



Ministry
of Justice



Home Office



Department
of Health &
Social Care

Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody

Note of the IAP virtual weekly meeting 18 March 2020

Attendees:

Juliet Lyon - Chair

Seena Fazel

John Wadham

Jenny Talbot

Deborah Coles

Kish Hyde, Secretariat

Adrian Blake, Secretariat

Alison Bernard, Secretariat

Nick Poyntz, Ministry of Justice

Apologies:

Jenny Shaw (JS)

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- Juliet will send letter to Prisons Minister about actions and advice IAP has given, and ask for reassurances, where possible, re safeguards, scrutiny and human rights obligations. Also on opportunity for releases - at least in prisons and IRCs; in police stations more arrest and summons rather than arrest and detention?
 - Nick to arrange phone meetings with co-sponsors and operational leads probably on a sector specific basis - Meetings to capture protection plans in prisons, MHA detention, Immigration, police stations (with police lead and Home Office). The meetings also to capture need for investigatory systems to function with increased number of deaths (may also need meetings/email contact with IOPC, PPO etc)
 - Panel members to send in their thoughts on practical measures /safeguards/public health precautions in prisons
 - Juliet and panel will work with Prison Radio and Inside Time on getting communications/clear information to prisoners and family members
 - Adrian to work with panel to put latest information on the website as hub

- Seena to share Lancet article
- Panel to share relevant international information
- John to formulate/raise IAP question re legality of immigration detention where there is no reasonable prospect of being deported
- Deborah to forward information regarding inquests after speaking to the Chief Coroner's office
- Juliet/Kish to ask Inside Time to change IAP Freepost address from Petty France to IT offices from where they can be forwarded.
- Panel to give their feedback on podcast of KS conference
- Kish to arrange weekly meetings with panel
- Agenda to be sent round in advance of weekly meetings
- Ongoing work to be on agenda for next meeting
- Panel to consider meeting those involved in inspecting/visiting places of detention HMIP, HMIC, IMB, ICVA, CQC etc. (maybe sector by sector)? Panel might ask for their help to focus more than usual of preventing risks to life; even if these bodies are reducing visits they could help to be IAP eyes and ears?
- Panel to provide a basic factsheet (one page written simply) about the current situation. Almost the sort of thing on the NHS website.
- Other things to explore at future meetings:
 - i) Speaking to those involved in government in planning quarantine facilities?
 - ii) Opportunities for MHA releases (? difficulties of care in community v being in a hospital becomes increasingly dangerous?)
 - iii) Contact with Magistrates/judges on escalation risks in prison?