

**Update on the Independent review - Greater Manchester Mental Health  
NHS Foundation Trust  
Update from Professor Oliver Shanley OBE – September 2023**

The review team wanted to provide an update on the progress of our work in the Trust. In accordance with our Terms of Reference, we submitted a first draft of the report at the end of September 2023.

We would like to take the time again to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who has taken the time to speak to us since we began our work. It has been a real testament to people's desire to learn lessons and improve services to the benefit of the patients they care for that people have been so generous with their time and their insight, particularly given how upsetting and challenging this process has been at times.<sup>i</sup>

The independent review team met with over 400 people since we commenced work earlier this year. This included listening to families, carers, stakeholders and staff around their own lived experience of mental health services. Following an initial phase of work exploring what happened at the trust, notably the Edenfield Centre, we then embarked on a significant piece of work including site visits, interviews with key individuals across the trust and a number of deep dives looking at learning from serious incidents.

This has been a very complex piece of work, and we are committed to ensuring it is done non-judgmentally, with a clear emphasis on learning lessons, not just for the Trust, but for the whole of the NHS, which ultimately will improve the lives of patients in our services, and improve the working conditions of the people who care for them.

Following submission of the draft report to NHS England, GMMH and other relevant parties, throughout October we will be reviewing any responses and making any appropriate changes to the report based on any factual inaccuracies. We will also liaise with any patients and families about anything specific in the report that may relate to them. In November we intend to share an updated report with NHS England which subject to any final changes, has an indicative date for publication of very early January.

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<sup>i</sup> NHS England and the Trust have arranged support for families and for staff via the Greater Manchester Resilience Hub <https://www.penninecare.nhs.uk/gmrh>