



Suffolk Constabulary

Police Headquarters
Martlesham Heath
Ipswich, Suffolk
IP5 3QS

Senior Coroner Nigel Parsley
Coroners Service
Beacon House
White House Road
Ipswich
Suffolk IP1 5PB

6th August 2024

Via email: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Dear Sir

Inquest touching on the sad death of Katie Madden

Please find this letter as a response to your Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Deaths dated 30th May 2024.

The inquest concluded on the 21st May 2024 that Katie Madden's death was as a result of suicide, whilst the balance of her mind was disturbed.

In your report you have raised five matters for concern. We note the concerns are general regarding the involvement of social services and what factors are considered when the removal of children is being investigated and whether this includes that a Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Claire's Law) disclosure may potentially make a person more vulnerable.

Further, we note your concerns regarding the limited support that the deceased received from social services during this process and the difficulties in accessing recommended therapy. These are processes that the Constabulary do not have any direct control or involvement in and therefore the Constabulary is very limited in what action it can take in response to those concerns.

It is noted by the Constabulary that they conduct their own risk assessments when delivering the Claire's Law disclosures at the time of the delivery, which would include the wellbeing of the recipient of that disclosure.

We have examined police records and can confirm that at the point of the Claires Law disclosure made in 2018 that this was conducted in accordance with policy and appropriate aftercare, with safeguarding advice including information on support services and safety planning was offered by the delivering member of police staff. This was completed as part of a joint visit with a social worker to Katie Madden. Nothing in police records indicate that there was a concern about Katie's mental health at the time of the disclosure decision or from recorded police incidents prior to this.



I can confirm that a domestic homicide review referral was completed on 5th July 2024 by Suffolk Constabulary, and an initial meeting to assess the referral will be held in early August 2024.

Suffolk Constabulary will continue to offer appropriate support and co-operation to partner agencies and fully engage with learning reviews.

If there are any specific concerns that the Constabulary can address or assist you with, then the Constabulary will of course co-operate with you in that regard.

Yours sincerely



 **BSc MPhil FCIPD CF**
Chief Constable