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Comment of the Hw

29 December 2015

Miss J Kearsley
Area Coroner
H M Coroner
Manchester South
Correr's Court
1 Mount Tabor Street
Stockport
SK1 3AG

Dear Miss Kearsley

Ret Mr Jake Robinson (Deceased)

DOB: (03-Mar-1992) – DOD (28/08/2015)

Thank you for your Regulation 28 Report regarding this young man's death. I note your concerns in Se in 5(1), which appeared particularly to be related to our practice. In response I enclose the letter which was sent from at Trafford Drug Services on the 30th of June 2015 confirming that it was medically acceptable for Jake to be started on a detox programme. You will note that the fax has been recorded as going through. I would also point out that your comment about the letter not being provided in evidence is in my opinion erroneous. It was in fact included in 25 pages of documentation sent to your office by fax on the 24th of August 2015 as part of your offices initial request for information. It was therefore not deemed necessary to duplicate the information in my letter to you on the 9th of September. I hope this clarifies our practices role in this matter but if you would like further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

As a general point, I fully understand your concerns re the disconnection and boundaries between Community Mental Health Services, Phoenix Futures, Trafford AIM and Primary Care Services in Trafford. My personal concern for a number of years has been for patients like Jake with what is oosely termed a "dual diagnosis" which effectively means a person with mental health issues in addition to, or secondary to, alcohol or substance misuse. It is I think widely recognised by Primary Lare Practitioners that Community Mental Health Services are extremely reluctant both to see and nanage this type of patient. The result is that they are, in my opinion, often suboptimally managed by whichever drug and alcohol services which happened to have been commissioned at the time.

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As a practice we have obviously recorded Jake's death as a Significant Event and have discussed the situation fully. We found that a request to discuss Jake's situation with his mother in June of 2015 was overlooked due to emails from her being received whilst I was on holiday, a written apology has already been sent to Jake's mother regarding this. The only other action that the practice in our opinion should perhaps have taken was to arrange a visit or consultation with Jake after his second admission to A&E on the 17th of July 2015.

In conclusion, the RAID Team stated that in their opinion there was no evidence of acute mental illness and that his primary concern currently was illicit drug use. At that time their plan included leaving him under the care of Phoenix Futures as he had a good rapport with his keyworker, he was discharged from RAID with it being stated that he was aware of crisis pathways. In retrospect however we were not aware of when his next appointments were and who they were going to be with. I am not sure whether availing ourselves of this information would have made a major difference but it is certainly something we will reflect on further.

un Yours sincerely



Enc - copy letter to Trafford Drugs Service