

Action Plan in response to the PPO Report into the death of Mr Melvin McFadden on 12 March 2023 at HMP Northumberland

Rec No	Recommendation	Accepted / Not accepted	Response Action Taken / Planned	Responsible Owner and Organisation	Target Date
1	The Director should ensure that all staff undertaking risk assessments for prisoners taken to hospital understand the legal position on the use of restraints and that assessments fully take into account the prisoner's health; are based on the actual risk the prisoner presents at the time; and are not used during serious or invasive treatment, unless there are exceptional reasons for doing so.	Accepted	<p>The Director, supported by the Head of Security, will conduct a full briefing session for managers involved in the decision-making process for escort risk assessments and assessments for prisoners who are admitted into hospitals as an inpatient. This briefing will include guidance from the Graham judgement and handcuffing arrangements.</p> <p>The Head of Healthcare will ensure all nursing staff are briefed on expectations and will attend the manager briefing sessions.</p> <p>The Escort and Bed watch Risk Assessments will be reviewed to ensure there are prompts for consideration and justification to assist managers.</p>	Director Sedexo Head of Healthcare Spectrum	December 2023

			A review of the level of restraints will be undertaken at each management visit or in the event any circumstances change.		
2	The Operational Security Group Director for HMPPS should monitor, over the next three months, how many prisoners at HMP Northumberland are escorted to hospital without restraints (for inpatient admissions and outpatient appointments) and report back to the Ombudsman.	Accepted	<p>HMP Northumberland and seven other prisons will submit copies of all risk assessments for hospital escorts and bed watches to the Security Procedures Team so that the level of compliance with the policy can be assessed. This assessment will also be informed by further analysis of recent PPO recommendations.</p> <p>The results of this work will be fed back at quarterly meetings between the Operational Security Group Director for HMPPS and the Ombudsman.</p> <p>A Security Briefing Note has been issued to all Governors/Directors and security teams to remind them of the importance of balancing risk-based security requirements with individual prisoner needs on hospital escorts and bed watches, particularly with regards to cuffing arrangements.</p>	Operational Security Group Director for HMPPS	<p>December 2023 – Security Briefing Note issued and monitoring of risk assessments commences</p> <p>January 2023 – first quarterly meeting with PPO</p> <p>February 2023 – further analysis of recent recommendations</p>