

Action Plan in response to the PPO Report into the death of Mr Daniel Bates on 24/10/2021 at HMP Northumberland

Rec No	Recommendation	Accepted / Not accepted	Response Action Taken / Planned	Responsible Owner and Organisation	Target Date
1	The Governor should ensure that the key drug issues at HMP Northumberland are identified, that the local drugs strategy is appropriately reviewed and revised, where appropriate, to address them and that staff are aware of its contents and their responsibilities.	Accepted	HMP Northumberland's drug strategy is reviewed annually and plays an integral part in the management of potential risks associated with the use of illicit substances. The next review will take place in January 2023 The drug strategy lead sits on the monthly Local Threat Assessment Board where any concerns or trends analysed by the intelligence hub relating to illicit substance use are discussed. The intelligence hub disseminates all relevant information to residential managers and relevant departments to ensure they are aware of current concerns. To support this, the security department initiates intelligence led targeted searching based on the information provided. Identified risks are discussed at the monthly security meeting and are fed into the monthly security targets set for all staff. The drug strategy lead also chairs the monthly Drug Strategy meeting, which has a multi-	Director/Head of Safety/Drug Strategy Lead/Head of Security HMPPS	January 2023

			disciplinary attendance and where real time information and trends are considered. The drug strategy lead also attends the monthly Clinical Governance meeting to reinforce the importance of sharing information about key drug issues. In May 2021, HMP Northumberland began the process of introducing the HMPPS enhanced gate security (EGS) project. This involved recruiting and training additional staff, installing an x-ray machine and body portal for a staff search area and an x-ray machine and body portal for visitors. Additionally, an x-ray body scanner has been installed so that prisoners can be body scanned on arrival at the prison, with an additional body portal for the same purpose in the reception department. The prison has also increased its drug dog/handler numbers to support the search process as part of its drive towards reducing the use of illicit substances. The correspondence team work alongside the drug dog team to detect any illicit items or substances that come through the post. A rapiscan machine is used by the correspondence team to test any suspicious correspondence, including any correspondence of individuals or houseblocks that have been identified through security intelligence as presenting a risk of receiving illicit items or substances.		
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2	The Head of Healthcare at HMP Northumberland should ensure that requests made by prisoners for GP appointments and medication reviews are actioned appropriately.	Accepted	There is currently a workforce review taking place across HMP Northumberland Healthcare with a view to exploring roles and staffing numbers. Part of this review includes the GP and Advanced Nurse Practitioner roles and will identify any need to increase capacity. A triage of all prisoners' requests now takes place to ensure that applications are passed to the most appropriate clinician.	Head of Healthcare Spectrum Health CIC	February 2023
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