Suicide Prevention in Prison – A Roundtable Discussion

On September 8, the Prisons Research Centre, with support from the Institute of Criminology’s MSt programme and the Faculty of Law Socio-Legal Group, hosted a roundtable discussion on suicide prevention in prisons. The event attracted nearly 100 delegates from around the UK, including researchers and practitioners from prison, probation, and the community. Several outstanding speakers presented on a range of issues, from the causes of suicide, the challenges of prevention and management, to the role of new psychoactive substances within prisons. The event follows from the release of the Harris Review’s ‘Independent Review into Self-Inflicted Deaths in NOMS Custody of 18-24 year olds’.
Suicide Prevention in Prisons – A Roundtable Discussion

Tuesday 8 September, Bateman Auditorium, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge

Programme

11.00-12.30: Suicide and Suicide Prevention
Alison Liebling, Director of Prisons Research Centre, University of Cambridge

12.30-13.30: Lunch – Nanna Mexico (http://www.nannamexico.com/) (Hall, Gonville and Caius)

13.30-13.50: Welcome
Amy Ludlow, College Teaching Officer and Fellow in Law, University of Cambridge

Context: A Prison Governor’s Perspective
Alison Clarke, Governing Governor, HMPYOI & RC Glen Parva

13.50-14.10: The Causes of Suicide in Prison: What do we know?
Alison Liebling, Director of Prisons Research Centre, University of Cambridge

14.10-14.30: Deaths on Probation
Nicky Padfield, Reader, Faculty of Law

14.30-14.45: Coffee (Bateman Room, Gonville and Caius)

14.45-15.00: The Work and Recommendations of the Harris Review
Stephen Cragg QC, Member of Harris Independent Review into Self-Inflicted Deaths in NOMS’ Custody of 18-24 Year Olds

15.00-16.00: Challenges and Possibilities for Suicide Prevention
Chair: Ben Crewe, Deputy Director of Prisons Research Centre, University of Cambridge

Each speaker will speak for no more than 7 minutes.

David Heming - Senior Coroner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
Jane Moor - Head of Residence & Safety, HMPYOI Foston Hall
Susannah Eagle – Assistant Ombudsman, Prisons and Probation Ombudsman
Natalie Logan - Head of Safer Custody, HMP Birmingham
Emma Collis - Prison Officer, HMP Hewell
Roy Allen - Head of Corporate Services, Dover Immigration Removal Centre
Siobhan Taylor - Suicide Prevention Policy & Implementation Manager, Scottish Prison Service Headquarters

16.00-17.00: The Way Forward – An Open Discussion
Chair: Bethany Schmidt, Research Associate, Prisons Research Centre, University of Cambridge