

Baroness Valerie Amos
Chair of the National Maternity
and Neonatal Investigation

7 October 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

I am sorry for the delay in responding to your email.

I have noted your concerns regarding the Terms of Reference specifying 37 weeks pregnancy in relation to the coronial involvement in the investigation of stillbirths.

The Terms of Reference refers to the role of coroners in the investigation of late-term stillbirths (37 weeks or later) as there was a proposal to introduce coronial investigations of stillbirth cases in England and Wales, which was consulted on by the then-Government in 2019.

As set out in the high-level plan shared with families last week, within the methodology there is a specific workstream on this - ***workstream 4: Legal framework for Coronial involvement in stillbirths and compensation awards arising from harms sustained from clinical negligence***

The methodology for this workstream and evidence gathered will not be restricted to 37 weeks. It includes collecting evidence in relation to coronial investigations for all stillbirths. As with all workstreams, this workstream will include hearing from and taking evidence from families, and I would like to hear from you and other families on this if you wish to.

When the investigation reports on this matter we will include the relevant evidence we have collected in relation to stillbirths occurring at 37 weeks pregnancy and before 37 weeks pregnancy.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Valerie A.', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Baroness Amos