

Action Plan in response to the PPO Report into the death of

Mr Ronald Meikle on 30 April 2024 HMP Woodhill

Rec No	Recommendation	Accepted / Not accepted	Response Action Taken / Planned	Responsible Owner and Organisation	Target Date
1	The Governor should ensure that there is clear guidance and training for all staff on actions to take when a prisoner appears to be under the influence of drugs and that a robust quality assurance process is introduced to monitor and ensure that staff comply with local guidance.	Accepted	<p>In July 2024, HMP Woodhill recruited a permanent Drug Strategy Lead who introduced an under the influence monitoring log as a quality assurance process. This ensures staff have carried out cell searches, updated NOMIS, reported the incident via the daily briefing sheet, placed the relevant prisoner on report and whether an illicit substance misuse log had been opened. The Drug Strategy Lead monitors this log and any tasks that are not completed are addressed with the relevant member of staff.</p> <p>Additionally, the Drug Strategy Lead has carried out a meet and greet for all staff arriving on duty where they explained the actions to take if a prisoner is found under the influence of drugs and provided small reference cards for them to keep on their person. They have also attended wing</p>	Drug Strategy Lead, HMPPS	Completed

			<p>briefings to upskill staff on the actions to take when a prisoner appears to be under the influence of drugs.</p> <p>Furthermore, the prison has displayed information setting out all the key details on a notice board that staff pass as they arrive on duty.</p> <p>Nasal naloxone is also due to be rolled out at HMP Woodhill. This will form an essential element of the response to those being found under the influence.</p>		
2	<p>The Long Term High Security Deputy Director should devise a plan of action to satisfy herself that prison staff understand local and national expectations regarding blocked observation panels, including that prisoners are always challenged and blockages removed.</p>	Accepted	<p>The Prison Group Director will ensure the prison has a focus on clear, procedurally just, communication with staff and prisoners setting out the expectations and safety reasons why observations panels should not be blocked, any blockages to be removed and prisoners challenged.</p> <p>This will include Governor's communication to prisoners via prisoner laptops and notices, informing them of a zero-tolerance approach and sanctions using the Incentives Policy Framework.</p> <p>Additionally, communication to staff will highlight that they are instructed to adopt a</p>	<p>Prison Group Director (South), Governor, Deputy Governor, Head of Safety and Equalities and Heads of Residence, HMPPS</p>	February 2025

		<p>zero-tolerance approach to any observation panel that is blocked and to take action to remove the obstruction whatever the time of day or night.</p> <p>This understanding will be tested by the Duty Night Governor who should check a percentage of cells for covered observation panels as part of their night visit report. This report should be sent to the Deputy Governor and Senior Leadership Team for follow up action to be taken where necessary. Heads of Residence will also be required to quality assure whether staff have challenged the blocking of observation panels and take action to address any issues as necessary.</p> <p>Furthermore, Band 5 Custodial Managers and Band 4 Supervising Officers will ensure the importance of blocked observation panels is regularly included in staff briefings.</p> <p>The Safer Custody Team and Band 4 Floorwalkers will seek assurance that officers understand the importance of removing and challenging blocked observation panels and offer support to staff.</p>		
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