

**Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody  
Minutes of IAPDC meeting: 10 November 2022**

**Attendees:**

Juliet Lyon - Chair  
Jenny Shaw  
Seenaa Fazel  
Kish Hyde  
Piers Barber  
Sam Johnston Hawke  
Lana Ghafoor

**Apologies:**

Deborah Coles  
Jenny Talbot

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**Item 1: Panel only meeting**

**Item 2: Feedback from panel only session, minutes and actions**

1. The panel asked about the status of public appointment campaigns. Piers updated:
  - *Panel member:* advice had previously gone to the Deputy Prime Minister during his first time in post, so the MoJ Public Appointments Team (PAT) have sent a request to confirm that the previous decision still stands.
  - *Chair:* a shortlist of successful candidates has been selected and the submission is with ministerial Private Office. PAT have recommended that Ministers meet candidates before confirming appointment.
  - *Other members:* submission to go to advert is drafted and waiting internal clearance.
2. The panel had discussed concerns about pressure on custodial services and workforce constraints and shortages and increased risk of self-harm and suicide.
3. The panel had also discussed setting dates for panel meetings in 2023. The format would continue with meetings taking place every 6-8 weeks and every other meeting to be held in person, ideally with all panel members and guests attending in person.
4. The panel had agreed to have Christmas lunch on 12 December at 3pm.
5. There were no comments on the minutes and actions.

**Action 1: Secretariat to arrange meeting dates for January - June 2023 with panel members.**

**Item 3: Debrief on DHSC suicide plan event**

6. Panel members commended the organisation of the roundtable. More than 60 participants had attended and provided useful input. Piers stated that it was good to hear from new voices and it had been a good use of the practitioner and stakeholder group.

7. Seena cautioned that the group was small and selected so their comments have to be recognised as not being representative.
8. Jenny pointed to the importance of triangulating all sources of evidence and suggested taking the themes from the roundtable and relating them back to existing research. Juliet reflected that it was the small acts of kindness and cruelty that are remembered by people with lived experience and family members, and that these help others to understand their impact. Juliet stated that it was important to have an overview of the research and modifiable risk factors and that she would rely on Seena and Jenny for this.
9. In terms of next steps:
  - Sam and Lana are liaising with the Department of Health and Social Care on time scales for submitting evidence and their publication date.
  - Lana is analysing notes from the roundtable to scope initial findings.
  - The Secretariat would continue to analyse responses and work with Samaritan volunteers and National Prison Radio.
10. Panel members discussed whether to give feedback to the attendees. Juliet suggested sending an email to thank them for their contributions and restate the suggestion that they provide further material if they wished.
11. Panel members discussed the potential layout of the report, starting with existing evidence, then summarising the discussion from the roundtable, and concluding with findings and recommendations. The panel would aim to publish the report before end of January 2023, subject to DHSC's timeline.

**Action 2: Secretariat to put together proposed plan and next steps following suicide prevention roundtable and draft thank you note to roundtable delegates.**

**Action 3: Jenny Shaw to forward her notes from the suicide roundtable to the Secretariat.**

#### **Item 4: Engaging with bereaved families**

12. This item will be held over to the next meeting when it will be led by Deborah Coles.

#### **Item 5: Progress update on projects**

##### Preventing Future Deaths reports

13. Sam advised that the intention is for the paper presenting interim findings and next steps to be ready in time to present to the Ministerial Board later in the month. The panel then plan to work with bereaved families and service leads and complete a full report.
14. Juliet and Sam will be meeting the Chief Coroner on 17 November to discuss the proposals in the paper and how to present the item at the Board.

**Action 4: Interim report on PFDs to be prepared by Sam, Juliet, Deborah and Jenny S to be circulated to members of, and presented at, the Ministerial Board.**

#### Policing

15. Sam advised that the panel have received feedback on the report from key partners. Suggested changes will be shared with Juliet ahead of publication before the end of November, with advance copies sent to the new policing and health ministers.
16. The Home Affairs Select Committee inquiry deadline is 15 November and the panel will submit evidence drawing on the findings of the policing report.

**Action 5: Sam, Piers, Lana, Juliet and panel and secretariat colleagues to produce, publish and disseminate final report with advance copies and letters going to policing and health ministers and critical readers including Associations of Police and Crime Commissioners and Police Chiefs, the College of Policing, IOPC and NHS England.**

MHA evidence

17. Juliet gave oral evidence to the Bill Committee last week where she explained the points made in the panel's written evidence in further detail, including findings from the panel's policing report and concerns about lack of independent investigations and data issues relating to the deaths of people detained under the Mental Health Act.
18. The panel will submit further evidence on recent deaths in secure hospitals to the committee by deadline of 18 November. Jenny will liaise with Sam on drafting.

**Action 6: Sam and Jenny Shaw to liaise on drafting and submitting further evidence on the Mental Health Act bill.**

CPS event

19. This is postponed to a provisional date of 24 January 2023. Juliet was waiting to hear from the CPS if the new date suits all parties.

Immigration letters

20. Further letters have been sent to the Home Secretary on Rwanda, and to the Immigration Minister on Manston short-term holding facility. As yet there have been no responses. The panel agreed to ask co-sponsors to chase on these.

**Action 7: Secretariat to ask co-sponsors to chase responses to IAPDC letters about Rwanda to the Home Secretary and Manston to the Immigration Minister.**

**Item 6: AOB**

- Budget update: Kish advised that there had been minimal change to the budget since the last panel meeting. The spend to date was £1,781.
21. Paying people with lived experience: Kish had contacted the Women's Self-Harm Taskforce several times, including last week, and had received no reply to date.

**Action 8: Kish to follow-up with HMPPS Women's Team and DHSC colleagues about payment for people with lived experience consulted with as part of IAPDC projects.**

IAPDC statistical report

22. Juliet and Seena agreed that another panel data collection exercise would be timely; Seena thought there might be capacity within his team to undertake such a project and there therefore may not be a cost to the panel. Seena and Jenny agreed to discuss ahead of the next meeting in December.
23. Juliet asked the panel to think about how the remaining panel budget should be spent for discussion at the next meeting.

**Action 9: Seena and Jenny Shaw to discuss an IAPDC data collation exercise/ report and feedback at the December meeting on next steps.**

**Action 10: Panel members to consider how panel budget can be spent on projects for discussion at the next panel meeting.**

Date of next meeting:

**12 December 2022, 10.15am-2pm, 102 Petty France.**

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**Actions from meeting:**

- **Secretariat to arrange meeting dates for January - June 2023 with panel members.**
- **Secretariat to put together proposed plan and next steps following suicide prevention roundtable and draft thank you note to roundtable delegates.**
- **Jenny Shaw to forward her notes from the suicide roundtable to the Secretariat.**
- **Interim report on PFDs to be prepared by Sam, Juliet, Deborah and Jenny S to be circulated to members of, and presented at, the Ministerial Board**
- **Sam, Piers, Lana, Juliet and panel and secretariat colleagues to produce, publish and disseminate final report with advance copies and letters going to policing and health ministers and critical readers including Associations of Police and Crime Commissioners and Police Chiefs, the College of Policing, IOPC and NHS England.**
- **Sam and Jenny Shaw to liaise on drafting and submitting further evidence on the Mental Health Act bill.**
- **Secretariat to ask co-sponsors to chase responses to IAPDC letters about Rwanda to the Home Secretary and Manston to the Immigration Minister.**
- **Kish to follow-up with HMPPS Women's Team and DHSC colleagues about payment for people with lived experience consulted with as part of IAPDC projects.**
- **Seena and Jenny Shaw to discuss an IAPDC data collation exercise/ report and feedback at the December meeting on next steps.**
- **Panel members to consider how panel budget can be spent on projects for discussion at the next panel meeting.**