

Action Plan in response to the PPO Report into the death of Mr Russell Irvine on 07 November 2022 at HMP Durham

Rec No	Recommendation	Accepted / Not accepted	Response Action Taken / Planned	Responsible Owner and Organisation	Target Date
1	The Governor and Head of Healthcare should review reception procedures to ensure that all staff have access to and consider relevant information, including digital PERs and prison records when assessing the prisoner's risk.	Accepted	<p>Both the Governor and Head of Healthcare are committed to joint working and acknowledge the need for continued assurance of processes and procedures.</p> <p>In July 2023, a meeting was held in partnership with both healthcare and the prison, to review reception processes. As a result of those discussions an action plan has been produced and suggested changes have already been successfully trialled. Work is ongoing to embed these updated processes and to consider what further improvements can be made to ensure prisoners who arrive in large numbers later in the day can be seen by healthcare in a more timely fashion. This will enable the effective management of risk and ensure that all pertinent risk information, including digital PERs and prison records, is accessible to all relevant partners so</p>	Head of Operations HMPPS and Head of Healthcare Spectrum	September 2023

			<p>that it can be considered when assessing the prisoner's risk and shared accordingly.</p> <p>In addition, a further review will be undertaken to ensure that all first night information can be accessed and utilised by all partners. Monitoring will then take place to ensure all risk information is readily available to all staff when assessing a prisoner's risk.</p>		
2	The Governor and Head of Healthcare should ensure that staff do not rely on a prisoner's presentation alone when assessing suicide and self-harm risks	Accepted	<p>The National Safety team has recently delivered risks, triggers and protective factors training to all Custodial Managers and Supervising Officers. Risk and trigger training will continue to be delivered locally to ensure staff remain skilled in the identification of risk and are aware that they should not rely on a prisoner's presentation alone. The Group Safety team have also been trained as trainers to support the delivery of training for new staff .</p> <p>Healthcare staff continue to access ACCT v6 awareness training and further training is planned between the safer prisons hub manager and the healthcare department to expand knowledge of ACCT documentation.</p> <p>The training provided to both prison and healthcare staff reiterates the need to consider all information available to ensure that risk is fully assessed. Where a risk of suicide and/or self-harm is identified this must be documented</p>	Head of Safer Prisons HMPPS and Head of Healthcare Spectrum	Completed

			<p>clearly and evidenced appropriately on both prison and healthcare systems.</p> <p>The structure of the safer prisons team has also recently changed. A substantive head of function is now in place and a new safer prisons hub manager role introduced, which has allowed for a new focus within the department. This has included a drive to promote the effective assessment and documentation of risk, which has seen positive improvements regarding defensible decision making, including the need to consider all available information rather than relying on how a prisoner is presenting.</p> <p>The Vulnerabilities Assessment, which is used in reception and as part of the first night assessment, has also been reviewed in consultation with healthcare partners. This is a central point for all risk information to be considered and documented by both healthcare and prison staff.</p>		
3	<p>The Head of Healthcare should ensure that staff are aware of their responsibilities under the food refusal policy, including sharing information with prison staff and completing an incident report.</p>	Accepted	<p>The Food and Fluid toolkit is readily used as part of healthcare provision. To provide further oversight, a regional meeting has been implemented which considers all food refusal cases, to ensure there is an effective management of risk.</p> <p>The use of multi-disciplinary meetings, which encompasses all relevant partners, ensures</p>	Head of Healthcare Spectrum	Completed

			<p>information is shared in a timely and appropriate manner.</p> <p>Healthcare is confident in their use of the Food and Fluid toolkit, which is followed efficiently. To ensure that the prison and healthcare work together, information is also shared daily in the morning managers meetings. The number of prisoners on food refusal is discussed to ensure effective management and awareness for all involved with their care.</p>		
4	The Governor should implement a process for monitoring food collection, to ensure follow up action can be taken where necessary	Accepted	<p>The current process for the collection of meals allows staff to identify if prisoners have or have not collected their meals on a daily basis.</p> <p>However, additional measures will be implemented to ensure that staff consider the information that is available to them regarding non-collection of meals and relay this to healthcare so that appropriate action can be taken.</p>	Head of Residence HMPPS	September 2023
5	The Head of Healthcare should ensure that clinical checks on prisoners who are refusing food and/or fluids are carried out and recorded appropriately to ensure risks are managed	Accepted	A wing ledger is utilised to show who is required to be seen and on which wing, daily. This is then used to deploy staff effectively to areas of the prison which require them. Once the prisoner has been placed onto the wing ledger they are visited by healthcare staff where a NEWS score is given and appropriate action is taken depending on the outcome of this score.	Head of Healthcare Spectrum	Completed

			In addition, this information is documented on SystemOne records, and prison staff are updated with appropriate action to take forward.		
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