



Ministry of **JUSTICE**

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Dear Mr Hinchliffe,

Thank you for your letters of 18 December to Trevor Williams and Phil Wheatley regarding Mr Frank Wilkinson. Your letters have been forwarded to the Category A Team for reply as they concern Mr Wilkinson's security categorisation.

You are concerned that no appraisals are available for the two Offending Behaviour Group courses Mr Wilkinson completed at Frankland prison in 1995. You believe that evidence of Mr Wilkinson's progress on these courses must be available, and that this evidence will show a reduction in Mr Wilkinson's risk.

The Category A Team must confirm that, although it has the certificates submitted with your letter, it has no reports of Mr Wilkinson's progress on these courses on its files.

Staff at Whitemoor prison also confirm that such reports are not on Mr Wilkinson's core prison files. As these courses were not accredited it is likely that only short written reports were completed. If that is the case these may also have been given to Mr Wilkinson at the time.

The Category A Team accepts that Mr Wilkinson will be disappointed that such reports are not now available. But it suggests that, at this distance in time, it is reasonable to conclude that it is not now possible to determine whether reports were completed or filed in 1995.

The Category A Team can however be sure that evidence that Mr Wilkinson has reduced his risk has not been lost or overlooked. It is very unlikely Mr Wilkinson would have been required to discuss his specific offences on these unaccredited courses. These courses would also not have directly challenged Mr Wilkinson on risk factors relating to his offending, such as his use of extreme violence.

Any evidence that Mr Wilkinson had achieved insight or progress relating to his violent offending would in any case then have needed more rigorous assessment through an accredited programme or interviews with specialist staff.

All the evidence on Mr Wilkinson's file however shows he has been consistently unwilling to discuss his offending in depth or to take part in recommended accredited programmes. Both Mr Wilkinson's subsequent security category reviews and his recent Parole Board review have also shown he has not achieved a significant reduction in risk addressing his use of violence and weapons and criminality.

The Category A Team notes from Mr Wilkinson's files that he has previously maintained that his participation in these unaccredited programmes in 1995 shows he has addressed his offending. It also accepts he has made progress in terms of his compliance with the regime and his educational achievements.

The Category A Team is however satisfied that the weight of evidence from all subsequent risk assessments shows he has yet to achieve significant progress addressing the core risk factors relating to his violent offending.

Yours faithfully,

Category A Team
High Security Prisons Group