

5 CORONER'S CONCERNS

During the course of the inquest the evidence revealed matters giving rise to a concern. In my opinion there is a risk that future deaths could occur unless action is taken. In the circumstances it is my statutory duty to report to you.

The MATTERS OF CONCERN are as follows. -

- 1. During the course of the inquest I received information from the Toxicology service, that serves my court, that the number of requests by coroners, in 6 coroner areas, for analysis of blood samples for the presence of had increased since 2021.
- 2. I am also aware that in the last 5 years prevention of future death reports have been submitted from a number of other coroner areas. In broad terms the reasons for those reports are concerns that the substance is sold advocating its use in suicides method.
- 3. Although there was circumstantial evidence that Stella died from toxicity, I was at pains to obtain a specialist toxicological analysis of a blood sample. The reason for this was to ensure that if the supplier of the substance can be identified in future the chances of successful prosecution would be improved by direct evidence of the cause of death. I raise this in case the Chief Coroner may wish to consider issuing guidance on whether blood toxicological analysis should be obtained routinely in coroners' investigations concerning

6 ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN

In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe your organisation has the power to take such action.

7 YOUR RESPONSE

You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by 03/02/2026 I, the coroner, may extend the period.

Your response must contain details of action taken or proposed to be taken, setting out the timetable for action. Otherwise you must explain why no action is proposed.

8 COPIES and PUBLICATION

I have sent a copy of my report to the Chief Coroner and to the following Interested Persons:

- Stella's father
- Sister

I have also sent it to: The Metropolitan Police Service and Nadia Persaud Area Coroner for East London, who may find it useful or of interest.

I am also under a duty to send a copy of your response to the Chief Coroner and all interested persons who in my opinion should receive it.

I may also send a copy of your response to any other person who I believe may find it useful or of interest.

The Chief Coroner may publish either or both in a complete or redacted or summary form. She may send a copy of this report to any person who she believes may find it useful or of interest. You may make representations to me, the coroner, at the time of your response, about the release or the publication of your response.

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	9 th December 2025	Christopher Williams