



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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Folder 5



What is Folder 5?

- 'Folder 5' is concerned with managing risk and providing care for prisoners **at risk of suicide or self harm**.
- It is a new initiative in working towards safer custody: developing staff awareness of issues surrounding self harm and **working to reduce or safely manage incidents**.

How do we do this?

- A training programme was developed for all prison staff by the healthcare department Senior Charge Nurse (mental health). This is a half day programme in two parts:
 1. Overview of issues relating to self harm and suicide. Making staff aware of risk factors and the reasons people may consider self harm or suicide. Some issues may be unique to prison and are often reactive to their situation, as opposed to the automatic assumption that a person is mentally ill.
 2. Introduction of new "Folder 5" paperwork and procedures. This incorporates training prison staff in interview techniques to assess the risk of self harm.

