



Record of Inquest

Following an Inquest opened on the 17 July 2017, And an inquest hearing at West London Coroner's Court , 25 Bagleys Lane , Fulham, London, SW6 2QA on the 21 November 2022 heard before Lydia Brown in the coroner's area for West London

The following is the record of the inquest (including the statutory determination and, where required, findings).

1. Name of Deceased (if known)

Lance Scott WALKER

2. Medical cause of death

1a Shock and Haemorrhage

1b Stab Wounds to the back

1c

II

3. How, when and where, and for investigations where section 5(2) of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 applies, in what circumstances the deceased came by his or her death

Lance Scott Walker was killed by The Assailant in the afternoon of 15 August 2016 in Gledwood Drive, Hayes. The immediate cause of death was shock and haemorrhage, due to stab wounds to the back. Numerous circumstances both probably and possibly led to this death.

4. Conclusion of the Jury as to the death

The jury is satisfied by unanimous decision that, on the balance of probability, Lance Scott Walker was unlawfully killed.

1. In response to the questionnaire: regarding the West London NHS Trust, the jury finds **by unanimous decision** errors, omissions, and failures that **probably** caused Lance Scott Walker's death, considering:
 - Insufficient planning for the transfer of The Assailant's care from child and adolescent services to adult services;
 - Inadequate management of The Assailant's care following the transfer of his care from CAMHS to the Early Intervention in Psychosis team when he turned 18, including the administration of his depot medication and the absence of any contact with The Assailant, including by way of home visit;
 - The grave lack of any assessment in order to determine whether the assailant should be detained under the Mental Health Act of 1983
 - Unacceptable assessment, if any, of the risks The Assailant posed to others, including by way of violent offending, on and after 29 June 2016
 - The insufficient communication on the part of the Trust with Urban Youth Flex and the London Borough of Ealing, including informing them of The Assailant's mental health, needs and risks and liaising with Urban Youth Flex and the London Borough of Ealing regarding the Assailant's mental health, needs, or risks
2. In response to the questionnaire: regarding the London Borough of Islington, the jury finds **by unanimous decision** errors, omissions, and failures **probably** caused or contributed to Lance Scott Walker's death, considering:

- The unsatisfactory decision to commission Urban Youth Flex to provide unregulated accommodation to 23 Gledwood Gardens to Lance Scott Walker specifically regarding matters of financial due diligence and the absence of a contract, in particular detailing the expectations on the care provider – Urban Youth flex;
 - Insufficient evidence to show suitable management of Lance Scott Walker during his placement in 23 Gledwood Gardens
3. In response to the questionnaire: regarding the London Borough of Ealing, the jury finds **by unanimous decision** errors, omissions, and failures that **probably** caused or contributed to Lance Scott Walker's death, considering:
- The inappropriate commissioning of Urban Youth Flex to provide unregulated accommodation at 23 Gledwood Gardens to The Assailant specifically regarding matters of financial due diligence and the absence of a contract, in particular detailing the expectations on the care provider – Urban Youth flex;
 - The inappropriate placement of The Assailant in unregulated accommodation at 23 Gledwood Gardens managed by Urban Youth Flex;
 - The grave omission of information regarding The Assailant by London Borough of Ealing with Urban Youth Flex when they placed The Assailant on 4 August 2016, including his forensic history, risk of offending, harming others and being bullied and details of his medication and medical regime;
 - The grave lack of communication by London Borough of Ealing with the Trust and/or Urban Youth Flex after The Assailant's placement on 4 August 2016;
 - The inadequate system in place whereby Merlins are shared with the allocated social worker;
 - The unacceptable lack of escalation of The Assailant's specific case through the appropriate channels;
 - The failing in proper internal communication between the various interested departments of the London Borough of Ealing with respect to The Assailant's case.
4. In response to the questionnaire: regarding Urban Youth Flex (also known as Choices Homes), the jury finds **by majority decision** (8-2) errors, omissions, and failures that **possibly** caused or contributed to Lance Scott Walker's death, considering:
- The improper training, experience, staffing levels, and formal qualifications of the Urban Youth Flex staff working at 23 Gledwood Gardens;
 - Urban Youth Flex's inadequate ongoing management of their tenant's suitability with one another, after (and only after) they were placed in 23 Gledwood Gardens;
 - The failure to share information with the London Borough of Islington and London Borough of Ealing, including in particular the incidents on the 11th and 12th August 2016.

5. Further particulars required by the Births and Death Registration Act 1953 to be registered concerning the death

(a) Date and place of birth

28/03/1998

London

(b) Name and Surname of deceased

Lance Scott WALKER

(c) Sex

Male

(d) Maiden surname of woman who has married

(e) Date and place of death

15 August 2016

Gledwood Drive Hayes

(f) Occupation and usual address

23 Gledwood Gardens, Hayes, Middlesex

Signature of

Signature of Jurors (if present)
