

Southwinds Limited

17 CHASE ROAD
BURNTWOOD
Nr. WALSALL
STAFFS. WS7 0DS
Telephone: BURNTWOOD 672552

Dear Coroner,

Re: Mr John Keith Edwards

This is a response on behalf of Southwinds Limited to the formal Regulation 28 Report of Senior Assistant Coroner Mrs Margaret J Jones.

Section 3. It is not sufficiently shown, and not accepted, that the death of Mr Edwards was contributed to by any neglect (and none is accepted) on the part of Southwinds.

Section 4. Overall the Coroner did not fully or sufficiently take into account other evidence from Southwinds. Also, the situation between the time Mr Edwards arrived at Good Hope Hospital and when he was admitted (when a Senior Care Assistant stayed with him) and the overall time between admission and his death, and his immobility after leaving Southwinds. Disproportionate weight was given to evidence noted in the Regulation 28 Report, including matters that could not have had a bearing upon the cause of death. All of this undermines the causal connection suggested in the Regulation 28 Report.

Section 5

1. Southwinds were not given full pre-admission information sufficient for the care of Mr Edwards. Southwinds were severely pressured by Staffordshire Social Services to take Mr Edwards. There would normally have been an assessment visit, but Staffordshire Social Services insisted there was an emergency situation.
2. The falls policy was that all falls were recorded. If any injury arose the resident was taken to A&E, or other medical advice obtained. As to pressure sores, the policy was that there were checks on all residents and body maps made where necessary. If any sign of skin breakdown was found the District Nurse service was contacted and they took over care.

3. There was no seizure policy supplied upon admission. Southwinds general policy as to epilepsy was followed. Upon admission there was no indication that Mr Edwards had had seizures. If there is a history of seizures then it was usual for a specific policy for that resident to accompany upon admission, which would then be followed. Mr Edwards was not prescribed any epilepsy medication to the knowledge of Southwinds.
4. Seizures were micronic and recorded and general procedure followed.
5. The bruising was documented. No skin was broken, and Mr Edwards was observed.
6. The only record that was not completed contemporaneously was an entry that the Doctor called as to the chest infection of Mr Edwards. This was made the following afternoon upon the staff member concerned coming on shift.
7. Medical advice for Mr Edwards was sought at the appropriate time. The Doctor was provided with full information and all questions raised by him were answered. There is no recollection as to the out of hours Doctor suggesting any urgent referral and no documentation (other than a prescription – which was obtained straight away) was left by the Doctor
8. All medication brought in by the family of Mr Edwards was entered in the MAR sheets and subsequently given to Mr Edwards as appropriate, and only by staff trained to administer medication.
9. There was never any suggestion that the dressing applied for the comfort of Mr Edwards was in any way incorrect.
10. There was never any suggestion that the mattress provided for Mr Edwards was in any way incorrect or improperly used.
11. –

Section 6. As the proprietor of Southwinds I decided, after over 30 years of providing care, to retire, and accordingly, Southwinds closed in December 2017. In this circumstance there is no action that Southwinds can take.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized cursive 'S' followed by a horizontal line and a downward-pointing arrow.