



**Family &
Community Services**
Community Services

BRIEFING NOTE

ISSUE: Community Services involvement relating to Grant Davies and RGDance Studio.

CURRENT AS AT: 4 June 2013

BACKGROUND:

Reports relating to [CAH] **(Grant Davies natural daughter):**

- On 19 December 2006, Community Services received a Risk of Harm Report alleging [CAH] [CAH] (dob. [REDACTED] 2005) was being exposed to verbal domestic violence and property damage following an incident between her natural parents, Mr Davies and Ms [BZB].
- At the time Community Services confirmed that there was an enforceable Apprehended Violence Order in place for a period of 12 months.
- On 10 April 2013, Community Services received a Risk of Harm Report alleging inappropriate sexual interactions by Mr Davies with a minor (via information found on Mr Davies home computer). The conversations were allegedly between Mr Davies and [BZD] (dob. [REDACTED] 2000) and her mother, Ms [BZC]. The conversations were sexually explicit. The report further details that the messages were from the mother, [BZC] who was allegedly encouraging sexual activities between [BZD] and Mr. Davies. Police were provided with [BZC] [BZC]'s details. It was determined that [BZC] and [BZD] reside in South Australia, leaving no ongoing role and responsibility for NSW Community Services.
- This report also indicated risk of ongoing sexual harm or exposure to inappropriate sexual harm for Mr Davies' child [CAH].
- Burwood CSC followed up with NSW Police who indicated that they were continuing to gather evidence for the purposes of criminal charges. Also that [BZB] was assessed by them as acting protectively of [CAH] by removing her from the family home and ensuring any contact between [CAH] and Mr Davies is supervised.
- On 8 May 2013, Burwood CSC spoke with [BZB] via telephone and [BZB] has sought legal advice. She stated that she has now finished the relationship with Mr Davies. [BZB] further stated [CAH] has had two contact visits with Mr Davies since the allegations. Mr Davies' mother supervises these contacts which have been at the shopping centre or at dinner.
- [BZB] further advised that she has organised a psychologist for [CAH] through 'victims' services and that [CAH] has commenced engagement. [BZB] stated that the psychologist will gently approach the topic of Mr Davies to determine if [CAH] makes any disclosures.
- On 13 May 2013, this matter was closed noting that there is an ongoing police investigation. [BZB] [BZB] has demonstrated protective behaviour and organised appropriate counselling for [CAH].

Reports relating to [BZP] **(Grant Davies via RG Dance):**

- Community Services received 4 Risk of Harm Reports from 10 February 2007 to 7 March 2007 alleging that [BZP] (dob. [REDACTED] 1992) and several other classmates at RG Dance had been approached by their teacher, Mr Davies and prompted to discuss inappropriate sexual issues.
- The reports indicated that [BZP] had disclosed and made a statement of aggravated indecent assault.
- The reports indicated possible multiple victims; however, no further children or young people were willing to come forward and speak to Parramatta JIRT.
- Ongoing JIRT/Police investigations occurred through Parramatta JIRT and a referral was made to the NSW Health Sexual Assault Services at Westmead Hospital for [BZP] to attend counselling.
- As there was an ongoing police investigation, this matter was closed on 8 August 2007 and Mr Davies was identified by Community Services as a Person Causing Harm.
- Mr Davies was not formally charged in relation to the sexual harm of [BZP]. Police legal advice determined there was insufficient evidence to proceed with criminal charges.

Comment [m5]: CS recorded Mr Davies as PCH on KIDS and the alleged victim was referred to sexual assault counselling.

Comment [JC6]: What else did we do, or could we have done at that point? See also Comment 6, following page.

Reports relating to Class of Children

- From 9 February 2007 to 17 August 2007, Community Services received five Risk of Harm Reports relating to allegations of risk of sexual harm to students attending the Dance School under a Class of Children.
- Burwood CSC continued to liaise with Parramatta JIRT and Burwood Police. The plan was subsequently closed given the potential to incriminate or jeopardise further Police investigation.
- On 28 May 2013, a further Risk of Harm Report was received by Community Services relating to allegations of risk of sexual harm posed by Mr Davies through his professional relationship as a dance teacher with numerous children of various ages.
- The Class of Children Reports were to be closed at Burwood CSC with no further action as there were no other identified children in the Reports, Mr Davies is currently incarcerated and therefore does not pose any future risk to the class of children, and finally, RG Dance Studio has been closed down.

Report relating to BZF and BZG (Grant Davies via RG Dance):

- On 17 May 2013, Community Services received a Risk of Harm report raising further allegations of sexual harm, indecent assault and inappropriate sexual behaviour relating to nine year old BZF (dob, REDAC 2004) and her 13 year old sister, BZG. These matters were accepted by the JIRT Referral Unit (JRU) and referred to Bankstown JIRT for investigation.
- There has been a large amount of pornographic material including videos located on Mr Davies computer. Police wanted to thoroughly brief investigators on the content of the material prior to interviewing the children. Police were satisfied the girls were safe and wanted further information to be available prior to the conduct of the interview.
- On 5 June 2013 BZF and BZG were interviewed at Bankstown JIRT. Both girls made disclosures of sexual abuse perpetrated by Mr Davies.

Section 29

Request for Assistance Burwood Local Area Command re REDACTED

- A request for assistance was made by Burwood LAC to interview RG dance studio student REDACTED. She was interviewed by JIRT Police at Kogarah JIRT on 5 July 2013. She provided a disclosure relating to Mr Davies inappropriately touching her.
- The actions of Mr Davies were suggestive of grooming.
- This was a Police Only response.

Comment [m7]: BZP reports named other students. These other students were approached but declined to be interviewed. The reports from 9/2 to 17/8 did not name particular children or young people.

Comment [JC8]: These are not the same dates as in the previous section on BZP. Please clarify.

Comment [m9]: Again, 'Class of Children' reports do not name any child in particular but are made by Helpline to indicate that other children (unnamed) may be at risk of harm.

Comment [JC10]: What does this mean? We need more explanation of our role at the time.

Comment [m11]: When CS work with Police we respect their advice regarding ongoing investigations. If a report was received naming a particular child then CS would commence their own procedures to ensure safety and a referral would be made to the JRU for a JIRT investigation.

Comment [JC12]: What did we do between 2007 and 2013, and why was Mr Davies allowed to continue his dance studio when he had been identified as a Person Causing Harm? What were the Working With Children issues? Are there broader legal or practice implications about cases where a sexual offender is known to be still in contact with children, but we cannot act? This will be a key concern for the Minister's office, and we need a smart response to this issue.

Comment [m13]: There is no legal requirement for a 'Working with Children's Check' to be conducted for private dance studio operators or employees. Even if there was a required check to be conducted it would not capture information on the KIDS system as there was no conviction recorded for the PCH.