

MINISTER FOR POLICE; CORRECTIVE SERVICES; DEFENCE INDUSTRY; VETERANS ISSUES

Our Reference: 70-37223

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Dear Ms MacDonald

Thank you for your letter dated 25 May 2023, addressed to the former Minister for Corrective Services Hon Bill Johnston MLA, advising of Coroner Philip Urquhart's completion of the Inquest into the death of Mr Errol Warren Bartlett-Torr.

I can advise the Department of Justice (the Department) has finalised a response to the recommendation. I have reviewed the response (Attachment 1) and I am satisfied with the planned actions to address the recommendation.

The Department will continue to monitor progress against the recommendations though regular reporting.

Yours sincerely

HON PAUL PAPALIA CSC MLA MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES 2 4 JUL 2023

Attachment:

1 - Coronial Recommendations - Errol Barlett-Torr.

Attachment 1: Inquest into Death of Errol Bartlett-Torr

Department's progress on Coronial Recommendations – Errol Bartlett-Torr

Recommendation No. 1

I recommend that when a prisoner is escorted to a hospital for palliative treatment only, the documentation provided to the officers responsible for the hospital sit should clearly specify that the prisoner is to receive palliative care and is not expected to be returned to prison. The Department supports this recommendation.

Response and Progress Update

The Department is in the process of amending the Offender Movement Information (OMI), External Movement Risk Assessment (EMRA), Prisoner Movement Risk Assessment (PMRA) and the Hospital Admittance Advice (HAA) forms to ensure that escorting officers are provided with pertinent information regarding the purpose of the transfer to a hospital and the medical status of the prisoner they are escorting.

Proposed changes that are currently in consultation include the addition of the following fields:

- The inclusion of 'Palliative Care' in the drop-down list as a reason for the transfer within the respective forms, and
- The inclusion of a checkbox asking if the prisoner is expected to return to the prison.

Additionally, the Department is in the process of amending the OMI, EMRA, PMRA and HAA to require officers to specifically consider whether a prisoner has a significant medical condition or mobility issue such that they should not be restrained unless otherwise determined. This will include a review of Ventia's Standard Operating Procedure and risk assessment form and similar inclusions.