

Detention Deaths – Thursday 23 September 2021

Prof Andrew Harris

Senior Coroner and Vice President – Medical Coroners, FFLM
MRCP MSc FFPHM LLB LLM

Andrew has been a paediatrician, GP, medical director, and public health consultant, before his career in law. He gained an LLM in public law with a dissertation on the statutory duty of quality.

He was called to the Bar at The Middle Temple and transferred to practice as a consulting solicitor. He became a part-time assistant deputy coroner in 2007 and was appointed as HM Coroner for London Inner South in 2010. He investigates deaths in five hospitals, three of which are specialist centres and several mental health institutions, which lead to his regularly instructing medical experts. The jurisdiction has 4 prisons and there is a range of travel, industrial and domestic accidents, drownings and police custody deaths, leading to about 15 jury inquests and use of a wide range of experts.

He has written on health policy, edited books on primary care needs assessment and Health Law and published on communicable disease law, NHS system failures and anonymisation. He has researched what is a natural death and published in peer reviewed scientific and legal journals. He is the author of four chapters in the leading text of Jervis on Coroners. He is Professor of Coronial Law at Queens Mary's, William Harvey Research Institute, University of London.

