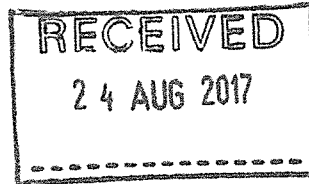


Your ref: VHD/TS  
Our Ref: INQ/17/031



21 August 2017

Miss Veronica Hamilton-Deeley LLB  
Her Majesty's Senior Coroner for the City of Brighton & Hove  
The Coroner's Office  
Woodvale  
Lewes Road  
Brighton  
BN2 3QB

Trust HQ  
Swandean  
Arundel Road  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3EP

Dear Miss Hamilton-Deeley

**Re: The Late Thomas Wall**

Thank you for your letter enclosing your Regulation 28 Report of 2 August 2017, to the Clinical Commissioning Group, Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, and Pavilions.

My sincere condolences and sympathies go to Mr Wall's family and friends on the sad loss of Mr Wall. I was struck by the text message sent to Mr Wall to his supportive ex-wife and can only begin imagine the pain felt.

We as a Trust share your concerns that there is no local inpatient detox facility, patients, family, friends and carers are having to travel to London, and are subject to long waiting lists. It is important that there is a collaborative approach taken to dual diagnosis patients and we try to achieve this by working closely with our partner organisations such as Pavilions. As the inquest heard, Mr Wall had a joint assessment with Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and Pavilions and was open to both services for support and treatment.

The commissioning of local substance misuse services is undertaken by Brighton and Hove City Council. The local substance misuse services in Brighton and Hove were being provided by Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. In 2014 the service was put out to a tendering process by Brighton and Hove City Council. Sussex Partnership put in a full proposal and bid to keep the local substance misuse services as we recognise the value for patients and their families for services to be local to their homes, and the high number of service users who have mental health needs and substance misuse needs. Unfortunately, Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust were not chosen by the commissioners of the service, Brighton and Hove City Council, to continue to provide this service. Sadly, it is not within our gift to provide these services if we are not commissioned to provide them by the commissioners. We would welcome you to write to Brighton and Hove City Council with your concerns.

Interim Chair: Richard Bayley

Chief Executive: Samantha Allen

Head office: Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Swandean, Arundel Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN13 3EP

[www.sussexpartnership.nhs.uk](http://www.sussexpartnership.nhs.uk)

A teaching trust of Brighton and Sussex Medical School

██████████ Head of Legal Services, briefed me fully on the inquest of Mr Wall and I was heartened that you praised the substantial input to Mr Wall's care from the Trust's Assessment and Treatment Service, the Mental Health Rapid Response Service, the General Practitioner and Pavilions and acknowledged the difficulties faced by these services as mental health and substance misuse services are not managed by one local provider such as the Trust. Following the inquest, ██████████ ensured that the informative Public Health England guidance shared at the inquest by ██████████ was provided to the Clinical and Service Director for Brighton and Hove, ██████████ and the General Manager for Community Services for Brighton and Hove, ██████████ to ensure their teams are aware of the recent guidance to aid them in delivering services.

Thank you once again for your report and for highlighting your concerns, we welcome your input in assisting us to provide a more collaborative approach to dual diagnosis patients in Brighton and Hove.

Yours sincerely



**Sam Allen**  
**Chief Executive**