



Ministry  
of Justice



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of Health

## Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody

### Minutes of the Independent Advisory Panel meeting

8 June 2016

Clive House, London

**Attendees:** Kate Lampard (KL) - Chair,  
Dinesh Maganty (DM)  
Matilda MacAttram (MM)  
Dr Meng Aw-Yong (MAY)  
Stephen Cragg QC (SC) (by telephone)  
Professor Graham Towl (GT)

Andrew Fraser (AF), Head of Secretariat  
Kishwar Hyde (KH), Secretariat  
Angie Hinksman (AH), Secretariat

Rosie Rand (RR), NOMS (by telephone) – for item 3  
Paul Holland (PH), NOMS (by telephone) – for item 3

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### 1. Welcome and Minutes from last meeting

- 1.1 KL welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 1.2 Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed – no amendments were noted.

### 2. Action log

2.1 Outstanding actions from the last panel meeting were:

- *MAY to speak to Nick Ephgrave to include comment on access to summary care records in custody policy.*

MAY confirmed that he had sent an email to Nick Ephgrave and was now in contact with College of Policing. MAY would keep the IAP updated on progress.

- *MAY to speak to NHS England Reference Group about access to summary records.*

MAY confirmed he would keep the IAP updated on progress.

- *Panel members to advise secretariat of skills needed by new panel members*

KL suggested that this was something that could be taken forward by the new Chair.

- *SC to liaise with Anne McDonald to discuss DOLS as a project for IAP.*

SC said he had been in touch with the Secretariat to help him arrange a meeting with Anne.

- *MM to meet Peter Clarke to discuss panel involvement with the National Preventative Mechanism.*

MM met Peter Clarke but noted that there is now a new Chair of the NPM and asked the Secretariat to help set up a meeting.

### **3. NOMS suicide and self-harm project**

3.1 RR explained that NOMS is working with partners to understand, explain and resolve the issue of the increase in self-inflicted deaths and self-harm in prisons. NOMS has put in place a project management structure to coordinate the various workstreams being taken forward. RR noted that PH was appointed earlier in the year to lead the project and planned to take a similar approach to that of the violence reduction project. PH explained that monthly project boards have been set up; the first took place on 28 April and included members from NOMS and NHS England. Working group meetings are also scheduled on a weekly basis with a remit to drive the work forward.

3.2 The scope of the project is limited to processes within prisons and will not address wider issues in the offender journey through the criminal justice system. A number of work streams have been identified including early days, staff support and safer custody resources. Leads for each of the streams have been identified and work is already progressing. The next project board is at the end of June.

3.3 KL and the panel expressed a desire for closer engagement with the project given that several members have experience of the issues that NOMS were tackling. RR assured the panel that NOMS is keen to engage with the panel's expertise. She said she was happy to share the project plan, and for her and PH to meet individual members so that they could input into the project plan and work streams at an early stage.

**Action 1: Secretariat to set up meetings between panel members, and RR and PH.**

### **4. Appointment of IAP Chair and panel membership recruitment**

#### Appointment of IAP Chair

4.1 AF advised that the Secretary of State had made a decision on his preferred candidate, and had written to his colleagues at the Home Office and Department of Health requesting their confirmation of the appointment. Once confirmed, an offer of appointment would be made to the successful candidate. It was hoped that the new Chair would be in place by late summer.

### Panel Membership recruitment

4.2 AF noted that the current panel members' contracts expire at the end of March 2017. The Public Appointments Team (PAT) need to start the recruitment campaign soon if new panel members are to be in post in April 2017. AF reported that PAT had also advised that Ministers were not minded to extend contracts so panel would need to re-apply if they want to continue as members. The advert is likely to be out in the autumn.

4.3 Panel members asked the Secretariat to inform PAT that it would be preferential to have staggered recruitment of panel members to allow some continuity to be maintained after recruitment campaigns.

**Action 2: Secretariat to discuss the possibility of staggered recruitment rounds for panel members.**

### **5. Stocktake/Review update:**

5.1 KL advised the panel of the main points of her review. The paper had been sent to the Secretary of State who indicated that he broadly agreed with the recommendations when he met with KL. Ministerial decisions on the details of the recommendations are forthcoming.

5.2 The panel had a brief discussion about KL's recommendations and it was noted that the key issue was how to make the most strategic use of the expertise of the panel members. It was agreed that the panel needed to discuss this further with the operational departments.

### **6. Remote Vital Signs (RVS) monitoring update**

6.1 DM advised he had met with NOMS, and separately with NHS England and OxeHealth. MAY noted that he is leading the Metropolitan Police review of the technology. DM and MAY explained the technology to the rest of the panel and agreed to continue to feed into the research and report back to the panel.

### **7. Quarterly Death in Custody statistics**

7.1 The combined quarterly statistics spreadsheet was circulated. The panel was advised that the information was restricted as parts of the data had not yet been published. The panel had a brief discussion of the data and asked the secretariat to circulate again when all data is available.

**Action 3: Secretariat to circulate again when all data is available.** *(Secretary's note: the Secretariat have checked the data and confirmed it is complete.)*

### **8. 2015 statistical analysis report - planning**

8.1 GT and AF noted that obtaining data from custodial sectors earlier than in previous years should enable the researchers to carry out more analysis, and allow for earlier publication of the report. The deadline for researchers' tender proposals to undertake the work is the end of June. The panel decided that they should all have the opportunity to input into the narrative and that a special meeting should be arranged for this purpose.

**Action 4: Secretariat to set up a panel meeting to discuss the narrative for the 2015 Statistical Analysis report.**

8.2 The deadline for data returns from sectors is end of June and the successful contractors would be given a six-week turn-around for analysis of the material. The final report should be published prior to the November Ministerial Board (8 November 2015), although in future years it was hoped that publication would take place in the summer.

**9. Update on workplans**

9.1 Copies of the workplan were circulated prior to the meeting. DM requested that the workstream on “Analysis of clinical reviews of detained patient SIDs in 2012 to produce recommendations for MBDC to promote learning to reduce deaths”, which would be undertaken as a pro-bono piece of work, should be progressed. The workstreams that form part of the NOMS suicide and self-harm project should also be considered for inclusion following the meeting with PH and RR.

**Action 5: Secretariat to progress pro-bono procurement on DM’s work on deaths of detained patients.**

9.2 GT had spoken to the analytical services about getting data for the workstreams on “Self-inflicted deaths of indeterminate sentenced prisoners, and “older prisoners” but the data has not yet been provided. The Secretariat agreed to chase the team for the data.

**Action 6: Secretariat to write to NOMS analytical Services requesting data on older prisoners and SIDs of indeterminate sentenced prisoners.**

9.3 MAY asked to add work-streams to the work-plan regarding developing a Service Level Agreement for the Acute Behavioural work, and guidance on responding to drug-packing. KL asked that he write to the Secretariat explaining the work in more detail.

**Action 7: MAY to write to Secretariat with details of new work-streams.**

**10. Information Sharing Statement (ISS) – Immigration detention**

10.1 The Secretariat reported that they have received an email voicing concerns about the inclusion of the IAP ISS by the Immigration services in their recent DSO. The panel discussed the issues raised and agreed that the inclusion of the ISS in the DSO was consistent with the overall aim of the appropriate sharing of information.

**Action 8: AF to send the panel’s response to the correspondent.**

**11. Any other business**

Forward Look:

11.1 The Secretariat asked Panel members to let them know of any meetings that they attend in their capacity as IAP members for input into the forward look.

Honorarium claims:

11.2 KH advised that guidelines require panel members to keep a detailed record of the time spent on IAP work.

Mental health assessment on commencement of ACCT:

11.3 DM raised concerns regarding the lack of a mandatory mental health assessments on the opening of an ACCT and asked that the panel look into this. AF said that he would investigate what the current guidance stated.

**Action 9: AF to check the guidance on mental health assessments on commencement of ACCT.**

Home Office Review of deaths and serious incidents in police custody

11.4 The review, led by Dame Eilish, is due to publish in the summer. The Panel asked to be sent the report when it is published.

**12. Date, Time and Venue of Future Meetings:**

- **Wednesday 7 September 2016 at 10.30am - 12.30pm**
- **Wednesday 7 December 2016 at 10.30am - 12.30pm**