



HM INSPECTORATE OF PRISONS
3rd floor 10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU



**HM Deputy Chief Inspector of Prisons
MARTIN LOMAS**

4th June 2026

Sean Cummings
Assistant Coroner
HM Coroner's Office
Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Central Milton Keynes
MK9 3EJ

Dear Mr Cummings,

RONALD WILLIAM MEIKLE – Prevention of Future Deaths Report

Thank you for sharing your regulation 28 report to prevent future deaths with HM Inspectorate of Prisons. We are saddened to learn of the findings of your investigation.

I acknowledge the delay in HMI Prison's response and sincerely apologise for any inconvenience caused. Please be assured that we take these matters very seriously.

HMI Prisons is an independent inspectorate. We provide scrutiny of the conditions for and treatment of prisoners and other detainees and report publicly on our findings. HMI Prisons' inspections are carried out against published inspection criteria known as Expectations. Many of the issues highlighted in your report are areas covered via our Expectations and are therefore matters which our inspectors will consider at each inspection. For example, in relation to safety, our expectations state: "Prisoners are safe from exposure to substance misuse and effective drug supply reduction measures are in place."

Other issues raised in your report such as the management of self-isolation, debt, fear and vulnerability and delay or insufficiency in mental health and psychiatric input are also covered in our Expectations.

Some of the particular concerns you raise in Mr Meikle's case around staffing shortages and operational pressures are sadly issues on which we have reported all too often recently and on which we have raised concerns in our most recent annual report.

As you will be aware, the Chief Inspector invoked the Urgent Notification process following our unannounced inspection of HMP Woodhill in March 2026. During this inspection, we noted that drugs were far too easily available and that the prison was fundamentally unsafe.

We will keep your findings on file so that, when we next inspect HMP Woodhill, inspectors are aware of this information and can follow up as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

