



Derby and Derbyshire
Integrated Care Board

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Tel: [REDACTED]

15th July 2022

Your Ref: 04532 2020

Private and Confidential

Mr Peter Nieto
Derby Coroners Court
St Katherine's House
St Mary's Wharf
Mansfield Rd
Derby
DE1 3 TQ

Dear Mr Nieto,

Thank you for your letter dated 30th May 2022 to the former organisation, NHS Derby & Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which included the Regulation 28 report regarding the death of Mr Mark Edwin Sumnall. This response has been created under the auspices of the successor organisation, NHS Derby & Derbysire Integrated Care Board (ICB) established on the 1st of July 2022.

We have had now had the opportunity to review the concerns you have identified following your investigation into the death of Mr Sumnall.

The Derbyshire Care Home Red Bag scheme was launched in 2018 with the intention that the integrated pathway would support care homes, ambulance services and hospitals to meet the requirements of NICE guideline NG27: Transition between inpatient hospital setting and community or care homes.

The red bag is a convenient and portable way of ensuring that all the necessary documents and personal items accompany the care home resident and follows them from admission, during their hospital stay, and then following discharge, back to the care home. The red bag is easily identifiable and designed to hold all the essential belongings and standardised documents that care home and hospital staff need when a patient is admitted to hospital.

Our investigation has identified that, although strong leads and champions were in place at the outset when the scheme was launched, there has not been sustained leadership and ongoing system commitment to the scheme. The fixed term nature of the funding of the quality improvement did not adequately cover for long term sustainability. Continued input from project staff was required to regularly contact hospitals to locate missing bags and to maintain communication and raise awareness among other relevant and new staff. This means a sustained focus on the continuation of and ongoing system engagement with this pathway has not been consistently in place.

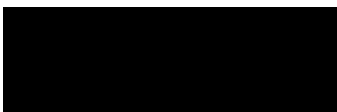
The following actions have been put in place as a result of the review of the concerns raised in the investigation:

Chair: [REDACTED]
Chief Executive: [REDACTED]

- The CCG did meet with our Local Authority colleagues to discuss the Regulation 28 report and actions that need to be taken to prevent future deaths associated with urgent transfer from care homes to hospital.
- We agreed at the system Integrated Care Homes Steering Group on 22nd June 2022 that actions required will be reported through and monitored by the Integrated Care Homes Steering Group. Leads were identified from the Local Authority and CCG / ICB.
- The Joint Leads met on Friday 24th June 2022 and agreed to:
 - Distribute urgent communications to care homes, refreshing previous guidance issued when the Red Bag Pathway was first introduced. This will include guidance on formal communication and handover requirements when transferring a resident to hospital where they do not have a red bag. This has had been completed.
 - Distribute urgent communications to the Ambulance Trust and Hospital Trusts refreshing previous guidance regarding red bags. This will reiterate that there are still a number of red bags in the system, they need to ensure all staff are aware of the contents of the red bag and investigate the contents as they include crucial information regarding the patient and any associated risks. This communication has been sent.
 - Meet with the Deputy Directors of Nursing from both Hospital Trusts to agree internal action each will take to ensure effective and robust handover communications when receiving patients into the hospital both in the emergency department and wards. These meetings have taken place.
 - Implement an interim care home to hospital and hospital to care home transfer document. Full roll out will be by the end of September 2022.
 - Monitor of the use of the care home to hospital transfer documentation, this will be incorporated into the routine quality monitoring undertaken by the Local Authority and the ICB Care Home Quality Team. This will be put in place once the interim arrangements are rolled out.
 - Review the urgent transfer from care home to hospital information standard and link with the local NHS and LA digital transformation leads to expedite ICS wide initiatives to implement the new digital standards. The link with Digital workstream 'Digital Social Care Records' has been established.

I sincerely hope that this provides you with the assurance that as an ICB (previous CCG) and as a system we are taking appropriate actions to prevent avoidable deaths of this nature where robust communication at all stages between organisations would have made a difference.

Yours sincerely,



WMA MB BCHI DRCOG FRCGP FRCGS FRCR FRCRCP

Chief Executive

NHS Derby and Derbyshire Integrated Care Board / Joined Up Care Derbyshire

Chair: 

Chief Executive: 

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