



Ministry
of Justice

Lucy Frazer QC MP
Minister of State for Justice

Sue McAllister CB
Prisons and Probation Ombudsman

By Email.

MoJ ref: ADR 79282

22 June 2020

Dear Sue,

EXCEPTIONAL INVESTIGATION – HMP STYAL

Following the tragic incident involving a stillbirth at HMP Styal on Thursday 18 June, I am writing to ask you to exceptionally undertake a thorough, independent investigation. I am aware that my officials have already been in contact and I thank you for indicating that you would be willing to carry out such an investigation.

I understand that an incident of this nature sits outside your normal terms of reference and so I would ask that you begin to consider and propose Terms of Reference specifically for this case. I acknowledge that further clinical and expert input might be required, in addition to cooperation with other authorities; as such, I encourage you to work alongside necessary organisations throughout the investigation and to reflect your intention to do so in the Terms of Reference. I would be grateful if you could liaise with officials from the MoJ Sponsorship Team so that we can agree Terms of Reference before the investigation commences.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for the work you have already undertaken into the incident that took place at HMP Bronzefield in September 2019; I await the outcomes of your investigation.

I look forward to receiving your draft Terms of Reference and, once again, would like to thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

LUCY FRAZER QC MP