STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2001 No. 3967

The Children's Homes Regulations 2001

PART III

CONDUCT OF CHILDREN'S HOMES

CHAPTER 1

Welfare of Children

Complaints and representations

24.—(1) Subject to paragraph (8), the registered person shall establish a written procedure for considering complaints made by or on behalf of children accommodated in the home.

(2) The procedure shall, in particular, provide—

- (a) for an opportunity for informal resolution of the complaint at an early stage;
- (b) that no person who is the subject of a complaint takes any part in its consideration other than, if the registered person considers it appropriate, at the informal resolution stage only;
- (c) for dealing with complaints about the registered person;
- (d) for complaints to be made by a person acting on behalf of a child;
- (e) for arrangements for the procedure to be made known to—
 - (i) children accommodated in the home;
 - (ii) their parents;
 - (iii) placing authorities; and
 - (iv) persons working in the home.

(3) A copy of the procedure shall be supplied on request to any of the persons mentioned in paragraph (2)(e).

(4) The copy of the procedure supplied under paragraph (3) shall include—

- (a) the name, address and telephone number of the Commission; and
- (b) details of the procedure (if any) which has been notified to the registered person by the Commission for the making of complaints to it relating to children's homes.

(5) The registered person shall ensure that a written record is made of any complaint, the action taken in response, and the outcome of the investigation.

(6) The registered person shall ensure that—

- (a) children accommodated in the home are enabled to make a complaint or representation; and
- (b) no child is subject to any reprisal for making a complaint or representation.

(7) The registered person shall supply to the Commission at its request a statement containing a summary of any complaints made during the preceding twelve months and the action that was taken.

(8) This regulation (apart from paragraph (6)) does not apply to any matter to which the Representations Procedure (Children) Regulations 1991(1) applies.

⁽¹⁾ See the footnote to regulation 15(2)(d).