



CHIEF CORONER

## ***KEYNOTE SPEECH***

**His Honour Judge Peter Thornton QC**

# STATISTICS

- 530,000 deaths (up 30,000)
- 730,000 births
- 236,400 deaths reported to coroners
  
- Average time to inquest down to 20 weeks
- Post-mortems down 2%

# DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY SAFEGUARDS (DoLS)

- 7,193 cases
- (423 not natural causes)
- 32,000 inquests (up by 7,000)

# **CORONERS and DoLS**

- Was DoL in place?
- Obtain medical report
- Obtain care home report
- Check with family

# REGISTRATION OF DEATHS

- Doctors to registrar: 55% of 500,000 deaths
- Doctors to coroner: 45%, ie 236,000 deaths
- Registrars to coroner: a few Form 52s

# STATUTORY CRITERIA

- Regulation 41, Births and Deaths Regulations 1987
- Section 1, Coroners and Justice Act 2009
- Notes on MCCD
- Draft Notification of Deaths Regulations (2014)

# MEDICAL EXAMINERS

- Dame Janet Smith: *Shipman Inquiry*
- Robert Francis report
- Sheffield pilot scheme

**THE END**

14 July 2016

**Methodist Central Hall**  
Westminster, London