Andrew Harris, Senior Coroner for London Inner South

**Biography**

Coroner Andrew Harris is dually qualified in medicine and law. His early career was as paediatrician, GP, medical director and consultant in public health. His career in law began in 1998 when he gained an LLB, going on to be awarded an LLM in 2002 in public law receiving a distinction for his dissertation on the statutory duty of quality. He was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple and started to practice as a consulting solicitor. An accredited mediator he opened a small legal research and governance consultancy, which also trained in ethical decision making.

Andrew Harris became an assistant deputy coroner in London Inner South in 2007 and Senior Coroner in 2010. The jurisdiction includes several specialist hospitals and four prisons. It has between 15 and 22 jury inquests annually, which take over half the year, most of which he hears, along with complex medical inquests. The local service was developed with a range of jurisdictional policies, an annual report on performance, a transparent complaints process, accredited pathologists and interdisciplinary peer learning. He enlisted the support of military volunteers to handle the colossal surge in Covid deaths in the first part of this year and is now rebuilding the service with a priority of tackling the backlog of inquests which have developed in the pandemic.

Our website is https://www.innersouthlondoncoroner.org.uk

He has published in medical and legal journals on what is an unnatural death and reforms in reporting deaths and written a guide for bereaved parents. He is the author of four chapters of the latest edition of *Jervis* on Beginning the investigation, Information and publicity, Homicide and Notifiable Accidents and Diseases. He teaches at Queen Marys, University of London and receives students from US and schools, police, medical and legal professions for work experience and marshalling. He has an interest in the portrayal of death in Art, and is engaged in research of various aspects of coronial law for publication.