

Docherty Chronology

This document provides a concise chronology of events in the Docherty case, extracted from the UK Column [Docherty Interview transcripts](#) and other publications by the Dochertys. See also the companion document 'Docherty Personae'.

Date	Event	Place	Persons	Notes
2000	The Dochertys first meet	Teacher Training College, Scotland	Janice McLaren, Brian Docherty	Brian and Janice teach together in Glasgow.
2000 – 2014	Various teaching positions	Glasgow, France, Singapore, Perth	Janice, Brian	
2002	Alexandra born	Hyndland, Scotland	Alexandra	
2007	Community Beat Officer	Fraserburgh North, Scotland	Alan Low	
2008	Move back to Scotland	Perth, Scotland	Janice, Brian, Alexandra	
2009	Sebastian born	Perth, Scotland	Sebastian	
2010	Charlotte born	Perth, Scotland	Charlotte	
2011	Brian stands in Holyrood election	Dundee, Scotland	Brian, Janice	Brian stands as a Conservative candidate for the Scottish Parliament election. Janice is his Election Agent and Campaign Manager.
2014	Christian born	Perth, Scotland	Christian	
2014	Moved for new teaching job	Aberdeenshire, Scotland		Fraserburgh Academy

2014	Chartered Management Institute Course		Brian	
06/2014	Moved to Crimonmogate	East Lodge, Crimonmogate, Scotland	Janice, Brian, Alex, Sebastian, Charlotte, Christian	Dochertys rent a two-bed cottage on Viscount Petersham's Crimonmogate Estate.
08/2014	Alleged paedophile makes his demand	East Lodge	Alan Low	Next-door neighbour Alan Low visits. When he learns of Sebastian's autistic condition he shocks Brian by demanding access to the child, offering £25,000 for this. He insists that Brian will not deny him this demand and makes a series of threats when Brian does so. Following this the Dochertys' cars are vandalised, the house is broken into, men are heard loitering outside at night. The greenhouse is booby trapped and panes of glass fall down on Charlotte's head. Mail goes missing.
04/08/2016	E-mail to National Crime Agency			NCA is not interested, requests address & 'phone number, suggests Brian contacts the local Police.
08/08/2014	Meeting with Viscount Petersham	Crimonmogate House, Scotland	Kerry ? Viscount Petersham	Petersham eventually shows up an hour and a half late and becomes angry when he learns that the National Crime Agency has already been contacted. Petersham states that Alan Low is a very good friend, contradicting his prior claim that he neither knew nor approved of him. Petersham makes clear threats to get police and social services to 'deal with' them if they report this to the police. Petersham makes to evict the Dochertys. The meeting ends on bad terms.
08/08/2014	Phone call to Police	Call Centre	Sgt Gilbert Buchan	At about 5 pm Brian speaks to Sgt Buchan who instructs him to attend Peterhead Police Station to meet officers who were 'just the job'.
08/08/2014	Emergency meeting	Crimonmogate House, Scotland	Viscount Petersham Alan Low many others	At about 6 pm, Alan Low drives to the Viscount's residence at high speed, followed by a long stream of expensive cars. There appears to be an emergency meeting behind closed gates. Very unusual activity.

08/08/2014	Meeting with Police	Peterhead Police Station	PC Kathryn Lamont and one other	Sometime after 7 pm Brian attends Peterhead Police station and gives his statement to PC Lamont and one other. Brian's statement is taken but left unsigned.
08/08/2014	Meeting with Police	Fraserburgh Police Station	Sgt Buchan, Viscount Petersham, Alan Low	At the same time, Petersham and Low meet with Buchan at the nearer Police station in Fraserburgh.
08/08/2014	Viscountess visits	East Lodge	Viscountess Petersham	At the same time, Viscountess Petersham calls at East Lodge, shouting through the letterbox and banging on windows. Janice decides not to answer. Later, the Viscountess picks Alan Low up and drives him to her house, where he is presumed to have stayed overnight.
09/08/2014	Police call	East Lodge	Sgt Buchan PC Lamont	Buchan and Lamont call at East Lodge. Buchan spends half an hour trying to persuade the Dochertys that there is no substance to their allegation. Buchan refuses to inspect the booby-trapped greenhouse, Lamont stands in silence shaking, hanging her head in shame or embarrassment. Buchan then focusses on Janice and the children's details. The next week Lamont goes on leave for two weeks as does Buchan immediately upon her return.
11/08/2014 (w/c)	Excavation at night	Crimonmogate Estate	Alan Low	Low hires a digger and excavates Crimonmogate Estate at night. A large curtain-sided van shuttles back and forth without lights.
18~22/08/2014	Social Services visit	East Lodge	Two social workers (identities not stated)	Two social workers call, apparently in the belief that there had been an issue with children. They discount the paedophile allegations.
(same day)	Phone call to Social Services		David O'Neill	Brian phones to speak to the Regional Manager, who refuses to take his call.
(soon after)	E-mail to Social Services		David O'Neill	Brian asks why O'Neill had sent two social workers to the Docherty house.
(soon after)	E-mail from Social Services		David O'Neill	O'Neill responds, stating that PC Lamont had submitted a Concern Report about the Docherty family, covering four areas: children isolated; children not in education; parents obsessed with paedophiles; parents delusional & mentally unbalanced.
(soon after)	Home Education Certificate sent out		David O'Neill Ritchie Johnson, "children's reporter"	Brian sent copies of the written permission to educate Alex at home to these three persons, recorded delivery. Although signed for, all addressees subsequently decline to acknowledge receipt.

(soon after)	Social Services request an 'assessment'			Social Services start demanding an assessment – ominous given experiences to date. Dochertys ask for time to engage legal representation but every solicitor they approach declines their case.
(soon after)	Phone call with PC Lamont		PC Lamont	PC Lamont is clearly ignorant of the Concern Report that she had allegedly sent to Social Services. Her original report was about their concerns over Alan Low, anti-social behaviour, men in garden at night, banging noises, greenhouse, dead animals, etc. Lamont phones back later, very spooked, and asks to meet the Dochertys, with her Union rep (why?). The Dochertys decline.
05/09/2014	Holiday in Ireland	Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, Ireland	Docherty family	They spend the time phoning Scottish Police and Social Services and assembling information.
10/09/2014	E-mail from Police Scotland		Inspector Graham Cordner	The e-mail asks them to report to the nearest Police station, requests their address and says the Police want to visit the Dochertys at home to check that their children are OK.
12/09/2014	Gardaí visit	Nenagh	Two Gardaí officers	Two Gardaí show up at 10 pm demanding to see the children, which they do. They state that Interpol had located them and that the family was classified as an Extreme / Urgent case. They are disturbed to learn the true story but don't want to help. They instruct the Dochertys to report to Social Services the following morning.
12/09/2014	Relocation	Achill, Co. Mayo, Ireland		The family immediately pack and leave for a new location.
11/2014	Dossier sent to British Government		British Government	The Dochertys send a 77-page dossier containing 15 documents, which the British Government simply forwards to Police Scotland and Aberdeenshire Council.
11/2014	Cross-border surveillance	Enniskillen, Northern Ireland to Castlebar, Co. Mayo, Ireland	Police	The Dochertys drive to their bank in Enniskillen and from there are followed by a plain clothes policeman all the 200 miles back to Castlebar then all round Tesco. This was later confirmed in court by social worker Mary Malee.

12/2014-01/2015	International task force	Scotland, Ireland	Scottish and Irish Governments	Scottish and Irish Governments orchestrate an international task force, meeting on four occasions between late Nov – early Jan. The goal – to remove the children and section ¹ the parents. Involves massive surveillance, house-breaking and monitoring.
28/01/2015	Children seized	Achill	Four police and two social workers	Without prior warning, four police (two armed) and two social workers from Galway show up at 8 am and burst in. Lots of aggressive shouting and shoving. No court or legal documentation. Legal representation and constitutional rights are denied. The intruders demand an immediate assessment under threat of an Emergency Care Order. They break their promise that the children could be accompanied by a parent, and grill the two girls throughout the hour long journey.
28/01/2015	Emergency Care Order obtained	Castlebar Hospital	Mary Malee	Mary Malee then breaks her promise by immediately obtaining an Emergency Care Order. Malee informs the parents that the children passed the assessment but will be taken into care regardless, based on information from Scotland. She reveals that the entire Social Services department of 22 social workers has been cleared to work on the family as their “number one priority”. Police frogmarch the Dochertys around the hospital. Malee shouts at Alex saying that they would never see their parents again unless they showed her more respect. Charlotte is so traumatised she is ‘too sad to cry’. They treat autistic Sebastian as subhuman and drug his juice to subdue him. All day long the children get nothing to eat until around 7 pm. The authorities break their promise to allow goodbyes and explanations – the four children including three month old Christian are taken away, shouting for their parents. The next day Alexandra witnesses a social worker striking her sister.
29/01/2015	Medical assessment	General Practice office, Castlebar	Dr Bríd O’Malley	During the assessment O’Malley reveals that a health visitor named Phyllis Smart wrote a report stating that Brian’s father is a paedophile whom Janice allows to abuse Alexandra. Smart has

¹ Incarcerate in a mental institution

				never met any of the Dochertys and Janice's father has been dead for five years. Subsequently a spin doctor from NHS Grampian tries to exonerate Smart on the grounds that Police Scotland had demanded that she write the report. O'Malley admits that she had pre-arranged to refer them to a psychiatrist and writes a damning report. She asks a series of irrelevant and inappropriate questions such as whether Brian intended to stand for election again and whether he is a practising Catholic, about their financial status.
29/01/2015	Psychiatric assessment	Castlebar Hospital	Dr Ciarán Smyth Mary Malee Lorraine Gaughan	The Dochertys await their appointment for two hours during which time they see Malee and Gaughan go up to the Psychiatric Department, presumably to prime Dr Smyth and other medical staff. Realising it is a set-up to get them sectioned the Dochertys leave, which panicking staff try to prevent.
02/02/2015	Court hearing	Mayo District Court	Judge Mary Devins Mary Malee DS Martin MacDougall Lesley Taylor	O'Malley steadfastly refuses to turn up in court to defend her report, which the judge disallows. Malee admits to briefing Smyth against the Dochertys, for which she is reprimanded by the judge. Malee's testimony is vicious, with constant insinuations, she is caught in a lie on several occasions. In all, two social workers and two police from Scotland and Ireland testify against the Dochertys, saying they are delusional. MacDougall is outrageously corrupt and defends Alan Low and an associate. The judge reluctantly orders an independent psychiatric report for the next hearing with no involvement from Social Services, who nonetheless harass and harangue them to see Dr Smyth. The judge orders the children returned that day under a Supervision Order, and appoints a guardian <i>ad litem</i> whom the Dochertys have to choose from a short list, all of whom they suspect to be corrupt. While the court is in session, the Dochertys house is broken into, their bed urinated on, their puppies beaten, paperwork rifled through.

??/02/2015	Psychiatric report	Belfast, Northern Ireland	Independent psychiatrist	The psychiatrist pronounces them both well, that Brian has “incredible resilience” and Janice “dynamic mental health”.
02/2015	Police Scotland complaint			The Dochertys complain to Police Scotland about DS MacDougall’s perjury; they respond with a cover-up report.
26/02/2015	Court hearing	Mayo District Court	Judge Mary Devins Hilda-Clare O’Shea	The judge rules in favour of the Dochertys, that their problems all started when they reported the paedophile and that the notes from Scotland are not to follow the family. Judge rejects Police Scotland’s complaint that the Dochertys violated an <i>in camera</i> hearing by complaining (!) about DS MacDougall’s perjury in the previous hearing, noting the vicious extent to which Police Scotland were trying to influence the court proceedings. The guardian ad litem’s solicitor, O’Shea, tries to obtain the Dochertys’ travel plans to return to Scotland. They realise the plan is to apprehend them upon their return, so delay it.
03/2015 – 01/2016	E-mails, letters, ‘phone calls, YouTube videos, FOIs and SARs ²	Ireland		The Dochertys spend the next ten months writing to all relevant departments, ombudsmen and complaints bodies in the three governments involved, to no avail whatsoever. They learn that corruption is endemic, running to the very highest levels of the state. The Gárda Ombudsman even wanted to arrest them for complaining! They exhaust all possible avenues for justice and legal redress. During this period their house is regularly broken into, mail, e-mail and ‘phone intercepted, tampered with or blocked. Cars pull up outside and take photographs, late at night men with torches are in their back garden or house. At one point the whole family and the dogs become very ill with identical symptoms; they suspect their water was poisoned. Their dogs are repeatedly tasered and poisoned in their absence. They move house repeatedly. They e-mail every MP in all the parliaments but it seems that not one of the Irish MPs receive it.

² FOI: Freedom of Information request; SAR: Subject Access Request

				Fake journalists contact them and try to discover their address. In desperation they post a series of videos on YouTube.
05/2015	PIRC complaint			The Dochertys complain to PIRC ³ .
07/2015	Interpol FOI		Brian	Interpol deny they had been utilized by Police Scotland.
09/2015	PIRC response			PIRC upholds eleven of the twelve points of complaint, recommends action against Sgt Buchan via the Procurator Fiscal's office, for falsifying Lamont's report.
15/12/2015	Critical letters		Nicola Sturgeon Enda Kenny Frances Fitzgerald	The Dochertys send detailed e-mails to First Minister of Scotland Nicola Sturgeon, Taoiseach (Irish Prime Minister) Enda Kenny and the Irish Minister for Justice and Equality Frances Fitzgerald. The letters evoke the harshest response yet...
17/12/2015	Children seized again	A new house somewhere	Sergeant John Forkan eight Gárda five social workers	Eight Gárda (four armed) and five social workers turn up in a smash-and-grab raid and abduct the children again without any explanation or legal justification, nor any identification being shown. Sgt Forkan claims he has a warrant but repeatedly refuses to show it, and states he has been authorised to use whatever force is necessary should any resistance be offered. The children are terrified and totally traumatised, they aren't even allowed to put their coats on despite the midwinter blizzard outside. The raiders leave a compliments slip with details of an appointment at a mental hospital the following day. As they leave Brian shouts about how they are covering up paedophilia, which comes as a shock to some officers. During the car journey a policewoman relentlessly mocks eldest daughter Alex for her Christian faith.
20/12/2015	Documents stolen			The house is broken into at night and a Recorded Delivery copy of the letter they had sent to Viscount Petersham is stolen from Janice's handbag.
21/12/2015	Third court hearing	Donegal	Judge Paul Kelly Liza Finegan	The Dochertys have four days to engage a defence counsel but are unlawfully denied legal aid; every solicitor in Letterkenny knows about the case but not one would touch it. The court

³ Police Investigations and Review Commissioner

				hearing is held at 6.30 pm, <i>two hours</i> after the court closed. They learn from the janitor that a DCI Malcolm Jones of Police Scotland is scheduled to testify against the Dochertys by video link. It transpires that were it not for the failure of this link they would likely have been incarcerated. Three of the key witnesses are the subject of criminal complaints by the Dochertys, including Mary Malee, who suggests that Brian is the real paedophile. The Dochertys' mental health is repeatedly attacked but not a single psychiatric report is presented as evidence. The Dochertys represent themselves but the judge forbids Janice to speak, then threatens to throw Brian out whenever he asks pertinent questions of the corrupt witnesses. The judge refuses to admit any of the Dochertys' evidence, including the PIRC report upholding eleven of their twelve complaints. At the end of the four-hour hearing the judge allows Liza Finegan, solicitor for Social Services, to dictate the court's rulings, which he simply repeats: 1.) never mention this hearing; 2.) undergo evaluation by a psychiatrist of Social Services' choice; 3.) cease naming the subjects of the Dochertys' complaints, including Gordon Jeyes and Mary Malee. This is supposedly a family court yet the children and their best interests are never mentioned.
22/12/2015	PSNI ⁴ FOI response		George Hamilton	Hamilton sends e-mail stating "PSNI does not discuss <i>intelligence matters</i> " [emphasis added].
31/12/2015	Appeal papers submitted			The Dochertys submit their appeal paperwork.
??/01/2016	RTÉ ⁵ Special Investigations Unit	Dublin, Ireland	Janet Traynor Pam	The Dochertys spend two three-hour sessions with RTÉ on successive days describing their experiences, and the reporters are very enthusiastic. They leave them with an 8GB flash drive of correspondence. A week later RTÉ's enthusiasm has evaporated and they try to persuade the Dochertys to see

⁴ Police Service of Northern Ireland

⁵ Raidió Teilifís Éireann, Ireland's national broadcaster

				a psychiatrist of their recommendation. The Dochertys suspect them of using CCTV to obtain their e-mail passwords because when they get home five hours later they discover that certain key e-mails have been deleted.
06/01/2016	Renewed sectioning threat		Liza Finegan	The Dochertys learn that Social Services has temporarily relocated to St Conal's Mental Health Hospital for the purposes of sectioning them by avoiding the need for a GP referral. Liza Finegan VP McMullin and Social Services refuse to provide written notice of their supposed appointment at this hospital but refer to it repeatedly in telephone conversations. At church, they hand out leaflets listing their 37 YouTube videos.
??/??/????	Cllr McBrearty meeting	Raphoe, Co. Donegal, Ireland	Father Eamonn McLaughlin Cllr Frank McBrearty	On the recommendation of Father Eamonn McLaughlin, the Dochertys go to see Donegal county councillor Frank McBrearty at his home, who boasts about his underworld connections and was no help to them. They notice a handgun in his stove. McBrearty recommends a solicitor Patsy Gallagher.
12/01/2016	Last meeting with Sebastian & Charlotte			The last time the Dochertys see Sebastian & Charlotte.
13/01/2016	Fourth court hearing	? District Court	Judge Paul Kelly Patricia Molony Hilda-Clare O'Shea Patsy Gallagher	A large number of police and Special Branch prevent the Dochertys from entering the courtroom. It later turns out that in their absence their solicitor Patsy Gallagher has violated their explicit instruction and agreed to the children remaining in care. They later complain to the Law Society of Ireland about this. They are allowed into the court room after fifteen minutes whereupon the judge berates them about their YouTube videos and says they will go to prison for contempt of court. They are told that the Gárda Special Branch have been trawling their private e-mails; the judge demands to know who the recipients are. They are forced to delete the videos there and then, despite all but one being irrelevant to the issue of their children being taken into care. Kelly rules that they may not have an appeal. The hearing itself is illegal since their appeal is still pending.

17/01/2016	Dochertys' house set on fire	Ireland		The night before the Dochertys aren't able to light their stove, because someone had blocked up the chimney. They wake up in the early morning to discover the living room on fire. They hear a Scottish accent shouting outside. They eventually put the fire out and it is obvious it had been set deliberately. They call the Garda, who send a forensics team, who confirm arson. It is unclear how the perpetrators gained entrance to the house.
17/01/2016	Intoxicated police officer attempts handbag theft			Later that evening they attend mass at a cathedral. They recognise a Special Branch officer from the recent court hearing. He is clearly intoxicated as he moves to their row and starts edging his way towards them. The Dochertys think that the Police are after the list of car registration numbers of the persons who attended the 'emergency meeting' at the Viscount's estate, amongst other incriminating documents.
21/01/2016	Appeal hearing (cancelled)	Monaghan, Ireland		The other side don't show up so the judge reschedules the hearing.
22/01/2016	Last meeting with Alexandra & Christian		A social worker	This is the last time the Dochertys see their children Alexandra & Christian. The social worker talks over Alex when she reveals that Patricia Molony told her that Janice and Brian didn't want their children any more. The social worker terminates the meeting after five minutes when they take a photograph of a black eye and finger marks on Christian's face, citing their 'mental health presentation'.
01/02/2016	Appeal hearing	Letterkenny Circuit Court, Co. Donegal, Ireland	Judge John O'Hagan Val Cronin	Held as a special hearing since Irish Circuit Courts do not sit on Mondays. On this occasion the Dochertys have a solicitor and a barrister (from Northern Ireland, since no solicitor in the Republic would touch their case). The Dochertys learn that at the hearing on the 13 th , before they were allowed into the courtroom, their 'solicitor' had agreed in their absence to the children remaining in care, despite their having instructed him explicitly not to do so. Incredibly, also present in the court building are this Gallagher and Kelly, who perjures himself by signing, there and then, a statement that the Dochertys had

				agreed to this. They are not permitted to see his statement. They learn at the last minute that DCI Malcolm Jones of Police Scotland is to testify again by video link.
??/02/2016	Information requests denied		Gárda Records Health Service Executive	Both bodies deny receiving Freedom of Information and Subject Access Requests, despite these having been sent by recorded delivery. The e-mails sent at the same time have mysteriously been deleted.
05/02/2016	Possessions stolen	Limavady, Co. Londonderry, Northern Ireland		The Dochertys are due to go a holiday cottage in Northern Ireland but someone cancels the removal van they'd booked online. They have to leave some of their possessions behind. They leave a note for agent Dennis Trearty to let him know they have a photograph of him letting burglars into the house. Within a day of arriving at the new place a man claiming to be the owner turns up with two others, throws them out of the house and steals all of their possessions, including €1,000 of Christmas presents for the children and boxes full of documents including birth and marriage certificates. Later that day someone remotely clears the call history on their mobile 'phone.
06-10/02/2016	Car broken into	Dublin, Ireland	Chief Justice Susan Denham	Whilst staying at a Travelodge their car is broken into daily. They take a road trip to Dublin, and while delivering paperwork to Chief Justice Denham the car is broken into and papers stolen.
	Animals attacked	Belfast, Northern Ireland	Secretary of State for Northern Ireland	They take a road trip to Belfast and while delivering documents to Stormont House their car is broken into and their dogs stabbed and tasered.
??/02/2016	Sanctuary	Bethlehem Abbey, Portglenone, Northern Ireland	Police Service of Northern Ireland	A hitherto unknown benefactor finds a place of sanctuary for the Dochertys. After a couple of nights two PSNI officers knock their door at 1 am and tell them they had been reported missing and that they had missed a psychiatric evaluation (of which they had no knowledge). It is clear they are under constant surveillance and fearing for their safety leave the abbey early before daybreak, crossing a frozen muddy field and scaling a seven-foot wall in the process. With very little money left they decide to return to Scotland. They board a ferry but when they disembark

				as foot passengers in Stranraer a large number of police officers are searching every car. They end up staying with friends in Glasgow then on to Edinburgh where they are again followed around by Police Scotland.
		Cheshire, England		After three weeks they end up in England where strangers buy, tax and insure a car for them.
		Ireland		Three weeks later the Dochertys return to Ireland; again there is a heavy police presence at the ferry port but again they evade detection because this time they are in the car and the police are searching the foot passengers.
25/02/2016	Appeal hearing (cancelled)	Ireland		The hearing is cancelled.
07/03/2016	Appeal hearing	Ireland		The Dochertys solicitor has forewarned them that if they attend this hearing they will be sectioned. They do turn up but realising that a psychiatrist is in the foyer waiting for their case, write a letter to the judge and depart. At this point the children have been illegally detained for 110 days on a succession of 8-day Emergency Care Orders.
??/03/2016	Appeal hearing (cancelled)	Ireland		The hearing is cancelled.
27/04/2016	Judicial Review granted but denied	Ireland		The Dochertys have been repeatedly denied their right to receive legal aid. The legal aid manager responsible has been promoted to a new position that did not exist when the children were first taken, and continues to deny them in a different part of Ireland. They take their notarised statement to the High Court and are granted an <i>ex parte</i> docket, which must be heard immediately when presented at one of the courts, which they duly do. However, one registrar after another, and a judge, all refuse to hear their case. The office staff are baffled as to why but to this day there has never been a judicial review.
11/05/2016	High Court	Ireland		Two weeks later in High Court the Dochertys are told by Social Services that their children are upset and miss their parents and desperately want to see them. Social Services deny them any

				contact, apparently relishing their emotional and psychological torture.
25/05/2016	Writ of Habeas Corpus denied	Ireland	Judge Robert Haughton	The Dochertys learn that a writ of Habeas Corpus can be applied in the case of children held illegally. They lodge the required documents at the High Court; the judge confers with Judge Kelly and Chief Justice Denham then refuses to honour the writ, offering no legal justification for his decision.