



Our Ref: FE/wc

30 March 2015

Mr Simon Wickens
HM Assistant Coroner for Surrey
Coroners Court
Station Approach
Woking
GU22 7AP

Trust Headquarters
18 Mole Business Park
Leatherhead
Surrey KT22 7AD

Tel: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Wickens

**Inquest into the Death of Mr Simon Tree
Regulation 28 Report – Action to Prevent Future Deaths Response**

Further to the conclusion of the inquest into Mr Simon Tree's death on 23rd January 2015, you wrote to Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust in accordance with the Regulation 28 report to prevent future deaths, stating that during the course of the inquest the evidence revealed matters giving rise to concern.

We would firstly, like to take this opportunity to offer our sincere condolences to Mr Tree's family for their loss.

The area of concern you raised that relates to our Trust and our response is detailed below:

Consideration should be taken to address the issue of patients tailgating in the airlock and address the closer monitoring of those leaving the building.

The risk of absconding is a critical issue in mental health services and we have taken a number of steps in recent years, such as targeted improvement work on reduction of AWOLS. For example we have introduced cards outlining duration & conditions of leave that people take with them when going on leave. This work is targeted at ensuring that we learn from the events that led to Mr Tree leaving the unit, and take steps to try and prevent future incidents such as this taking place through effective care planning and risk management processes.

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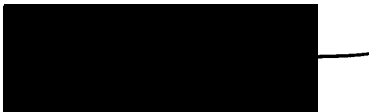
Since Mr Tree's death, we have recruited a Security Manager who undertakes annual site security audits at all our inpatient sites. These help us focus our attention on rectifying any weaknesses in our security processes that may enable people to abscond or go AWOL.

Further to the issues raised about people tailgating through the airlock, we have employed an out of hours receptionist to support the ward staff during visiting hours and have transferred the administration support to each of the wards between 10am and 3pm to focus on the entrance to and exits from the wards. We have also improved the camera coverage within the airlock itself, so that the whole internal airlock can be viewed through CCTV.

We have included the concerns you have raised in our Trust-wide action plan to ensure that there is ongoing learning from these. We would like to offer our sincere condolences again to the Tree family for their loss and hope that the steps we have taken as outlined above assures you and them, that we have learnt and continue to learn from this event.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or [REDACTED] Director of Quality and Deputy Chief Executive (DoN), if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area, with a thin horizontal line extending to the right from its right edge.

Fiona Edwards
Chief Executive