




	<p>1. During the inquest evidence was heard that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. There is no regulation of counsellors in England and Wales and this could lead to future deaths.</li> <li>ii. ██████████ is a private counsellor with 30 years' experience who provided support to Marnie prior to her death. She confirmed that counselling is not a regulated professional and there are courses available at a cost of £29 for a 6 week course, after which a person can receive a diploma and call themselves a counsellor. There is no requirement for them to do further training or continual professional development. There are no rules or regulations about how counsellors should operate, for example how they keep and share records.</li> <li>iii. Information shared by an individual to a counsellor may disclose a risk of self harm or suicide, or harm to another and there is no requirement for a counsellor to report that information to any third party.</li> <li>iv. ██████████ gave evidence that the lack of regulation and licensing of counsellors could lead to a lot of damage being done to individuals seeking help and that this could present a risk to life as there is no regulation around informing medical professionals or others who can provide further support and care to the individual.</li> <li>v. Evidence was also given by ██████████, one of the GPs who provided care to Marnie, that receipt of records from others such as counsellors, especially at the end of the counselling, would assist her in providing care to patients.</li> </ul> <p>2. I have concerns with regard to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. There is a risk of future deaths occurring due to the lack of regulation of the counselling profession.</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN</b></p> <p>In my opinion urgent action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe you and/or your organisation have the power to take such action.</p>
7	<p><b>YOUR RESPONSE</b></p> <p>You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023. I, the coroner, may extend the period.</p> <p>Your response must contain details of action taken or proposed to be taken, setting out the timetable for action. Otherwise you must explain why no action is proposed.</p>

8	<p><b>COPIES and PUBLICATION</b></p> <p>I have sent a copy of my report to the Chief Coroner and to the following Interested Persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) [REDACTED]</li><li>(2) [REDACTED]</li><li>(3) [REDACTED]</li><li>(4) NHS England</li><li>(5) Dorset Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust</li><li>(6) South West Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust</li><li>(7) The Barcellos Family Practice</li><li>(8) [REDACTED]</li></ul> <p>I am also under a duty to send the Chief Coroner a copy of your response.</p> <p>I have also provided a copy of this to the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy for their awareness.</p> <p>The Chief Coroner may publish either or both in a complete or redacted or summary form. He may send a copy of this report to any person who he believes may find it useful or of interest. You may make representations to me, the coroner, at the time of your response, about the release or the publication of your response by the Chief Coroner.</p>	
9	<p><b>Dated</b></p>          <p><b>17<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b></p>	<p><b>Signed</b></p>                    <p><b>Rachael C Griffin</b></p>