



RT HON DR THERESE COFFEY MP

Member of Parliament for Suffolk Coastal

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Mrs Judith Hallett
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27 January 2021

Dear Judi,

Thank you for contacting me about HMP & YOI Hollesley Bay. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

I appreciate you are concerned about the Ministry of Justice's (MoJ) response to the Parish Council's previous FOI request regarding the decision to house Men Convicted of Sexual Offences (MCOSO) at HMP & YOI Hollesley Bay. As the local MP, I've been following the decision-making process closely throughout.

I've been involved in frequent discussions with officials and ministers in the MoJ over the last few years where I have shared concerns on behalf of the Parish Council and the wider community. I previously held a public meeting in Hollesley with Helen Lewis to provide an opportunity for residents to engage and voice their concerns directly on the decision being considered.

The current Prison Minister, Lucy Frazer QC MP, recently updated me on the status of the decision and I've been informed that the timing of any planned population change has been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. This is because they are prioritising actions to prevent the spread of the disease across the prison estate. The prison is taking the necessary steps to ensure that any new population can be managed safely, including the recruitment of additional staff. These steps will need to be completed before population changes can take place.

Accordingly, there are no recent developments and the MoJ do not have a fixed date for when a population change will occur. The Minister has assured me that the prison will notify local stakeholders prior to the introduction of any new prisoners to HMP & YOI Hollesley Bay.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Dr Thérèse Coffey MP
Suffolk Coastal