



**Dorset**  
**Integrated Care Board**

Vespasian House  
Barrack Road  
Dorchester  
Dorset  
DT1 1TG

16 March 2023

**PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

Mr Stephen Nicolls  
Assistant Coroner  
The Coroner's Office for the County of Dorset  
Town Hall  
Bournemouth  
BH2 6DY

Mr Nicolls

**RE: DEREK GORDON LARKIN,**

I am writing to you in response to your letter dated 19 January 2023 regarding your investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death of Derek Gordon Larkin.

We take our responsibility to act on the learning from serious incidents seriously and having considered the Coroner's concerns (Para 5) and the actions that should be taken (Para 6), I offer you this response.

Individual patient level information is accessible to health and social care staff via the Dorset Care Record (DCR). The DCR has been available since February 2018 and will include details of current and historic prescriptions. I can confirm that this gentleman has had a DCR since February 2018 which has been accessed by health and social care staff.


The DCR continues to be developed and refined and I have shared your findings with the relevant teams to inform any future improvements. Further information related to the DCR is available via the following link: [Dorset Care Record \(dorsetcouncil.gov.uk\)](https://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

I hope the information I have offered provides assurance that the findings of your investigation and the area you have highlighted for the prevention of future deaths 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