



HM Prison & Probation Service

Director General Operations
HM Prison and Probation Service
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London SW1H 9AJ

Rachel Redman
Assistant Coroner for East Sussex
Unit 56 Innovation Centre
Highfield Drive
St Leonards on Sea
TN38 9UH

7 March 2024

Dear Ms Redman

Thank you for your Regulation 28 report of 4 January 2024 addressed to the Minister of State for Prisons, Parole and Probation and Practice Plus Group following the inquest into the death of Trevor Monerville at HMP Lewes on 18 April 2021. I am responding on behalf of HMPPS as Director General of Operations.

I know that you will share a copy of this response with the family of Mr Monerville, and I would 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.

Following evidence heard at the inquest you have raised concerns around care plans for complex healthcare issues, communication between healthcare and prison staff and epilepsy training for prison staff.

As was heard at the inquest, the creation of a seizure care plan and seizure diary, a clinical matter, falls within the responsibility the healthcare provider at HMP Lewes, Practice Plus Group (PPG). It is within PPG's remit to decide which prisoners are fit to be managed on a standard wing and, where a health condition such as epilepsy is identified, whether the severity of this means they should be located on the inpatient wing. HMPPS will facilitate a move to the inpatient unit where this is required.

If healthcare advice is that the prisoner can be managed on normal location, prison staff will facilitate and monitoring by healthcare that they consider necessary.

It was accepted during the inquest that the ACCT process was not the appropriate mechanism to monitor Trevor's condition. Training has been provided to all relevant staff regarding the correct implementation of the ACCT procedures.

There are Information Sharing protocols in place, as directed by national policy, which underpin the exchange of information between healthcare and prison staff. There are several regular meetings involving healthcare and prison staff where individual issues are raised and addressed, including the Safety Intervention Meeting and Multi-Disciplinary Complex Case Clinic, both of which are held weekly.

The Safety Intervention Meeting (SIM), chaired by the Head of Safety, and has healthcare representation, discusses complex safety cases. This is an appropriate mechanism whereby the prison and healthcare staff can report concerns to security about individuals and provides reassurance that prisoners are managed effectively.

The Multi-Disciplinary Complex Case Clinic (MPCCC) is chaired by healthcare. Prison staff are invited to attend to raise and discuss complex patients/prisoners. Additionally, any patients pending transfer back to the main wing with ongoing needs will be discussed.

In relation to sharing intelligence, prison and healthcare staff are encouraged to report intelligence, including non-compliance with medication, through the Mercury intelligence system. All intelligence is triaged daily with actions listed.

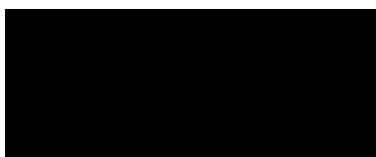
HMPPS recognises that, information sharing is vital to effective health management of people in prison and is working closely with NHSE to increase staff confidence and support effective information sharing by offering clarity about the general and routine sharing of health information and where risk/safeguarding concerns have been raised.

HMPPS undertake First Aid needs assessments to ensure that sufficient emergency aid response is available on each site. First Aid at Work and Emergency First Aid training courses are delivered to identified prison staff, which includes emergency response to both minor and major seizures.

In terms of dealing with long term health conditions, PPG are responsible for the management and supervision of healthcare issues and prison staff will facilitate their instructions.

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

Yours sincerely

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Director General of Operations