# Healthcare in Immigration Removal Centres (IRCs): Lessons from the Brook House Inquiry (a joint event from the British Medical Association and Medical Justice)

# Tuesday 30th January 4.30-6.30pm

Timings	Topic	Speaker
4.30-4.35	Introduction	Dominic Norcliffe-Brown & Idel Hanley
4.35-5.00pm	Brook House Inquiry findings	Kate Eves, Chair of the Brook House
		Inquiry
5.00-5.15pm	Use of Force and Mental Health	Dr Brodie Paterson, Honorary Senior
		Lecturer, Queen Mary's University
5.15-5.25pm	Lived experience	Formerly detained person
5.25-5.35pm	Refreshment break (10 mins)	
5.35-6.25pm	Healthcare provision in IRCs today	Panel discussion
		Chair: Dr Andrew Green
		Panellists: Dr Rachel Bingham, Dr John
		Chisholm, Stephanie Harrison KC, Dr
		Cornelius Katona.
6.25-6.30pm	Conclusion: what can you do; what	Dominic Norcliffe-Brown & Idel Hanley
	we are doing	
6.30pm	Event ends	

Location: Snow-Paget Room, BMA House

#### **Facilitators**

## **Idel Hanley**

Idel is the Policy, Research and Parliamentary Manager at Medical Justice.

## Dominic Norcliffe-Brown

Dominic is a Policy Lead in Medical Ethics & Human Rights at the British Medical Association.

## Frances Player

Frances is a Senior Policy Advisor in International Affairs at the British Medical Association.

## **Speakers**

#### **Kate Eves**

Kate has worked with HM Inspectorate of Prisons, the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman, the Forum for Preventing Deaths in Custody and HM Prison Service, where she led on the national strategy for reducing violence in custody. Kate has also worked with numerous prison and jail systems in the United States to improve detention conditions and increase accountability following

deaths and serious incidents. Kate was appointed as Chair to the Brook House Inquiry by the Home Secretary in November 2019 and delivered her findings in September 2023.

#### Dr Brodie Paterson

Brodie is a mental health and learning disability nurse practitioner, academic and researcher who has held posts in the NHS, Academia, private and not for profit sector. He is a Trustee of the UK Restraint Reduction Network and presently chairs the European Network for Trainers in the Management of Aggression. He was a Tutor / Senior Tutor in Control and Restraint and then Control and Restraint General Services from 1986-2005 before going on pioneer restraint reduction in the UK following groundbreaking studies into restraint related fatalities and injuries. He has prepared expert witness reports in both civil and criminal cases around the use of force, the training of staff and the development of corrupted cultures characterised by the misuse of restraint and wider patterns of abuse.

#### Dr Andrew Green

Andrew is a retired GP, former member of BMA UK Council, and current member of BMA Yorkshire Regional Council. He was a policy lead for the BMA's General Practitioners Committee for six years and is currently deputy chair of the BMA's Medical Ethics Committee.

#### Dr Rachel Bingham

Rachel is a clinical advisor at Medical Justice and has done medico-legal assessments for people detained in immigration removal centres since 2010. She qualified as a doctor at King's College London and trained in general practice at University College London Hospital. Alongside her work at Medical Justice, she continues to work in the NHS as a GP. As clinical advisor, her role includes training and support for Medical Justice's network of volunteer clinicians providing independent visits and medical and mental health assessments for people in immigration removal centres and writing medico-legal reports.

## Dr John Chisholm CBE

John is the deputy chair of the BMA's International Committee. He is a member of BMA Council, a Vice-President of the BMA, a retired GP, and former chair of the BMA's General Practitioners Committee. John was chair of the BMA's Medical Ethics Committee from 2014 to 2021 and oversaw the development of the BMA's report on health and human rights in immigration detention: *Locked Up, Locked Out*. John gave evidence to the Shaw Reviews and has spoken to All-Party Parliamentary Groups, in Parliament and to MPs about immigration detention.

## Stephanie Harrison KC

Stephanie is a leading public law practitioner with a specialisation in immigration and asylum rights law who has appeared at all court levels. Her multi-disciplinary practice spans the breadth of public law, human rights and civil liberties. Stephanie's cases cover the whole range of international protection claims under the Refugee, Human Rights, Torture and Trafficking Conventions. They also include those arising from unlawful detention particularly involving vulnerable adults and children, national security, official misconduct, abuse of power, equality and discrimination, minority rights

and civil rights protest and injunctions. She was lead counsel representing a number of formerly detained persons, the whistle blower Reverand Nathan Ward and Medical Justice in the recent Statutory Inquiry into mistreatment in Brook House IRC.

#### Dr Cornelius Katona

Cornelius is Honorary Medical and Research Director of the Helen Bamber Foundation - a human rights charity working with asylum seekers and refugees and Hon Professor in the Division of Psychiatry at University College London. He is the Royal College of Psychiatrists' lead on Refugee and Asylum Mental Health. He is Chair of the Steering Group for the Commission on the Integration of Refugees. He was a member of the Committee that recently updated NICE guidelines on PTSD. He has published more than 300 papers and written/edited 16 books. In 2019 he was awarded the Royal College of Psychiatrists' Honorary Fellowship, the College's highest honour, for his 'outstanding service to psychiatry'.