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Mrs Tanyka Rawden HM Assistant Coroner, South Yorkshire (West) Office of HM Coroner The Medico-Legal Centre Watery Street Sheffield S3 7ET

Der Mrs Randes

Thank you for your letter of 5 January to the Secretary of State about the death of Mr Dylan Paul Hill. I am responding as Minister with responsibility for public health.

I was extremely saddened to read of the circumstances surrounding Mr Hill's death. Please pass my condolences to his family and loved ones. I can only imagine how difficult a time this must be for them.

Your Report raises the concern that future deaths might occur unless cases of non-fatal anaphylaxis brought on by the ingestion of food consumed from commercial premises are reported to the relevant regulatory authorities overseeing food safety and hygiene.

My officials have made enquiries with the Food Standards Agency (FSA), to which you also issued your Report, and I understand the Agency shares your concerns. The FSA wishes to set up a cross-government discussion to consider this matter further. I hope this will be a welcome development and will provide assurance that the matter will be considered carefully. I am advised that the FSA will update you on the outcome of discussions in due course.

At a local level, I am advised that Barnsley and Sheffield are working to explore the development of local notification systems in both primary and secondary care settings. This includes collaborative working between Barnsley and Sheffield acute trusts to ensure there is consistency in the mechanisms being put in place, as well as consideration of the best way to raise awareness among GPs. This issue and the

progress made on measures to address it will be monitored by the Sheffield and the Barnsley Health Protection Boards.

The local NHS is mindful of any action that might be taken at a national level and clearly any developments will inform future local action. However, I hope you are assured the local NHS is working to explore what measures can be put in place at a local level.

I hope this response is helpful. Thank you for bringing the circumstances of Mr Hill's death to our attention.

STEVE BRINE MP