



HM Prison &
Probation Service

[REDACTED]
Director General of Operations
HM Prison and Probation Service
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16 July 2025

Dear Ms Brown,

REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS: MR SAMUEL STEWART

Thank you for your Regulation 28 report of 28 May 2025, addressed to the Governor of HMP Wormwood Scrubs and the Ministry of Justice (MOJ), as well as to the healthcare providers at the prison, Practice Plus Group (PPG) and Barnet, Enfield and Haringey (BEH) Mental Health Trust. I am responding on behalf of the first two recipients.

I know that you will share a copy of this response with Mr Stewart'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 expressed concerns regarding a lack of clarity about the actions that should be taken when a prisoner who is residing on an Incentivised Substance Free Living (ISFL) wing produces a positive result in a drug test.

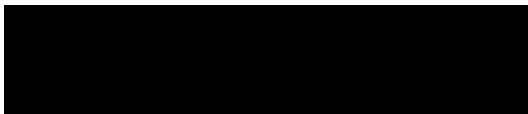
Our Prison Drugs Strategy, published in 2019, expresses our commitment to respond effectively when an individual fails a drug test, by offering support and treatment to those who want to abstain, and clear guidance about sanctions for repeat offenders who will not engage with support. At HMP Wormwood Scrubs there is a local policy, agreed between the prison and the Forward Trust, who are subcontracted by their healthcare provider Practice Plus Group, with regards to the actions that should be taken by both prison and healthcare staff if a prisoner tests positive for illicit substances whilst residing on the ISFL wing.

Following a positive test prison staff are required to complete a referral to the Forward Trust. It is then the responsibility of healthcare staff to take the subsequent actions, such as discussing the positive result with the prisoner. I have received assurances from the

Governor of HMP Wormwood Scrubs that she has reminded all managers on the IFSL wing, in writing, of the requirements following a positive test. The managers have and will continue to remind staff working in the ISFL of their duties during briefings.

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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Interim Director General of Operations