

PRESS RELEASE

12 April 2024

Molly-Star Kirk: Inquest to open on 15 April into the death of inpatient at Farndon Unit

**Before HM Area Coroner Miss Laurinda Bower
Nottingham Coroner's Court
Opening 15 April 2024 scheduled for 10 days**

Molly-Star Kirk died on 29 May 2022, aged 20, after having been found unresponsive in her room at the Farndon Unit, where she had been an inpatient detained under the Mental Health Act since October 2021. The Farndon Unit is operated by Elysium Healthcare.

Molly-Star's family describe her as a bright and chatty girl, who was happy and loving despite the challenges she faced with her health issues. She was family oriented and loved listening to music.

Molly-Star was admitted to the unit to manage her mental health diagnoses and because she could not safely be treated in the community. During her admission she experienced seizures, which were understood by staff to have been caused by Non-Epileptic Attack Disorder, as well as other health issues arising from self-harm. She was also prescribed a number of different medications in order to manage her mental health conditions.

Molly-Star was on a high level of observation due to her risk, and her care plan required her to be checked 12 times an hour (i.e. every 5 minutes or so). She was last seen outside her room the night before she died. She remained in bed throughout the next morning, and staff observed her to be asleep. It appears that one of the other patients reported that Molly-Star had been feeling unwell. Molly-Star was last checked at around 2.10pm, after which she was not observed again until she was found unresponsive by a staff member at about 2.30pm. Paramedics arrived, however Molly-Star was pronounced dead shortly after.

The inquest is set to focus on the care provided to Molly-Star at the Farndon Unit, the conduct of observations, and the emergency response.

NOTES TO EDITORS

For further information please contact Amy Ooi at Bhatt Murphy on 020 7729 1115 or a.ooi@bhattmurphy.co.uk.

The family is represented by Amy Ooi and Charlotte Haworth Hird of Bhatt Murphy and Mr Stephen Clark of Garden Court.

Journalists should refer to the [Samaritans Media Guidelines](#) for reporting suicide and self-harm and [guidance for reporting on inquests](#).