

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Date: 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

[REDACTED]  
Mr James Bennett  
Area Coroner for Birmingham and Solihull  
Steelhouse Lane,  
BIRMINGHAM B4 6BJ

Dear Mr Bennett

**Prevention of Future Deaths Report for Mr Peter Fleming (deceased)**

Following the recent submission of the response to the above Prevention of Future Deaths report on 4 September 2023 by BSMHFT, we would like to make a further response in relation to item 6. A system wide discussion has taken place regarding this particular item, which was led by our Chief Medical Officer, [REDACTED], and we can clarify the below:

**6. GP's are not able to proactively check patients are collecting prescribed medication due to excessive patient lists as a consequence of a lack of resources at a national level**

GPs do not, and are not contractually required to, monitor the collection status of medicines that they have prescribed. The national Electronic Prescription Service has a limited facility to allow a GP practice to determine whether an electronic prescription has been downloaded from the spine to an individual pharmacy. This is provided to allow a practice to check the status of a prescription in case of an enquiry by the patient – this eliminates the need for re-issues / reprints of prescriptions and is the purpose of the EPS function.

There is no facility to determine whether a patient has collected a medication or not as the pharmacy does not log a prescription out upon collection. The medicines may be dispensed ready for collection without having been collected.

I hope this is clear, if you do have any further questions around this particular point then please do not hesitate to contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
ICB Chief Executive

[REDACTED] ICB Chief Medical Officer