



HM Prison & Probation Service

Director General of Operations
HM Prison and Probation Service
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Email: [REDACTED]

Ms Laurinda Bower
HM Area Coroner
Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire
The Council House
Old Market Square
Nottingham
NG1 2DT

18 October 2024

Dear Ms Bower,

Thank you for your Regulation 28 report of 7 August 2024, addressed to the Governor of HMP Nottingham. 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 McDonnell'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 raised concerns relating to the need for ACCT observations and conversations to be meaningful and have purpose, the sharing of pertinent risk information, and the securing of documentary evidence following a death, I will be responding to these issues below.

HMPPS is committed to ensuring that all staff are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to perform their role effectively and safely. I have been informed by the Governor of HMP Nottingham that the prison have increased their delivery of SASH/ACCT awareness and upskilling via training days and one-to-one refresher sessions, resulting in a greater number of staff being trained in these areas. The prison will continue to offer ACCT training and upskilling sessions to all staff to increase these numbers further.

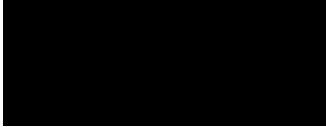
In respect of information sharing, the Governor informs me that HMP Nottingham have introduced a 'trigger' database which contains any important/pertinent information that may impact on an individual's risk. This database is accessible to all staff and enables the sharing of information specific to those in crisis ensuring they are supported during this time.

The matter of accurate documentary evidence being secured following a death in custody is something that I take extremely seriously. I am satisfied that the actions taken by staff in this instance were not malicious or done with the intention of misleading any investigation or enquiry. Nevertheless, this was not best practice and I understand that ACCT books are no longer taken

off the wing while undergoing quality assurance checks so that staff are able to make contemporaneous entries, to ensure this does not happen again.

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,

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Director General of Operations