

Harris Review Meeting 14

10:30 – 16:00 8 January 2015

Room 8.29B, 102 Petty France

Present: Lord Toby Harris (TH), Dinesh Maganty (DM), Deborah Coles (DC), Stephen Cragg (SC), Philip Leach (PL), Matilda MacAttram (MM), Richard Shepherd (RS) Deborah Browne (DB), Robyn Malan de Merindol (RM), Graham Mackenzie (GM)

Apologies: Graham Towl, Meng Aw Yong

(Secretary's note, at the Chair's request the meeting paused at 11:00 for one minute of silence in which to reflect on the murders of the staff at the office of Charlie Hebdo magazine in Paris.)

Item 1: Minutes of previous meeting

1. The minutes of the meeting on 11 December 2014 were agreed.
2. DB clarified the position on the Declarations of Interest, the panel will be given further guidance on these which is being prepared by Legal Advisors.

Item 2: Action Log

3. DB updated the meeting on the progress against actions.

Item3: Consideration of NOMS submission and response to official questions

4. TH explained how, after a number of requests for an extension from NOMS for their submission, he chased NOMS before Christmas. The Secretariat received the submission very quickly after that.
5. The panel agreed that, particularly in view of the time NOMS had taken to prepare the submission, they were disappointed by the lack of substance and detail to the document received. Detail of initiatives that the panel have heard that NOMS have in place, or are looking at developing, to support safer custody were missing, including the work that NOMS staff have informally supplied to the Review when invited by the Secretariat to explain particular areas to the panel.
6. The panel was particularly disappointed that there was not sufficient detail about prison regimes, personal officers, and the audit and governance structures that ensure compliance with the PSIs and the recommendations to NOMS that may follow a self-inflicted death.
7. The panel expressed disappointment that the official questions that it had put to NOMS were not all addressed, particularly as collating the answers to these was given as a reason for the delay.
5. After going through the submission in some detail, follow up questions and clarifications were identified to put to NOMS. TH will write to Michael Spurr, NOMS CEO, about the submission.

Action 106: TH to write to Michael Spurr about the submission provided to the Review.

Action 107: Secretariat to collate the detail of the discussion into a document to feed back to NOMS.

Item 4 and 5 taken together: Consideration of updated summary of submissions and Discussion of panel observations on the full submission received.

6. The panel noted that much of the value on the submissions is in the way information has been expressed, some of which repeated and supported what the Review has also heard in other sources of evidence, as well as the additional material they provide. The summary is a useful document for the panel to call upon, it is not intended to replace the individual submissions.

Action 108: Secretariat to schedule fuller discussion of submissions at a later date and will look at ways of facilitating the panel to draw out key themes, examples and quotes that they want to use.

Action: Secretariat to schedule a full panel discussion on consent to share medical records.

Item 6: Consideration of Literature Review

7. The panel found the summary of the key themes of the Literature Review as collated by the Secretariat helpful. However, they expressed concern that publications that had been fed back to the University of Greenwich for inclusion were not included in the last draft. A decision will need to be made of how the Literature Review will be used in the final report, but it might just be used to just to support other findings. 8. DM told the panel about the paper in *The Lancet* that dealt specifically about death and self-harm in the prison environment, this was freely available and he would circulate the link to it.

Action 109: The article in *The Lancet* is to be circulated for the panel to consider.

Action 110: Secretariat to feedback issues around the Literature Review to analysts to discuss with the University of Greenwich and this piece of work is to be formally concluded.

Item 7: Final conclusions on Prison Visits

9. The panel agreed that the offender's voice should run through the report and that quotes obtained directly by the panel on visits and through the Young Adult engagement activities will be used.

Action 111: ALL let the secretariat know by 9 January of any additional comments to be added to the prison visit summaries.