

PE1604/A

NHS Shetland Letter of 5 October 2016

Thank you for your letter dated 16 September 2016. In relation to the Committee seeking clarification on certain procedures in place in our Health Board, this is as follows:

- i. *What measures are in place to provide protection for the health and safety of patients who are released from hospital or receiving care in the community under a Compulsory Treatment Order?*

Over the past year we have significantly improved the safety of those on CTO's. We have grouped this patient population together, ensuring that all aspects of their treatment is looked after. There is a dedicated clinic, dedicated psychiatrist and dedicated CPN for everyone on a CTO as they fall in the "severe and enduring mental illness" category. We also have close involvement from the clinical pharmacist as these patients' medication, physical health and consent to treatment need rigorous monitoring. We have not had a dedicated Mental Health Act Administrator, but we plan to allocate MHA administration to one of the team secretaries in the CMHT once new appointments are in place to accommodate the workload that goes with it.

- ii. *How are investigations conducted in cases where a patient who was released from hospital or was receiving care in the community under a Compulsory Treatment Order commits suicide to ensure that lessons are learned to improve patient care in the future?*

We would propose that an inquest should take place if someone on a CTO commits suicide.

Yours sincerely

Simon Bokor-Ingram
Director Community Health and Social Care