



Ministry
of Justice

Alex Davies-Jones MP
Parliamentary Under-
Secretary of State

Gweinyddiaeth
Cyfiawnder

The Rt. Hon the Lord Foster of Bath
Chair of the Justice and Home Affairs Committee
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0AA

MoJ ref: SUB137885

09 September 2026

Dear Lord Foster,

PUBLICATION OF THE CHIEF CORONER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2025

I am writing to inform you that, on 10 September, the Chief Coroner's annual report for the calendar year 2025 will be published and laid in both Houses.

The Chief Coroner has a statutory duty, under section 36 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 (the Act), to provide the Lord Chancellor with a report for the previous calendar year which includes an assessment of the consistency of standards between coroner areas; information on investigations lasting longer than a year; and any other matters the Chief Coroner may wish to bring to the Lord Chancellor's attention or which the Lord Chancellor has asked the Chief Coroner to cover.

The report by the Chief Coroner, Her Honour Judge Alexia Durran, assesses the state of the coroner service and summarises the Chief Coroner's work during the past calendar year, both under relevant statutory powers and in a non-statutory leadership role. In particular, the report sets out several areas of focus for the Chief Coroner in 2025, including:

- The continuing work to promote consistency in the coronial jurisdiction across England and Wales, including the publishing of the 'Chief Coroner's Guidance for Coroners on the Bench' and
- The reconstitution of the Chief Coroner's national cadres, including the Cadre of Coroners for Major Incidents and the Cadre of Coroners for Service Deaths

Yours sincerely,

ALEX DAVIES-JONES MP
Minister for Victims, Violence Against Women and Girls, and International Justice