



IOP Recommendations Action Plan

Recommendations from the Inspector of Prisons investigation report on Death in Custody of prisoner Mr T on 25/12/2022

The Recommendations submitted by the IOP have been review and considered. The table below is a summary of proposed actions based on the investigation of the IOP in respect of the Irish Prison Service. The table also suggest timelines and action owners for completing the necessary actions.

No.	IOP Recommendations	Irish Prison Service Response	Action Required	Action Owner	Timeline
1.	It is recommended that an additional committal Interview question be included in the doctors and nurses interview to enquire from a new committal if there is a history of any serious illness in their family such as aneurysm, health condition, or cancer. This information would be beneficial in making clinical decisions.	Accepted	IPS Healthcare and ICT are currently working on a number of improvements to the PHMS system. The inclusion of a committal interview question on family history will be prioritised as part of this work.		Q4 2024





2.	When a prisoner is conveyed to hospital in a seriously ill condition the next-of-kin should be informed without delay thereby complying with section 2.3 of the Irish Prison Service Protocol 'Chaplaincy and Next of Kin Notification' which requires that that the family (next of kin) be contacted as quickly as possible in the case of grave illness.	·	Contact with next of kin will be made as soon as possible in line with the SOP requirements. This requirement will be brought to the attention of all lead Governors at the September meeting of the IPS Prisons Leadership Team.	Care & Rehabilitation	Sept 2024.
3.	Governors should, as a matter of good practice and courtesy, attempt to make contact with the NoK when a person dies in a prison for which they have responsibility. When a family are collecting personal belongings at a prison, they should always be met by a member of the prison's management team.	Accepted	These measures are not currently requirements under the IPS Chaplaincy and Next of Kin Notification SOP or the IPS Prisoner Property Policy. The IPS is due to commence the development of a Death in Custody policy and a review of related SOPs. These proposals will be considered as part of this process. Relevant changes will be reflected in the IPS Prisoner Property Policy.		Ongoing.





4.	It is recommended that when a death in custody occurs, prisoners who share a cell with the deceased should be offered immediate (emergency) psychological support as soon as	Accepted	Local psychology teams work with the prison based MDT to identify cellmates of the deceased as well as other family or friends in custody. Psychological support will be offered as soon as possible.	Complete
	practicable.		This procedure is already in place (see Psychology Protocol 021-101-25; Psychologists Role in the Aftermath of a Critical Incident in Prison).	