



HM Prison &
Probation Service

Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service
Southern House
Croydon
CR0 1XN

Ms J Kearsley
H M Senior Coroner
Manchester North
1, Mount Tabor Street
Stockport
SK1 3AG

17 January 2020

Dear Senior Coroner,

INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF MR GARY LEYLAND

Thank you for your Regulation 28 Report dated 20 November, addressed to the Chief Executive Officer. Her Majesty's Prison & Probation Service is grateful for the observations in your report.

You raised a concern relating to suicide prevention and policy on notification of concerns by probation staff to providers of health and social care. We know that a significant number of offenders leaving custody on licence will find it difficult to meet the challenge of returning to the community. The National Probation Service (NPS) is committed to doing everything it can to try to safeguard vulnerable individuals.

Recognising that there was scope to enhance the arrangements we had in place, in June last year the NPS launched its Health & Social Care Strategy 2019-22. Together with the accompanying Suicide Prevention Strategy Action Plan, we believe this will directly contribute to the Government's commitment to reduce the number of self-inflicted deaths. The Strategy supports the need for collaborative and multi-agency working to deliver holistic care and support through partnership working across the health and criminal justice systems at national, regional and local levels.

I hope this provides the assurance you were seeking of the NPS's commitment to addressing the needs of vulnerable offenders.

Yours sincerely,

RICHARD HUGHES
H M Prison & Probation Service