



Department
of Health

*From the Lord O'Shaughnessy
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Health (Lords)*

*Department of Health
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU
Tel: 020 7210 4850*

18 DEC 2018

Dr Sarah Wollaston MP
House of Commons
Westminster
London
SW1A 0PW

Dear Sarah

Introduction of Medical Examiners

Thank you for your letter of 3 May 2018 to my predecessor about the introduction of medical examiners. I am so sorry that you have not had a reply before now. There has been much progress in the development of the medical examiner programme since you wrote.

In June 2018 the Government published the response to consultation to death certification reform and the introduction of medical examiners, demonstrating ongoing commitment to introduce medical examiners from April 2019. In November 2018 the Government published the response to the Gosport report, which referred to the importance of introducing medical examiners.

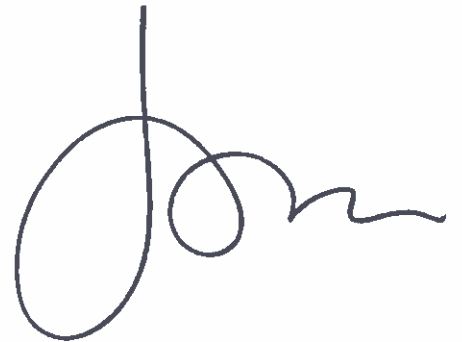
The post of National Medical Examiner is now out to advert, and I see this appointee playing an important leadership role in the delivery of the service. A digital supplier to support the medical examiner system nationally in both England and Wales has been identified and Health Education England has published refreshed e-learning modules, reflecting the latest learning from the DHSC supported pilots and from those NHS trusts across the country who have already established a medical examiner function.

We will be providing the next set of updates on the programme on 30 January 2019 at a medical examiner national event in Birmingham. I will write to you again with further updates following this event.

I should, of course, be happy to provide any further information if that would be helpful.

With sincere apologies for the
late response. Yes.

JAMES O'SHAUGHNESSY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James O'Shaughnessy', written in a cursive style.