

**Anna Morris**HM Assistant Coroner  
Greater Manchester South area

15 April 2024

Dear Assistant Coroner Anna Morris

I am writing in response to your Regulation 28 report following the investigation and inquest into the tragic circumstances of the death of Samuel (Sam) Curless on the 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

I can confirm that the College of Policing have liaised with Greater Manchester Police and are aware of the actions they have subsequently taken in response to the concerns raised in your report.

I would like to update you regarding your concern at point 2 and point 4 in your report as follows:

- *There was evidence given to me by Detective Superintendent [REDACTED] that there is an unknown number of GMP officers who are not meeting the expectation of receiving First Aid refresher training within 12 months, which since May 2022 has included training on how to resuscitate a hanging casualty. I am therefore concerned that there remains a cohort of officers who have not had the post May 2022 training that includes how to provide Basic Life Support to this kind of casualty until the arrival of an ambulance.*
- *That the training delivered to the first two attending officers did not adequately prepare them for responding to a scene where someone is found hanging in a way which is consistent with their priority to preserve life of a hanging casualty.*

In 2020, the College of Policing commenced a national working group to review the First Aid Learning Programme (FALP). The review engaged and consulted with police clinical subject matter experts and input from clinical governance leads in forces, in addition to recommendations made by Coroners, the Independent Office for Police Conduct and the Manchester Arena Inquiry. The FALP has now been published with a focus on casualty care, preserving life and providing police officers and staff with the first aid skills required as first responders.

The FALP is not a scenario based curriculum. None of the high-level learning outcomes in the FALP modules are situation specific. Police officers respond to varying incidents and the FALP has been developed to provide them with the required specific first aid skills for first responders. Police officers are required to follow their FALP training in all cases.


The FALP does include learning outcomes for basic life support, including CPR, and performing manual airway techniques.

Annual refresher training is a core requirement of the FALP licence, and as a result of the above mentioned review, the recommended training time for both refresher and initial training has been increased for all public facing officers.

It has increased from four hours to six hours for annual refresher and nine hours to twelve hours for initial training.

I hope this offers you reassurance with regards to your concerns raised in your report.

Yours sincerely



Chief Executive Officer  
College of Policing

