



Ministry
of Justice

Lucy Frazer QC MP
Minister of State for Justice

Sir Bob Neill MP
Chair, Justice Select Committee

By Email.

17 June 2020

Dear Sir Bob,

PUBLICATION OF REPORTS: YOUTH CUSTODY

Following our call this afternoon, I am writing to advise you of our intention to publish two sets of reports tomorrow. I will also make a written ministerial statement on the topic.

The first is the outcome of the independent review which this Department commissioned from Charlie Taylor on our current policy permitting the use of techniques which can deliberately cause pain in certain secure settings where children are detained. The Government is responding positively to his recommendations, and his report and the Government's response to his findings and recommendations will both be published on GOV.UK tomorrow.

Alongside this, we are publishing reports which set out findings from a Taskforce established as part of our response to the thematic review on the use of separation in Young Offender Institutions published by HM Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) in January.

Although an Action Plan, which responds to the recommendations in the thematic report and sets out a series of commitments, was published by HM Prison and Probation Service on 14 February 2020, the findings of the Taskforce will support development of a new policy framework which will respond to HMIP's recommendation that the Secretary of State implements a new system of separation in young offender institutions. The Taskforce report and a supporting paper from Sir Alan Wood who advised the Taskforce will be published on GOV.UK tomorrow.

I will place a copy of this letter in the Libraries of both Houses.

Yours sincerely

LUCY FRAZER QC MP