

Recommendation Response from Department of Health Biannual Report – August 2023

Paul James Brady died, aged 35 years, after jumping from a ledge of the third floor of a building where he resided. He had been seen by a member of the public shortly before jumping, who contacted police with concerns for his welfare. Police and the Midland District Mental Health Co-Response (MHCR) team were dispatched, along with St John Ambulance and Department of Fire and Emergency Services. Police arrived promptly at the scene shortly before he jumped, however, they were unable to persuade him to sit. He suffered extensive injuries when he jumped and was unable to be revived.

Three recommendations were made relating to ongoing funding of the MHCR, including external funding to support expansion, and that work continues on the planning of the MHCR in regional areas.

The CRC reviewed these findings and members expressed concerns about the change to the operational model for the MHCR since it was established. In particular, the perceived decrease in the role of the mental health clinician in de-escalation. Members agreed that concerns from the Ms L matter would be raised with the Mental Health Commission in conjunction with seeking advice about the three recommendations from the Brady findings.

Enquiries will be made with relevant stakeholders and advice pertaining to these three recommendations will be included in the next biannual report.