

Witness Name: Paul Rees MBE

Statement No: WITN0267019

Dated: 29 May 2026

**THE NOTTINGHAM INQUIRY**

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**SECOND WITNESS STATEMENT OF PAUL REES MBE**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

I, Paul Rees, make the following statement for the purpose of The Nottingham Inquiry. The statement is made on behalf of the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) in response to a request for evidence by the Inquiry.

This is my second statement to the Inquiry.

This statement is made in response to the Rule 9 request issued by The Nottingham Inquiry on 28 May 2026. This statement responds to questions in relation to the Emerging Concerns Protocol for England [WITN0267017].

## **BACKGROUND**

1. I would like to use this statement to make a correction to my previous statement dated 26 November 2025 [WITN0267001], page 24 paragraph 78.
2. I would like to correct 'the Care Quality Commission's Emerging Concerns Protocol' to 'the Emerging Concerns Protocol for England.' The Emerging Concerns Protocol ('the Protocol') is a joint mechanism for all signatories to share information that may indicate risk. It is not owned by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), but the Protocol is hosted on the CQC website.
3. I can confirm that the NMC is a signatory to the Emerging Concerns Protocol for England, along with twelve other signatories.
4. The Protocol was launched in July 2018 and was developed under the governance of the Health and Social Care Regulators Forum.

5. The NMC is part of a network of regulatory, investigatory and prosecutorial bodies, each with different legal remits and obligations for safeguarding and protecting the public. This includes, but is not limited to, bodies such as professional and system regulators, local authorities, health and care providers, and the police. Each organisation has a distinct role to play as well as a responsibility insofar as their legal and investigatory remits allow to effectively collaborate and share information with one another to form an appropriate system-wide response to concerns.
6. The Emerging Concerns Protocol for England is a mechanism used by us and other signatories to share information that might indicate risk, helping signatories coordinate activity and fulfil their collective roles better. The Protocol reinforces the important role that each participating organisation fulfils as a part of the wider safety network, by establishing clear and distinct roles and responsibilities for each signatory based on their statutory duties and functions.
7. This protocol allows any one of the signatories to initiate a Regulatory Review Panel (RRP) with other members to share and discuss any concerns that may arise, to understand if other members have similar or additional concerns and to ensure a coordinated response to concerns. We have both initiated and attended RRP's under this process.
8. The NMC has used the Protocol to both initiate and attend Regulatory Review Panels and share information with other signatories. Our records indicate that

we have instigated six Regulatory Review Panels and attended a further nine Regulatory Review Panels, since the inception of the Protocol.

9. Our records indicate that the NMC has not used the Protocol to share information about the organisations involved in VC's care, nor has it been called to a Regulatory Review Panel by other signatories of the Protocol to share information about these organisations.
10. Our records indicate that, of the six Regulatory Review Panels we instigated, one related to the provision of mental health care. At this Regulatory Review Panel we shared information and our concerns about the local management of concerns relating to patient deaths within a specific Trust.
11. Internally at the NMC we have established a Patient Safety Intelligence Forum (PSIF) learning from the approach taken by the GMC to risk intelligence. PSIF now provides senior colleagues with the opportunity to scrutinise our actions in relation to settings or themes of concern, including whether we are interacting appropriately with others.

**Statement of Truth**

I believe the content of this statement to be true. I understand that proceedings may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief of its truth.

Signed:

**GRO-B**

Date:

29/05/26

**Index to Second Witness Statement of Paul Rees MBE**

| No. | URN         | Document Description  |
|-----|-------------|---|
| 1   | WITN0267017 | Policy Document Re: Emerging concerns protocol, CQC                           |
| 2   | WITN0267001 | First Witness Statement of Paul Rees MBE, Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) |