



	<p>REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</p> <p>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:</p> <p>1. [REDACTED] City Director Stoke-on-Trent City Council Civic Centre Glebe Street Stoke-on-Trent ST4 1HH</p>
1	<p>CORONER</p> <p>I am Emma Serrano Area Coroner for Stoke-on-Trent & North Staffordshire Coroner's Court</p>
2	<p>CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS</p> <p>I make this report under paragraph 7, Schedule 5, of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013. http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/25/schedule/5/paragraph/7 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/1629/part/7/made</p>
3	<p>INVESTIGATION and INQUEST</p> <p>On 11/10/2017 I commenced an investigation into the death of Zainab Adam Bargo Hashim ("Zainab"), aged 36 and Tafaoul Abdulillia Abdulkarim ("Tafaoul"), aged 6. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest on 11th June 2021.</p> <p>The conclusion of the inquest was a narrative conclusion detailing that both Zainab and Tafaoul died from the effects of inhalation of smoke fumes, in the communal area of the block of flats, whilst attempting to flee a fire that had started in a separate flat.</p> <p>The Medical Cause of death after Post Mortem is :</p> <p>Zainab</p> <p>1a) Hypoxic/ischaemic brain injury due to inhalation of fire fumes</p> <p>Tafaoul</p> <p>1b) Complications of inhalation of fire fumes (including hypoxic/ischaemic brain damage).</p>
4	<p>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</p> <p>Zainab Adam Bargo Hashim passed away at the Royal Stoke University Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent on the 2 October 2017 from 'Hypoxic/ischaemic brain injury due to inhalation of fire fumes'. Tafaoul Abdulilla Abdulkarim passed away two days later on the, on the 4 October 2017 from 'Complications of inhalation of fire fumes (including hypoxic/ischaemic brain damage)'.</p> <p>On the 1 October 2017 Zainab left her home address home address of [REDACTED] Ringland Close, because a fire had started in [REDACTED] of the same block. To leave the block she had to go into the communal area of the block of flats which had become filled with smoke and fire fumes. The fumes caused Zainab, and her</p>

	<p>children, Tafoul, who was 6 years old, and [REDACTED], who was 6 months old, to collapse, and become unconscious. All were rescued by the Fire Service and taken to the Royal Stoke University Hospital where Zainab and Tafaoul passed away.</p>
5	<p><u>CORONER'S CONCERNS</u></p> <p>During the course of the inquest the evidence revealed matters giving rise to concern. In my opinion there is a risk that future deaths will occur unless action is taken. In the circumstances it is my statutory duty to report to you.</p> <p>The MATTERS OF CONCERN are as follows. –</p> <p>During the inquest Stoke-on-Trent City Council gave evidence to the effect that, within the properties that they own (they have some 19000 properties), if the properties are blocks of flats, there is a “Stay Put” policy in place. Residents, so long as the fire is not within their property, should stay in their flats, alert the appropriate emergency service, and wait for help.</p> <p>It became apparent during the course of the inquest that no resident at the Ringland Close block of flats knew of the existence of this policy. Stoke-on-Trent City Council gave evidence to the effect that to communicate this policy to their residents they do so in exactly the same way that they had before the fire at Ringland Close. There are fire notices in the communal areas of the flats and in September 2017, a tenant newsletter was posted through all letterboxes at relevant blocks of flats. This newsletter reiterated the “Stay Put” policy.</p> <p>During this particular incident no residents had stayed within their property. No residents were aware of the “Stay Put” policy. Evidence was heard that, had Zainab and Tafaoul, stayed within [REDACTED] the two deaths would not have occurred. Stoke-on-Trent City Council gave evidence that, since the fire, they have not changed the way the policy is communicated to residents of their properties.</p> <p>Therefore, the lack of awareness of a policy in place, and lack of plan to make residents aware, in the event of a fire leads me to conclude that there is a risk of future deaths occurring.</p>
6	<p>ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN</p> <p>In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe you Stoke-on-Trent City Council have the power to take such action.</p>
7	<p>YOUR RESPONSE</p> <p>You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by 1 October 2021. I, the coroner, may extend the period.</p> <p>Your response must contain details of action taken or proposed to be taken, setting out the timetable for action. Otherwise you must explain why no action is proposed.</p>
8	<p>COPIES and PUBLICATION</p> <p>I have sent a copy of my report to the Chief Coroner and to the following Interested Persons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) [REDACTED] husband to Zainab Adam Bargo Hashim and father to Tafaoul Abdulilla Abdulkarim 2) [REDACTED] 3) [REDACTED] 4) Staffordshire Fire Service. <p>I am also under a duty to send the Chief Coroner a copy of your response and all interested persons who in my opinion should receive it.</p> <p>I may also send a copy of your response to any other person who I believe may find it useful or of interest.</p>

	<p>The Chief Coroner may publish either or both in a complete or redacted or summary form. He may send a copy of this report to any person who he believes may find it useful or of interest.</p> <p>You may make representations to me, the coroner, at the time of your response, about the release or the publication of your response.</p>
9	<p>16/06/2021</p> <p></p> <p>Emma Serrano Area Coroner Stoke-on-Trent & North Staffordshire Coroner's Court</p>