

# Action Plan in response to the PPO Report into the death of Mr Jack Phillipson on 15/08/2021 at HMP Northumberland

Rec No	Recommendation	Accepted / Not accepted	Response Action Taken / Planned	Responsible Owner and Organisation	Target Date
1	The Director of Northumberland should ensure that staff have meaningful contact with prisoners on the Reverse Cohort Unit.	Accepted	<p>In April 2022, a community notice was issued to remind staff of the importance of having regular meaningful contact with prisoners located on their houseblocks who are subject to reverse cohorting or induction. They were also reminded that wellbeing checks must be carried out on all prisoners at every morning and afternoon unlock and that these must be signed for in the houseblock diaries by the member of staff conducting the checks.</p> <p>The fortnightly face-to-face keywork sessions in place also provide an opportunity for meaningful conversation. Currently those identified in priority groups, such as prisoners on an open ACCT or CSIP, receive a weekly face to face keywork session. The regularity of keywork sessions will increase as we move into business as usual, following the easing of restrictions that were in place during the pandemic.</p>	Head of Residence Sodexo	Completed



2	<p>The Governor of Durham should ensure that all staff have a clear understanding of their responsibilities to manage prisoners at risk of suicide and self-harm in line with national guidelines, including that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All relevant information about risk is recorded, shared and considered, and ACCT procedures are started when indicated.</li> <li>• Post-closure reviews consider all new information about risk, and re-start ACCT procedures when indicated.</li> </ul>	Accepted	<p>The new version of ACCT, which places a greater emphasis on identifying risks and triggers, was introduced nationally in July 2021 and is now embedded at HMP Durham. Residential Units display information reminding staff of their responsibilities in relation to managing those prisoners at risk of suicide and self-harm and user guides have been issued to all staff electronically. The prison now has 3 operational staff trained in the ACCT v6 assessor training for trainers, which has meant that ACCT training can be delivered locally.</p> <p>Risk and trigger information has also been circulated to all staff to ensure they are aware of the potential risks and triggers to be considered when assessing and managing a prisoner's risk of suicide or self-harm and that any issues that may affect risk must be recorded. It also reminded staff to consider risk information and to start ACCT procedures where appropriate.</p> <p>The risk and trigger guidance also applies to the procedures around post closure reviews and the need to take any new information into account when assessing risk to ensure ACCT procedures are restarted where appropriate.</p> <p>In addition, the prison has a programme of Quality Assurance in place to ensure good practice continues throughout the ACCT document,</p>	Head of Safety HMPPS	Completed
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			including during the post closure period, with feedback and support provided wherever a training need is identified.		
3	The Head of Healthcare at Northumberland should ensure that the reception health screen is completed on arrival for all prisoners, or at the earliest opportunity afterwards for those prisoners who arrive very close to or after the healthcare unit closes.	Accepted	To ensure that all new arrivals have been seen by Healthcare either on the day that they arrive or the next morning, the Lead Reception Nurse monitors allocation at the Morning Clinical Meeting.  In addition, reception processes are also regularly checked and audited as part of the Reception Nurse's clinical supervision.	Head of Healthcare Spectrum	Completed
4	The Head of Custodial Contracts for HMPPS should write to the Ombudsman within 28 days, setting out steps he has taken to satisfy himself that the Director of Northumberland has taken sufficient action to ensure that staff understand the need to enter a cell at night when there is a potential risk to life, in line with PSI 24/2011.	Accepted	A letter has been sent from the Head of Custodial Contracts to the Ombudsman setting out the action that has been taken to ensure staff at HMP Northumberland understand the need to enter a cell at night when there is a potential risk to life, in line with PSI 24/2011.	Head of Custodial Contracts HMPPS	Completed



5	The Director of Northumberland should ensure that the prisoner's family is informed as soon as possible after a death in custody, in line with national guidance, and that any discussions with the police about breaking the news of a death are contemporaneously recorded.	Accepted	Duty Managers and Silver Commanders have been reminded that the next of kin must be contacted as soon as is practically possible after the death. They have also been advised that salient points of interactions with the police or other external agencies must be noted within the contingency plans or contemporaneous notes. These notes will form part of the post-incident evidence pack.	Director of HMP Northumberland Sodexo	Completed
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