



**University Hospitals of
Derby and Burton**
NHS Foundation Trust

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

Royal Derby Hospital

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Mr A A Haigh
HM Senior Coroner for
Staffordshire (South)
Coroner's Jurisdiction
DX 712320
Stafford 5

Our Ref: KF/417/MM

Your Ref:

E-Mail:

Telephone:

12 August 2019

Dear Sir

**RE: Regulation 28 Report following the inquest touching upon the death of
Maureen Martin**

I am writing in response to your Regulation 28 Report dated 28 March 2019 following the inquest touching upon the death of Maureen Martin.

During the inquest I understand the lady's family raised a concern that at the time of Mrs Martin's fall on Ward 5, the Nursing Station was facing the wrong way, possibly because there was some temporary decoration works being carried out. Mrs Martin's son highlighted that when this was pointed out to the nursing staff steps were taken to move the nursing station desk to a more appropriate position.

You have therefore, quite properly, asked for the Trust to check that the desks at each nursing station in Queen's Hospital are properly positioned and, if they do temporarily have to be moved, that the best possible visibility is maintained.

I would like to begin by offering an assurance that the Trust has taken urgent steps to address your concerns as follows:

1. Mrs Martin's fall on Ward 5 was the subject of an internal investigation which concluded that the nursing station was indeed moved and it was found not to promote visibility of the patients as the nurse, if sat at the station, was facing the incorrect way. The action that arose out of this investigation was to remove the nursing station desk on that Ward and provide the staff with a "desk on wheels" so that this can be wheeled with the staff as they walk around the Bays.

2. A walkaround review has also been undertaken of all of the nursing stations/desks at Queens Hospital Burton to see if they are positioned in the correct places. I would like to assure you that they are all in the correct places and are facing the correct way. Indeed, most of the nursing desks are on wheels to allow nurses to complete their paperwork whilst they are in the Bays caring for patients; this encourages more visibility of the nursing staff and allows more time for the nurses to be with patients.

I trust that you will be satisfied and assured that the desks are in the correct places and promote visibility for the safety of our patients.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if you require any further information from the Trust.

Yours faithfully



Gavin Boyle
Chief Executive

12 APR 2010
STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY
HIV CORONARY & OFFICE