



National Offender
Management Service

[REDACTED]
Equality, Rights and Decency
Group
National Offender Management Service
4th Floor, Clive House,
70 Petty France,
London, SW1H 9HD
[REDACTED]

Lydia Brown
Assistant Coroner for Leicester City and Leicestershire South

24 June 2016

Dear Ms Brown

Regulation 28 Report following the inquest into the death of Mr Ahmedreza Fathi on 13 May 2015 at HMP Gartree

Thank you for your Regulation 28 report of 5 May addressed to the Governor of HMP Gartree and the East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust, concerning the recent inquest into the death of Mr Ahmedreza Fathi. Your report has been passed to Equality, Rights and Decency (ERD) Group in NOMS, as we are responsible for sharing learning from deaths in custody. This response has been prepared in consultation with the Governor of HMP Gartree.

In your report you repeat the concern that you, the Coroner and the PPO have raised following previous deaths in prisons in the Leicester area about delays by prison staff in calling for an ambulance. You point out that the East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EMAS) had advised the court that discussion of a prison emergency response protocol would be welcomed and encourage the prison and EMAS to arrange a meeting to take this forward.

You will be aware that PSI 03/2013 Medical Emergency Response Codes sets out the national instruction for calling a medical emergency over the establishment radio network in all prisons and NOMS-operated Immigration Removal Centres.

HMP Gartree has revised the local contingency plans and re-issued instructions in May 2016 to ensure that all staff understand that they must not delay calling an ambulance in all cases where there are serious concerns about the health of an offender. The local protocols now provide clear guidance to all staff to ensure timely, appropriate and effective responses to medical emergencies.

In addition HMP Gartree and other prisons in the Leicester area are collaborating with the EMAS to ensure effective joint working and consistency of approach in all the prisons. Representatives of the prison met with EMAS in April 2016, and there is an expectation that a joint emergency response protocol will be in place by 31 July 2016.

Thank you for bringing these matters of concern to our attention. I hope that this letter has been helpful in providing some national context and in giving you assurance that the concerns that you have raised have been, or are being, addressed locally at HMP Gartree and in the other prisons in the Leicester area.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NOMS Equality, Rights and Decency Group