



HM Prison & Probation Service

Mr. Delroy Henry,
Assistant Coroner, Warwickshire,
The Coroner's Office,
Warwickshire Criminal Justice Centre,
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Amy Rees
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c/o Coroner's Officer:
[REDACTED]

6 September 2019

Dear Mr Henry / Annwyl Mr. Henry

Inquest into the death of Mr Darren Keith Cumberbatch

Thank you for your Regulation 28 Report, issued following the Inquest into the death of Mr Darren Keith Cumberbatch, addressed to the Chief Executive Officer of Her Majesty's Prison & Probation Service (HMPPS). I am replying as the Director General Probation, part of HMPPS.

I know that you will share a copy of this response with the family and I would first like to express my sincere condolences for their loss. Every death in such circumstances is a tragedy and the implementation of learning from this is my absolute priority.

You have raised areas of concern relating to a condition known as acute behavioural disturbance (ABD), its presentation and that it can potentially lead to a medical emergency. You identified that, unlike the police, probation hostel (approved premises) staff had no awareness or training in relation to (ABD) and consider that such basic training for probation hostel (approved premises) staff would increase awareness of ABD and may prevent future deaths.

In response to your recommendation I confirm that the National Probation Service now has plans in place to assess the most appropriate training package to meet this training requirement and to develop an implementation plan across the whole approved premises estate with the intention to start the roll out of ABD awareness training early in 2020.

Thank you for bringing this matter of concern to my attention. Please be assured that learning from the circumstances of this tragic death will also be shared more widely with colleagues across the NPS Divisions.

Yours sincerely / Yn gywir

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Rees". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

Amy Rees,
Director General of Probation and Wales, HM Prison and Probation Service
Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol y Gwasanaeth Prawf a Chymru, Gwasanaeth Carchardai a Phrawf EM