

Chief Medical Officer

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust Derriford Road Crownhill Plymouth PL6 8DH

14th December 2023

Ms Louise Wiltshire Assistant Coroner for Plymouth Torbay & South Devon 1, Derriford Business Park Derriford Park PLYMOUTH PL6 5QZ

Dear Ms Wiltshire

Re : Inquest touching the death of Katie Anne WILLIAMS (aged 45) Inquest Date : 23rd November 2023

At the conclusion of the above referenced inquest, you determined that under the powers granted to you by paragraph 7, schedule 5 of the Coroner and Justice Act 2009 and Regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroner (Investigations) Regulations 2013 that you would write to The Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine with a Preventing Future Deaths Report and a copy has been provided to our Trust.

We have now received that report and note your concerns that other NHS organisations may not fully appreciate the risks associated with the use of fentanyl in patients such as Katie and that this information should be shared with those organisations on a National level.

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We write to assure you that University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust has been in contact with The Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine to assist with sharing the relevant information to enable them to share at a National level. We have also taken the decision to communicate the issue with the SW Critical Care Network lead, and we will help them produce a regional advisory notice.

We trust this response can further assure you of our commitment to ensure that wider learning has taken place.

If we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Chief Medical Officer



