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Miss Emma Brown HM Area Coroner Birmingham and Solihull Area

Redgrave Court Merton Road Bootle Merseyside L20 7HS

http://www.hse.gov.uk/

18<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Miss Brown,

## Prevention of future deaths report Ms Azra Hussain

Thank you for your letter and Regulation 28 report to prevent future deaths issued following the inquest into the death of Azra Parveen Hussain, also known as Azra Parveen Sultan.

You asked HSE to consider the second area of concern, namely:

*"I am concerned that within BSMHT's inpatient units there will be a continuing risk from* 

other doors in the bedroom area (including the main bedroom door) even when the

en-suite bathroom doors are fitted with pressure sensor alarms. Although the outer

face of a bedroom door will be on a communal corridor, service users on level 1

and 2 observations will have periods where they are unobserved in their rooms and

could wedge a ligature at the top of a door so that it wasn't obviously visible from

outside. Furthermore, in the absence of any national regulations or guidance on

this topic the risk from en-suite and other doors in areas where service users spend

time unobserved will persist in mental health units operated by other Trusts and

private providers around the country."

In England CQC is the lead inspection and enforcement body under the Health and Social Care Act 2008 for safety and quality of treatment and care matters involving patients and service users in receipt of a health or adult social care service from a provider registered with CQC. In 2015 (revised in 2017) <u>The Memorandum of</u> <u>Understanding (MoU) between the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and the Health</u> <u>and Safety Executive (HSE)</u> established the respective roles and responsibilities of each organisation with regard to health and safety incidents.

This means that both the safety of the environment for the patient, including management of ligature points, and any investigations following incidents would fall within the remit of CQC and not HSE. I am therefore not able to offer any further assistance with respect to the current standards at BSMHT or within England more generally, but I am aware that CQC will be providing a detailed response to your concerns.

I hope this clarifies the situation but please let me know if you need anything further.

Yours sincerely,



Chief Executive