

Executive Office
Tel: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

26 January 2015

Ms Patricia Harding
Senior Coroner
Mid Kent and Medway Coroners' Court
The Archbishop's Place
Mill Street
Maidstone
Kent, ME15-6YE

Sent by Post and e-mail

Dear Ms Harding,

**Re: Regulation 28 – Report to Prevent Future Deaths
(Inquest into the death of Alex Kelly, HMYOI Cookham Wood)**

I am writing with reference to the above-mentioned report which you issued on 28th December 2014 under paragraph 7, Schedule 5, of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013.

I read your report with great sadness. The death of Alex Kelly, aged 15, on 25th January 2012 is utterly tragic.

Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust (CNWL) commenced delivery of child and adolescent mental health services in HMYOI Cookham Wood in April 2014, yet the recommendations you have made are clearly relevant to our work and the work of our close partners – HM Prison Service, NHS England and Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust. Whilst your Regulation 28 report was not addressed to CNWL, as the incumbent provider of mental health services we feel duty-bound to provide you with a formal response to your health-related recommendations.

1. Sharing of Information

- a) Officers concerned with the management of the young person were not informed in terms of his non-compliance with medication and the potential effect of the failure to take the medication***

CNWL's Health and Wellbeing (mental health) Team in HMYOI Cookham Wood includes a variety of mental health professionals, including a forensic child and adolescent psychiatrist, clinical psychologist, art therapist and nurses. The team

Trust Headquarters, Stephenson House, 75 Hampstead Road, London NW1 2PL
Telephone: 020 3214 5700 Fax: 020 3214 5701

www.cnwl.nhs.uk



Wellbeing for life

London | Milton Keynes | Kent | Surrey | Hampshire

assesses for, and treats a wide range of mental health conditions and personality and behavioural issues that young people present with, including ADHD, conduct disorder, emerging personality difficulties as well as those who have been perpetrators and / or victims of sexual abuse.

This range of service provision was not commissioned or available at the time of Alex's death. The new service is well embedded in local custody management programmes and governance systems, and the increased availability of staff has improved partnership working and information exchange amongst the many professionals working in HMYOI Cookham Wood.

Our healthcare staff are acutely aware that non-compliance with certain prescribed medications may indicate that a young person's mental state has deteriorated, or that it may deteriorate in future. This can result in planned or impulsive self-harm or suicidal acts. Healthcare staff are therefore required to share this knowledge with other partners for patients receiving psychotropic and other potentially harmful medications.

All of our staff have completed information governance training and have robust policies to refer to, and assist them to make the appropriate decision about when and how to share important healthcare information with other parties, both inside, and outside HMYOI Cookham Wood. All clinical information is documented on the IT program System1, which is shared with other healthcare providers working within the establishment – namely, Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust. Information that is shared with other parties on a 'need to know' basis is conveyed in person and recorded on P-NOMIS (the IT program used by HM Prison Service staff), Wing / Unit Officer's observation books and in ACCT folders.

When our staff are involved in the care of a young person about whom there are specific concerns they will use existing methods of communication within the prison to ensure they are up to date and engaged in two-way sharing of information. Of particular relevance is the Safer Regime meeting at HMYOI Cookham Wood where complex cases are discussed by all involved agencies. A senior member of our team attends this meeting.

In relation to the specific concern of medication non-compliance, our team have a joint handover with Oxlea's primary care team four days per week where such issues are raised. They are also alerted via an electronic "task" on System1. Any tasks are discussed in daily handover meetings which would flag the need for review by our psychiatrists. If there are concerns on review, these would be shared with officer staff through the handover book or ACCT and Team Around the Child (TAC) processes if appropriate.

2. Medication Management

- a) Medication was found stockpiled in the young person's cell; staff dispensing medication had not ensured it had been taken when it was probably recorded as having been taken.***
- b) Any failure to take medication was not sufficiently flagged for healthcare / prison staff to deal with the issue.***

Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust have responded in detail on this point, as it is their staff who administer prescribed medications in HMYOI Cookham Wood. However, it is our responsibility to provide urgent medical and psychological review of young people who we are informed are non-compliant with prescribed medication, as they could be; a) 'stockpiling' medication with which to overdose, b) 'trading' it as an abusable commodity, c) they may feel that the medication is simply not helping them.

3. Recording of Information

a) Not all occasions when the young person was seen by the in-reach team were recorded on System One.

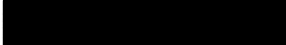

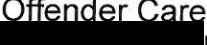
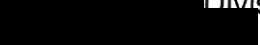




As described above, all clinical contact by the Health and Wellbeing (mental health) Team is recorded on System1. Office space and access to IT has improved. In August 2014, the new team relocated to a recently refurbished room which has four new computers. All staff members have a direct line manager with supervisory responsibility. Line managers are responsible for checking staff entries made on System1 so that accurate and timely entries are made, which demonstrate appropriate care planning, risk management and information sharing. All new team members have received training to use System1, and an annual record keeping audit will serve to monitor documentation standards.

I sincerely hope that our response wholly and adequately addresses the recommendations that are relevant to our service.

Yours sincerely,



Claire Murdoch
Chief Executive

cc:  Director – CNWL Offender Care Service
 joint Clinical Directors – CNWL
Offender Care Service
 Divisional Director
 Divisional Medical Director
 - HMYOI Cookham Wood
Commissioner  - NHS England, Health in Justice Team (Kent, Surrey & Sussex Area)
 CEO – Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust
 Director of Forensic and Prison Service – Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust