



18 November 2016

Re: Memorandum of Understanding

This joint letter is to confirm that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between HMI Prisons and NHS England, dated 5 July 2013, will remain extant until 31 March 2017.

In 2015 the Government signalled its intention to introduce a whole system Justice reform which included a reconfiguration of the estate and the introduction of autonomously governed prisons with potential reforms to commissioning arrangements for a number of activities across the estate including a review of commissioned health services

The responsibility for commissioning health services within English prisons lies with NHS England Health and Justice and whilst there is no desire to change this position NHS England and the Ministry of Justice are working together to consider how the current health commissioning position can fit within the prison autonomy agenda. When the outcomes of these discussions are clear and described we will revise our MOU to reflect the new commissioning architecture, and the relationship between our respective organisations within any structural reforms.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Peter Clarke'.

Peter Clarke
HM Chief Inspector of Prisons

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kate Davies'.

Kate Davies
Head of Offender Health, Military Health and Public Health