

Recommendation Response from Department of Health Biannual Report – August 2023

Lewis Henry Mark Weston died, aged 22 years, during a period of transition between mental health services. He was subject to a CTO under the care of Headspace Osborne Park. Following his family's relocation to another catchment area, his care was transferred to Bentley Community Mental Health Clinic, which included transfer of the CTO. Risk assessments conducted by Headspace and Bentley found that he was at low risk. Police were notified when two suicide notes were found in his room and his car was missing. Police found him hanging in a nearby park later than morning, too late for any resuscitative efforts.

One recommendation was made relating to a reciprocal sharing of information between the clinical information database PSOLIS (Psychiatric Services Online Information System) and the clinical databases of non-government organisations (NGO) that provide mental health services to the community.

The CRC reviewed these findings and noted that the Department had provided advice to the coroner at the time of the inquest. The Data Steward for the PSOLIS (Psychiatric Services Online Information System) provided the coroner with advice that the Department of Health would consider sharing information from PSOLIS with mental health clinicians working in NGOs where the use of the data is consistent with the lawful purposes permitted under the *Health Services Act 2016* as prescribed in the Department's Information Access, Use and Disclosure Policy. Following CRC discussion this advice was confirmed with the appropriate stakeholder.

The current Data Steward for PSOLIS has communicated in principle support of the coroner's intention that the Department be proactive and invite relevant NGOs to participate in reciprocal sharing of information and to organise the implementation of any such arrangements. A pilot programme will assess the technical and operational feasibility of sharing information from PSOLIS with mental health clinicians working in NGOs.

The Department is currently working with headspace Early Psychosis (hEP) as part of this pilot programme. The pilot will provide mental health clinicians working in hEP with read-only access to assess the technical and operational feasibility of NGO access to PSOLIS. Once technical and operational feasibility has been assessed, the Department will consider the next steps required to proactively invite NGOs across the state to apply for read-only PSOLIS access.

As per access requirements for all health information, entities must ensure appropriate governance models are in place to control, monitor and audit health information, use and disclosure. The method of PSOLIS access will be negotiated with Health Support Services following the pilot. Any further access arrangements or technical development to support the reciprocal sharing of information between PSOLIS and the clinical databases of NGOs will be considered following a review of the pilot programme.

On the understanding that the pilot programme has been implemented; the results of which will inform further rollout of PSOLIS access, the progress of this recommendation will be updated in the next biannual report.