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Legal Department
Uffculme Centre
52 Queensbridge Road
Moseley
Birmingham
B13 8QY

Date: 13 January 2026

[Redacted]

Mr J Puzey,
HM Assistant Coroner,
Coroner's Court
Martins Way
STOURPORT ON SEVERN
DY13 8UN

Dear Mr Puzey,

Prevention of Future Death report into the death of Timothy Thomas Reading

Thank you for the Prevention of Future Deaths (PFD) Report dated 21 November 2025 in relation to the death of Mr Reading. I would like to take this opportunity to offer my sincere condolences to the family of Mr Reading at this very sad time. I would like to begin by offering assurances that the Trust is a learning organisation and when we identify care which could have been improved, we take actions to improve care for other patients in the future.

I note from your PFD report there were two aspects of care you have raised concern with, one relating to the trust. We will therefore aim to respond to the issue raised below:

The absence of a formal documented s.117 plan agreed by all those responsible for a patient's care and treatment upon discharge into the Community from a lengthy inpatient stay creates a risk of disjointed, disorganized and inadequate support for vulnerable people suffering serious mental health conditions. This, in turn, may cause them to feel unsupported and helpless.

The Trust has now looked at the inpatient care and CMHT care around the s.117 plan on the back of your concerns. Section 117 of the Mental Health Act 1983 places a joint duty on the NHS Integrated Care Board and local authority to provide aftercare services for individuals detained under certain sections of the Act following discharge.

This duty is not automatic; it only applies where there are ongoing health or social care needs arising from the mental disorder and aimed at reducing the risk of relapse or readmission. The Trust has a form within Rio which clearly sets out the relevant areas for the s.117 meeting and ensures that both healthcare and social care are signed up to the plan. I attach for ease a copy of a blank form which shows all the relevant areas in one place and will ensure comprehensive plans in an easily accessible and shareable document. All staff in Acute care have been reminded to use this form in the future and this has also been discussed at team meetings.

In respect of the CMHT transfer to the new CMHT, the Clinical Directors for CMHTs will be raising the case and reminding staff of the need to provide verbal and written handover to external Trusts receiving service user subject to s.117 aftercare at the Community Clinical Governance Committee on 27th Jan

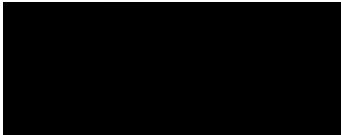
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2026. They will also be formally writing to all the Consultant Psychiatrists outlining that this must be done, to ensure that receiving teams are fully aware of the s.117 requirements during the handover period and there is therefore consistency in care.

I hope that you will now be assured that the s.117 process is now robust within the organisation. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



**Chief Executive
BSMHFT**

