Inquest into the death of Barry Haynes

Barry Haynes died on 3 April 2017 at the Princess Alexandra Hospital Secure Unit from metastatic non-small cell lung carcinoma.

State Coroner Terry Ryan delivered his findings of inquest on 16 November 2020.

The Queensland Government responds to recommendations directed to government agencies at inquests by informing the community if a recommendation will be implemented or the reason why a recommendation is not supported.

The departments named in this response will provide implementation updates until the recommendation is delivered. Further information relating to the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible minister named in the response.

Recommendation 1

Having regard to the April 2020 Queensland Government response to recommendation 1 from the Harmer inquest, I recommend that the Queensland Government publish a policy on the provision of personal and health care for prisoners who are ageing and/or requiring palliative care, addressing matters such as arrangements to support family contact with prisoners while undergoing palliative care and at the time of their death (including the circumstances in which restraints can be removed in secure hospital units) and consistency with National Palliative Care Standards.

Response and action: the recommendation is agreed in part and implementation is in progress.

Responsible agency: Department of Health

On 8 July 2021 the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services responded:

Queensland Health has a range of existing policies that include matters such as use of restraint, family contact, personal care and palliative care. In responding to this recommendation, Queensland Health has:

- conducted planning sessions within the Prisoner Health and Wellbeing Community of Practice network to discuss strategies to improve the delivery of health services for people in prison, including personal care for prisoners who are ageing and/or requiring palliative care
- continued to reinforce the Queensland Health End of Life Care Strategy 2015 and its application to all people in Queensland, including people in prison
- continued to work with Queensland Corrective Services to provide timely resolution to complex cross agency issues, including personal and health care for prisoners who are ageing and/or require palliative care.

Recommendation 2

Queensland Corrective Services and the Office of Prisoner Health and Wellbeing, in consultation with West Moreton Hospital and Health Service, the Office of the Public Advocate and the Public Guardian:

- develop an agreed pathway for inclusion in the custodial operations practice directive on prisoners of concern to ensure that suitable substitute decisionmakers are identified for prisoners with impaired capacity
- review the policies, procedures, training and resources for clinicians, administrative and correctional staff on information sharing and release to substitute decision-makers for prisoners with impaired capacity
• consider the training and appointment of suitably qualified persons within each correctional centre who can support prisoners with impaired capacity (or suspected impaired capacity) to navigate the health and justice systems.

Response and action: implementation of the recommendation is under consideration.

Responsible agency: Queensland Health (lead) supported by Queensland Corrective Services.

On 23 March 2021 the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, and the Minister for Police and Corrective Services, and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services responded:

Queensland Health will arrange to meet with Queensland Corrective Services, Office of the Public Advocate and the Public Guardian to consider the recommendation and discuss what can feasibly be achieved.