filed her final statement where she confirms she does not oppose the Local Authority's care plan including full psychiatric assessment.
- 3.10 The Guardian supports the Local Authority's care plan and supports continuation of ICO to facilitate a full psychiatric report.
- 3.11 A contact risk assessment and Family Group Conference will be undertaken. An urgent updated position statement had been uploaded to the digital portal.

4. Mr Pappa's position:

- 4.1 Mr Pappa is a serving prisoner at HMP Long Island. He was serving a sentence of 9 years in 2017 for attempted rape. He was released after serving half his time. He was recalled to prison following an allegation of sexual assault against a teenager. However, he is expected to be released shortly.
- 4.2 He has a seven-year-old son whom sadly he does not see. He is committed therefore to taking the opportunity to be involved in the life of Katie.
- 4.3 Mr Pappa recognises he cannot put forward a realistic case to care within the timescales of these proceedings due to his situation. His priority now is to maximise his opportunity to be involved in her life. He recognises there might be some concerns around him, however he would point out that those concerns do not attach to his ability to look after her in the long term.

5. Current position: ICO with foster carer with the following plan:

- 5.1 Psychiatric assessment of the mother.
- 5.2 Mother supports the LA's care plan.
- 5.3 The child's Guardian supports the LA's care plan.
- 5.4 Father's contact risk assessment following conclusion of the hearing on 31.03.25.
- 5.5 The Local Authority seeks:
 - (a) Extend ICO
 - (b) Full psychiatric assessment of Ms Hope

Mr A Counsel

Counsel instructed by Responsible Council

For the hearing on 01.06.24s

FINAL BUNDLE**RE: KATIE HOPE****31.03.2025****1. The children**

Name	Age and date of birth	Living arrangements	Orders/S20 including the date
Katie Hope	31.07.2024	Living in Local Authority foster placement	ICO – 30.12.2024

2. The parties and their representatives and other persons

Party	Name	Representation
Applicant	The Local Authority is Responsible Council The social worker is A Servant.	The local authority is represented by Mr A. Counsel Instructing Solicitor Mr A. Pritchard
1 st Respondent	Susan Hope	Represented by Mrs Doubtfire.
2 nd Respondent	Adam Pappa	Represented by Mr A Proctor
3 rd Respondent	The child, through her Guardian, Ms I Care	Represented by Ms Love

3. Bundle:

- 3.1 LA case summary
- 3.2 Threshold assessment
- 3.3 CAFCASS report
- 3.4 LA's Part 25 application
- 3.5 Letter of instructions

Application

- ï For permission to start proceedings
- ï For an order or directions in existing proceedings
- ï To be joined as, or cease to be, a party in existing family proceedings under the Children Act 1989

To be completed by the court

The Family Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice

Date issued 01.06.24

Case number XY12345678

Fee charged/Remission ID

Before completing this form please read the leaflet '**CB1 – Making an application – Children and the Family Courts**'. You can get a copy of from your local court or online at hmctsformfinder.justice.gov.uk

- ï Failure to complete every question or state if it does not apply, could delay the case, as the court will have to ask you to provide the additional information required.
- ï If there is not enough space please attach separate sheets.
- ï Cafcass/CAFCASS CYMRU will carry out checks as it considers necessary. See Section J of leaflet CB1 for more information about Cafcass and CAFCASS CYMRU.

If you are applying for one of the following private law Children Act 1989 orders you **must** file a separate completed FM1 form with this application:

- ï A parental responsibility order (sections 4(1)(c), 4ZA(1)(c) or 4A(1)(b) of the Children Act 1989) or an order terminating parental responsibility (sections 4(2A), 4ZA(5) or 4A(3) of that Act).
- ï An order appointing a child's guardian (section 5(1) of the Children Act 1989) or an order terminating the appointment (section 6(7) of that Act).
- ï An order giving permission to change a child's surname or remove a child from the United Kingdom (sections 13(1) or 14C of the Children Act 1989).
- ï A special guardianship order or an order varying or discharging such an order (section 14D of the Children Act 1989).

1. Summary of application

Your name (the applicant(s))

Responsible Council

The respondent's name(s)

See Sections G and H of the booklet CB1.

Susan Hope
Adam Pappa

Some people need permission to apply - See Section C of the leaflet CB1

Are you applying for permission to issue an application?

Yes

Permission not required

Permission already granted

If you are making an application in existing proceedings, please give the existing case number(s).

XY12345678

Katie Hope

/ /

Male

Female

Expert Assessment or parent

Relationship to applicant(s)

Relationship to respondent(s)

31.11.2023

1st and 2nd Respondents

Child 3 - Full name of child

Date of birth

Gender

Order(s) applied for

D D / M M /

Male

Female

Relationship to applicant(s)

Relationship to respondent(s)

2. About you (the applicant(s))

Applicant 1 (You)

Applicant 2 (if applicable)

Full names	Local Authority	
	Responsibility Council	

Previous names (if any)		
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Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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Date of birth (If under 18 read section R of leaflet CB1)	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
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Place of birth (town/county/country)		
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If you do not wish your address to be made known to the respondent, leave the details below blank and complete Confidential contact details Form C8.

Address

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Home telephone number		
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Mobile telephone number		
-------------------------	--	--

Email address		
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Have you lived at this address for more than 5 years?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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If No, please provide details of all previous addresses you have lived at for the last 5 years.

If you do not wish your contact details to be made known to the Respondent, leave the details blank and complete Confidential contact details Form C8

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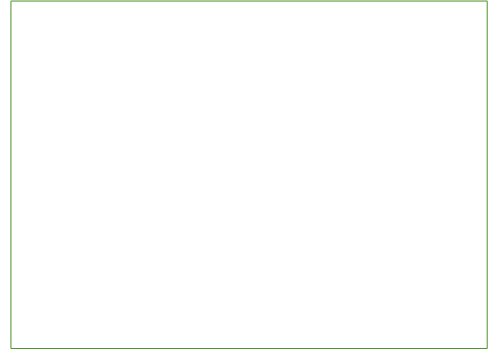
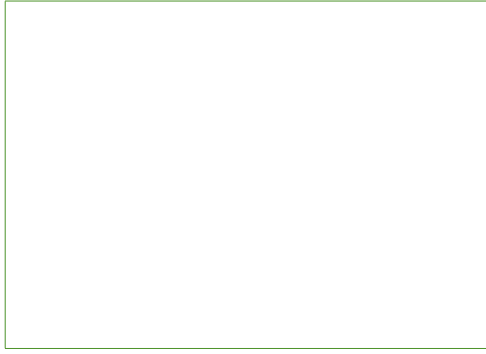
3. The respondents

Sections G and H of the the booklet 'CB1 - Making an application - Children and the Family Courts' explain who a respondent is.

If there are more than 2 respondents please continue on a separate sheet.

	Respondent 1	Respondent 2
Full names	Susan Hope	Adam Pappa
Previous names (if known)		
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of birth (If party under 18 read section R of leaflet CB1)	<input type="text" value="D D"/> / <input type="text" value="M M"/> / <input type="text" value="Y Y Y Y"/>	<input type="text" value="D D"/> / <input type="text" value="M M"/> / <input type="text" value="Y Y Y Y"/>
Place of birth (town/county/country)		
Address		
	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value=""/>
	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value=""/>
	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value=""/>
	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value=""/>
Home telephone number		
Mobile telephone number		
Email address		
Have they lived at this address for more than 5 years?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know

If No, please provide details of all previous addresses they have lived at for the last 5 years.



4. Others who should be given notice

There may be other people who should be notified of your application, for example, someone who cares for the child but is not a parent. Sections G and I of the the booklet 'CB1 - Making an application - Children and the Family Courts' explain who others are.

	Person1	Person 2
Full names	The child, by her guardian	
Previous names (if known)		
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of birth	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> / </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> D D M M Y Y Y Y </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> / </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> D D M M Y Y Y Y </div>
Address	C/o Adam Pritchard of Pritchard & Co Solicitors, whose contact details are a.pritchard@pritchardandco.co.uk	
	Postcode <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	Postcode <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 20px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>
Please state their relationship to the children listed on page 1. If their relationship is not the same to each child please state their relationship to each child		

5. Solicitor's details

Do you have a solicitor acting for you?

Yes No If No, see section R of leaflet CB1 for more information

If Yes, please give the following details

Your solicitor's name

Mr A Pritchard

Name of firm

Responsible Council

Address

Postcode

Telephone number

Fax number

DX number

Solicitor's Reference

Email address

6. Details of application

Please give brief details about what you are applying for and your reasons for making the application.

The local authority submit it is necessary for a psychiatric assessment of the mother, Ms Hope, to be undertaken to ascertain whether she is suffering from any psychiatric condition including any mental illness/disorder or other emotional difficulty and to ascertain what support, therapy or treatment, if any, is required and whether any changes can be made.

When deciding whether to make this application, the local authority has given careful consideration to the recommendations made by the ISW, in their parenting assessment of Ms Hope dated 17.07.2023, the ISW recommends that a psychiatric assessment is completed due to Ms Hope's self-reporting feelings of depression, anxiety and paranoia. She has not been compliant with medication which was prescribed to her last year.

There is a history of emotional and childhood sexual abuse of the mother. She had previously presented with 3 episodes of self-harm having taken overdoses of paracetamol and cut her wrists superficially. She had been admitted to the hospital following her self-harm. She also presents with emotional disturbances, impulsivity and aggression.

The local authority considers that it is necessary to seek this assessment to ascertain whether Ms Hope is suffering from any psychiatric condition and to ascertain what impact, if any, this would have upon her parenting abilities in future.

The LA propose that the cost of this assessment is split equally between the

7. Attending the court

Section N of the the booklet '**CB1 - Making an application - Children and the Family Courts**' provides information about attending court.

If you require an interpreter, you must tell the court now so that one can be arranged.

Do you or any of the parties need an interpreter at court?

Yes No

If Yes, please specify the language and dialect:

If attending the court, do you or any of the parties involved have a disability for which you require special assistance or special facilities?

Yes No

If Yes, please say what the needs are

Please say whether the court needs to make any special arrangements for you to attend court (e.g. providing you with a separate waiting room from the respondent or other security provisions).

Court staff may get in touch with you about the requirements

8. Statement of truth

***[I believe] [The applicant/respondent believes] that the facts stated in this application are true.**

*delete as appropriate

***I am duly authorised by the applicant/respondent to sign this statement.**

Print full name A Counsel

Name of applicant solicitors firm Assistant Director Legal and Governance

Signed

Dated 2 5 / 0 7 / 2 0 2 3

(Applicant) (Applicant's solicitor)

Position or office held
(If signing on behalf of firm or company)

Proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against a person who makes or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth.

continued over the page ⇨

What to do now

If you are applying for permission to issue an application

- Check you have attached copies of the form C100 application and form C1A if appropriate
- Check any necessary documents are attached to the form C100 application

For all applications

- Check you have completed and signed Section 8 of this form
- Check you have attached the correct fee.

Now take or send your application with the correct fee and correct number of copies (one copy for the court, one copy for Cafcass/CAFCASS CYMRU and one for each party or other person) to the court.

Court fees

You may need to pay a fee with your application. You should read leaflet EX50 Civil and family court fees to find out what fee, if any, you need to pay. This leaflet is available from your local court or online at hmctsformfinder.justice.gov.uk

You may be exempt from paying all or part of the fee. The combined booklet and application form 'EX160A Court and Tribunal Fees - Do you have to pay them' gives more information. You can get a copy from the court or download a copy from our website at hmctsformfinder.justice.gov.uk

IN THE FAMILY COURT AT NORTHAM

Case no: XY12345678

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHILDREN ACT 1989

IN THE MATTER OF KATIE HOPE (GIRL) (DOB

BETWEEN

LONDON BOROUGH OF NORTHAM

Applicant

and

SUSAN HOPE

1st Respondent

and

ADAM PAPPA

2nd Respondent

and

KATIE HOPE

(Through the child's guardian)

3rd Respondent

**LETTER OF INSTRUCTION TO
PSYCHIATRIC EXPERT**

Introductions:

1. You have been instructed to provide a psychiatric report on Ms Susan Hope, mother of Katie Hope. In providing the report, you must comply with PD 25B as set out in Part 25 of the Family Procedure Rules.

Background:

2. Katie Hope is an 8-month-old child who was born on 31.07.24 to Ms Hope. She was born with symptoms of foetal alcohol syndrome. She was treated in intensive care following birth seizures and became stabilised after 5 weeks when she was ready for discharge.
3. This is 3rd child of Susan Hope who is taken into care following reports of extensive drugs and alcohol abuse. She misused alcohol while she was pregnant with Katie. As such, the matter was in the Family Drug & Alcohol Court (FDAC). However, there had been no psychiatric reports available.
4. Susan Hope has extensive mental health problems of self-harm and attempted suicide subjecting her child to gross neglect and emotional deprivation. A threshold assessment outlines the risk placing the child at significant harm.
5. The previous hearing took place following Mother's withdrawal from the FDAC process. Since the last hearing, on 30.12.24, the scientific DNA paternity testing returned positive result of Adam Pappa as the biological father of Katie. Pursuant to a conditional order he became a party automatically.
6. The Local Authority has filed its evidence and the threshold document. It concluded that the threshold is met and that it was necessary and proportionate to impose an Interim Care Order. An ICO was imposed on 30.12.24 and Katie was placed in foster care placement.
7. The LA also propose a full psychiatric assessment including a risk assessment.
8. The Mother has filed her final statement where she confirms she does not oppose the Local Authority's care plan including full psychiatric assessment.
9. The Guardian supports the Local Authority's care plan and supports continuation of ICO to facilitate a full psychiatric report.
10. Ms Hope has a history of mental health issues including chronic suicidal ideations and attempts which were documented by the Local Authority and Northam General Hospital records. Her fluctuating capacity and inability to retain information had raised concerns about her ability to provide consistent and safe care for her child. On several occasions, she had left her child unfed, not taking care of her hygiene and unclean, not changing her nappies.

11. During a visit the Social Worker found Katie lying in bed with having soiled the bedsheet. The nappy was not changed for few days. There was urine and faeces on the floor and the house was smelling.
12. The neighbours had heard incessant crying of the child with little or no attempt to console her.
13. On 24.11.24, she was found by the police trying to jump off a bridge near her flat having left Katie at home. She was taken to hospital and released following a psychiatric assessment which concluded that she was no longer at risk of harming herself.
14. Upon return her mood recovered temporarily before she became depressed. However, there had not been any further episodes of self-harm.

Instructions: In accordance with Practice Direction 25B The Expert is instructed to address the following questions: your report should be no longer than 4 pages and should contain an executive summary at the start of your report

15. Does Ms Susan Hope have a psychiatric disorder? If yes, what does she suffer from?
16. Does she also have mental and behavioural disturbance due to substance misuse?
17. Is her disorder of a nature and degree that warrants detention under the Mental Health Act?
18. What treatment is available to her?
19. What is her prognosis?
20. Do any of her disorders have any impact on her parenting ability?
21. Is Katie safe to return to her or is she suitable for adoption following her period in foster care?

IN THE FAMILY COURT AT NORTHAM

Case no: XY12345678

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHILDREN ACT 1989

IN THE MATTER OF KATIE HOPE (GIRL) (DOB

BETWEEN

LONDON BOROUGH OF NORTHAM

Applicant

and

SUSAN HOPE

1st Respondent

and

ADAM PAPPA

2nd Respondent

and

**KATIE HOPE
(Through the child's guardian)**

3rd Respondent

THRESHOLD

1. Ms Hope has a history of mental health issues including chronic suicidal ideations and attempts which were documented by the Local Authority and Northam General Hospital records. Her fluctuating capacity and inability to retain information had raised concerns about her ability to provide consistent and safe care for her child.
2. As a result, the child had suffered emotional harm and neglect. On several occasions, she had left her child unfed, not taking care of her hygiene and unclean, not changing her nappies.

3. During a visit the Social Worker found Katie lying in bed with having soiled the bedsheet. The nappy was not changed for few days. There was urine and faeces on the floor and the house was smelling.
4. The neighbours had heard incessant crying of the child with little or no attempt to console her.
5. On 24.11.24, she was found by the police trying to jump off a bridge near her flat having left Katie at home. She was taken to hospital and released following a psychiatric assessment which concluded that she was no longer at risk of harming herself.
6. Upon return her mood recovered temporarily before she became depressed. However, there had not been any further episodes of self-harm.
7. Upon assessment the Local Authority concluded that the child had suffered and is likely to suffer significant harm. The harm and the likelihood of future harm is attributable to the care given by her, not being what it would be reasonable to expect a parent to give her. The Local Authority concluded that the threshold is met and sought an Interim Care Order on 30.12.24.