

**Prisons &
Probation**

Ombudsman
Independent Investigations

Independent investigation into the death of Mr Gary Taylor, a prisoner at HMP Littlehey, on 8 September 2025

A report by the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

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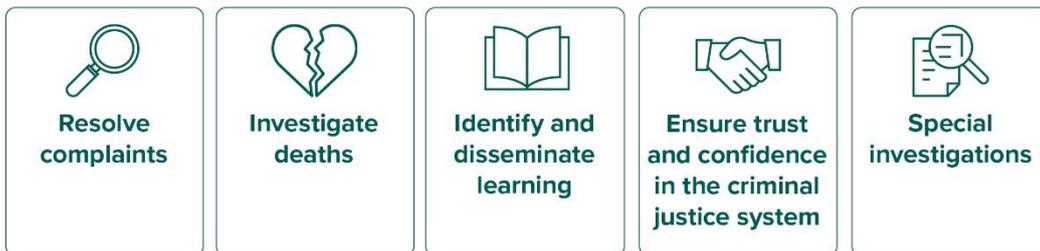
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OUR VISION

To deliver high quality and timely independent investigations and work closely with partners to achieve tangible benefits for the safety and confidence of those in custody and under community supervision.

WHAT WE DO



WHAT WE VALUE



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1. The Prisons and Probation Ombudsman aims to make a significant contribution to safer, fairer custody and community supervision. One of the most important ways in which we work towards that aim is by carrying out independent investigations into deaths, due to any cause, of prisoners, young people in detention, residents of approved premises and detainees in immigration centres.
2. If my office is to best assist His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) in ensuring the standard of care received by those within service remit is appropriate, our recommendations should be focused, evidenced and viable. This is especially the case if there is evidence of systemic failure.
3. In March 2018, Mr Gary Taylor was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment for sexual offences. He died of a heart attack on 8 September 2025, at HMP Littlehey. He was 82 years old. We offer our condolences to Mr Taylor's family and friends.
4. The Ombudsman's office wrote to Mr Taylor's daughter to explain the investigation and to ask if she had any matters she wanted us to consider. She did not respond to our letter.
5. NHS England commissioned an independent clinical reviewer to review Mr Taylor's clinical care at HMP Littlehey.
6. The clinical reviewer concluded that the clinical care Mr Taylor received at Littlehey was of a good standard and equivalent to that which he could have expected to receive in the community. She made no recommendations.
7. The PPO investigator investigated the non-clinical issues relating to Mr Taylor's care.
8. We did not find any non-clinical issues of concern. We make no recommendations.
9. We shared our initial report with HMPPS and the prison's healthcare provider, Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. They found no factual inaccuracies.

Adrian Usher
Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

December 2025

Inquest

At the inquest, held on 16 March 2026, the Coroner concluded that Mr Taylor died from natural causes.

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