REGULATION 28: REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS (1)

NOTE: This form is to be used after an inquest.

REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO: **Executive Director, Children, Families and Adults** Services, Cambridgeshire County Council, Older People's Services, Hereward Hall, County Road, March, Cambs PE15 8NE CORONER I am DAVID OSBORNE, assistant coroner, for the coroner area of NORFOLK 2 **CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS** 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. **INVESTIGATION and INQUEST** 3 On 10 June 2011an investigation was commenced into the death of DERRICK ARTHUR PLATER, AGED 85. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest on 10 March 2014. The conclusion of the inquest was as per the attached narrative conclusion. The medical cause of death was, inter alia: 1a Septicaemia and 1b Unstageable sacral pressure sores. CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH The circumstances of Mr Plater's death were that he was a resident at Goodwins Hall in King's Lynn, Norfolk, a Hallmark Care Homes nursing home. On 1 May 2011 he was admitted to hospital and returned the same day with a pressure sore. The pressure sore did not respond to treatment and he was readmitted by his GP to hospital on 25 May 2011. His condition continued to deteriorate and he died on 7 June 2011. Mr Plater had been placed at Goodwins Hall following an assessment by the local authority. 5 **CORONER'S CONCERNS** 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. The MATTERS OF CONCERN are as follows. -I was told that it was not at the time normal practice to undertake a visit of the care home being considered for placement, notwithstanding that Mr Plater had complex needs having undergone a laryngectomy and had a stoma. Accordingly there was a total reliance upon assurances given by the care home in considering whether it could in fact meet the assessed needs. It was indicated that if similar circumstances arose today it is likely that a visit would be undertaken. However the witness was unable to confirm whether there were guidelines or protocols for when a visit should be undertaken as part of the assessment and placing process.

I am therefore concerned that:

- If there are guidelines and/or protocols for when a visit of care home should be considered and/or undertaken as part of the assessment and placement process there may need to be a review of the dissemination and awareness of any such guidelines and/or protocols
- 2. If there are no such guidelines and/or protocols there may need to be a review as to whether such should be drawn up

6 ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN

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

7 YOUR RÉSPONSE

You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by Friday 16 May 2014 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 :

Derek Winter (Archivist)
HM Coroner for the City of Sunderland
Civic Centre
Burdon Road
Sunderland
SR2 7DN



I am also under a duty to send the Chief Coroner a copy of your response.

The Chief Coroner may publish either or both in a complete or redacted or summary form. He may send a copy of this report to any person who he 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 by the Chief Coroner.

9 21/03/2014

De Olice

David Osborne – Assistant Coroner