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14 March 2023

Coroner Audrey Jamieson
Coroner's Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

By email only: cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au

Dear Coroner Jamieson,

Investigation into the death of Christopher Traill – Your reference COR 2017 0953

On behalf of Bendigo Health I thank Your Honour and the Court for the recommendations made 15 December 2022. I also express my sincere condolences to the Traill family.

Bendigo Health's response to the recommendations are as follows:

1. Recommendation 1

Bendigo Health accepts this recommendation and will implement this recommendation consistent with the principles of the Victorian *Mental Health Act 2014* (the Act).

Any and all changes to existing policy will be evaluated in the six-month period following their introduction and updated as required.

2. Recommendation 2

Bendigo Health accepts this recommendation and will undertake a review of policies and processes related to identifying personal items that have the potential to be used for harm. This review will determine whose responsibility it is to make the assessment, to document the assessment and whose responsibility it is to implement the removal of said identified items. The responsibility for co-ordinating this review will be held by the Clinical Director of Mental Health Services, the review will be undertaken before May 31, endorsement will be sought through the usual organisational quality committee processes, and education in relation to any changes will be rolled out in the second half of 2023.

3. Recommendation 3

Bendigo Health accepts this recommendation and will continue its practice of providing patients with alternative items to replace any personal items removed for minimising risk purposes, and in accordance with the principles outlined in the Act.

Please let me know should the Court have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daryl Kroschel', written in a cursive style.

Daryl Kroschel
Chief Medical Officer