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Chief Constable [REDACTED]

Dorset Police
Force Headquarters
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30 March 2022

Dear Madam,

Regulation 28: Prevention of Future Deaths Report Response

Deceased: Carole Patricia Cole

I write in respect of the above-mentioned report of 2 February 2022 (“the Regulation 28 report”).

Firstly, I would like to express condolences on behalf of myself and Dorset Police to the family and friends of Carole.

Secondly, I thank you for sending a copy of the Regulation 28 report that was made during the inquest into Carole’s death. As you would expect, we welcome any such opportunities for Dorset Police to consider whether there are any improvements that can be made to how we work.

In the Regulation 28 report, you confirm that the matter of concern that you wish to raise is that there could be missed opportunities to share PPNs relating to residents within the Dorset Council area with agencies or professionals due to the current processes in place between Dorset Police and Dorset Council which could lead to a future death.

You therefore requested that Dorset Police and Dorset Council review their current processes in place regarding the sharing of PPNs by MASH, especially to General Practitioners for the residents within the Dorset Council area.

The review took place between 16/02/2022 and 16/03/2022 with partners from Dorset and BCP Adult Social Care. This confirmed the process of sharing PPNs between the Police and BCP Council and Dorset Council differs. It has been acknowledged that the existence of two different systems can present a risk to safeguarding and the consistency of one process would be preferable.



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The review also identified that for the Police to carry out the sharing of PPNs to GPs there would be a requirement for Police to have access to the Dorset Care Record which it currently does not have.

On occasions officers will attend an incident whereby the GP is unknown or recorded incorrectly therefore it is necessary to confirm the correct GP details utilising the Dorset Care Record to ensure personal information is not being passed to the incorrect surgery.

Identification of this risk has prompted a further review with Health partners which is scheduled to commence on 12 April 2022. Police, Health and Social Care will work together to review the current process, what is working well and where improvements can be made based on national best practice from other areas.

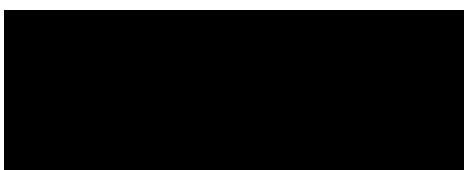
On 28 March 2022, it was agreed that Dorset Council will fund a member of staff from Adult Social Care to co-locate with Dorset Police in the MASH. This role would be responsible for sharing with GPs and have access to the Dorset Care Record. In the interim I am aware that the Dorset Adult Access Team promptly streamlined their working practices in February 2022 to overcome the issue that resulted in the failure to share the PPN with the GP in the case of Ms Cole.

The learning from the Regulation 28 report has been passed to the Safeguarding Adult Review Board for further discussion and to secure partnership commitment to delivering the findings of the review.

As you would expect, correspondence from yourself is taken most seriously by myself and we will continue to work with our partner agencies to ensure that our processes are appropriate, proportionate and minimise any risk of missing opportunities to safeguard our residents.

Thank you again for your consideration and questioning of the Force through the Regulation 28 procedure and copying the report to us. I trust this response provides you with the further information that you require. Please do contact me should you wish for further clarification or information.

Yours sincerely




Chief Constable