

07 JAN 2015



Postal Reply to: CRIME & JUSTICE COMMAND

Shared Service Centre
Ash House
III Acres
Princeton Drive
Thomaby
Stockton on Tees
TS17 6AJ

Your Ref:
Our Ref: PM/PC

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Direct Line [REDACTED]

5th January 2015

Dear Mr Faulks

Inquest into the Death of Kirk Williams

Further to your letter dated 14th November 2014 and the issuing of the Regulation 28 Report to prevent future deaths, I am writing to you on behalf of Cleveland Police to update you on the progress made by the Force against the actions you identified in your report:

At point 1 in your report you note that "Police Officers in Cleveland doubtless receive training in excited delirium" that is correct, all front line officers are required to undertake Personal Safety Training on an annual basis, during that training they receive an input on "excited delirium".

At point 8 in your report you identified that there did not appear to be a Memorandum of Understanding or guidance to cover aggressive detainees in Custody being taken to A&E Departments.

In order that this could be addressed a meeting was held at North Tees General Hospital on 9th December 2014. Amongst those present were [REDACTED] Medical Director and A&E Consultant at North Tees and Hartlepool Trust, [REDACTED] Clinical Director, A&E Consultant, University Hospital North Tees, [REDACTED] Clinical Director, A&E Consultant [REDACTED] Hospital, I represented Cleveland Police.

Mr S. Faulks
Assistant Coroner for Teesside
Teesside Coroners Service
Town Hall
Albert Road
Middlesbrough TS1 2QJ

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The following actions were agreed and they will now form the basis of guidance which will be issued to staff by both Trusts and Cleveland Police,

- If a detainee has a known past mental health history they should be taken to the 136 unit at Roseberry Park.
- If there are serious concerns regarding physical health, detainees should be presented to an A & E department where they will be assessed.
- If the detainee is violent and aggressive a joint decision by senior A & E staff and the police will be taken as where best to provide treatment i.e. if the department is full and there is a risk to other patients, assessment may even take place outside of the department possibly in police vehicles.
- If there is the suggestion that a detainee is ill or injured and the ingestion of drugs is causing problems, treatment with restraints may be appropriate be it physical or medical restraints. Depending on the circumstances this may include assistance from anaesthetic colleagues.
- If the medical assessment concludes that the detainee is not in need of treatment they will be returned to police custody.
- If, following any necessary treatment, the detainee is returned to police custody, a copy of the A & E notes will be given on discharge detailing treatment given.
- If there are any further concerns following return to police custody, the police doctor should contact the A & E department for further advice.
- All staff both NHS and Police to be informed of the guidelines agreed for future reference.

The Force is in the process of briefing staff about the new guidelines, staff working in the Custody environment (including medical staff) and all front line officers will be briefed. Due to the holiday period this has been delayed, but it is expected that all relevant staff will have been briefed by 12th January 2015.

It is my intention to review the effectiveness of the guidance in six months' time and to take any appropriate action where necessary, whether that is amendments to the guidance in conjunction with the two Trusts, or further training to ensure staff are aware of and are implementing the guidance.

Yours sincerely



**Temporary Detective Chief Superintendent
Head of Crime and Justice Command**