

Faiza Hassan AHMED aka Sophie AHMED - determination on 20.01.16

This has been an inquest on behalf of Our Sovereign Lady The Queen by me, Mary Elizabeth Hassell, Senior Coroner for Inner North London, touching the death of Faiza Hassan Ahmed who died on 7 November 2014 at Westferry Docklands Light Railway Station, Limehouse Causeway, London.

The jury has made a narrative determination as follows.

“Faiza Ahmed had been diagnosed with mental health issues associated with alcohol and cannabis use that put her at risk of suicide. On 6 and 7 November 2014, a number of factors combined to make the risk acute.

On the morning of 6 November 2014, Faiza reported that a man had attempted to rape her in her home. The historical and continuing lack of rapport between Faiza and the police contributed to her not receiving the support she needed following this incident. The period of time elapsing between the sexual offences investigative techniques (SOIT) officer’s first and second attempt to make contact with Faiza meant that she never received specialist support from the Sapphire Unit, nor was she kept adequately informed of what future help was coming and when.

On the afternoon of 7 November 2014, Faiza went to the job centre and made a written statement of suicidal intent. An opportunity to alert the relevant authorities was missed. Shortly afterwards, at 4.05pm, Faiza made a second statement of suicidal intent in a 999 call to the London Ambulance Service (LAS). This information was not conveyed to the ambulance crew who responded, leaving them insufficiently informed to fit their response to Faiza’s needs. Once again, the lack of rapport between Faiza and the police officers and LAS crew on the scene hampered the provision of support to her. Two SOIT officers arrived shortly after the police and LAS, but did not see Faiza. The information they had about the previous day’s report of attempted rape was not adequately conveyed to the police response team and was not conveyed at all to the LAS crew. This left both insufficiently informed to fit their response to Faiza’s needs. Throughout the two days, information held on police databases about Faiza’s history of vulnerability was not relayed to any of the police and LAS personnel who dealt with her, again leaving them insufficiently informed to fit their response to Faiza’s needs.

Shortly after 6pm on 7 November 2014, Faiza went to Westferry Docklands Light Railway Station and, acting alone, died by suicide, stepping off the platform onto the path of an oncoming train.”

I intend to make a PFD report.
That concludes this inquest.