

Action Plan in response to the PPO Report into the death of Mr Robert Stephens on 28 May 2021 at HMP The Verne

Rec No	Recommendation	Accepted / Not accepted	Response Action Taken / Planned	Responsible Owner and Organisation	Target Date
1	The Governor and Head of Healthcare should ensure that there is a process in place to transfer prisoners with a terminal diagnosis or whose medical needs cannot be met at The Verne to a more suitable environment at the earliest opportunity	Accepted	Processes are in place to consider and facilitate transfer of prisoners as a result of or linked to medical diagnosis. This involves inter-prison healthcare to healthcare liaison. Issues will be raised initially at operational meetings which take place Monday to Friday or with Duty Managers during weekends. The monthly healthcare operational delivery meeting will also review any relevant cases.	Head of Healthcare Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust	Complete
2	The Governor and Head of Healthcare should ensure that there is a suitable location where a prisoner can receive short-term 24-hour nursing care if required.	Accepted	Whilst the prison does now have a 24-hour social care facility, 24-hour nursing care would be considered and allocated a suitable location on a case-by-case basis. This issue would be initially explored via information exchange at daily operational briefings and more formally reviewed at the monthly healthcare operational delivery meeting.	Head of Healthcare Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust	Complete

3	The Governor should ensure that adequate supervision and support arrangements are in place for RSAs and issues they raise are discussed at the relevant social care MDT meeting.	Accepted	The Social Care Custodial Manager has regular meetings with the RSA lead and team to discuss caseloads and any concerns. An MDT held between healthcare, social care and the safety team is carried out regularly to discuss prisoners using RSA support. In house training is provided to new RSAs to ensure they have information and support when carrying out their duties.	Head of Safety HMPPS	Complete
4	The Governor should ensure that all staff understand and follow the safeguarding policy, particularly with regard to the division of responsibilities for action to be taken.	Accepted	Staff are informed of the presence, location, and content of both national and local policy guidance, including the division of responsibilities for action to be taken, via regular staff notices. Reference will also be made to this material during local training/briefing.	Governor HMPPS	Complete/Ongoing June 2024
5	The Governor should ensure that applications for early release on compassionate grounds for prisoners who meet the criteria are progressed and if in doubt staff should seek advice from HMPPS' Public Protection Casework Section (PPCS).	Accepted	This matter will now be discussed on a monthly basis at the operational delivery meeting held between healthcare staff and prison senior managers. Contact has been made with advisors within the PPCS and advice sought regarding ongoing and new cases.	Governor HMPPS	Complete/Ongoing