

**NHS**  
**South Tees**  
**Clinical Commissioning Group**

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7 January 2015

Mr S Faulks  
Assistant Coroner for Teesside  
The Coroner's Service  
Town Hall  
Albert Road  
Middlesbrough  
TS1 2QJ

Dear Mr Faulks

**Inquest into the death of the late Kirk William WILLIAMS**  
**Regulation 28 Report**

Further to your letter of 24 November 2014 and subsequent email correspondence relating to the above, I am now in a position to respond to the issues raised in the Regulation 28 Report. As agreed, this response constitutes a combined reply on behalf of NHS South Tees CCG, NHS Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees CCG, NHS Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG and NHS North Durham CCG.

As the health economy covered by the above CCGs covers two police forces, I have provided the response based on those boundaries:

NHS South Tees CCG and NHS Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees CCG – Cleveland Police

A meeting was held between the Medical Directors and senior A&E medical staff of both Foundation Trusts and Detective Chief Superintendent [REDACTED] from Cleveland Police.

At that meeting, a wide range of actions were agreed in order to address the point you raised relating to the apparent lack of guidance or Memorandum of Understanding for aggressive detainees in custody being taken to A&E departments. These actions are:



- If a detainee has a known past mental health history they should be taken to the 136 unit at Roseberry Park.
- If there are serious concerns regarding physical health, detainees should be presented to an A & E department where they will be assessed.
- If the detainee is violent and aggressive a joint decision by senior A & E staff and the police will be taken as where best to provide treatment ie if the department is full and there is a risk to other patients, assessment may even take place outside of the department possibly in police vehicles.
- If there is the suggestion that a detainee is ill or injured and the ingestion of drugs is causing problems, treatment with restraints may be appropriate be it physical or medical restraints. Depending on the circumstances this may include assistance from anaesthetic colleagues.
- If the medical assessment concludes that the detainee is not in need of treatment they will be returned to police custody.
- If, following any necessary treatment, the detainee is returned to police custody, a copy of the A & E notes will be given on discharge detailing treatment given.
- If there are any further concerns following return to police custody, the police doctor should contact the A & E department for further advice.
- All relevant staff, both NHS and Police, to be informed of the guidelines agreed for future reference.

In relation to point 5.1 in the report, Cleveland Police have confirmed that all front line officers are required to undertake Personal Safety Training on an annual basis and that during the training they receive an input on "excited delirium"

We have been advised by Cleveland Police that they are in the process of briefing staff about the new guidelines. Staff working in the custody environment including medical staff and all front line officers will be briefed by 12 January 2015. In addition, the Police will be reviewing the effectiveness of the guidance in six months' time and will take any appropriate action where necessary, ie amending guidance in conjunction with South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust or providing further training to ensure staff are aware of, and are implementing, the guidance.

As a final point, the Trusts, CCGs, North East Ambulance Service and Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Trust have signed up to the Crisis Care Concordat to work towards continuing to improve the care of patients in crisis.

#### NHS Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgfield CCG and NHS North Durham CCG - Durham Constabulary

County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust have confirmed that the lead Security Officer for the Trust has held discussions with Durham Constabulary lead officers to ensure that all police officers know that patients should be taken to the Emergency Department.

The process is kept under review by the Trust and any arising issues are discussed on a monthly basis in relevant meetings depending on the nature of the concerns raised, ie. frequent attenders; mental health, drugs or alcohol related issues or violence and aggression incidents. The Trust has confirmed that some of these meetings do include representatives from Durham Constabulary.

In addition the Trust has confirmed that they have signed up to the Crisis Care Concordat with all agencies involved in treating or looking after patients in crises, this includes Durham Constabulary. As part of the work to progress the Concordat the Foundation Trust and all partner organisations meet on a monthly basis to share learning; discuss difficult cases and also discuss and monitor any patients who have been detained under a section 136 in the emergency department

I trust this answers the questions you raised in the report, but if you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Chief Officer

cc [Redacted] Chief Officer, NHS Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield CCG and  
NHS North Durham CCG  
[Redacted] Medical Director, North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust  
[Redacted] Medical Director, Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust  
[Redacted] Cleveland Police  
[Redacted] Chief Officer, Hartlepool & Stockton on Tees CCG  
[Redacted] Medical Director, South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

