



## Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons in Custody Minimising the Risk of Death in Detention

A Public Policy Exchange Symposium

**Wednesday 12th October 2016**

**10:15am – 4:30pm**

**Central London**

Public Policy Exchange holds regular interactive seminars which provide an invaluable interface for policy discussion, debate and networking. These special events offer local practitioners, civil servants and other stakeholders not only an insight into current policy thinking, but also the opportunity to feed into future development across all areas of public policy.

# Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons in Custody

## Minimising the Risk of Death in Detention

### Overview

Police custody and detention centres are locations where officers must equally ensure the incarceration of dangerous criminals and, too often, the well-being of vulnerable people, often with mental health problems. Deaths in or following custody are subsequently always highly sensitive and controversial occurrences, having a significant impact upon our collective confidence in the police and detention officers. Over the course of the last 12 months 14 people have died in or following Police custody, a slight decrease on the 17 reported deaths in 2014/15. Meanwhile, in immigration detention centres there were 63 suicide attempts in the first quarter of this year alone.

The Government has made a concerted effort to reduce the number people with mental illnesses taken into Police custody and improve the safeguarding of those who are detained. In May 2015, building on the £25 million invested in liaison and diversion services at police stations and courts, the Government pledged a further £15 million to provide health based alternatives to police cells. In addition to this injection of funds, the forthcoming Policing and Crime Bill will make changes to the Mental Health Act by creating regulations to limit the circumstances in which police cells can be used as a place of safety for adults.

However, despite these measures, the recent findings of the Home Office 'Review into Welfare in the Detention of Vulnerable Persons', argue that better safeguards are still needed to minimise serious incidences. Indeed, UK immigration detention centres, in particular, have been subject to serious criticism for allowing vulnerable people with mental health difficulties to deteriorate and for failing to learn from ill practice

With the findings of the comprehensive review into incidents occurring in custody set to be published this summer, this timely symposium will provide the Police, custody and prevention officers, health and social care providers, mental health professionals and governmental departments with an invaluable opportunity to analyse the challenges involved in safeguarding all those in custody and work together to minimise the risks of serious incidents occurring in the future.

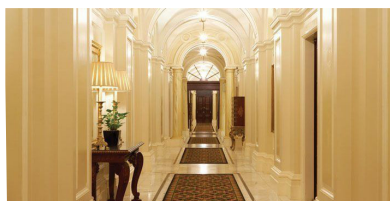


***It is important to ensure that no person with mental health problems – who has committed no crime- is detained in a police cell due to the lack of a health based alternative. Because as I have said before, the right place for a person suffering a mental health crisis is a bed, not a police cell. And the right people to look after them are medically trained professionals, not police officers”.***

- The Rt Hon Theresa May MP, Home Secretary 2015

### Accommodation

Through our partnership with HotelMap, we are able to offer our delegates heavily discounted hotel rates at a wide range of London hotels. To view hotel availability and rates and to book online, visit [www.HotelMap.com/M5NUZ/](http://www.HotelMap.com/M5NUZ/)



### Why Attend?

- ✓ Analyse the conclusions of the review into incidents occurring in custody and develop strategic methods for implementing its recommendations.
- ✓ Determine how to improve staff training to recognise signs of mental difficulty and ensure continuity of care.
- ✓ Consider how to strengthen multi-agency working that prioritises healthcare assessment and appropriate treatment over incarceration.
- ✓ Discuss the need to collate and utilise data more meaningfully to manage and improve detainee care and welfare.
- ✓ Examine how to build public trust through greater transparency and accountability in the procedures, processes and investigations that follow deaths within custody.
- ✓ Assess the effectiveness of card based identification schemes and whether these are helpful in assisting with the identification of mental vulnerability amongst detainees.
- ✓ Share best practice on incorporating detailed risk assessments into operational planning.
- ✓ Explore methods for developing joint protocols and sharing information more effectively.

### Who Should Attend?

- Probation officers
- Police authorities
- Forensic Physicians
- Force Medical Examiner
- Coroners
- Police Community Support Officers
- Neighbourhood Policing Teams
- Community Engagement Officers
- Community Relations Advisers
- Post Incident Managers (PIMs)
- Investigating Officers
- Custody Officers/Teams
- Professional Standards Teams
- Police Custody Teams
- Criminal Justice Teams
- Police Federation Lawyers
- Occupational Health and Medical Experts
- Independent Custody Visitors
- Police Operational Training Teams
- Local Criminal Justice Boards
- Prisoner Escort and Custody Services (PECS)
- Criminal Justice Liaison Services
- Criminal Justice Mental Health Liaison Services
- Offender Healthcare Teams
- Ambulance services
- Mental Health Trusts
- Forensic Mental Health Services
- Accident and Emergency Teams
- Acute Trusts (psychologists etc)
- Care Trusts (Mental Health Services)
- Community Mental Health Teams (CMHTs)
- Crisis Resolution Teams (CRTs)
- Assertive Outreach Teams (AOTs)
- Early Intervention Psychosis Teams (EIPT)
- Drug and Alcohol Teams (DAATs)
- Drug Intervention Programmes (DIPs)
- Health Commissioners
- Local Health Board
- Social Workers
- Disability Practitioners
- Care Managers
- Residential Care Services

# Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons in Custody

## Minimising the Risk of Death in Detention

### Programme

- 09:30** Registration and Morning Refreshments
- 10:15** Chair's Welcome and Introduction
- 10:30** **Panel Session One: Safeguarding Detainees During Detention: Preventing Deaths and Suicide Attempts**
- The National Picture: Responding to the independent review into deaths and serious incidents in police custody.
  - Use of Force: Monitoring, proportionality and risk reduction.
  - Identifying and Managing Vulnerable Detainees: Risk assessment, information exchange and monitoring.
  - Improving the Standards of Police Detention: Exploring the role of custody visiting nationally.
  - Strengthening Multi Agency Working: Improving information sharing and developing joint protocols between the police, health providers and contractors.
- 11:15** Morning Refreshments
- 11:30** **Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel One**
- 12:30** Networking Lunch
- 13:30** **Panel Session Two: Providing Support and Protection During a Mental Health Crisis: Ensuring the Safe Handling and Detention of Vulnerable Persons**
- Ensuring Access to a Liaison and Diversion Service: Transferring the commissioning responsibility for healthcare to the NHS.
  - Detaining Vulnerable Suspects: Changes and challenges.
- Ending the Misuse of Segregation: Analysing the impact of isolating vulnerable people within detention centres.
- Heeding the 'Shaw Review': Developing a joint action plan to improve the provision of mental health services for those in immigration detention.
  - Fast Tracking Assessments: Expediting the transfer of vulnerable individuals to alternate places of safety.
- 14:15** Afternoon Refreshments
- 14:30** **Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel Two**
- 15:30** Chair's Summary and Closing Comments
- 15:40** Networking Reception
- 16:30** Close

*\* Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice \**

### Marketing and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of opportunities to enable your organisation to raise its profile and communicate with key decision makers in the public sector.

For further information please contact us on **020 3137 8630** or email **info@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk**

### Event Details

**Date:** Wednesday 12th October 2016  
**Time:** 10:15am – 4:30pm  
**Venue:** Central London

### Forthcoming Events

Transforming Blue-Light Services: Entrenching Integration, Collaboration, Efficiency and Public Safety  
*6th September 2016*

Discussing the Impact of Brexit: Universities, Higher Education and Research Funding  
*7th September 2016*



Child and Adolescent Health and Wellbeing: Working in Partnership to Safeguard Children from Sexual Exploitation  
*7th September 2016*

Tackling Potholes and Improving Road Maintenance: Developing a Sustainable Strategy to Address Potholes on UK Roads  
*8th September 2016*

Managing the Impact of Welfare Reform: The Role of Local Authorities in Supporting Households  
*13th September 2016*

Pandemics and Infection Control: Meeting Tomorrow's Threats and Challenges Today  
*14th September 2016*

Preparing for the Impact of Brexit on the NHS: Challenges in Funding, Recruitment and Research  
*15th September 2016*

Combating Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery: Developing a Stronger Multi-Agency Response for the Identification and Support for Victims of Trafficking  
*15th September 2016*

Raising Standards at the Time of Slaughter: Analysing the Potential Impact of 'Brexit' upon Animal Welfare  
*20th September 2016*

Overcoming Prisoner Re-Offending Rates through Prison Reform: Exploring the New Roles of Prison Governors and its Impact on Treatment and Behavioural Change of Prisoners  
*20th September 2016*

Young Runaways and Missing Children: Enhancing Prevention, Protection and Provision in Every Local Area  
*21st September 2016*

Developing Community Services to Deliver Better Outcomes for People with Autism  
*22nd September 2016*