

04 August 2022

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mrs R C Griffin
Senior Coroner
The Coroner's Office for the County of Dorset
Town Hall
Bournemouth
BH2 6DY

Mrs R C Griffin

RE: REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS

I am writing to you in response to your letter to [REDACTED], Chair of NHS Dorset, regarding your investigation into the circumstances surrounding the tragic and untimely death of Gaia Kima Pope-Sutherland.

We take our responsibility to act on the learning from serious incidents seriously and I offer you this response to outline where NHS Dorset can use its role to support and influence some of the changes you seek.

1. As per Paragraph 2 (i) of your report outlining your concerns, a review will be undertaken of the nursing resources in epilepsy care locally within the Dorset Epilepsy Service. The review will:
 - a) Encompass the full epilepsy health provision in Dorset including primary and secondary care for adults and children
 - b) Cover interaction with other specialities where pertinent to patient care and service improvements
 - c) Specifically, address the following health care service concerns raised:

Concern	Description	Recommendation
i.	Lack of resourcing in epilepsy care services	Review of the nursing resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In the Dorset Epilepsy service• Across England and Wales
ii.	Lack of communication between neurology and psychiatric teams	Review of communication processes between neurology and psychiatry

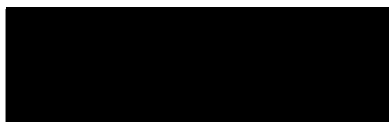
The Epilepsy Service review will not include other health care concerns raised. These will be covered by other teams/workstreams. The expectation is for the review to take around eight weeks. I would be happy to share the progress of this review with you if that would be helpful.

2. The Regulation 28 Report will be shared and reviewed with NHS partners at the Pan Dorset Mortality Group. This will facilitate an overview of the improvements suggested for NHS providers to take, as the ICB holds commissioning responsibility for these services.

I hope the information I have offered provides some assurance that the findings of your investigation and the areas you have highlighted for the prevention of future deaths has prompted action and remains the focus of our continued commitment to supporting the safety and wellbeing of everyone who uses NHS services.

As you may be aware NHS Dorset Integrated Care Board, is a newly formed organisation, which came into being on 1st July 2022, taking over the responsibilities from NHS Dorset CCG. I was appointed as Chief Executive for this new organisation and would therefore be the primary contact for any future communications. If it would be helpful to have a conversation to outline the changes that are taking place in the NHS in Dorset, I would be very happy to do so.

Yours sincerely



Chief Executive Officer
NHS Dorset