

Mr. Andrew Walker,

Her Majesty's Coroner for the Northern District of Greater London, H.M. Coroner's Court, 29 Wood Street, High Barnet

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27<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Dear Sir

Re: G4S Forensic and Medical Services response to Regulation 28 Report following the Inquest into the death of Wayne Spencer Malcolm Broad.

I respond to the matter of concern that you raised following the above inquest in respect of the fact that there was no substance misuse team available to look after Mr Broad when he was in the custody suite at Hatfield Police Station as there would have been had Mr Broad been detained in Prison.

G4S Forensic and Medical Service are responsible for the provision of medical services to Hertfordshire Police as defined in a specific contract written by Hertfordshire Police ("the Contract"), which does not at this time, provide for putting a dedicated substance misuse team into each of the police stations served by the Contract. Rather, the Contract requires us to provide medical staff to deal with a wide range of issues from the confirmation of death, intimate examinations of victims of sexual assault, advice on medical issues across a wide spectrum of circumstances and the provision of face to face clinical treatment of those detained in custody.

The role that our clinicians undertake in custody is to provide the Police with a clinically based assessment as to whether it is medically safe to continue the detention and, where medical issues are identified, to supply a short term care plan covering the anticipated term of detention.

The amount of medical assistance that can be provided in the custody environment is limited to assessment, advice and a low level of clinical intervention. Should the outcome of the assessment identify a clinical reason for additional medical support, be that short or long term, the advice would be that detention is not safe and that the detainee should be taken to a hospital where appropriate specialised services can be provided.

Whilst I fully accept that any service provision could be enhanced, G4S provide an efficient and effective service within the confines of a contract provided by a public body that, in turn, is suffering from the general reduction of funding experienced over the last few years. By ensuring that timely and appropriate advice is given I am satisfied that we meet the needs of Hertfordshire Police as they currently stand and in accordance with the Contract.

Yours Sincerely

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