

Action Plan in response to the PPO Report into the death of Mr Benjamin Donnelly on 20 December 2022 at HMP Cardiff

Rec No	Recommendation	Accepted / Not accepted	Response Action Taken / Planned	Responsible Owner and Organisation	Target Date
1	The Director General of HMPPS should issue guidance to ensure that prisons are clear about their responsibilities to ensure that prisoners who attend court by video link are assessed for their risk of suicide and self-harm and seen by healthcare staff in the same way as prisoners attending court in person. Prison Group Directors should monitor compliance with this guidance.	Accepted	A new Prison Safety Policy Framework will explain that the period following a video court hearing is one of heightened risk. It will restate the requirement that where a change of circumstances or demeanour has occurred as a result of such a hearing, a fresh assessment of risk must be undertaken, with all available, relevant information being considered and the prisoner being spoken to. It will emphasise the need to seek official information about the outcome of the proceedings for use in this assessment and that it must not be done solely on the basis of the prisoner's account. Prison Group Directors will monitor their establishments' compliance with these requirements.	Director General of Operations, HMPPS	August 2024

			A review of PSO3050 Continuity of Healthcare for Prisoners is underway and the revised policy will be clear that where there is a change of circumstances or demeanour following a video court hearing there is a requirement for healthcare staff to see the prisoner, in the same way as following an in person court appearance.	Director General of Operations, HMPPS	March 2025
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