

RESPONSE TO 'AF' INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION

Rec No	Recommendation	Accepted / Not accepted	Response Action Taken / Planned	Responsible Owner and Organisation	Target Date
A	Assessments made by Criminal Justice Liaison and Diversion Services should be shared with courts when they are considering remanding a defendant to custody.	Accepted	Each patient is seen in reception prior to attending court to determine if the patient is 'fit' to attend. Mental health are involved if a patient is undergoing a gatekeeping assessment. Healthcare work in partnership with the prison's Offender Management Unit by taking a multi-disciplinary team approach in all gatekeeping assessments and communicate all ongoing mental health referrals directly with the court.	Head of Healthcare, Practice Plus Group	Ongoing
B	HMP Leicester should have a policy to ensure that proper inquiries are made about the gender of prisoners they receive.	Accepted	HMP Leicester has updated its reception policy and, during the initial private safety interview, prisoners are now asked relevant questions about their gender.	Head of Safety, HMP Leicester, HMPPS	Completed
C	ACCT Forms should be amended to ensure that consideration is given and recorded about whether placement in a Safer Cell is needed to keep a prisoner safe.	Accepted	ACCT version 6 (v6) was introduced in July 2021 and ACCT forms were updated as part of the changes. The Immediate Action Plan within ACCT v6 requires staff to consider the location of the person at risk of suicide and/or self-harm and any actions that should be taken to support them. The form prompts staff to consider where the person will be safest and to record the actions taken, including an explanation. The record of case review form requires those in attendance to document all areas of discussion, including identifying appropriate actions to	Safety Group, HMPPS	Completed



			address risks, needs and support the person through the period of crisis. The Prison Safety Policy Framework that came into effect on 1 January 2025 explains that the term 'safer cell' is no longer used and refers instead to 'ligature-resistant cells'. Paras 4.209 - 4.214 describe the policy for the use of these cells and mandate consideration of this for those at high risk of immediate harm to self.		
D	ACCT Forms should be amended to help ensure that a mental health practitioner is invited to, and attends, each ACCT review and where this is not possible, that every effort is made to find out their views about a particular person.	Accepted	With the introduction of ACCT v6, the record of case review lists those who should be invited to contribute to the first case review, and this includes a mental health worker. If the prisoner has mental health requirements, then the practitioner will be required to attend the following case reviews or provide a written contribution should there be an exceptional reason why they cannot attend in person. The case co-ordinator is required to record the method of contribution on the case review record. The Prison Safety Policy Framework is clear that attendance at case review meetings must be determined by the risks and triggers identified for the individual prisoner, the agreed support actions and the staff members relevant to providing support. A mental health practitioner will not be required in all cases, but must attend review meetings or provide a written contribution in all relevant cases.	Safety Group, HMPPS	Completed
E	Assessments undertaken by Criminal Justice Liaison and Diversion Services should be sent electronically to prison healthcare when an individual is remanded or sentenced to custody and a record made that it has been seen.	Accepted	There are a number of occasions where acutely unwell patients have arrived at HMP Leicester with no information/handover from Criminal Justice Liaison and Diversion Services (CJL&D). The prison is also used as a 'place of safety' whilst mental health services are trying to find a more appropriate alternative. Practice Plus Group's mental health team contact CJL&D, on each occasion they do not receive the information that they have needed.	Head of Healthcare, Practice Plus Group	Ongoing



F	Treatment/care plans should be clearly articulated in the care notes and a copy given to the patient, which can then be signed and kept by them.	Accepted	As part of Practice Plus Group's launch of Integrated Care Pathways, the healthcare at HMP Leicester create care plans with the patient present and confirm acceptance. A copy is given to the patient and held on SystmOne for all healthcare to access.	Head of Healthcare, Practice Plus Group	April 2025
G	Risks should be assessed at every opportunity and recorded and that a risk formulation and a risk management plan completed in line with policy.	Accepted	Risk assessments are formed as part of all mental health assessments and a risk management plan is identified, shared in MDTs and available on SystmOne.	Head of Healthcare, Practice Plus Group	Ongoing
H	Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust policies around care co-ordination and care planning should take into consideration those patients who are sent to prison.	Accepted	On being received by a mental health service, a patient should receive an initial CPA meeting within the first 28 days, at three months and every six months thereafter, or whenever any significant transition occurs. For individuals who reside in our care for short periods of time, the mental health service is expected to hold the case and pass on appropriate information to the receiving service on their departure. Community mental health teams should not discharge a patient whilst they are on remand or on a sentence of less than 12 months.	Head of Healthcare, Practice Plus Group	Ongoing
I	Where a prisoner has a community care coordinator, they should be informed immediately by prison healthcare when their patient is sent to prison.	Not accepted	Reconnect services established at HMP Leicester will liaise with community care coordinators. As part of the resettlement pathway for mental health, the team will contact the community service to ensure a smooth transition.	Head of Healthcare, Practice Plus Group	n/a
J	Where there is a suspicion that a prisoner admitted to hospital has taken illicit substances, tests should be	Not accepted	This would fall under the hospital's responsibility. Practice Plus Group do urine screens, but they do not screen for spice.	Head of Healthcare, Practice Plus Group	n/a



	carried out to determine whether this is the case.		When a patient is sent to hospital under any emergency, a discharge letter is provided by the hospital for review on arrival back into prison. If anything is amiss with the information or care, the reception nurse will contact the hospital directly.		
K	Vetting arrangements should be improved to ensure that prisoners suspected of involvement in drug dealing cannot work on the First Night Centre.	Accepted	HMP Leicester has updated its activity policy to ensure that a full security review takes place on those prisoners working in responsible positions prior to their appointment.	HMP Leicester, HMPPS	Completed
L	HMPPS should consider whether their policies in respect of the appointment, vetting and monitoring of orderlies and mentors who have access to potentially vulnerable prisoners are sufficiently robust.	Accepted	The Directorate of Security within HMPPS recently conducted an extensive review of several National Security Framework (NSF) policies. The 'Management of Internal Security Procedures Policy Framework' was published on 31 July 2024, with an implementation date of 10 January 2025. The policy includes requirements around the completion of the prisoner workplace and activity allocation risk assessment, as well as an updated risk assessment document which includes a question on whether the role will put a prisoner in a position to bully or be pressured to convey items. HMPPS has also recently produced guidance to assist prison staff in completing the risk assessment and appropriately assessing a prisoner's security risk regarding work and activity placement. Any appointment and ongoing monitoring on prisoner's workplaces is carried out locally by the prison. HMPPS will continue to take learning on the national policy and its implementation.	Directorate of Security, HMPPS	Completed

