



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
**POLICE**  
Fighting Crime. Protecting People.

[REDACTED]  
Deputy Chief Constable  
Wootton Hall  
Wootton Hall Park  
Northampton  
Northamptonshire  
NN4 0JQ

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023

Dear Mr Arrow,

**Ref: Preventing Future Deaths (PFD)**

In response to your report, sent to all Chief Constables dated the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2023 in relation to your concerns regarding Firearms Licensing as a result of the Inquests into the shootings at Keyham in August 2021, I would like to detail the plans which Northamptonshire Police have in place.

You will have by now received correspondence from Chief Constable [REDACTED] with regard to an agreed national response, which Northamptonshire Police have agreed to, and which includes the following:

- Prioritise review cases where firearms have been **seized or surrendered** to police pending a review of suitability to have a licence, but then **subsequently returned**.
- Review cases where applications have been refused or licences revoked, but where subsequent applications or appeals by the same licence holder resulted in a grant.
- Review all previous decision-making against the **current** (February 2023) Home Office Statutory Guidance, in light of the concerns you have referred to.
- All the above will be completed over the next six months and by **2 October 2023**.

In preparation for the reviews, we have already secured temporary additional resources into our Firearms Licensing Unit, including at senior management level.

We have also recently engaged with two separate external companies to carry out audits of the unit, as well as a peer review conducted by a neighbouring Force, and we await their respective reports. These will provide the scrutiny required to identify where improvements can be made, and to provide reassurance to us and the public that our processes support your aspiration in preventing future deaths.



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Yours Sincerely,



**Deputy Chief Constable**