



Ministry
of Justice

The Right Honourable
David Lammy MP
Deputy Prime Minister
Lord Chancellor & Secretary
of State for Justice

Rt Hon Sir Gavin Williamson CBE MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

MoJ ref: [REDACTED]

09 February 2026

Dear Sir Gavin,

CORONIAL INVESTIGATION OF STILLBIRTHS

Thank you for your letter of 22 October 2025 on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED] regarding the government response to the 2019 consultation on the coronial investigation of stillbirths. I sincerely apologise for the delay in providing this reply, which has taken longer than the usual expected timescale for a response. This was due to the coordination of input from other government departments, which was necessary in order to provide a response for [REDACTED]

I also hope [REDACTED] will take this reply as a response to the letter of 30th September 2025 to the Deputy Prime Minister, which was signed by him, alongside [REDACTED] along with a number of other bereaved parents, concerning the 2019 consultation on the coronial investigations of stillbirths.

First, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to parents bereaved by baby loss. Bereavement is never easy, but the loss of a child is unimaginable and we recognise that losing a baby can significantly impact on parents' and others' lives.

The landscape of maternity investigations has continued to evolve since publication of the consultation on the coronial investigation of stillbirths in 2019 and the factual summary of responses published in 2023.

Most recently, this government commissioned the independent Investigation into NHS maternity and neonatal services led by Baroness Amos. As indicated in the investigation's terms of reference, it will, amongst other issues, look to understand the potential role of coroners in the investigation of late term stillbirths (37 weeks or later).

It is important that the government's final conclusions on coronial investigations of stillbirths reflect any relevant recommendations the independent Investigation makes, and therefore we intend to communicate our position on this issue after the Investigation has published its final report and recommendations in Spring 2026.

[REDACTED]

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The Investigation has launched a Call for Evidence, which has been developed following extensive insight and feedback from families, we would encourage your constituent to share their story at the National Maternity and Neonatal Investigation Call for Evidence, which can be accessed at <https://www.matneoinv.org/call-for-evidence/>.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

RT HON DAVID LAMMY MP

**DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER LORD CHANCELLOR AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
JUSTICE**