



Department
of Health &
Social Care

From [REDACTED]
*Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
for Patient Safety, Women's Health
and Mental Health*

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Our Ref: [REDACTED]

HM Senior Coroner Clare Bailey
Teesside and Hartlepool Coroner's Service
Middlesbrough Town Hall
Albert Road
Middlesbrough
TS1 2QJ

18 August 2025

Dear Ms Bailey,

Thank you for your Regulation 28 report to prevent future deaths dated 28 May 2025 about the death of Dean Bradley. I am replying as the Minister with responsibility for mental health and patient safety.

Firstly, I would like to say how saddened I was to read of the circumstances of Mr Bradley's death, and I offer my sincere condolences to his family and loved ones. The circumstances your report describes are concerning and I am grateful to you for bringing these matters to my attention.

I have noted the contents of your report, and the matters of concern raised. In response, I have liaised with the NHS North East and Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) who will be responding to you directly.

The ICB has advised that it commissions a 24/7 mental health crisis assessment suite based on the Roseberry Park Hospital site in Middlesbrough, alongside a dedicated mental health crisis response and home treatment team. These services provide timely assessment, support and intervention to individuals in crisis, including individuals who may be unable to participate in an assessment due to their level of intoxication.

The crisis assessment suite and the crisis team were available and fully operational at the time of Mr Bradley's death but were not contacted during the events leading to his death.

The ICB has also advised that, while clinical judgement will always factor in a person's level of intoxication, this is not a barrier to initial engagement, and there is no blanket rule preventing assessment while a person is intoxicated.

Your report also mentions Right Care, Right Person (RCRP). As you may be aware, this is a police-led initiative that is being rolled out nationally to reduce police time spent on health and social care related incidents, with a particular focus on mental health. At

the centre of the RCRP approach is a threshold to assist police in making decisions about when it is appropriate for them to respond to incidents which relate to people with mental health needs. Under RCRP, police will continue to be involved in incidents where there is a real and immediate risk to life or serious harm or responding to a report of crime. To minimise delays to handovers of care between the police and mental health services, local areas should be working towards handovers taking place within one hour from arrival at an appropriate health setting (unless mutually agreed in relation to a particular incident on a case-by-case basis). An Oversight Group has been set up by the Home Office and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), in partnership with NHS England (NHSE) and the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC), in order to provide a national level forum to regularly review any concerns/issues with RCRP implementation.

I understand that Cleveland Police began to implement this approach in 2024, so while it would not have been relevant to this case, it should be helpful in assisting Cleveland Police, working in partnership with the NHS locally, in making decisions about responses to future incidents relating to people with mental health needs.

Further information on Right Care Right Person is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-partnership-agreement-rightcare-right-person/national-partnership-agreement-right-care-right-person-rcrp>

We are also committing £26 million in capital investment to support people in mental health crisis, including opening new mental health crisis centres, which aim to provide accessible and responsive care for individuals in mental health crisis. This builds on the hundreds of alternative crisis services, including crisis cafes, sanctuaries and crisis houses, put in place in recent years, that provide supportive environments outside of traditional clinical settings, and 33 new or improved health-based places of safety.

I hope this response is helpful. Thank you for bringing these concerns to my attention.

All good wishes,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and name of the official.