

## INQUEST BEGINS INTO DEATH OF REMAND PRISONER AT WANDSWORTH PRISON

Westminster Coroners Court, 65 Horseferry Rd, London  
HM Coroner Dr Knapman  
Wednesday 20th September Commences 11.45hrs.  
It is expected to last two days.

Trevor Stow-Tucker was a 38-year-old remand prisoner at Wandsworth prison. He was charged with GBH and remanded to Wandsworth on 5 June 2000. He was found hanging in his cell on 16 June.

Trevor Stow-Tucker had drug and alcohol problems and had been identified as a suicide risk. He was put in the prison health care centre where he was receiving treatment and his condition observed. On the 12 June he was refused bail. On the 13 June his cellmate attempted suicide. The next day a decision was made by a prison doctor to move him from the health care centre to a normal wing where he was found hanging three days later.

Wandsworth Prison has the highest number of self-inflicted deaths in the country. The Prison Inspectorate report on Wandsworth published in December 1999 it found that many of the prison staff were paying lip service to the Prison Service Suicide Awareness policy and that 'the reality for prisoners at risk of self-harm was that they were not protected or supported.'

His family cannot understand how his death was allowed to happen and why a decision was taken to move him out of the health care centre given his problems and the distress caused by the attempted suicide of his cell-mate.

Mr Stow Tucker is the sixth prisoner to have killed himself at Wandsworth prison this year. At the inquest in April into the death of Keita Craig, a 22 year old remand prisoner with mental health problems the Coroner made a number of recommendations concerning care of at risk prisoners.

INQUEST is deeply concerned about the care and treatment of at risk prisoners in Wandsworth and at why the Prison Service is failing to learn the lessons from previous deaths.

INQUEST has arranged for barrister Valerie Easty to represent the family at the inquest to ensure that this death is subjected to proper scrutiny.

For more information please contact:

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The family and INQUEST will make a statement at the conclusion of the inquest.

Deaths at HMP Wandsworth 2000

FirstName	LastName	Ag	DateOfDe	Cause	Classification	Location
Andrew	Molloy	28	04/08/00	Hanging	Self-Inflicted	single cell
Steven	Chatfield	47	25/07/00	Respiratory	Non-Self-Inflicted	Outside Hospital
Trevor	Stow-	38	16/06/00	Hanging	Self-Inflicted	Normal, Multiple

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Adrian	Pope	31	20/04/00	Hanging	Self-Inflicted	Outside Hospital
Andrew	Surtees	35	07/03/00	Hanging	Self-Inflicted	Normal, Single
Henry	Garnett	75	27/02/00	Hanging	Self-Inflicted	Health Care
Keita	Craig	22	01/02/00	Hanging	Self-Inflicted	Health Care Centre, Single