

Mrs Rachael Griffin Senior Coroner for Dorset Civic Centre Bourne Avenue Bournemouth, BH2 6DY Director General of Operations
HM Prison and Probation Service
8th Floor Ministry of Justice
102 Petty France
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20 October 2025

Dear Mrs Griffin,

REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS – MARTA ELENA VENTO

Thank you for your Regulation 28 report of 11 March 2025 following the inquest into the death of Marta Elena Vento. I apologise for the delay in responding, which has been the result of the need to work through the complex issue that you have raised about the sharing of risk information between the prison and the sentencing court where a prisoner has been held in custody on remand.

I know that you will share a copy of this response with Ms Vento's family, and I would first like to express my condolences for their loss in such tragic circumstances.

HMPPS is conscious of the complex and challenging issues associated with the management of people on remand who may be subject to release immediately from court on bail or on licence, or as a result of time served, and we are undertaking a range of activities better to understand and address these issues.

The National Immediate Release Task and Finish Group has established immediate release pathfinders in three prisons, with a focus on developing multi-agency approaches to identify in advance those people who may be immediately released from court and to take steps to ensure that they are supported and managed effectively. This includes exploring methods of information exchange for those on remand who have an upcoming court case which may result in immediate release.

More generally, our Prison Safety Policy Framework requires Governors to ensure that risk information is shared with probation services and others with responsibilities for the prisoner on release. However, whilst this broad requirement is clear, there is currently no routine way

of sharing with courts information about behaviour in custody that may impact on risk of harm or offending. In response to the concerns that you have raised, I have asked the Safety Group in HMPPS to give further consideration to this specific area when they undertake a review of this policy framework later in the 2025-26 business year. This work will be informed by the results of the pathfinder projects described above.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns to my attention and I trust that this response provides assurance that we will be taking forward action to address them.

Yours sincerely,

Director General of Operations