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## Indicators of the welfare of immigration detainees, 2008-2017

Through Home Office data obtained under Freedom of Information requests (1) and publicly available material (2), it is possible to establish trends in suicide and self-harm over the decade 2008-2017, as shown in the table and graphs below.

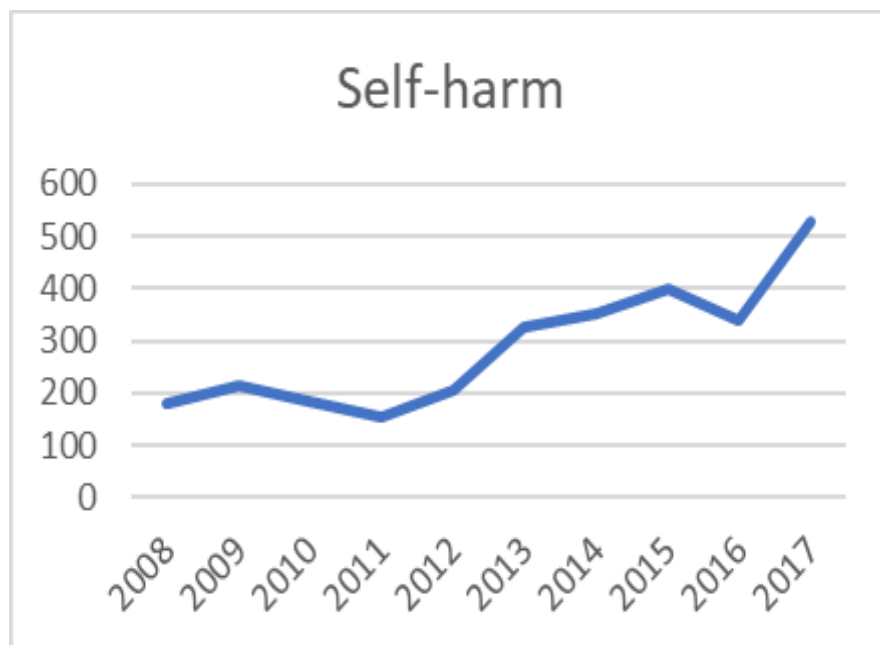
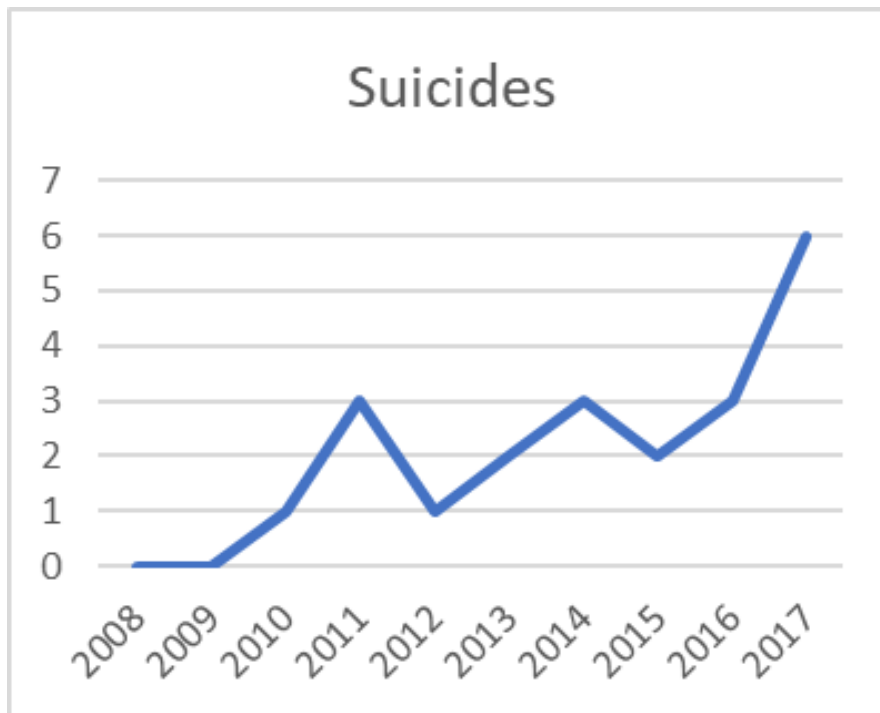
The rates of both of these adverse but “*crucial indicators of the welfare of the detained population*” (3) increased before and has continued to increase since the previous Shaw review.

The data need interpreting with some caution, as AVID (4) pointed out in its evidence to the first Shaw review. (“...*the definition of ‘requiring medical attention’ has been interpreted differently across the detention estate...*”)

**Despite that limitation the data are objective quantitative evidence that changes to policy and practice introduced by the Home Office following the first Shaw review have not reduced harms and have been associated with an increase in damage to vulnerable individuals subjected to discretionary administrative detention. There is reason to believe that these changes, which were intended to achieve harm reduction, have actually resulted in an increase in harm.**

Year	Suicides	Self-harm
2008	0	179
2009	0	215
2010	1	183
2011	3	156
2012	1	208
2013	2	325
2014	3	353
2015	2	398
2016	3	341
2017	6	528 (Annualised - 132 for Q1)

Table 1: Suicide and significant self-harm in immigration detention 2008-2017



## References

- 1) <http://www.no-deportations.org.uk/Resources/Self-Harm2007-2016.html>
- 2) <http://www.irr.org.uk/news/deaths-in-immigration-detention-1989-2017/>
- 3) Review into the Welfare in detention of Vulnerable Persons. (First Shaw report) para 6.9
- 4) Review into the Welfare in detention of Vulnerable Persons. (First Shaw report) para 6.8