

BY EMAIL

27 March 2026

Reference: FOI 735 Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your email, which we received on 4 March 2026. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked us:

To provide information on the number of people held in prison, either serving a sentence or on remand, who have died by suicide in the last ten years, broken down by each prison in Yorkshire.

Our response:

We have searched our records and we hold the requested information. A copy of the information that you requested is shown below.

The below table shows the number of self-inflicted deaths (SIDs) in Yorkshire prisons that the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman (PPO) has been notified of from 1 January 2016 to 4 March 2026.

Prison	Year the PPO was notified of SID case											Total
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
Askham Grange	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Doncaster	2	0	1	6	3	2	2	2	1	1	0	20
Full Sutton	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	5
Hatfield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hull	2	0	2	2	2	3	0	1	1	3	0	16
Humber	4	1	1	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	0	13
Kirkclevington Grange	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Leeds	4	2	4	3	5	2	4	5	6	5	0	40
Lindholme	2	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	9
Moorland	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
Millsike	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Hall	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	5

Wakefield	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	1	0	8
Wealstun	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	5
Wetherby	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	20	6	13	15	13	10	11	13	14	12	2	129

You asked us:

To provide information on the number of these cases in Yorkshire in which a mental health referral had been made prior to the death (cases where the individual was known to have mental health concerns).

Our response:

Of the 129 self-inflicted between 2016 and 2026, 94 had mental health referrals prior to their death and 25 did not. The remaining 10 are cases that are still being investigated or are currently suspended. However, it is important to note that these referrals have not been filtered out by the date the referral was made. Moreover, some cases might have had a mental health referral and either died before their initial assessment or had been discharged from the mental health team before their death.

The figures for mental health referrals have been produced following a manual review of documents. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, manual processes may carry a limited margin of error.

I hope that this is helpful.

You have the right to appeal against our response if you think it is incorrect. Details can be found in the 'How to Appeal' section attached at the end of this letter.



Email: PPOMailFreedomofInformationRequests@ppo.gov.uk

The Prisons and Probation Ombudsman (PPO) carries out **independent investigations** into complaints and deaths in custody. The detailed role and responsibilities of the PPO are set out in our office's Terms of Reference. The PPO has three main duties:

- to **investigate complaints** made by prisoners, young people in detention (prisons and secure training centres), offenders under probation supervision and individuals detained under immigration powers (detained individuals)
- to **investigate deaths** of prisoners, young people in detention, approved premises' residents and detained individuals due to any cause, including any apparent suicides and natural causes
- to **investigate deaths of recently released prisoners** that occur within 14 days of release from prison (except homicide)

The purpose of these investigations is **to understand what happened, to correct injustices** and **to identify learning** for the organisations whose actions we oversee so that the PPO makes a significant contribution to safer, fairer custody and offender supervision.

We may use or share your data only to the necessary extent when conducting our independent investigations in the exercise of our official authority. We will share your data with third parties (e.g. the prison) in order to make sure the information is accurate; to prevent or detect failings; and to identify lessons learnt. We may sometimes need to share your data with third parties if required by law. We only keep your personal data for as long as it is needed, as set out in our data retention policy. If you need any further information about how your data is used, please contact us.

How to Appeal

Internal Review

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to an internal review. The handling of your request will be looked at by someone who was not responsible for the original case, and they will make a decision as to whether we answered your request correctly.

If you would like to request a review, please write or send an email to the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman's office **within two months of the date of this letter**, at the following address:

Prisons and Probation Ombudsman
Third Floor
10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU
E-mail: Mail@ppo.gov.uk

Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

If you remain dissatisfied after an internal review decision, you have the right to apply to the Information Commissioner's Office. The Commissioner is an independent regulator who has the power to direct us to respond to your request differently, if he considers that we have handled it incorrectly.

You can contact the ICO at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Internet address: <https://ico.org.uk/>