



HM Prison &  
Probation Service

**Michael Spurr**  
**Chief Executive**  
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André Rebello OBE  
Senior Coroner Liverpool and Wirral Area  
HM Coroner's Court  
Gerard Majella Courthouse  
Boundary Street  
Liverpool L5 2QD

26 October 2017

Dear Mr Rebello

**Inquest into the death of Sam Molyneux**

Thank you for your Regulation 28 Report of 13 September 2017 following the recent inquest into the death of Sam Molyneux at HMP Liverpool on 1 April 2016.

I know that you will share a copy of this response with Mr Molyneux's mother and I would like first to express my condolences for her loss. Every death in custody is a tragedy and the safety of those in our care is my absolute priority.

Mr Molyneux was not identified as being at risk of self-harm or suicide, and was therefore not subject to ACCT procedures at the time of his death. I understand that prison staff explained the reasons for this during the course of the inquest. That

notwithstanding, you have raised concerns about those who are subject to ACCT procedures being located in cells which do not have anti-barricade doors. I am grateful to you for bringing this to my attention.

Every cell that has been built or refurbished since 2005 has an anti-barricade door, and the number of cells that do not have this facility is therefore relatively low.

Wherever possible, we should avoid using such cells to accommodate prisoners identified as being at risk of self-harm or suicide. As you know, the ACCT process includes consideration by the case review team of the most appropriate location for the prisoner. Both the design of the ACCT form and the content of PSI 64/2011 Safer Custody are currently under review, and we will ensure that the revised version of the form and accompanying policy direct staff to have regard to the issue of emergency access – including the presence of an anti-barricade door – when making decisions about the location of a prisoner on an ACCT. We will also include this in the training that is provided for ACCT case managers.

I trust that this provides assurance that the matter of concern that you have raised will be addressed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Michael Spurr". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Michael Spurr