



2018-0049994POSoS

Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP
Secretary of State

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Mrs Karen L Dilks
HM Senior Coroner
Newcastle upon Tyne Coroners
By email: coroneradmin@newcastle.gov.uk

Your ref: KLD/LD/FARMER/1895

15 JAN 2019

Dear Mrs Dilks

Thank you for your letter of 12 December, enclosing the Regulation 28 report relating to Edward Farmer.

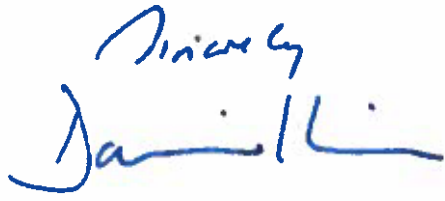
I understand from one of your officers that the report was also sent to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, the Vice-Chancellor of Newcastle University, the Chief Executive of Newcastle Students' Union, the National Union of Students, Northumbria Police and local licensing authorities.

You ask that consideration be given to a national campaign addressing the risks of alcohol consumption within a short period, how to identify persons at risk, the importance of timely medical intervention and the inherent risks of initiation events.

Given the particularly tragic circumstances of Edward Farmer's death, I am keen to ensure full and thorough consideration is given to how best to raise people's awareness of these issues and encourage them to take sensible decisions. This thinking will enable the right decision to be made on whether a national campaign would be the most effective approach for the prevention of future such tragedies.

I would therefore like to agree with you that a response with the details you require on proposed action is deferred until my department has had the opportunity to work with colleagues in the health and education sectors on designing the measures most likely to achieve the desired outcome over a sustained period. I look forward to presenting a fully considered approach to preventing similar deaths.

Thank you for writing on this important matter.



Damian Hinds
Secretary of State for Education

CC:

