

Director General of Operations HM Prison and Probation Service 8th Floor Ministry of Justice 102 Petty France London SW1H 9AJ

Mr David D W Reid HM Senior Coroner for Worcestershire The Civic Martins Way Stourport-on-Severn DY13 8UN

23 March 2023

Dear Mr Reid,

Thank you for your Regulation 28 report of 27 January 2023, addressed to the Governor of HMP Hewell. I am responding on behalf of His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) as Director General of Operations.

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

You have expressed concerns regarding the number of staff that have not yet received the updated Assessment, Care in Custody and Teamwork (ACCT) version 6 (v6) and Suicide and Self-Harm Prevention (SASH) training.

It is essential that ACCT procedures are utilised by all members of staff working within prisons, including healthcare colleagues, and that staff feel confident in recognising risk and in making the decision to open an ACCT in order to support prisoners when it is needed. ACCT v6 and SASH training includes guidance on understanding and assessing the risks and triggers of self-harm, the ACCT v6 process and supporting individuals who self-harm while they are under ACCT monitoring and during the post closure period. HMP Hewell is currently delivering training sessions that incorporate both ACCT v6 and SASH training to all staff with the expectation that this will be completed by July 2023.

You were also concerned that Duty Governors had not yet received any training about the steps they should take in order to complete the Initial Segregation Health Screen algorithm document for prisoners in the Segregation Unit.

HMP Hewell has developed Duty Governor guidance for managing the risk of segregation and delivered a training session to all Duty Governors in March 2023. The training included information on the policy requirements, how to review periods of increased risk and the process of the Initial Segregation Health Screen.

Since Mr Shirley's death, a number of supporting tools have also been published by HMPPS to assist prisons in ensuring segregation is managed appropriately. This has included a learning guide on how to effectively collate, analyse and share data to enhance local decision-making and multidisciplinary practice.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns to my attention. I trust that this response provides assurance that action is being taken to address this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Director General of Operations