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29 July 2025

Dr J Adeley
Senior Coroner
Lancashire & Blackburn with Darwen Coroners

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Sent via email to: [REDACTED]

Dear Dr Adeley

Regulation 28: Report To Prevent Future Deaths – Ida Jean Lock
Conclusion of inquest 21 March 2025

Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board (LSC ICB) provided a formal response in relation the Regulation 28: Report To Prevent Future Deaths for Ida Jean Lock on 14 May 2025.

Since providing this response we have been made aware that our narrative to the concern raised regarding University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay Trusts (UHMBT) lack of examination of its own clinical governance processes could be strengthened by accurately reflecting the true independence of the LSC ICB Maternity and Neonatal Independent Senior Advocate and also the current position of this service.

I apologise for the lack of true clarity in our response to this independent role and availability of the service but believe it is vitally important to ensure that the ICB correctly reflects that the Maternity and Neonatal Independent Senior Advocate is truly independent of UHMBT in order to maintain the relationships with existing families who are utilising the Maternity and Neonatal Independent Senior Advisory service rather than potentially casting doubt. It is also essential that expectations on the availability of this service are accurately reflected by the ICB – again I apologise that this was not made clear in our initial response to you in May 2025.

The narrative in the ICB response under section 7 page 5 stated:

‘Specific to maternity the Trust now has an Independent Senior Advocate, whose role is to ensure that the voices of women and families are listened to, heard and acted upon by the maternity services. In UHMBT the Advocate provides a report to Trust Quality and Assurance Committee which the ICB attend. Particular focus on the effectiveness of the Advocate role will continue by the LMNS ensuring there is independent challenge and scrutiny’.

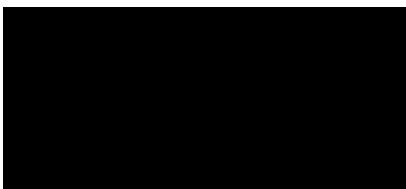
Whilst it is appreciated that this is an unusual situation, I write in order to understand if the revised narrative below, which makes explicitly clear the independence of the Maternity and Neonatal Independent Senior Advocate and current availability of the service could be accepted and published alongside the ICB initial response for the benefit of our population:

'The ICB has a Maternity and Neonatal Independent Senior Advocate, whose role is to ensure that the voice of women and families are listened to, heard and acted upon by maternity and neonatal services. To note this pilot service is currently under national evaluation by NHS England pending a future decision around the role at a national level. Within Lancashire and South Cumbria currently the service is unable to accept new referrals. Due to this families being supported by the service receive an individualised plan and relevant signposting, including to other local advocacy organisations.

In UHMBT the advocate reports to the Trust Quality and Assurance Committee which the ICB attend. Particular focus on the effectiveness of the advocate role will continue by the LMNS ensuring that there is independent challenge and scrutiny'.

I would be grateful for your consideration of this matter and should any clarification or information be required please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Acting Medical Director