

Ms Lauren Costello
HM Assistant Coroner
HM Coroner Manchester South
By email

9th May 2024

Dear Ms Costello

Re. Regulation 28 Report into the death of Ian Dixon

I write in reference to the Regulation 28 Report into the death of Ian Dixon issued to Stockport Homes on the 19th March 2024. Stockport Homes were not asked to provide statements in respect of Mr Dixon's death nor to attend the inquest.

I would like to offer my sincere condolences to the family and friends of Mr Dixon.

Stockport Homes Group (SHG) manage properties owned by Stockport Council (SMBC) which are let as social housing. Ian Dixon had been the tenant of a three-bedroom house [REDACTED], Stockport since the 9th July 1990. Stockport Homes had limited contact with Mr Dixon however a system indicator was held on the Housing Management system that identified Mr Dixon as 'Disabled – Other'.

I can confirm that Mr Dixon was to be provided with an additional handrail on the staircase, sadly the scheduled date of the installation was the day after Mr Dixon died.

Some considerable time later in a separate event (possibly in preparing statements for the inquest), an administrative error was made when the Home Improvement Agency Project Leader responded to a query from the council's Occupational Therapist to say that the work had been completed when in fact it hadn't. This mistake was subsequently corrected by the individual concerned.

In responding to the concerns you have raised about the processes and communications between SHG and SMBC in such circumstances, the following action is being taken:



- Target timescales will be developed, agreed with SMBC and published by the end of May 2024.
- The progress of major adaptations (e.g. stairlifts, level access showers etc) will be monitored via the monthly Adaptations Panel attended by both SMBC and SHG Officers. This meeting is already established.
- A Sharepoint site will be developed providing access to both SMBC and SHG staff to monitor the progress of the installation and provision of minor adaptations (e.g. handrails, grab rails etc) - this will be in place by the end of May 2024.

Thank you for raising your concerns with me and I trust that the actions detailed fully address them.

Yours faithfully,



Chief Executive