

Date: 16th December 2021

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Emma Serrano, Area Coroner
Stoke-on-Trent & North
Staffordshire Coroner
Stoke on Trent and North
Staffordshire
Stoke Town Hall,
Kingsway,
Stoke-on-Trent,
ST4 1HH

Dr ██████████
Consultant Psychiatrist/Interim Medical Director
Trust Headquarters
Lawton House
Bellringer Road
Trentham
ST4 8HH

Dear Mrs Serrano

Regulation 28 Report – Prevent Future Deaths – Sky Louise Rollings

During the course of the inquest for Sky Louise Rollings, 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.

The **MATTERS OF CONCERN** are as follows:

- (1) During the inquest, evidence was heard about the differences in the way CAMHS Hospitals and Adult mental Health Hospitals approached the care of the patients on their wards. When hearing evidence during the inquest, it was established that when a child turned 18, and was a patient on a Mental Health ward, once transferred to an adult Mental Health Hospital they would immediately be treated in accordance with the adult provisions.
- (2) It was accepted that there is no provision; there is currently no one in-patient provision for people between the ages of 14-25. It was also accepted that simply because a child becomes 18 does not mean that they are an adult. The lack of this provision in a mental health in-patient setting leads me to conclude that there is a risk of further deaths resulting.

Trust responses to Matters of Concern Above (see appendix 1 for Action Plan)

- (1) The Trust has initiated a further review of the Transition of Young People to Adult Mental Health Service Policy following the inquest. The review will include the above concerns raised during the inquest relating to the transition from a young person's inpatient facility to an adult mental health facility (which may include an adult mental health inpatient ward)



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and the need to ensure appropriate reasonable adjustments are made in line with person centred care and that appropriate monitoring and escalation processes are robust and in place.

- (2) Whilst the Trust acknowledges there is no in-patient provision for people between the ages of 14-25, as part of the Community Transformation agenda we have commenced work with the partners relating to community transformation in social care and third sector CYP support to support the development of a 14-25 Transition (Preparing for Adulthood) service. This service will seek to align to the Good Mental Health Services for Young People (Royal College of Psychiatry, 2017) good practice paper. The service seeks to improve the continuity of care provided to young people and their families as they undergo transition between services and improve understanding between services regarding thresholds of care and models of care, exploring and understanding the differences of intensity of support for young people and that of adults by ensuring appropriate person centred requirements and improving education/training for adult mental health services.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need any further information.

Yours sincerely



Dr [REDACTED]
Consultant Psychiatrist
Interim Executive Medical Director



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[REDACTED]
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Action Plan

Appendix 1

Area of Concern	No	Identified Action	Lead	Completion date	Assurance
During the inquest, evidence was heard about the differences in the way CAMHS Hospitals and Adult Mental Health Hospitals approached the care of the patients on their wards. When hearing evidence during the inquest it was established that when a child turned 18, and was a patient on a Mental Health ward, once transferred to an adult Mental Health Hospital they would immediately be treated in accordance with the adult provisions.	1	<p>Policy 1.01 – Transition of Young People to Adult Mental Health Services – to be reviewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To include guidance on acknowledging that a person does not become an adult on their 18th birthday. Provide guidance on making appropriate and reasonable adjustments in line with person centred care and that ensures monitoring and escalation processes are robust and in place. Highlight the importance of reviewing the approach to patient care on a case-by-case basis – not simply applying an approach to care based on the person being placed on an adult ward as they have legally reached the age of adulthood now and this is how it is. 	[REDACTED]	31 st March 2022	Updated section to the Policy in line with the actions raised. Policy will be shared with all in patient areas/community teams.



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