



Home Office

Rt Hon Kit Malthouse MP
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Fiona King
HM Coroners Service
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[REDACTED]
Coroner's Office, Worthing

By email only

16 November 2021

Thank you for your letter of 23 September. As requested, I am responding to your formal report in relation to paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 5 to the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and Regulation 29 of The Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013.

I should like to start by expressing my sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Hamish John Cameron Howitt on his untimely death.

The College of Policing is independent from Government and its role is clear: setting high professional standards sharing what works best; acting as the national voice of policing; and ensuring police training and ethics is of the highest possible quality. This includes setting standards for police training on encountering those with injuries or who are otherwise vulnerable.

My officials have consulted College of Policing and National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) on their response to your report. As mentioned in their joint letter, front line response police officers receive training at least equivalent to HSE Emergency First Aider level. Our police are required to deal with a wide range of situations on a daily basis and this includes working closely with ambulance services and other medical colleagues when responding to certain medical incidents, where appropriate.

The College continually reviews the content of the curriculum for officers and I am assured that the concerns you have raised will be addressed through the formal policing First Aid governance routes.

I should like to thank you for bringing this issue to my attention.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'J' followed by the name 'Malthouse' in a cursive script.

Rt Hon Kit Malthouse MP