



**RESPONSE TO REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS
FOLLOWING THE INQUEST TOUCHING THE DEATH OF COLIN WILES**

**PROVIDED BY [REDACTED] – HEAD OF SERVICE, SAFEGUARDING AND QUALITY
ASSURANCE, ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH, EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
COUNCIL**

There are four MATTERS OF CONCERN to note in this regulation 28 report. The local authority can respond only to MATTER OF CONCERN (1) as follows:

No Vulnerable Adult Risk Management meeting was held despite multifactorial concerns with Mr Wiles' comorbidities and self neglect leading to poor living conditions and increased risk to his safety

The evidence submitted to the inquest demonstrates how a Vulnerable Adult Risk Management (VARM) meeting was considered by the social worker in this case but did not happen. Whilst Mr Wiles was resisting formal care interventions and was believed to have the mental capacity to make that decision, he was continuing to engage with professionals and accept some, if not limited help, which was a protective factor. A VARM would more often be requested for those people who are at risk but refusing all contact with services, although a VARM could have been used in this case to assure all professionals that they were doing all they could to support and safeguard Mr Wiles and give Mr Wiles the opportunity to comment on whether there was anything else he thought they could do to support him.

The local authority adult social care and health service (ASCH) and the east riding safeguarding adults board (ERSAB) recognise that the use of VARM should be a key consideration and mechanism in the practice system to ensure it is utilised for all people for whom it would be of benefit. There is an opportunity for the system to utilise the VARM process more regularly when supporting people in circumstances like Mr Wiles to ensure that professionals are working together with and for the person concerned and accept that this is an area for continuous improvement.

The current VARM procedure is available to all professionals and people in the east riding on the ERSAB website and guides them through the processes and paperwork involved (included as appendix 1). Training is provided to practitioners across the health and care system in the east riding on the use of VARM both through the ERSAB and the local authorities internal learning and skills team. To enable development in this area, the ERSAB and ASCH have collaborated with Hull City Council's safeguarding adults board and Adult Services to review and renew the VARM procedure to contemporise the approach and develop a more seamless and accessible procedure in this geographical area. The VARM training is therefore currently under review and will be relaunched following the completion of this work to ensure and enable an effective roll out of the new procedure which will be called Multi Agency Risk Management (MARM) meeting procedure. This is expected to be finalised in early 2025. VARM training is not currently a mandatory requirement for staff in ASCH staff however, MARM training being mandatory for practitioners going forward will be considered by the service at our practice development board which is chaired by our Head of Service for Safeguarding and Quality Assurance.

CONFIDENTIAL