

30 MAY 2019

H.M. CORONER'S OFFICE

29 May 2019

Our Ref: JS/JU/Eccleston2 CCG 23-5-19

Mr Stephen Eccleston
Assistant Coroner for South Yorkshire (West)
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Dear Mr Eccleston,

Following your recent Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Death issued on 3rd April 2019, please find detailed below the joint response from NHS Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group and Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust.

The MATTERS OF CONCERN and the Trusts' responses are as follows:

- 5.1** *A gap in services was identified for 16 and 17 year olds with urgent mental health issues, such as Aryan had. On 9th January 2018, Aryan was assessed as requiring urgent mental health input, commencing the next day. This was not available as a service for under 18's in Sheffield and Aryan did not receive any contact from Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) until 15th January 2018. In evidence I was told that additional resources in the CAMHS service were close to agreement in order to prevent this kind of problem arising in the future. However, this would be subject to a commissioning process from the Clinical Commissioning Group for Sheffield which could not be guaranteed.*
- 5.2** *It was accepted in evidence by the Medical Director of Sheffield Children's Hospital on behalf of CAMHS that such additional resource was required. The delivery of the necessary funding to properly resource the CAMHS team was not guaranteed.*

Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust and NHS Sheffield Clinical Commissioning Group have been working collaboratively to develop a robust long term solution to the issues you have highlighted. The two organisations have considered the potential models and have agreed the most appropriate way forward to be through the reconfiguration of the existing Sheffield Treatment and Recovery (STAR) Service into a CAMHS Home Intensive Treatment Team (HITT).

This new team will be responsible for children and young people up to the age of 18 years and will be aligned with, and where appropriate, undertake, joint working with the Home Intensive Treatment Services provided by Sheffield Health and Social Care NHS Foundation Trust. In addition the Mental Health Liaison Team will support 0-18 year olds attending either Sheffield Children's or the Northern General Hospital's Emergency Departments. Access to the HITT will be within 24 hours when required whilst the Liaison Team will operate to meet the demands through the Emergency Departments with an on call rota in place for out of hours.

At the time of writing, the business case for the HITT team has been completed and was approved by the CCG on 7th May 2019, with a plan to begin a phased implementation from the autumn 2019. The service will be evaluated to ensure that it meets the needs of the young people who are its service users.

The CCG and the Trust recognise that there is urgency to the situation and are working closely to ensure that there is no delay to its implementation noting also the temporary change in pathway agreed between Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust and Sheffield Health and Social Care NHS Foundation Trust. Furthermore, the Trust has already begun to recruit nursing staff to the new service in anticipation of its formal commissioning.

Both the CCG and the Trust acknowledge the significant impact the gap in service provision has had in this case and are both fully committed to work together to make lasting and tangible improvements in service delivery.

We trust this response addresses the matters of concern you have raised with us.

Yours sincerely,




Acting Accountable Officer
NHS Sheffield CCG



John Somers
Chief Executive
Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust