



**Western Sussex Hospitals**  
NHS Foundation Trust

**Worthing Hospital**  
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[www.westernsussexhospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.westernsussexhospitals.nhs.uk)

20<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Reference – [REDACTED]

Mrs Veronica Hamilton-Deeley  
Senior Coroner for Brighton & Hove  
Coroner's Office  
Woodvale  
Lewes Road  
Brighton BN2 3 QB

Dear Mrs Veronica Hamilton-Deeley

**Re: Regulation 28 Report – Mrs Linda Phillipson**

Thank you for your letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> September 2019 which included a formal copy of the Regulation 28 report to Prevent Future Deaths.

The Trust welcomes the opportunity to review the way that patients who sustain trauma are managed. As part of this process, the PFD report has been shared with the Trauma and Orthopaedic Consultants, Radiologists, Physiotherapists, ward nurses and through teaching with the junior doctors on both sites of the Trust. It has also been discussed at the Trust Trauma and Orthopaedic Clinical Governance meeting and a further thorough RCA been conducted which will be shared with Mrs Linda Phillipson's family and Sussex Trauma Network Consultants.

We can confirm that a Trust Surgical Board ratified Transfer Policy has been put in place between Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals and Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust hospitals for the management of complex trauma patients who need specialist surgery at the Major Trauma Centre. The immediate management of major trauma in Western Sussex Hospitals whilst awaiting transfer is included within the transfer protocol. The application of spanning external fixator for all Peri-articular complex fractures, elevation and early mobilisation with physiotherapists has been also included within the protocol to prevent any further similar occurrence. Further to this, there are also plans for regular Educational and Clinical Governance meetings between Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals, Eastern Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust and Western Sussex Hospitals for complex trauma management beginning from January 2021.

Mrs Phillipson's CT scan findings were also discussed at Radiology Events and Learning meetings (REALM, formerly discrepancy meeting) to all radiologists in the department and the learning from this shared.

The Trust was saddened by Mrs Linda Phillipson's death and would like to give our reassurance that the Trust has taken the opportunity to review our current practice to ensure we manage patients who have sustained major trauma in the most safe and effective way.

Yours Sincerely

Dr [REDACTED]  
**Medical Director**