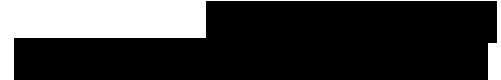


23 February 2026

**PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL –  
TO BE OPENED BY ADDRESSEE ONLY**

Mr Zafar Siddique  
Senior Coroner for The Black Country

Trust Headquarters  
Wilbraham Court  
Walsall Manor Hospital  
Moat Road  
Walsall  
WS2 9PS



Dear Mr Siddique

**Re: In the matter of Regulation 28, Prevention of Future Deaths Report – Joshua Lee Allcock – Response Due 6 March 2026**

Following the inquest on 05/12/2025, you issued the Regulation 28, Prevention of Future Deaths report to the following organisations:

1. Chief Executive, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust
2. Chief Executive, Walsall Local Authority
3. NHS England (Reg 28 Reports) -email address England.coroners28@nhs.net
4. Practice Manager, Birchill's Health Centre

This response is provided only for respondent 1, the Chief Executive, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust.

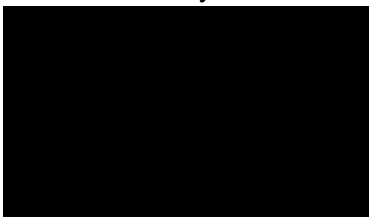
Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust has in place an under 5's pathway which has been in existence for many years. Archive records indicate that the under 5's pathway was developed as early as 1991, this progressed to introduce a unique autism pathway from 2016. It is noted from the inquest records that your concerns are primarily with unclear national guidelines for the age at which autism can be reliably diagnosed. The pathways in use are attached for information.

- Multiagency Autism Assessment Pathway for Under 5's – February 2023
- Walsall Child development service (WCDS) Autism Diagnostic pathway 24.09.2025

Your concerns regarding national guidance are recognised, however Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust does not solely rely on this national guidance.

A co-ordinated response will also be provided on behalf of respondents 1-4 by the Black Country Integrated Care Board.

Yours sincerely



**Group Chief Executive**

**Working in partnership**  
The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust  
Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust