

Brook House Inquiry

Third Witness Statement of Sarah Bromley

I, Sarah Bromley, of Hawker House, 5-6 Napier Court, Napier Road, Reading, RG1 8BW will say as follows:

1. I provide this statement in response to questions raised by Counsel to the Inquiry and the Chair during oral evidence I gave to the Inquiry on Friday 1 April 2022 regarding the operation of Rule 35 for people currently in detention.
2. I can confirm that both GPs in Dr PA Ltd have been reminded by the Head of Healthcare, Sandra Calver, of the need to complete Rule 35 reports wherever indicated. The GPs have been actively encouraged, by Ms Calver and by me, to undertake Rule 35(1) and (2) assessments. The joint letter received from Home Office and NHS England dated 1 April 2022 regarding Rule 34 and Rule 35 has been received by Sandra Calver Head of Healthcare, and circulated to Dr PA Ltd, who have in turn shared it with their GPs.
3. As of the afternoon of Friday 1 April 2022, only one patient was on constant supervision and he was due to be seen for a Rule 35(2) assessment on Saturday 2 April 2022. As a temporary solution, until a new Rule 35 pathway is developed:
 - a. When an ACDT is opened, a Rule 35(1) appointment will be booked for that day or the following day. Additionally, all patients are reviewed by the mental health team when an ACDT is opened;
 - b. Dr PA Ltd have been instructed to undertake Rule 35(2) assessments for all patients on constant supervision.
4. Despite these interim steps, I remain of the view that there is a need to challenge and change custom and practice, which will require further discussions, training, and clinical supervision as outlined in my First Witness Statement and my oral evidence to the Inquiry.

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

I am willing for this statement to form part of the evidence before the Inquiry and published on the Inquiry's website.

Signature

Signed.....

Dated.....5th April 2022.....