

Mr Andrew Cox  
Senior Coroner for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly  
Cornwall Coroners' Service  
Pydar House  
Pydar Street  
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10<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Dr Mr. Cox,

#### RESPONSE TO REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS

On behalf of Cornwall Council We would like to express our sincere condolences to Sally's family. We are continuing to work with colleagues through the Domestic Homicide Review process to identify actions stemming from the Senior Coroner's proposed recommendations.

In the regulation 28 report provided to the Council by the Senior Coroner, the following questions have been asked.

There is now the ability for Adult Safeguarding to refer someone directly into CPFT, where appropriate.

- This is correct, and not only restricted to Adult Safeguarding. Any member of staff within Adult Social Care is able to refer directly into CPFT. This has reduced the requirement for staff to ascertain and contact a relevant GP to make the referral.
- These referrals are made either via email or a telephone call into the relevant CPFT assessment team for the area.
- Individuals discussed at MASH meetings can also be referred to CPFT where indicated. MASH functionality also allows us to identify whether service users are open to CPFT services and whether there is an allocated or involved worker.

- In terms of its function as a referral pathway I do not believe that there are any difficulties which need to be overcome.
- Whilst a GP route is no longer required for referrals into secondary mental health services this does not alter the acceptance criteria into the service.

Evidence was given that Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH) now took place regularly involving Adult Safeguarding and CPFT.

- These meetings and their function is now well established. There is a standard operating procedure which has been agreed between partner agencies.
- All agencies involved are committed to the functioning of the MASH.
- Agencies represented at MASH are, Adult Social Care, Cornwall Foundation Trust/RCHT, Cornwall Fire and Rescue, Devon and Cornwall Police, First Light and We are With You.
- I have inclosed the MASH standard operating procedure for your information.

Do you think there would be merit in representatives from the ICB, on behalf of primary care, to be in attendance at the MASH meetings?

- We currently do not have ICB representation at the MASH.
- The primary reason for this is that a centralised ICB representative would not have direct access to the records held, for example, by GPs.
- The MASH is able to access health records, aside from those held in by GP surgeries, through our CFT/RCHT representative.
- ASC now has access to NHS SPINE. This functionality allows us through our own recording system to check that we have the correct records in respect of an individuals GP registration.
- A further question may be, in Cornwall, how do we ensure that residents are able to access primary and secondary mental health support if they do not have a known GP registration. If we are working with an individual who for instance has no fixed abode, generally these services would be provided by the Health for Homeless GP. However this would not have been applicable in this situation.

The inquest also heard of an initiative to develop a shared care record. Could you please provide detail around what is happening in this regard. Are there any difficulties with which that I may be able to assist?

- Firstly, I would like to thank the Coroner for his offer of assistance with the Shared Care record.
- Currently there are two pilot teams within the Council – Adult Safeguarding and the health visiting service – who will have access to the record within the next two months.
- This will provide greater information to colleagues around primarily hospital and minor injury attendance.
- We would be more than happy to provide an update to the Coroner within the next 6 months to report on the impact and function of the shared care record if this would be of interest.

Finally, we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for highlighting these matters of concern and for giving us the opportunity to respond. We will continue to work with all our partners to support the residents of Cornwall.

Yours sincerely,

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Head of Service (Interim) Safeguarding  
Care and Wellbeing  
Cornwall Council.