

Media Release

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For Immediate Release

Western Trust Apology to Corrigan Family

1 October 2020

Mr and Mrs Corrigan

Davin had been in our care for some time and many staff in the hospital and the community were deeply attached to him.

Following Davin's untimely death at Grangewood Hospital in November 2018 we requested a Serious Adverse Incident (SAI) Review with an Independent Chair in order to understand the sequence of events and learn from this tragedy. On behalf of the Western Health and Social Care Trust we wish to offer our sincere apologies to you and your family for the failings identified by the review team, and to assure you that we accept the findings of the report, and its recommendations, in full.

The Trust Serious Adverse Incident report following Davin's untimely death concluded that his death in this way and at this time was preventable.

We are sorry that Davin did not have an updated safety plan at that time and that an opportunity to involve his family in developing a safety plan was missed. We are sorry that opportunities were missed to effectively involve you, his family, in his assessment and treatment planning and we are sorry that the Trust's response to you immediately following your bereavement and for some time thereafter was wholly inadequate.

As identified in the SAI report, our systems for recording and scrutinising incidents of self-harm in our mental health facilities were not robust and resulted in nine similar incidents being coded inappropriately. The report also highlighted that there was a delay in modifying the hospital environment to reduce risk which contributed to Davin's untimely death. For all of this we are truly sorry. We wish to assure you that we have taken action in regard to these matters and that this process has been overseen by the RQIA. Our incident identification and reporting procedures have been changed and improved as a result.

As a Trust, we are appreciative of the fact that you have continued to work with us at this time having had such a traumatic experience. We are pleased to honour Davin's memory with an annual award to staff who best demonstrate that they have involved patients / service users and carers in improving their care.

We wish to say again to you as parents how sorry we are for the loss of your dear son, Davin, and to acknowledge the pain and hurt you have experienced.

Yours sincerely

DR ANNE KILGALLEN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SAM POLLOCK

CHAIR