

**Prisons &
Probation**

Ombudsman
Independent Investigations

Independent investigation into the death of Mr John Joughin, a prisoner at HMP Manchester, on 11 March 2022

A report by the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman



Our vision

To carry out independent investigations to make custody and community supervision safer and fairer



Our values

We are:

Impartial: we do not take sides

Respectful: we are considerate and courteous

Inclusive: we value diversity

Dedicated: we are determined and focused

Fair: we are honest and act with integrity



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Summary

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. We carry out investigations to understand what happened and identify how the organisations whose actions we oversee can improve their work in the future.
3. Mr John Joughin died of metastatic lung cancer (lung cancer, where the cancer has spread to the brain) in a hospice on 11 March 2022, while a prisoner at HMP Manchester. He was 87 years old. I offer my condolences to Mr Joughin's family and friends.
4. The clinical reviewer concluded that the clinical care Mr Joughin received at HMP Wymott, prior to his transfer to Manchester, was of variable equivalence to that which he could have expected to receive in the community. The clinical care Mr Joughin received at Manchester was assessed as equivalent to that which he could have expected to receive in the community. She made four recommendations regarding Mr Joughin's care. The recommendations relate to clinical issues that did not directly contribute to Mr Joughin's death, so we do not repeat them here. They will need to be addressed by the Head of Healthcare at Wymott and the Head of Healthcare at Manchester.
5. We found no non-clinical issues of concern. We make no recommendations.

The Investigation Process

6. NHS England and NHS Improvement commissioned an independent clinical reviewer to review Mr Joughin's clinical care at Manchester and Wymott.
7. The PPO investigator investigated non-clinical issues, including Mr Joughin's location, the security arrangements for his hospital escorts, liaison with his family and whether compassionate release was considered.
8. The PPO family liaison officer wrote to Mr Joughin's next of kin, his wife, to explain the investigation. She did not respond to our letter.
9. The initial report was shared with HM Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS). HMPPS did not find any factual inaccuracies.

Previous deaths at HMP Manchester

10. Mr Joughin was the 16th prisoner to die at Manchester since March 2020. Of the previous deaths, eight were from natural causes, three were self-inflicted and four were drug related. There are no similarities between the findings in these investigations and those identified in the case of Mr Joughin.

Key Events

11. On 1 September 2017, Mr John Joughin was sentenced to 9 years and 3 months imprisonment for sexual offences. He transferred to Wymott on 24 April 2018. At the first healthcare screening, healthcare staff recorded that Mr Joughin had chronic kidney disease (a long-term condition where the kidneys don't work properly), diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD - a lung condition which causes breathing difficulties) and poor mobility. Healthcare staff put care plans in place to ensure the appropriate management of these conditions.
12. On 3 June 2020, Mr Joughin and a prison GP discussed risks relating to resuscitation in the event that Mr Joughin's heart stopped. The GP said that resuscitation was not advisable for Mr Joughin due to his chronic kidney disease and COPD. Mr Joughin said he did not want anyone to resuscitate him if his heart or breathing stopped and signed an agreement to that effect.
13. Mr Joughin fell over six times between September 2021 and December 2021, due to his mobility issues. The falls resulted in minor injuries on some occasions, which were appropriately addressed.
14. On 8 November 2021, Mr Joughin had a heart attack and was transferred to hospital for monitoring until 10 November.
15. On 30 November, healthcare staff developed an older persons' care plan to manage Mr Joughin's quality of life. On 27 December, healthcare staff wrote on Mr Joughin's medical record that he was at risk of having falls. They created a fall prevention plan and a post-fall care plan.
16. On 29 December, Mr Joughin's keyworker recorded that Mr Joughin was feeling weak and struggling to move around.
17. On 30 December, Mr Joughin reported that he had vomited, was weary and was struggling with his mobility, particularly his right leg. A prison GP examined Mr Joughin and organised an ambulance to take him to A&E. Mr Joughin stayed in hospital and was diagnosed with lung cancer on 13 January 2022. The hospital found that the lung cancer had spread to Mr Joughin's brain, and Wymott placed him on the palliative care register on 14 January.
18. On 21 January, Mr Joughin left hospital and was transferred to Manchester's healthcare inpatient unit, so that he could be provided with the round-the-clock care he required. Mr Joughin's family were able to visit him daily.
19. On 9 February, Wymott submitted an application for Mr Joughin's early release on compassionate grounds to the Public Protection Casework Section (PPCS) of Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS). PPCS requested further medical information, which was provided via a GP at Manchester on 22 February.
20. On 11 February Mr Joughin moved to a hospice for end of life care. He died on 11 March with his family present. PPCS had not made a decision on compassionate release at the time of Mr Joughin's death.

Post-mortem report

21. The Coroner accepted the cause of death provided by the hospital doctor and no post-mortem examination was carried out. The doctor gave Mr Joughin's cause of death as metastatic lung cancer.

**Tallulah Frankland
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