



HM Prison &
Probation Service

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Mrs D Hocking
Coroner for Leicester City and
South Leicestershire
Town Hall
Leicester
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25 March 2026

Dear Mrs Hocking,

**REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS: MR NIGEL ANTHONY
FECKEY**

Thank you for your Regulation 28 report of 29 January 2026, addressed to Lord Timpson, Minister of State for Prisons and Probation and Reducing Reoffending, and the Secretary of State for Justice. I am responding to your report as the Interim Director General of Operations for His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS).

I know that you will share a copy of this response with the family of Mr Feckey, and I would 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.

Following evidence heard at the inquest you have raised a concern regarding the location and management of people convicted of sexual offences (PCOSOs), specifically the practice of housing them alongside the general prisoner population rather than on separate wings.

The management of PCOSOs is complex, and we continue to review, refine and adapt our approach to supporting this cohort as we learn more about their diverse needs. Our guidance document, *The HMPPS Approach to the Management and Rehabilitation of People Convicted of Sexual Offences*, provides evidence-based guidance for governors and

directors to support them to make safe and appropriate decisions on accommodation arrangements. The guidance sets out that governors and directors have discretion over whether PCOSOs should be integrated or separated, and that consideration should be given to the specifics and facilities of each establishment. For example, the size of the prison, cohort mix, availability of activities and courses, and the regional support available should be factors in decision making as well as prisoner concerns around risk and safety. This ensures that decisions are tailored to local risks and resources with the flexibility to make changes when required rather than relying on a 'one size fits all' model. You heard evidence at the inquest that HMP Fosse Way have now created two separate houseblocks and that PCOSOs are given the option of locating there which most, but not all, choose to do.

A small number of prisons operate fully integrated 'offence neutral' regimes in which prisoners are not separated on the basis of their offence, and some adopt partial integration, mixing cohorts, including PCOSOs, for certain activities such as work, education, and faith services, while other prisons do not integrate at all. The closed male estate is broadly separated into three main functions: reception, training and resettlement prisons. This structure enables governors and directors to commission and tailor services according to the function of their prison and to meet the needs of the specific cohorts held there. Under this model, PCOSOs will progress through to the resettlement cohort as they prepare for release back into the community.

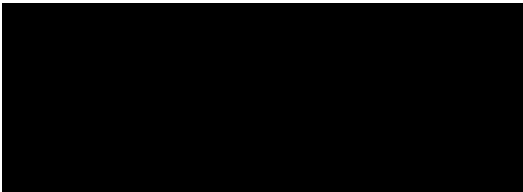
A fundamental aspect of resettlement prisons is developing a rehabilitative culture that allows prisoners to focus on preparing for their return to the community. Once prisoners reach this phase of their sentence, their offence type is no longer a determining factor in their treatment within the prison system. The resettlement needs of PCOSOs are shared with other cohorts and by operating in an 'offence neutral' way and locating all resettlement prisoners together, prisoners have improved access to services as these can be delivered more efficiently, leading to improved outcomes for all, and contributing to a rehabilitative culture.

HMPPS is committed to supporting PCOSOs to progress through the prison system, working on rehabilitation, and feeling supported to be ready to leave prison. Whilst it will not always be appropriate or operationally feasible to maintain complete separation from the wider prison population there are a number of ways that staff provide support to prisoners who feel vulnerable or at risk from others either due to their offence or for any other reason. For example, the Offender Management in Custody (OMiC) model sets out that all prisoners are allocated a key worker. Key workers aim to build constructive, supportive and motivational relationships with prisoners through regular and consistent key work sessions. These sessions provide an opportunity for prisoners to discuss wellbeing and to raise any issues, including any risk related concerns. Key workers will escalate and document any concerns raised, particularly in relation to safety, bullying and/or intimidation through established channels so that individual prisoners can be monitored and supported appropriately whilst also challenging the behaviour of perpetrators. It is imperative that governors and directors give thorough consideration to, and maintain oversight of, concerns relating to safety,

intimidation and violence or threats of violence, in order to assure themselves that they have made the most appropriate decision regarding the level of integration within their prison, and that they feel empowered to make changes where appropriate to support prisoners.

Thank you again for bringing your concern to my attention. I hope that this response provides assurance that whilst some prisons do operate an integrated, 'offence neutral' regime, this is to encourage and support all prisoners towards resettlement and release, with access to the rehabilitative opportunities required to successfully transition back into the community. I hope that you are assured that governors and directors continue to review and make changes where required, and that there are a range of established risk management processes and safeguards in place to support the safety and wellbeing of PCOSOs throughout their sentence.

Yours sincerely,



Director General of Operations