

Healthwatch Hampshire - Updated response (April 2016)

Response to Mazars report into mental health and learning disabilities deaths in Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust

NHS England recently published a report into mental health and learning disabilities deaths in Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust. The report was commissioned by NHS England following the death of Connor Sparrowhawk in July 2013 in a unit in Oxford run by Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust. The review looked at the deaths of people with a learning disability or mental health problem at Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust, including investigations. It highlights the need for a system-wide response. A full version of the report is available by following the links below.

Some of the reports key finding were:

- Many investigations were of poor quality and took too long to complete
- There was a lack of leadership, focus and sufficient time spent in the Trust on carefully reporting and investigating deaths
- There was a lack of family involvement in investigations after a death
- Opportunities for the Trust to learn and improve were missed.

The findings detailed in the report are clearly of serious concern. The report makes a number of recommendations for change which have been accepted by Southern Health NHS Trust, Clinical Commissioning Groups and NHS England. Their full responses can be found by following the links below.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) and NHS Improvement have both issued warnings to the trust requiring them to improve their governance structures to ensure urgent patient safety improvements are made. The CQC statement can also be found using the links below.

The aim of Healthwatch Hampshire is to give citizens and communities a stronger voice to influence and challenge how health and social care services are provided within their locality. Therefore we urge anyone who has concerns about this issue or the treatment and care provided by Southern Health Foundation Trust to contact Healthwatch Hampshire on 01962 440262.

If you are directly affected by this story you can contact this NHS number: 0300 003 0025.

Report

A full version of the report can be found [here](#).

An easy read version of the report can be found [here](#).

Responses

A statement made by Southern Health NHS Trust can be found [here](#).

A response from NHS England can be found [here](#).

A response from West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group can be found [here](#).

A statement made by the Care Quality Commission in April 2016 can be found [here](#).