



Department  
of Health &  
Social Care

  
*Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for  
Women's Health and Mental Health*

*39 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0EU*

Laura Bradford, HM Senior Coroner, East Sussex



05 March 2026

Dear Ms Bradford,

**Inquest following the death of Oliver Long – Response to regulation 28**

I write on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) to acknowledge receipt of the Regulation 28 Report to Prevent Future Deaths, which was issued on 14 January 2026 following the inquest into the death of Oliver Long. The report was addressed to DHSC, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), the Department for Education, and the Gambling Commission.

On behalf of the department, I would like to offer my sincere condolences to Ollie's family and friends on their tragic loss. His death, under such tragic circumstances, serves as a stark reminder of the devastating impact that gambling-related harm can have on individuals and those close to them. The Government recognises the seriousness of these harms and is committed to protecting individuals and communities and strengthening protections through ongoing regulatory reform.

In relation to the matters of concern set out in your report, DCMS, as the lead government department responsible for gambling policy and regulation, is leading the development of a single cross-agency response, working collaboratively with relevant policy officials across the named organisations. DHSC fully supports this approach and is actively contributing to the response, particularly in respect of public health considerations.

A substantive response addressing the concerns raised in your report will be submitted to you by DCMS on behalf of all named recipients within the statutory timeframe.

