



Birmingham Coroner's Court

FAO Mr Adam Hodson,
Assistant Coroner for Birmingham and Solihull

Young Adults Central Team Birmingham
11-15 Lower Essex Street
Birmingham
B5 6SN

[REDACTED]

Date: 11th November 2022

**Response to Regulation 28 Report
following the Inquest Touching the Death
of Mr Spencer Barr (DOB: 24/10/1997)**

Dear Sir,

I am writing on behalf of the Probation Young Adults Central Team Birmingham in response to the Regulation 28 Report issued following the Inquest into the very sad death of Spencer Barr.

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 therefore very important.

I respond to the areas of concern you raised as follows:-

Matter of concern – inter agency co operation appears to be inadequate regarding the sharing of relevant information between agencies

Response – Probation is committed to having in place relevant and up to date Information Sharing Agreements to cover all areas of its work which provide a legal framework within which information can be passed to and from partner agencies. Probation is reviewing the position in this regard with the other IP organisations to ensure there are no barriers to sound and effective inter agency co-operation and sharing of information.

Matter of concern – that there is no universal approach being taken by all agencies to improve inter-agency cooperation and consideration should be given to the formation of a working group being set up between all agencies to ensure a coordinated approach is taken

Response – It is noted that Forward Thinking Birmingham has set up a multi-agency working group in response to this recommendation and Probation is very willing to be a party to this working group and contribute to improvements in inter-agency cooperation and sharing of information.

Matter of concern – that there appear to be no central points of contact for agencies to facilitate that co-operation. Consideration should be given to central points of contact being



created within each agency and ensuring that those points of contact are shared between agencies to ensure information can flow freely between them.

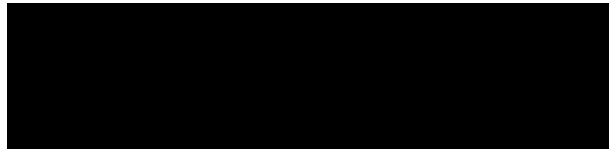
Response – Probation now has a central point of contact e-mail wmps.birminghamstransfers@justice.gov.uk . Probation is taking steps to raise awareness of this SPOC with partner agencies to ensure this central point of contact facilitates information to be shared at all times.

Matter of concern – Consideration should be given as to whether a better system of inter agency referral is possible and feasible.

Response – insofar as this relates to Probation, the commissioning of rehabilitative services and the making of referrals is subject to regular review as part of the commissioning processes and Probation is committed to continuous improvement and will continue to work with partner agencies to refine and improve referral processes.

Thank you for bringing these matters of concern to our attention. Please be assured that learning from the circumstances of this untimely death will also be shared more widely with colleagues across the Probation Service.

Yours sincerely



Head of Legacy / Litigation & Inquests
Probation Business Strategy & Change
HMPPS