



Mr Andrew Walker
HM Coroner
North London Coroners Court
29 Wood Street
Barnet
EN5 4BE

4th August 2022

Dear Mr Walker,

Re: Regulation 28 Report - Inquest into the death of Connor Marron.

We acknowledge receipt of your report under Regulation 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013 further to the inquest into the death of Connor Peter Marron that was jointly sent to Alexandra Park and Palace Charitable Trust, (herein APPCT) Thames Water and Network Rail.

We note your Matters of Concern raised in this report namely:

1. There was no lighting beside the stream or the railway fence, nor any signs identifying the stream, it's depth and any warning of danger
2. There were no signs in that area to assist with locating a way out from that part of the venue's grounds
3. The fence separating the venue grounds from the railway track was not adequate to prevent ingress to the railway track.

Before responding to the specific detail, please let me take this opportunity to share more information regarding APPCT and the scope of its land ownership and operational responsibilities.

Alexandra Park comprises of 196 acres of parkland within the urban setting within the London Borough of Haringey. The park is a public recreation space that remains held in Trust for the public forever by the Act of Parliament, which is our key governing document. The Trust was recognised as charitable in the 1960s and we are therefore subject to Charity Law and regulation. The Trust has a sole Corporate Trustee, Haringey Council, who inherited the Trusteeship in 1980. The Trust's assets and activities are overseen by a Trustee Board appointed by the Corporate Trustee and our two stakeholder committees.

Image 1 appended to this letter demonstrates the extent of the park and land ownership boundary as shown by the dotted line. On the south east corner of the park, the boundary runs parallel to Newland Road. Routes to Nightingale Lane, Boyton Road, Greenway and Newland Road are accessed from Newland Road.

The boundary of Alexandra Palace to the east adjoins Hornsey Water Treatment Works operated by Thames Water. Alexandra Palace owned land has no direct boundary with any

railway assets owned by Network Rail. To access the railway boundary fence, an individual must first leave the park onto public streets and cross the New River; two locations owned by third parties.

Given this description, APPCT does not own or operate assets which fall into the scope of Matters of Concern 1 and 3 and therefore cannot reasonably be expected to have any duties arising as a result that would require action.

We note that during the inquiry you found no evidence to reason why Connor Marron chose to pass through this lower area of the park which is one of the reasons in your decision to record an Open Determination. We have no indication of whether Mr Marron passed through the park in a considered manner or was in a state of distress, or indeed being pursued by an unknown third party.

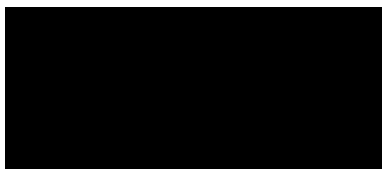
Images 2, 3 and 4 appended to this letter are taken from Google Maps and show the nature of the park boundary in this location. These images move from west to east along Newland Road clearly showing the park boundary fence along with the clear breaks in this perimeter and Gate 3 of the park at the most easterly extent. Alexandra Park is different to many London Park in that given its nature, privately owned but publicly accessible road and varied boundaries, the park is not secured at night and remains open to the public 24 hours a day.

With particular reference to Matter of Concern 2, we do not share your concern that it is challenging for a park user to locate an exit from this area of the park. This is an open area of the park and with multiple options through which to exit the park and choose a number of adjoining roads. We are also very conscious of the precedent that such a decision could create for all park operators across the UK.

Therefore while we acknowledge outputs from your inquiry, APPCT confirms that after careful consideration as discussed above, we do not intend to erect exit signs in this area of the park. We trust that the above discussions and associated rationale appropriately explains why Matters of Concern 1 and 3 do not fall under APPCT responsibility and why no action is proposed with regards to Matter of Concern 2.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of this letter further, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,




Chief Executive Officer
Alexandra Park and Palace Charitable Trust