

André Rebello OBE Senior Coroner Liverpool and Wirral Area Hon Secretary Coroners' Society of England & Wales HM Coroner's Court Gerard Majella Courthouse Boundary Street Liverpool L5 2QD

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Mr Rebello,

## **Regulation 28 Report – Mr Gary Williams**

I write on behalf of the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) in relation to paragraph 7, Schedule 5 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009, and regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013, in relation to the prevention of future deaths report sent via email to the NPCC dated 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

The notice sets out concerns that arose from the information received during the inquest into the death of Mr Williams which occurred in July 2017. I am very sorry to read of the circumstances of Gary's death. My sympathies are with his family and friends, and I share your commitment to addressing the issues that contributed to his untimely loss.

The notice sets out your principal concern stating that Mr Williams' condition (ABD) is not part of the College of Policing training materials with regard to use of restraint, and that this should be considered to include in future annual refresher restraint training.

The issue you have highlighted has been addressed recently, following a regulation 28 notice in relation to the death of Douglas Oak (also in 2017).

1st Floor, 10 Victoria Street, London SW1H ONN

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The Self Defence Arrest and Restraint (SDAR) working group led by DAC , works closely with the College of Policing. This group reviews the learning from coroners, the Independent Office of Police Conduct (IOPC), Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS), stakeholders and police forces.

Following the Oak inquest, the SDAR group immediately reviewed and updated the existing ABD power point and the PST Manual. This included incorporating additional training which was identified and documented within our response to the coroner overseeing the proceedings in this case.

Specialist advice was sought from experts in emergency and forensic medicine who provided expert advice to SDAR relating to the ABD PowerPoint, notes for trainers and the National Personal Safety Manual.

Subsequently the ABD Training Package for UK Police Forces was updated and circulated in March 2021 with a direction for Forces to deliver the revised ABD package with immediate effect. Additionally, The Royal College of Emergency Medicine Best practice Guidelines: Guidelines for the Management of Excited Delirium/Acute Behaviour Disturbance (ABD) May 2016, was also circulated to forces in September 2021 which contains a section on 'restraint' in relation to medical settings.

I will ensure that this notice along with my response is shared with the College of Policing and the SDAR group for completeness.

I hope that the information that has been provided goes some way to reassure you that the matters of concern you have raised have been addressed and will be subject to continual review.

Yours sincerely,

Chair, National Police Chiefs' Council