



**ASSOCIATION OF
AMBULANCE
CHIEF EXECUTIVES**

16 December 2024

Association of Ambulance Chief Executives
25 Farringdon Street
London
EC4A 4AB

BY EMAIL: [REDACTED]

Christopher Leach
Assistant Coroner for Norfolk

[REDACTED]
W: www.aace.org.uk

Dear Mr Leach

ARAN SEAN BRADBURY (DECEASED)

I am writing in response to the preventing future deaths report I received at the Association of Ambulance Chief Executives (AACE) and I respond as our Director of Operational Development and Quality Improvement on behalf of AACE and the National Ambulance Service Medical Directors (NASMeD).

On behalf of AACE and NASMeD, I would like to extend our sincere condolences to the family of Mr Bradbury.

It may be helpful for us to explain that AACE is a private company owned by the English and Welsh NHS ambulance services. Its purpose is to support its members, UK NHS ambulance services, in the implementation of national agreed policy and to act as an interface, where appropriate at a national level, between them and their stakeholders. It is a company owned by NHS organisations and possesses the intellectual property rights of the Joint Royal Colleges Ambulance Liaison Committee UK ambulance service clinical practice guidelines (the "JRCALC guidelines"). AACE is not constituted to mandate or instruct ambulance services however it has national influence via the regular meetings of ambulance chief executives and chairs along with a network of national specialist sub-groups. One of the national sub groups is NASMeD. The medical directors of the ambulance trusts meet around every six weeks, and their purpose is to improve clinical safety and quality of care by reducing unwarranted variation, sharing best practice, leading clinical research across the NHS ambulance services, overseeing the development of the JRCALC clinical practice guidelines and support and receive information from other specialist subgroups. I have liaised with the chair of NASMeD with regard to providing this response, and the PFD has also been shared with NASMeD for awareness.

I note that this PFD report has been issued to us at AACE and NASMeD and also to the NHS England Emergency Call Prioritisation Advisory Group (ECPAG).

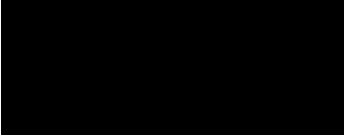
In response to your matters of concern around 999 call categorisation, we must inform you that the primary ownership of these matters lie with NHS England. NHS England administer and chair the Clinical Coding Review Group. Any changes to categorisation of calls proposed by this group are then taken to NASMeD for endorsement and are then taken to ECPAG for approval. Once changes

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are approved by ECPAG they are issued to ambulance services to implement. We have liaised with NHS England and are assured that the matters of concern are being considered.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

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Director of Operational Development and Quality Improvement

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