



for Bedfordshire and Luton

REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS

	<p>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO: The Manager Ambassador House Care Home 31 Lansdowne Road Luton. LU3 1EE</p>
1	<p>CORONER</p> <p>I am IAN PEARS, Acting Senior Coroner, for the Coroner area of Bedfordshire & Luton</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 17th March 2016 I commenced an investigation into the death of ETHELIN DE-GALE aged 87 years. The Investigation concluded at the end of the Inquest on 9th February 2017. The Conclusion of the Inquest was 'ACCIDENTAL DEATH'. The medical cause of death was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">I (a) Pulmonary Embolism(b) Bronchopneumonia(c) Femoral fracture <p>II Dementia and Diabetes Mellitus</p>
4	<p>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</p> <p>On the night of the 7th/8th March 2016 the deceased fell whilst mobilising from bed. She had rung the alarm and was being attended to by one carer who had left the room to change her gloves, leaving the deceased sat on the side of the bed unattended. Paramedics attended and recommended admission to hospital, which was declined. They also recommended that the Out of</p>

	<p>Hours Doctor or the deceased's General Practitioner be contacted first thing in the morning; this did not happen. Instead, the deceased was found the next morning with swelling and bruising on her right leg. An ambulance was eventually called, but did not attend until late afternoon. On 10th March 2016 the Deceased was operated upon, but unfortunately she then contracted bronchopneumonia. That resulted in a pulmonary embolism from which she died on 16th March 2016.</p>
5	<p>CORONER'S CONCERNS</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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The care plan was too vague to be of assistance to the carers. The carer understood that the deceased required 2 carers to assist her to the commode, but interpreted that as being limited to walking across the floor, but not sitting up in bed with the sides removed or sitting on the side of the bed. (2) The Deputy Manager indicated that the carer should have undertaken a risk assessment, but could offer no guidance on how that was to be achieved. (3) There were only 2 members of staff on duty, which compromised the safety of other residents when a resident required 2 members of staff to assist. (4) There were only 2 members of staff on duty, which potentially could compromise decisions made in the best interests of a resident. One carer accompanying a resident to hospital would clearly create a problem and that could potentially be seen as a basis for not admitting a resident to hospital. (5) The recommendation of the paramedics appears to have been ignored.
6	<p>ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN</p> <p>In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe Ambassador House Care Home have the power to take such action.</p>
7	<p>YOUR RESPONSE</p>

You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by **20th April 2017**. 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:

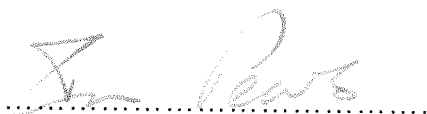
[REDACTED]

I have also sent it to **the Care Quality Commission** who may find it useful or of interest.

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 Dated 16th February 2017



IAN PEARS
Acting Senior Coroner
Bedfordshire & Luton