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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2015 No. 541**

**The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015**

**PART 5**

**Policies, records, complaints and notifications**

**Notification of a serious event**

- 40.**—(1) If a child dies, the registered person must without delay notify—
- (a) HMCI;
  - (b) the placing authority;
  - (c) the Secretary of State (if the Secretary of State is not the placing authority);
  - (d) the local authority in whose area the children's home is located (if that local authority is not the placing authority);
  - (e) the clinical commissioning group (as defined in section 14D of the National Health Service Act 2006) for the area in which the home is located;
  - (f) if the child was accommodated in a secure children's home, the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman for England and Wales ("the PPO"); and
  - (g) each other relevant person.
- (2) If a child accommodated in a secure children's home dies, the registered person must allow the PPO to investigate the death by—
- (a) granting the PPO access to—
    - (i) the premises of the home; and
    - (ii) the home's documents and records;
  - (b) allowing the PPO to take away from the premises, securely, copies of any documents or records provided under sub-paragraph (a)(ii); and
  - (c) if they consent, allowing the PPO to interview in private any children, parents or relatives, or persons working at the home.
- (3) If there is a referral of a person working in the home pursuant to section 35 (Regulated activity providers: duty to refer) of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006(1), the registered person must without delay notify—
- (a) HMCI;
  - (b) the placing authority; and
  - (c) each other relevant person.
- (4) The registered person must notify HMCI and each other relevant person without delay if—

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(1) [2006 c.47](#) ("the SVGA 2006"). Section 35 was amended by: section 115 of, and Schedules 9 and 10 to, the [Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 \(c.9, "the PoFA 2012"\)](#) and [S.I. 2012/3006](#).

- (a) a child is involved in or subject to, or is suspected of being involved in or subject to, sexual exploitation;
  - (b) an incident requiring police involvement occurs in relation to a child which the registered person considers to be serious;
  - (c) there is an allegation of abuse against the home or a person working there;
  - (d) a child protection enquiry involving a child —
    - (i) is instigated; or
    - (ii) concludes (in which case, the notification must include the outcome of the child protection enquiry); or
  - (e) there is any other incident relating to a child which the registered person considers to be serious.
- (5) A notification made under this regulation—
- (a) must include details of—
    - (i) the matter;
    - (ii) the other persons, bodies or organisations (if any) who or which have been notified; and
    - (iii) any actions taken by the registered person as a result of the matter;
  - (b) must be made or confirmed in writing.
- (6) In this regulation, references to the PPO include a person appointed by, or working on behalf of, the PPO for the purposes of an investigation under paragraph (2).