18 December 2015

In reply please quote: C1-781375998

Your ref: 02785-12

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General Medical Council

3 Hardman Street Manchester M3 3AW

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Mr John Thompson Clerk to HM Coroner Southwark Coroner's Court 1 Tennis Street London SE1 1YD

Dear Mr Thompson

Regulation 28 Response to a report on action to prevent other deaths Laurence Boyens

Thank you for your letter of 9 December 2015 and received in our offices on 17 December 2015.

I am sorry that we have not provided the Coroner with our response to the PFD Report. This was an omission on our part and I can confirm that when we received the PFD Report in April 2015 we immediately considered the report and whether we should exercise the power under our rules to review our earlier decision to not proceed with a complaint about Dr Amayo's care of Mr Boyens.

For your information, there are two grounds upon which we can consider a review of the decision. These are that either there is a 'material flaw' in the decision or there is new information that might have led to a different decision. Even if either of these grounds does apply a review can only take place if there is a 'public interest' in it happening. This would be for a reason related to the protection of the public, to stop there being an injustice to the doctor or some other compelling reason.

Where we decide to commence a review we will seek the views of the doctor and once we have those, we will make a decision as to whether the original decision should stand or whether the case should be reopened and referred to our senior decision makers for a fresh decision.

In light of the information contained within the PFD Report, we decided to commence a review of our decision to close the case on the ground that there is new information which may have led to a different decision. We also considered that a review of the decision was necessary in the public interest.

We have obtained the doctor's comments and will now pass the case for a decision. I am advised that the decision will be made by 8 January 2015

I hope this clarifies the action we took following the PFD report and I again apologise for not letting the Coroner know about this sooner.

I would be happy to take your call if you wish to discuss further.

Yours sincerely

Anthony Omo

Director and General Counsel Fitness to Practise Directorate

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