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Sent by email to: [REDACTED]@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Dear Mr Clow

**Regulation 28: Report to prevent future deaths– Patricia Ferguson**

I am writing in response to the report that was received by Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2020, please note that this response covers Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG; Bassetlaw CCG have a separate contract with Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust. Information has been provided on each of the points that were raised and is outlined below.

In the report you stated that:

*1) The Joint Commissioning Panel for Mental Health's Guidance for Commissioners of Community Specialist Mental Health Services expresses an expectation that there would be more than one clinical psychologist for each Community Mental Health Team, given that clinical psychologists are referred to in the plural within discussions of an appropriate staff team for CMHTs whereas, for example, consultant psychiatrists are referred to in the singular.*

*(2) CMHTs in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire have a commissioned establishment of, at most, one clinical psychologist per team, with some teams having only a part time clinical psychologist post. This inevitably results in some patients, as here, having no access to clinical psychology when this is clinically indicated, creating an ongoing risk of preventable future deaths.*

The CCG was asked to take the following action;

*In my opinion, action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe you have the power to take such action.*

[REDACTED]  
The CCG is working in partnership with Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust (NHT) on a programme of transformation to meet the requirements of the NHS Long Term Plan (LTP) over the next 5 years.

The national requirement in 2019/20 and 2020/21 is to 'stabilise and bolster' core community mental health teams, increasing team capacity and appointment availability. In 2019/20 this included funding for additional Clinical Psychology posts alongside other posts (i.e. pharmacy technicians and administrative support) to support testing new delivery models. The LTP is explicit on how community mental health teams need to be developed, with delivery milestones from 2019/20 to 2023/24 (appendix 1). [REDACTED]

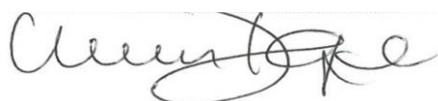
The LTP has a strong emphasis throughout on ensuring the provision of *high quality, evidence-based mental health services* which includes *increased access to psychological therapies within the community based offer*, as well as an increased focus on psychologically formed therapeutic interventions and care plan formulation through multi-disciplinary team approaches. There is planned investment [REDACTED] year to deliver the LTP ambitions, which includes increased Clinical Psychology provision across a range of services provided by NHT. The delivery of services is monitored by the CCG and the Transformation plan is reviewed by NHS England on a monthly basis. A Steering Group meets on a monthly basis to oversee the transformation of the Adult and Older Adult Community model. However, this has recently been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and will recommence in due course.

Currently, there is an agreed specification for community mental health teams which outlines the aims, objectives and outcomes for the service. Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust use clinical judgement to determine the exact level of staffing resource required to deliver the aims, objectives and outcomes stipulated within the service specification.

The Long Term Plan, which I have referenced above, provides a blueprint for standardised service delivery models to be implemented across England, ensuring evidence based models of care are commissioned and delivered, progress to implement a revised service model has already been made in Nottinghamshire.

I hope that this information provides assurance that the CCG is already taking the required action to address your concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information.

Yours sincerely



[REDACTED]  
**Chief Commissioning Officer**  
**NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire CCG**

Enc.

Appendix 1- Long Term Plan- Planning and Delivery Requirements for Adult Severe Mental Illness Community Care

Ambition	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
<b>Integrated primary and community care for adults and older adults with SMI access</b>	Stabilise and bolster core community mental health teams  [REDACTED]	Stabilise and bolster core community mental health teams	At least 126,000 adults and older adults with SMI (including care for people with eating disorders, mental health rehabilitation needs and a 'personality disorder' diagnosis) receiving care from integrated primary and community mental health services	At least 257,000 [REDACTED] adults and older adults with SMI (including care for people with eating disorders, mental health rehabilitation needs and a 'personality disorder' diagnosis) receiving care from integrated primary and community mental health services	At least 276,000 [REDACTED] adults and older adults with SMI (including care for people with eating disorders, mental health rehabilitation needs and a 'personality disorder' diagnosis) receiving care from integrated primary and community mental health services

[REDACTED]