

REGULATION 28: REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS (1)

	<p>REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</p> <p>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:</p> <p>1. CHIEF EXECUTIVE CONWY COUNTY COUNCIL , Council Offices, Parc Eirias, Colwyn Bay, Conwy</p>
1	<p>CORONER</p> <p>I am Nicola Jones assistant coroner, for the coroner area of North Central and North East Wales</p>
2	<p>CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS</p> <p>I make this report under paragraph 7, Schedule 5, of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013.</p>
3	<p>INVESTIGATION and INQUEST</p> <p>On 28th June 2013 I commenced an investigation into the death of Alfred Leonard Hodges aged 97. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest on 3rd December 2013.. The conclusion of the inquest was that the medical cause of death was I. Carbon Monoxide Poisoning. II. Severe Ischaemic Heart Disease</p>
4	<p>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</p> <p>The deceased had severe mobility difficulties and was frail with severe hearing difficulties. He had a Care Package from Conwy Council including a Telecare Package activated by a call button on his person. He died following a fire at his home address on 26 June 2013. It is likely that the smoke alarm in the kitchen sounded at the start of the fire at around 6.30 am. Mr Hodges would have been in his bedroom at the property at that time unaware of the fire . Mr Hodges probably emerged from his bedroom at 8 am and was quickly overcome by smoke. The smoke alarm at the property was not connected via interlink to the Telecare system. The fire service arrived within 7 minutes from being called out at around 8.30am. Had the smoke alarm been connected via interlink to the Telecare system then the fire service would have arrived well before Mr Hodges emerged from the relative safety of his bedroom and there may have been a different outcome.</p>
5	<p><u>CORONER'S CONCERNS</u></p> <p>During the course of the inquest the evidence revealed matters giving rise to concern. In my opinion there is a risk that future deaths will occur unless action is taken. In the circumstances it is my statutory duty to report to you.</p> <p>The MATTERS OF CONCERN are as follows. –</p> <p>(1) Individuals on the Telecare package in Conwy County do not have as standard a provision that their smoke alarm is connected via interlink although this is seen as necessary in all other North Wales Counties due to the vulnerability of those on the scheme</p> <p>(2) It is understood that there is a 2 year roll out programme to provide interlink as standard for those on a Conwy Council Telecare package. I am concerned as to what interim provisions are in place to protect those on the Telecare package until interlink is installed</p>

