



**INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD**

**HM PRISON HAVERIGG**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**1 December 2009  
to  
30 November 2010**

**For the attention of:**

**THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR JUSTICE**

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## 2) INTRODUCTION

The Independent Monitoring Board is a body of volunteers established in accordance with the Prisons Act 1952 and the Asylum Act 1999 which require every prison and IRC [Immigration Removal/Reception Centre] to be monitored by an independent Board appointed by the Minister of Justice from members of the community in which the prison or centre is situated.

The Board is specifically charged to:

- i) Satisfy itself as to the humane and just treatment of those held in custody within its prison and the range and adequacy of the programmes preparing them for release.
- ii) Inform promptly the Secretary of State for Justice, or any official to whom he has delegated authority, as it judges appropriate, of any concern it has.
- iii) **Report annually to the Secretary of State for Justice on how well the prison has met the standards and requirements placed on it and what impact these have had on those in its custody.**

To enable the Board to carry out these duties effectively its members have right of access to every prisoner and every part of the prison and also to the prison's records.

### 3 HMP HAVERIGG

#### i. **Situation**

The prison is situated in a fairly remote location in the southwest corner of the Lake District near Millom, some forty miles from the M6. It is on the site of an old wartime airfield with some original buildings still in use. The site is fairly open and spread out and there is considerable prisoner movement, some authorised by movement slips instead of officer escort. Some of the rest of the airfield is used as the prison farm, with a long boundary fronting the sand dunes and the sea. It is the only prison in Cumbria and the nearest prison is over forty miles away in Lancaster. It had been proposed that Haverigg should become the main prison for Cumbrian offenders, but now there is more emphasis on accommodating category D prisoners and those of foreign nationality. The nearest railway station is about three miles away at Millom, and buses run from Millom to the prison.

#### ii. **Prisoners**

Haverigg is nominally a Category C Training prison of which the operational capacity of the prison is 644 and the certified normal accommodation is 622. The prison has operated on a figure near normal capacity throughout most of the reporting period. The nature of the population has changed markedly. There are now over 120 prisoners of foreign nationality, some of whom have served their sentence and are awaiting deportation. There are some 65 category D prisoners, some of whom were recategorised at Haverigg, so they merely changed billets and not prisons. The number of prisoners serving a life sentence has also increased slightly but there are fewer with indeterminate sentences. Most come from Manchester, Merseyside, Lancashire and Cumbria, but there are also a number of prisoners from the North-East and a few from much further afield; too far, in fact.

#### iii. **Fabric**

Some of the fabric is fairly new and in good condition but most of the older buildings, some dating back to the war, are worn out and need to be replaced, particularly the healthcare centre. Some of the newer buildings are very badly sited and ideally should be demolished and replaced by better designed and safer premises. The Langdale unit is in good condition.

#### iv. **Accommodation**

Haverigg has various types of accommodation with different standards of security, amenity and comfort. They are all considered to be safe and acceptable by the authorities, but it has to be accepted that some are more pleasant to live in than others. The residential areas are named after local mountains to discredit the notion that they have any relationship to the Incentives and Earned Privileges (IEP) scheme.

Skiddaw is a two-storey block housing 120 men in mainly single cells in fairly Spartan conditions; pro rata, IMB get most applications from Skiddaw.

Langdale is a newer, more comfortable block housing 64 and all the rest of the accommodation is in single-storey billets.

Fairfield is the largest and newest of these, is badly sited, and is considered to be the most unsafe by some prisoners.

Great Gable and Blencathra have much older wooden billets well past their sell-by date and not very secure. Helvellyn unit comprises ex-oil rig accommodation with en-suite facilities, but this too is beginning to show its age

**v. Providers**

Prison Healthcare is provided by NHS Cumbria. Mental health is cared for by the Cumbria Partnership Trust. Training and education are provided by Manchester College, with some provided by the prison.

Bookers/DHL has the contract for the prisoners' canteen. GSL transports prisoners between prisons.

The visitors' centre, outside the prison, is run by a charity which was set up for the purpose, and the children's play area is supported by dedicated volunteers.

Samaritans train prisoners to be Listeners and support prisoners in need of counselling via a phone link. The dedicated telephone is available on request

The library has ring-fenced funding provided by the Department for Education and Skills.

The Citizens Advice Bureau provide advice for prisoners mainly in respect of debt and money advice.

Working through the resettlement centre Shelter help with finding accommodation on release.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### ISSUES FOR THE MINISTER

#### i. **Problems arising from an overcrowded prison system**

These problems continue and are gradually getting worse although the change in the nature of the population within the prison has possibly alleviated the situation slightly as category D prisoners and prisoners of foreign nationality usually cause less trouble. However, as a Board we have no option but to restate our concerns, albeit with little hope of any amelioration.

- a) Haverigg is remote and visiting is still difficult; prisoners still regularly apply for transfer to other prisons to be nearer to their families. Maintaining family connections is known to be a vital factor in promoting satisfactory rehabilitation. Such transfers are now very difficult as there is little space in any of the prisons. Some prisoners become so frustrated that they resort to what they see as ways of ensuring that they do get transferred. These may include disobedience, dirty protests, wrecking cells or climbing on the roof. A policy of making it absolutely clear that such tactics will not work, coupled with good intelligence and clear criteria for acceptance of prisoners at Haverigg, and the change in population, have cut the number of such incidents significantly, but the problems of contact remain.
- b) Haverigg is a fairly open site and some of the prisoners received, although categorised as C, are not really suitable for a training prison laid out like Haverigg. Here there is less supervision than in a more closed establishment, and even with the new system of progression through the prison there are still assaults leading to bed watches and too many “accidental” injuries.
- c) The National Population Strategy recognises the relevance and importance of local discharge, and, over the past year, HMP Haverigg has managed to effect transfers for the benefit of those being released, but a less crowded system would make such arrangements much easier to organise.
- d) Accumulated visits [see glossary] suffer from the same problem; there is no spare space. The prison has tried to solve this, at least in part, by using video conferencing, but this has to be carefully rationed because of the expense of staff time, both for their training and for supervision of sessions. Additional funding has not been forthcoming, and in the current financial circumstances the facility will be used even less than it was in the year to the end of November.

#### ii. **Problem of vulnerable or mentally ill prisoners**

This could well be made worse by overcrowding, but we see it as a separate issue. There is no vulnerable prisoner unit at Haverigg and yet some of the prisoners are clearly vulnerable and some appear to be suffering from mental problems. On occasions, unsuitable prisoners with definite/confirmed mental problems are allocated to Haverigg, which makes the situation worse, creating more work to try and relocate them. They are transferred as soon as is practicable, but not as quickly as we would like as there seems to be a shortage of special accommodation for such men throughout the service. Sometimes they have to be kept on in the Separation and Care Unit, but the prison management do all that they can to manage such prisoners on normal location, usually in Skiddaw unit, except in the most difficult cases. We are disappointed that we need to raise our concerns on this issue in every annual report.

### **iii. Rehabilitation**

The Board agrees with the Prison Service view that rehabilitation is a key aim of custody. Although the existing rehabilitation provision is good but limited in scope, given financial resourcing constraints, the Board believes that more resources should be invested in the expansion of this area. The further national 3% overall cut in finance is affecting and is likely to have further detrimental effect on this important area of work. It will not be possible to cut 'front line' services further, so it follows that 'efficiency savings' will have to be made in other areas. Rehabilitation impacts more on the outside of the fence than on the inside and is thus an obvious target for economies.

### **iv. Financial Resources**

The result of savings has already seen changes to the core day, reduction in staff, already at minimum strength, as well as fewer courses in education and rehabilitation. Prisoners are less occupied and locked in their cells for longer periods. Simply "warehousing" is looming on the horizon if the cuts become more severe.

The Board consider that future cuts will have even more serious adverse effects on the prison and the quality of life of the prisoners. They are likely to affect the safety of the prison, undermining the excellent work done by the management and staff and will impact on the core matters on which the IMB is required to monitor and report to the Secretary of State.

The Board consider that whilst Government has no option other than to maintain a prison service, it has to keep those in custody in decent and safe conditions. Therefore whatever financial restraints are in place, the Government cannot walk away from its responsibilities, and satisfactory financial resources should be provided for the above purpose.

### **v. Staffing**

As noted in previous reports, the Board consider the staffing levels to be at a minimum already for a prison with an open site such as Haverigg's and members are concerned that the new financial constraints will force reductions which are not compatible with decency and safety. At the time of the report there were 16 vacancies, some having to be covered by staff from other prisons on detached duty, which costs a lot more than paying extra for staff working extra hours. These problems are made worse when officers are on hospital bed watch (two at all times), are carrying out mandatory training or on holiday. There has also been a problem with long term sickness.

## **4/2 ISSUES FOR THE PRISON SERVICE**

### **i. The Problem of Increasingly Sophisticated Mobile Phones**

As stated in the Board's last two reports, it is known that the prison service is well aware of this problem and is trying to do something about it, but the Board would like to stress the importance of such work and would like to see much more progress on developing jammers and detectors. The Board is pleased with the excellent work done by prison staff in security, searching and in confiscating mobile phones, but they still remain a significant problem. The Press highlight prisoners running criminal organizations by phone from prison. We are not aware of this happening at Haverigg, but co-ordinated deliveries over the fence must be organized in this way.

### **ii. Contact with the Press**

The Board raised this in its last report and still thinks that local press should be given an immediate official release on major incidents in order to avert sensational headlines. No progress seems to have been made on this issue, although the Governor at Haverigg has not had many sensational headlines to deal with and the local press has been generally very supportive of his efforts.

### **iii. CCTV Cameras**

The installation of more cameras within billets, covert ones if possible, and the upgrading of lighting would be beneficial. There has been good progress in this area, and although we would like to see more, we see little hope in the current financial climate.

### **iv. Canteen**

The Board has serious concerns that the prices for goods purchased by prisoners from DHL/Booker are, in many cases, particularly for popular lines, much higher than prices of the same or similar goods outside prison where there is freedom of choice of both goods and provider. The prisoners have no option but to buy from Canteen, and the Board consider that the national purchasing arrangements are exploiting prisoners. We believe that more local purchasing arrangements would be more beneficial for prisoners and particularly for purchases for the kitchen. It is not just a problem at Haverigg and we have no real hope for any change but we do see it as an issue. It has been argued that DHL/Bookers are exploiting a literally captive audience.

### **v. Special Diets**

The Board is concerned that no extra allowance seems to be made to deal with the extra expense of special diets for individual prisoners. The daily catering allowance for prisoners on a normal diet is minimal, and special diets can cost up to five times more, so providing them, without a supplementary allowance has an impact on the diets of the rest of the prisoners,

### **vi. Mould**

Mould has always been a problem in communal showers and damp areas and has been dealt with by cleaning and ventilation but IMB have recently become aware that it could be a more serious problem [see 6/20] and ask the Prison Service to instigate an enquiry into the problem of mould.

#### **4/3 ISSUES FOR THE REGIONAL MANAGER**

**i. Weighted Scorecard**

The Board welcome its demise.

**ii. Dogs**

The Board regrets that the provision of active and passive dogs has decreased. The dogs in Haverigg have done much to reduce the supply and availability of drugs and mobile 'phones in the prison and they have been worth their cost. Haverigg is now getting more visits from the dog handlers, which is welcome, but the Board is informed that each dog handler will only have one dog each which will be both active and passive. This will save an insignificant amount of money and is likely to result in wasted time by the handler if the dog becomes ill or injured.

## **5 AREAS THAT MUST BE REPORTED ON**

### **5/1. Diversity**

In the IMB report for 2009, changes within Haverigg prison impacting on diversity issues were detailed. During 2010 these changes have continued, in particular the admission of foreign national prisoners. At the end of 2009 there was only one in the prison however by December 2010 this figure had risen to 120 encompassing 41 different nationalities. This has led to a marked increase in the workload of many staff, in particular that of the Foreign Nationals Coordinator and Diversity Manager, along with the Chaplaincy, library and catering staff.. After initial problems with prisoners arriving who were outside the agreed criteria (minimum of two years of sentence remaining) and others wrongly identified as foreign nationals by their originating prison the process now appears to be less flawed .With regular surgeries being held by Border Agency staff and awareness training being carried out by the Diversity Manager the situation continues to improve. Training in the use of Big Word (a telephone interpreting service) has been increased and has been used successfully during adjudications.

In order to facilitate the monitoring of Diversity issues regular meetings are held throughout the year. The Race Equality Action Team (REAT) holds meetings each month and the Diversity Management Team meet quarterly. At REAT meetings there is a wide ranging attendance from staff from many areas and disciplines within the prison and from prisoner representatives. Agenda items such as racial incidents are openly discussed within the group as is the Race Equality Action Plan, a comprehensive rolling programme of actions and targets set both nationally and locally by which progress in dealing with diversity issues can be measured. In the previous year the meetings have been attended by the Furness Multicultural Forum but their attendance has declined during 2010. However ,following consultation ,the prison has changed the day of the week for the meetings in order to facilitate this outside representation during 2011.

During this reporting period some 72 race related incidents been reported which is an increase from the 60 reported in the same period last year. All of the incidents were dealt with to the satisfaction of the Diversity Manager and were discussed at the REAT meetings. 3 racial applications were received by the Board during the year. Despite this rise, discussions with prisoner representatives confirm the impression that racial tensions within Haverigg remain low. As in 2009 praise was also given to the catering department for its efforts for BME prisoners during the festivals although again there appears to be some feelings amongst other prisoners that this indicates preferential treatment. The library was also commended for efforts to provide literature and various forms of media for the influx of different nationalities despite funding limitations. Although as last year Prison management report that there are no residential areas dominated by one racial group, there is concern amongst prisoners that the Foreign Nationals have been allocated one of the more popular residential areas of the prison.

The Chaplaincy continues to play an active part in diversity matters being a point of reference for various minority groups within the prison. Services are held on a regular basis for many faiths. In cases where the geographical position of Haverigg causes difficulties in the attendance of appropriate religious representatives weekly meetings are held between faith members. Chaplaincy staff are to continue their efforts in 2011 to arrange monthly access for prisoners to these representatives. A discussion group previously held weekly for members of all religions to attend to share religious views to increase mutual awareness is to be reinvigorated in 2011.

Staff training has continued throughout the year. In addition to Big Word training 'Challenge it Change it' courses are continuing on a rolling 3 year programme for all staff. Awareness is also being raised by the Diversity Calendar of Events where a monthly theme or festival is highlighted and is publicised around the prison by nominated departments or prisoner groups.

Due to staffing pressures the duties of the Disability Liaison Officer are being carried out by the Diversity Manager. Prisoners continue to be monitored for disabilities on reception and efforts made to allocate them to appropriate accommodation. Recent adjustments have been made to a cell to allow showering facilities for a less able prisoner. Two cells are still designated for use by prisoners with disabilities however they remain as standard cells to be adapted as required.

As stated in the previous report diversity issues are carefully monitored on a regular basis. Actions taken are scrutinised at meetings which are well attended by representatives from staff, Chaplaincy, prisoners and where possible, outside bodies to ensure openness. All parts of the prison are encouraged to take an active part in various events aimed to increase tolerance and understanding.

## **5/2. EDUCATION, LEARNING AND SKILLS**

As previously reported, Education and Vocational skills are primarily provided by Manchester College. Although in recent times the latter has had some negative publicity at different locations, the service provider continues to enjoy the confidence of the SMT at Haverigg. As a training prison, this area of the establishment can be said to be at the core of the organisation's raison d'être, and is, axiomatically, of particular interest to IMB.

Education is funded by the DoE and, at least at the time of writing, has its annual budget ring-fenced. How long this 'assurance' will continue, however, with the omnipresent uncertainties brought about by the current financial climate, is not known. Education, learning and skills are monitored by the Quality Improvement Group, comprising members from all areas of the prison with an input or interest, which meets monthly under the chairmanship of the Head of learning and skills.

Prisoners are assessed during their induction to Haverigg and their educational development possibilities are explained. Sometimes they are specified on their sentence plans. This is an admirable system, but it is not always perfect. Prisoners who have poor literacy and numeracy skills have often learned very effective ways of coping without them, and these ways include evading detection in assessments. Similarly, even when specific needs are identified, they cannot always be met. This applies more to rehabilitation courses such as "Anger Management" or "Enhanced Thinking Skills" than to vocational training. However, vocational training has to be a compromise between what is available in the prison and what the prisoners need, with the added dimension that production and output are important to the prison industries. Some of the industries cannot offer training and qualifications, apart from developing literacy numeracy and general work ethic. There is currently a shortage of contracts in some areas.

Vocational courses offered are numerous and include bricklaying, bathroom fitting, joinery and IT skills. However accreditation of a satisfactorily completed course is proving expensive and accounts for some 70% of the department's annual budget. This is a significant sum and it is hoped by the Education provider, that negotiations with nationally recognised accreditation bodies will eventually result in a reduction of these charges.

Pass rates for students, in the preceding year, are higher than achieved in the recent past. Manchester College claims an 87% achievement rate, some 47% up on three years ago!

As reported previously, the fabric of the main Education building is in a poor state of repair. Originally constructed to a wartime specification and budget, in 1940, rain continues to ingress through the thin walls, whilst gutters clog with the detritus inevitably created by hundreds of roof-breeding seabirds. On a slightly more optimistic note, some monies, (not enough) are soon to become available for a limited upgrade of the building's fabric.

Apart from being a less than desirable environment in which to teach, learn and maintain sensitive equipment, the infrastructure has the additional negative aspect of discouraging new recruits to the staff. Staffing levels are, reportedly, not adequate to cover sickness and annual leave. A situation considered by Manchester College to be directly relevant to the poor condition stated above. Interregnums of six-months, between staff leaving and being replaced, are not unusual and difficulties in recruiting and retaining high quality tutors are, therefore, blamed primarily on the available work environment.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Manchester College's resident Head of Education is happy that, for the most part, Haverigg prisoners enjoy the tutoring skills of a highly motivated team of professionals who are always willing to "push the boundaries of achievement". Having noted the foregoing, security factors do, and probably always will, affect what is ultimately achievable in terms of attainable level of qualification.

Examples of the above include plumbing and electrical engineering, where the use of gas and electrical apparatus, essential for higher-grade certification, is not permissible; additionally, advanced IT qualifications are also compromised by a ban on Internet access.

Whilst the thinking behind such prohibitions is fully understood, the skills on which these bans have an impact are the very ones which are currently in high demand in our modern, high-tech society and which are, therefore, a possible rehabilitation gateway firmly closed, at Haverigg at least.

IMB at HMP Haverigg look forward to the next Ofsted inspection of this important department with some high degree of interest. As stated above, Education is at the vey core of any training establishment and we shall endeavour to monitor most closely the continuing funding levels of this crucial area of rehabilitation enablement.

Classroom attendance is monitored and prisoners lose pay if they do not have a good reason for non-attendance. They have, after all chosen to attend education. Attendance is, consequently, high than it was in the last reporting period.

We are pleased to report that funding to continue the Toe-by-Toe scheme has been found, at least for the moment.

## **CIT Building Carousel**

This workshop comes under the Education department and provides prisoners with skills associated with the building trade, namely bricklaying, plastering, joinery and, started last year, bathroom and kitchen fitting, excluding electrical work. Prisoners are encouraged to take NVQ qualifications in the trades, and many prisoners are proud to leave with their certificates, although there is not a lot of enthusiasm for completing the necessary portfolios. This workshop always has the appearance of industriousness and most of the prisoners are well motivated and keen to learn from dedicated instructors. Work continued throughout the year, although many days were lost due to the ill health of the instructors.

### **5/3 PRISON HEALTH (inc. MENTAL HEALTH)**

NHS Cumbria has responsibility for prisoner physical health and well-being in the prison. NHS Cumbria and their staff in the prison aim to meet the needs of the prison population with a level of care equal to that given to the rest of their customers. The Cumbria Partnership Trust cares for the mental health and welfare of prisoners, and aims to offer a similar level of service. Both providers are to be commended for the efforts and progress they have made in caring for prisoners over the reporting period. IMB have had fewer applications about healthcare than in the last reporting period.

A prison population generally has a much higher level of need than a similar number of patients randomly selected from the general population and it is in many aspects much more demanding. Both providers now appear to appreciate this and have made efforts to provide enough resources and personnel to provide the necessary service. They are now working much more closely with the Prison Service. Issues with prisoners with mental health problems have not always been dealt with as we would have wished, partly through shortage of staff. The mental health team is small, and say they would like more time with some of their patients, and some patients have told us the same. There is always a great deal of work for doctor and nurses, which has been exacerbated by staff changes and sickness.

Although a great deal of progress is being made, the general overview is not optimistic, especially in the current financial turmoil. Healthcare needs more resources and better facilities, but we have said this many times before. Healthcare staff are always busy with a constant workload and are to be commended for their resilience within such an environment. Their work impinges on many aspects of the work of other departments in the prison, and they often suffer unjust criticism for delays or errors which are beyond their control.

Meetings between the providers and the prison authorities, with the IMB present as observers, take place every three months. Helpful input and advice are provided by the regional health team representatives.

Prisoners are seen by medical staff on, or within 24 hours of, arrival, and they are also asked about their possible participation in health promotion schemes. Within the prison they have access to a GP on weekdays, with emergency cover at all times. There is no provision for in-patient care inside the prison, so serious cases have to go to Furness General Hospital in Barrow-in-Furness, about 25 miles away, or to the hospital in Whitehaven 35 miles away. Bed watches are now paid for by NHS Cumbria, but there are adverse cost implications for the prison in covering for staff on bed watch.

There appear to have been fewer problems with the pharmacy, although they have not been entirely eliminated, and the wait for the dentist is still longer than prisoners would like, but Cumbrians in general have to wait to see an NHS dentist, when there is one available locally.

The system of prisoners submitting applications to see the doctor and/or nurse seems to work in general, and prisoners are usually satisfied with the outcome, although there have been occasions when appointments have been missed, due in part to communications failures within the appointments system.

There have been fewer applications to IMB about health related matters, possibly because of staff changes. Most of them related to medication prisoners said they required or they claimed they had been misdiagnosed.

The IDTS scheme appears to be functioning well, but it is labour intensive.

As identified by previous IMB annual reports and the last report by HMCIP in 2009, the Healthcare Centre building is old and inadequate with poor facilities not up to adequate standards of hygiene. It did, however, achieve 95% in its latest NHS infection control inspection. The Centre should be demolished and replaced with a modern, purpose-built healthcare facility having suitable clinical rooms for the doctor, nurses, dentist, pharmacy, and adequate waiting areas for prisoners. At present prisoners have to wait outside, whatever the weather, when collecting their medication. The medical staff need a more spacious facility with sufficient space for the keeping of records.

#### **5/4 SAFER CUSTODY**

The Safer Custody Team (SCT) established last year to focus on such problems as bullying, anti-social behaviour, suicide and self-harm has met regularly and good progress has been made. There are regular meetings with, and communication between, security, healthcare and residential staff. Much work has been done during the year to make all staff more aware of safer custody issues and to monitor the behaviour of prisoners to ensure, as far as possible, that prisoners have a safe environment in which to live. The Security staff have moved to larger premises which enhances their visibility and profile.

Prisoners arriving at Haverigg are screened by Healthcare personnel in reception. Ongoing screening is carried out by wing staff (each prisoner has a personal officer), chaplains and Healthcare staff. There is no first night centre, but no prisoner spends his first night in prison as a prisoner in Haverigg, but the Board still thinks there should be one for certain prisoners.

The number of prisoners on open ACCT [Assessment, Care in Custody and Teamwork, see glossary] at HMP Haverigg varies but rarely reaches double figures, although at one stage there were 23, but this was seen as part of a campaign to obtain transfers. An indication of which prisoners are involved is posted in the gatehouse with an indication of the monitoring regime. They are generally housed in the secure wing accommodation (Skiddaw), where the regime for holding and monitoring prisoners is considered most suitable for the majority of cases. The ACCT documents follow the prisoner but they are always available for inspection.

All staff are required to attend an ACCT training session, and all IMB members attended during this training session during the year.

Inspection of the documents indicates that monitoring is carried out as required, with specific changes in conditions being made following reviews or changes in attitude and behaviour of the prisoner. Trigger points for creating potential behaviour problems are clearly indicated where necessary.

Staff welcome the attendance of IMB members at ACCT reviews, with the proviso that this must be with the agreement of the prisoner, and that the numbers present at the review must not be counter-productive.

The reviews attended by IMB highlighted their individuality, both in staff make-up and in the topics discussed. The length of reviews was always open, and closure involved an agreement on the way forward. Where applicable, work issues and transfer to other residential blocks were raised.

Staff in the Chaplaincy make a significant contribution to safer custody. They attend ACCT reviews and anti-bullying meetings and we have noted in-depth contribution and high expertise at the former. It is known that healthcare staff and the Chaplaincy also liaise when either party has concerns about the behaviour and attitudes of a prisoner.

Chaplaincy staff are pro-active in that they walk the prison, visiting prisoners they feel may require assistance, and are also approachable by any prisoner in any location. They have a good knowledge of prison rules and of prisoners' rights and have been observed advising prisoners on specific problems. They visit the Separation and Care unit (Scafell) every day. Relationships with IMB are good, both sharing many of the same goals.

HMP Haverigg has a active Listener scheme, as mentioned last year, but it would probably be more effective if the Listeners could be more pro-active. There are difficulties with such an approach regarding access, security and staffing. There are always two Listeners on call, but the team is small and a larger team is desirable, particularly as Listeners can be lost on transfer or release. They are volunteers, are trained by Samaritans and supplement the work done by the two counsellors working for the Cumbria Partnership Trust. We think it would be useful for them to have a room in the reception area to consult with prisoners as they arrive.

Samaritans are regular visitors to the prison, on a reactive basis. There is also a PIN phone available for prisoners to speak to Samaritans, but as this has been misused on occasions it is issued under controlled conditions. The main problem in relation to self-harm support is that it is difficult for either listeners or Samaritans to talk to offenders without their fellow prisoners being aware of what is happening, which can exacerbate the situation.

The Board is confident that the self-harm aspect of keeping offenders safe is dealt with effectively in HMP Haverigg.

The Targeted Anti-Bullying scheme appears to be working very well, although there have been complaints regarding its implementation. The change of Fairfield to the reception unit, and its policy of moving even suspected bullies to Skiddaw has clearly had an effect. If staff know who a bully is, even if proof is difficult to obtain, where there is believable evidence, the bully will be put on the TAB scheme. The Board is concerned about bullying and is glad to see that the prison management take the matter seriously. We are also glad to note that the amount of recorded violence continues to be below the expected 'target'.

Violence reduction meetings are programmed to take place at regular intervals. Notification of meetings has improved, but meetings have not always taken place as planned.

Accommodation for prisoners at risk of self-harm or assault is adequate, but the increased monitoring required by the former obviously increases the pressure on staffing. There are a small number of double occupancy cells, but there is no crisis suite. The Board has been pointing out the lack of such a facility and is concerned that very little has been done to remedy the situation. Those prisoners under threat can be guaranteed protection only in the Separation and Care Unit (Scafell). However, as noted above, such prisoners are being managed on normal location with some success.

## **5/5 SEGREGATION/SEPARATION & CARE**

Scafell, the separation and care unit, was extended some years ago, so half of the 12 cells are quite adequate, the heating system has been improved and extra blankets are available should prisoners feel cold, but in reality, the whole unit ought to be replaced, even though some prisoners say they prefer the accommodation to that on Skiddaw.

Most prisoners located in Scafell are there either as punishment for breaking prison rules or for their own protection, although the prison policy is for those prisoners under threat should be held in normal locations. (Just occasionally prisoners are in Scafell to keep them separate from other prisoners for some other reason.)

They are all seen regularly by IMB, by Prison Health and by the Chaplaincy. At the start of the reporting period the numbers located in the unit was fairly low, with most prisoners seeking protection being housed on Skiddaw.

The mid to latter part of the year has seen a noticeable increase in the number of occupants, some of whom are there for their own protection not agreeing to go to Skiddaw. This can lead to a fairly long stay in the unit. Prisoners in Scafell have regular reviews to monitor their progress, assess their state of mind and to set behavioural targets. It is good practice, though not an obligation, for IMB to attend reviews. Attendance has not always been possible even though the prison authorities have tried to regularise the review times. This omission has been noted by the prison authorities, but sometimes it is they who cannot attend at the time scheduled, and as the time coincides with the IMB mandatory monthly meeting it is obvious that members will be missing from reviews on at least one in every four occasions.

All Board members have attended some reviews throughout the year. We have found them conducted with sympathy and fairness, with the prisoners encouraged to contribute.

The staff on Scafell have to deal with all the paperwork concerning adjudications of prisoners who have broken the prison rules and for the visit of the external Independent Adjudicator (IA) as well as manage the routine of up to twelve prisoners, all of whom have varied problems. They have to deal with smashed cells, dirty protests, violence and aggression. They all, including those drafted in to cover for absence or leave, carry out their duties very professionally, with patience, care and tact, even though, on occasion, this can be very demanding. Their patience and good humour are also appreciated by IMB.

## **6 REPORTS ON OTHER MATTERS (in Alphabetical Order)**

### **6/1 Accommodation**

All accommodation is considered at least adequate by the prison authorities and by IMB, but some units really should be replaced, notably Scafell, Great Gable and Blencathra. There is obviously no hope of this in the present climate, and with day-to-day finance also being squeezed, lack of funds for maintenance will soon lead to Helvellyn going the same way.

### **6/2 Accumulated Visits**

Some prisoners who were due an accumulated visit were not able to have one because of accommodation/transport problems. The prison is trying to solve the problem with inter-prison video, however this is costly on staff time at both ends of the link. The problem of staff time has been exacerbated by the tightening of budgets, and we can see things only getting worse.

### **6/3 Adjudications**

Governors adjudicate on prisoners who have broken prison rules. Conduct regarded as criminal, including causing serious damage, are referred to the police in the first instance, and perpetrators can be brought before the Court. Serious breaches of the rules or are referred to a visiting judge (IA) who can award extra time in custody. We have found adjudications to be fair, generally consistent between governors, and fully explained to the accused. There are frustrations; apparently guilty individuals have cases dismissed on a technicality – the charge has been wrongly made out, for example; someone who is clearly playing for time by requesting legal representation but knowing he is due for release before that could be provided etc. Adjudications by the Independent Adjudicator (IA) were also attended by Board members. Again everything seemed to be satisfactory and the paperwork was in order. Cases referred to the IA have reduced as immediate awards, such as loss of canteen, loss of TV or loss of pay are more effective deterrents than, say, two more weeks detention in perhaps two years' time.

### **6/4 Bullying**

Sometimes it is part of the individual's obnoxious nature that he taxes or assaults the weak, but bullying in Haverigg is generally centred on debts incurred due to non-payment for drugs, for instance. Sometimes the debt is merely because a prisoner has moved into a cell where the previous occupant left without repaying a debt, as the debt stays with the cell rather than moving with the prisoner. It occurs in all prisons. Staff in Haverigg are trying to keep on top of the problem and the number of cases of bullying continues to decrease through staff vigilance and positive management. Often staff can identify the bully but lack enough evidence to charge him, so place him on a TAB. [An incremental Targeted Anti-Bullying scheme. See appendix C.] Most prisoners on TAB are housed in Skiddaw., although there are some on other units.

Obviously the scheme could be open to abuse with staff short-circuiting the adjudication process, but there has been little evidence of this so far although prisoners have complained. There has been security information to justify the TAB, but there could possibly be disagreement about the level, or the duration of the TAB, and about representation at TAB reviews.

#### **6/5 Canteen**

Prisoners are able to buy personal items from the canteen which is run by DHL/Bookers. The goods are distributed on Friday afternoons, having already been bagged before delivery to the prison. They are bagged according to the prisoner's choices shown on his weekly canteen sheet. Now they are being bagged in HM Prison Wymott the problems which existed at the beginning of the year, with goods not being available or going missing, have improved, but order sheets still occasionally go astray. However the main, and in the Board's view totally justifiable, grievance of prisoners, is the exorbitant price charged for many of the items. A literally captive market is being exploited.

#### **6/6 Complaints**

Prisoners and the complaints books tell us that the number of complaints remains fairly steady, although applications to IMB have decreased slightly. Many of the complaints appear trivial, although for prisoners who have little control over most aspects of their lives, even small problems can cause a surprising amount of anxiety. Prisoners should normally contact their offender manager in OMU or their personal officer on the wing with their problems before they apply to IMB, but they often approach members on their rounds. In such cases, the problems are either dealt with there and then or they are asked to complete an application form. Prisoners have told us, with no evidence, that IMB applications have gone missing. A new IMB application form is now available to prisoners, which has a tear off strip to act as a receipt, so that they have some evidence of submitting an application, but they do not always use them. The majority of applications to IMB were about transfers and property.

#### **6/7 Drugs**

Drugs come into the prison over the fence, through visits and via other means unknown. They are probably not more available than in other prisons. The amount in the prison, as measured by MDT (Mandatory Drugs Testing) results has decreased markedly over the year and although bullying tends to vary inversely to the quantities available, the changes in population and allocation of accommodation, coupled with the TAB scheme, have minimized any increase. Prisoners charged with drug related offences are referred to the external adjudicator. When the present Governor took over the prison in March 2009, he declared that his first major task was to reduce the amount of drugs available in Haverigg. In this he has been successful, although some drugs do still find their way into the prison. The IDTS Methadone programme is popular with prisoners and helps keep a substantial part of the prison population stable. The resources available for voluntary drug testing have been reduced.

#### **6/8 Farm**

It has been a good year on the farm, although it was not helped by poor weather. The farm shop and prison kitchens have been well supplied with a wider range of salads and vegetables. It is a difficult area to manage but with the much improved workforce, mainly owing to the introduction of category D and Foreign National prisoners, a considerable overall improvement has taken place. Basic National Proficiency Test (BNPT) in horticulture are undertaken at three levels; Award; Certificate; Diploma requiring three, eight and eighteen modules respectively. This is a change from last year, when awards and certificates were on offer. It now enables higher levels of award to be achieved, but it has reduced the actual number of successes. Level 2 qualifications are now in prospect, and fork-lift training continues.

#### **6/9 Foreign National Prisoners**

At the time of the last report the number of foreign national prisoners in Haverigg was one. At the end of the reporting period for this report the figure was 120, some of whom have completed their sentence and are awaiting deportation or awaiting the result of their appeal against it. Foreign national prisoners vary in their command of English, in the seriousness of their offence and, obviously in their nationalities. These variations have caused the staff some difficulties, but there has been training, there are courses in English specifically for non-native speakers, the library has been very pro-active, and, on the whole, the presence of the prisoners has been an asset to the prison because of their behaviour, although they have meant extra work for some staff. They live mainly in billet accommodation on Blencathra, but some are in other areas.

#### **6/10 Foundation Centre – now the Resettlement Centre**

A very busy place, dealing with all the problems facing prisoners due for release. The head of the centre has been moved and will not be replaced owing to staffing pressures but the amount of work has increased with the changing population. Category D and Foreign National prisoners give the centre more work. The centre organizes pre-release courses dealing with skills for life, benefits, training available etc. as well as trying to ensure that, on release, the ex-offender has somewhere to live, employment or a training opportunity, a probation supervisor and, possibly an account with the Co-operative bank.

#### **6/11 Gymnasium**

This is still one of the most popular and successful areas within the prison. All prisoners are able to attend the gym if they wish, on a rota basis, and many also apply to take BAWLA qualifications (fitness training, refereeing etc). The numbers applying allows for some selection to take place, which is perhaps one reason why the success rate for gym courses is 100 per cent; although, of course, the expertise of the gym staff is the key factor. There is also remedial gym two days a week.

#### **6/12 Hooch**

Illegally produced alcohol, fermented from fruit, bread, potatoes, sugar and other ingeniously acquired materials and stored in very ingenious ways, hooch is more disruptive of prison life than illicit drugs. Drunken prisoners can behave violently and irrationally. There have been good finds throughout the year, and little trouble with drunkenness. One notable exception was a prisoner who acquired a whole bottle of vanilla essence and drank it all, but fortunately survived.

#### **6/13 Incentives and earned privileges (IEP) Scheme**

All prisons have such a scheme to reward prisoners for periods of good behaviour. There are three levels: basic, where the prisoner enjoys only the legal minimum of visits, exercise, association, letters, canteen spend and other amenities; standard, where the levels of all these are increased as privileges; and enhanced, where the privileges are increased and vary slightly from prison to prison depending on local conditions. In Haverigg, although accommodation is not recognised as part of the IEP scheme, the variety of conditions in the units mean that accommodation is a factor in prisoners' eyes. Most prisoners are put on standard level on arrival and apply for enhanced status after a stated period of good behaviour. Privileges are removed for non-compliant behaviour after a hearing before an IEP board or an adjudication on the prisoner by the governor. Roughly half of Haverigg's population enjoy enhanced status.

#### **6/14 Independent Adjudicator**

The IA is a district judge who attends the regularly - currently about once every six weeks - to hear serious charges of breach of prison rules. He can add up to 42 days to a prisoner's sentence – a considerable deterrent to some prisoners, but not to others. Serious criminal offences are referred to the police and dealt with in the normal way outside the prison, not by the IA. Having to pay compensation for serious criminal damage appears to have proved to be a deterrent. IMB members are welcome at IA hearings which, of course have been found to be fair and professional.

#### **6/15 Innovations**

The main innovation has been to change the composition of the population, with more life-sentenced prisoners, a considerable number of prisoners from foreign countries and a good number of Category D prisoners. This latter seems to have been made possible because the normal category D estate appears to be full. The use of prisoners to tidy up the grounds and residential areas by gardening and painting continues and the prisoners can use this work as part of their NVQ. Using immediate sanctions after adjudications, rather than refer to the IA, seems to be effective, as well as saving the prison some money.

#### **6/16 Induction**

There is still no real first night suite at the prison, despite frequent requests from IMB, but the argument that prisoners are coming from another prison, so their first night is not a first night in prison, does have some merit. On arrival prisoners sometimes have to wait in the cellular vehicle for a time if the reception area is not staffed, but generally they are driven straight there on arrival. They are dealt with individually, generally with no problems, but sometimes they have been allowed to have in their possession at other prisons articles which are banned in Haverigg, and this can lead to argument.

On rare occasions (rare because the acceptance criteria are so clearly laid out), prisoners arriving at Haverigg are not suitable, and arrangements have to be made to return them.

They are seen by Prison Health, and Chaplaincy, if they wish. They are given clothes and bedding and are housed in the induction billet on Fairfield. They undertake an induction course lasting at least a week which includes orientation, explanation of prison policies such as IEP, personal officers, applications for transfer, gym, work, visits, telephone, library and canteen.

#### **6/17 Kitchen/Dining Rooms**

The catering manager regularly reviews menus to work within budgets. Special diets cause concern because of the extra costs involved, for instance the diet for a Jewish prisoner costs roughly five times the allowance. If a system for the authorisation of special diets was put in place it would prevent prisoners from manipulating their catering allowance. Extra allowance for the special diets should come from central funds and requests from prisoners should be checked for consistency against; what they buy from the canteen, (are vegan prisoners buying tuna, for instance); health problems; religious observance; etc.

Supervision of the prisoners in the dining rooms, at lunchtime is difficult because of the large numbers of prisoners and low staff levels.

Prisoners work in the kitchen and in the staff mess, and some gain qualifications, but some have had to be dismissed for pilfering food. The catering staff work with prisoners for special religious festivals such as Feast of Eid.

Maintenance of the kitchen and dining rooms is an ongoing issue, mainly because of the poor state of the buildings and budget restrictions.

#### **6/18 Library**

There is probably not a prisoner in Haverigg who has not visited this area of excellence. The building is relatively new and in good order. The library is welcoming, has a good atmosphere, and is well stocked and neat and tidy. There is a wide range of books available supplied by the Cumbria Library Service. Prisoners have access to law books. The library is used as a place to deliver part of prisoners' induction course, and for some individual studying. As well as the staff, a small number of prisoners work in the library. This facility is open nearly every day and is extremely well used. Two courses are available in the library, namely Driving Skills Theory and Practice, and Storybooks for Dads.

The Imam liaises with library staff and helps identify Islamic titles for inclusion in library stocks.

The Library staff have worked very hard to obtain as many books and periodicals as possible in appropriate foreign languages and these are appreciated by the foreign national prisoners.

#### **6/19 Life Sentenced Prisoners**

There are currently roughly seventy life sentenced prisoners in Haverigg and there are two officers acting as personal officers for them. Every lifer is a special case and is regularly reviewed. IMB members attend reviews when they can, with the permission of the prisoner. There have been a substantial number of reviews to deal with this year, and those that have taken place have been handled with care and efficiency, with the prisoner being encouraged to speak about his needs and concerns. There are also some IPP prisoners who require reviews and all this takes a great deal of staff time as arrangements have to be made with the offender supervisor outside. It is often done via video link.

There have been two Lifer Days during the year for which the visiting families gave positive feedback.

The National Tracking System for IPP prisoners tries to ensure that prisoners are allocated to prisons with opportunities for programmes to reduce their risk to society. However this does not always work. Without adequate offending behaviour programmes, there is little incentive for IPP prisoners to conform, as, in order to progress, they need to transfer to a prison where appropriate programmes are available. Transfers are difficult, so frustration sets in.

#### **6/20 Mould**

Some of the shower facilities in use at Haverigg are constructed to a poor, low-budget specification; additionally, many are inadequately ventilated. The foregoing invariably aggregate to an undesirable environment in which mould can, and frequently does, thrive. Consequently, as mould is a decomposer, cheaply constructed, inadequately built and un-tiled, or partially tiled, shower units are creating structural problems and, by definition, expense.

Additionally, and more importantly, much has been written in recent times about the health hazards of mould, indeed the Internet has numerous postings on the issue, although many, if not most, have their origins in the USA. It is alleged that the spores of certain moulds can cause allergies, skin rashes, lung infections, vomiting, loss of memory and neurological disorders, especially amongst those with compromised immune systems.

The concerns of the IMB, in this area, have been brought to the attention of the Governor, who, taking the matter seriously, has had samples of mould scientifically tested; thus far with negative results.

Notwithstanding, with the health of both prisoners and staff at potential risk, and the cost of maintenance and re-construction associated with the damaging effects of mould, the IMB have to consider this an important, if somewhat currently grey area.

**In order to clarify the situation, therefore, we would ask the Prison Service to publish a definitive and unambiguous statement of mould risk factors, along with associated instructions for its control. These latter could then be used as guidelines for prison shower unit designers and constructors, for prison SMTs to manage, and as an authoritative 'yardstick' for IMBs to monitor and subsequently report against.**

#### **6/21 Offending Behaviour Programmes**

As we have said before, it would be useful if more could be offered, given that rehabilitation is proclaimed as the main aim of the Prison Service after public protection. However, as the budget is going to be cut and the prison population is set to increase, this is obviously a vain hope. Some prisoners require specific courses as part of their sentence plan and cannot be given a D categorisation without them. When they are not available there is little wonder that the prisoners become frustrated and disheartened. It is even worse for IPP prisoners who cannot get a course as they see themselves stuck as no 'programme completion' virtually means 'no release'. We would like to see an anger management course, preferably "Controlling Anger and Learning to Manage it" [CALM], and also an Enhanced Thinking Skills [ETS] course as both often appear as requirements on sentence plans, but realise that this is just wishful thinking. The Chaplaincy ran a "Sycamore Tree" course aimed at victim awareness and addressing the affects of prisoners' crimes. This was very well worth while and has had good results as far as non-reoffending is concerned. Funding is no longer available and we are sorry to see the end of this very valuable intervention.

#### **6/22 Other Departments**

The Works Department carries out repairs and maintenance and has a great deal to do. Some prisoners tend to do malicious damage to get their own way; there are a lot of old buildings which are gradually falling apart and there is general decay, exacerbated by the depredations of the seagulls and the area's bad weather, to be overcome. The work is not helped by having the central stores in Lancaster, even if this does save money.

**The Administrative Departments** help the Board with applications from prisoners and problems relating to prisoners' money, visits, post and so on. The Board finds the personnel most friendly, knowledgeable and helpful. The prison also provides the Board with its efficient clerk from one of these departments, without whom the Board would find it very difficult to function.

**The Offender Management Unit** provides prisoners with support by documenting their progress through their sentence. Prisoners find it useful to know who their case administrator is. IMB members find it a pleasure to visit the unit as the staff are always willing to help, despite the fact that they are interrupted in their work, and their workload is increasing.

**The Chaplaincy**, comprises a dedicated team covering almost all faiths including paganism who offer care and support to all residential units every day and lead prayers and services for the prisoners. The chapel is now a multi-faith room with a carpet so that it is also suitable for Muslim prayers.

The Chaplaincy are also instrumental in running and sponsoring courses for prisoners such as Alcoholics Anonymous.

#### **6/23 Property (prisoners' personal belongings)**

There continue to be problems with property. There is no national agreement between prisons as to how much is permitted in a cell or what specific articles are allowed. Frequently property does not arrive from the sending jail; it often disappears from cells, generally when a prisoner has been moved, or, occasionally, after confiscation; it gets damaged in transit, or during cell searches. The list of circumstances in which property causes problems is endless.

During the year, procedures for dealing with the movement of prisoners' property within the prison have been tightened and protocols to prevent prisoners from stealing from their cellmates appear to have improved. However, despite these measures, there are still too many cases of missing property. IMB received slightly more applications concerning property than in the previous year.

#### **6/24 Purposeful Activity**

The Prison Authorities aim to have prisoners occupied in some purposeful activity throughout the working day. The prison has made good efforts to increase the opportunities for activities which should be of use to prisoners following their release. However, much still remains to be done in this respect as there are still occasions when prisoners still have nothing to do. Every day there is over allocation of prisoners to work places, so a significant number of prisoners are returned to their cells.

#### **6/25 Recycling**

This is a well organized department and a neat area despite the nature of the work that is carried on. Sixteen prisoners work on the site sorting prison waste, compressing and baling cardboard for an outside contract, and composting kitchen waste. Although there is room for work expansion, drainage problems on the site need to be resolved before this can come about. There is also a need for extra toilet facilities for staff and prisoners.

#### **6/26 Resettlement Activities**

Without adequate resettlement there is likely to be reoffending. There are seen to be three main strands in the resettlement programme:- Education, Training and Employment; Personal and Social Development; and Housing and Social Integration. These are part of every prisoner's sentence plan.

Ideally when he leaves prison, the man has a home to go to, preferably a permanent one, a job opportunity and some social group support, preferably a family.

This is why the Visits Centre is so important. It makes visits less of a strain, so more take place. Without visits, it is hard for families to stick together.

#### **6/27 Regimes and Activities**

Activities are aimed at doing the work necessary for the prison to function, bringing funds into the prison and education, training and personal development for individuals to return to live adequately in society. Some of the fundraising activities are not very useful as training for life in the community (e.g. bag-packing). However we recognise that these activities can help prisoners develop regular habits of work, that there are limitations on what can be offered and that there is a need for commercial viability. Haverigg's provision compares favourably with that offered by similar prisons. Much to our dismay the stringent new financial regime will have a huge impact on the prison's education and training offer.

The catering staff and prisoners run a smokery business which is very successful. The farm grows vegetables and salads for use in the kitchen and for sale in the prison shop. It also provides bedding plants which are used to improve the environment within the prison, with any surplus being sold. The products from the woodwork shops and light engineering workshop are also available to the public. It is pleasing that some category D prisoners have been able to work in the community performing useful tasks such as mending potholes in the road, painting and gardening.

**6/28 Rooftop protests**

There have been hardly any this year, possibly because they have not been seen as leading to the results the protesters wanted. The Board are aware of two, both of which were resolved very quickly by the trained negotiators. Dirty protests or self harm have been more popular methods of expressing a grievance.

**6/29 Seagulls**

As we continually report, seagulls are an expensive menace to health and property. Nest materials clog drains, gutters and downspouts, causing damp and rot. Their filthy droppings need cleaning up, plants need replacing and plastic polytunnels have to be re-covered. The hawks and buzzards, flown regularly by prisoners, have helped to keep the numbers at bay by making the sitting birds let their eggs get cold, but many chicks still managed to hatch and the mother birds become more aggressive when they have chicks. Their eggs should be pricked, or replaced with fakes if possible, so they sit in vain.

**6/30 The "Seagull"**

This newspaper claims to be the only newspaper published in prison which is also available to the public. It is an excellent publication, more professional in appearance than its stable mate, the "Slammer", and also less frequent as it is dependent on having prisoners with suitable ability to produce the paper, and on finding adequate funding. This is obviously becoming ever more difficult.

**6/31 Security**

This is of the utmost importance both to the establishment and individually. Continual vigilance and awareness are apparent. There have been no escapes in the reporting period. There has been more tightening of movement within the prison, and movement slips are required. There have been fewer assaults and the trend appears to be decreasing partly because of the change in population. It is difficult to be sure about trends. The official figures are below the 'target' year on year. The main difficulty is that many assaults are not reported, or are reported by prisoners as accidents, even when it is quite obvious that they are nothing of the sort.

**6/32 Staff Mess**

The canteen is an excellent, well run facility, especially for staff who are working extra hours and are able here, to benefit from a hot meal. This dining room is well used and is much appreciated by the staff, uniformed and civilian. It also provides work and training for a number of prisoners.

**6/33 Transfers**

Haverigg is somewhat remote and open, so, despite its advantages, some prisoners would sooner serve their sentence elsewhere. They can apply for a transfer after being here for three months, but the opportunities are not very frequent now that the prison population is so high.

It is a problem, because some prisoners need to be transferred because they are violent or at risk, and misbehaving is seen, wrongly, as a route to try if the official route does not work. However, it has been demonstrated to prisoners that this will not be tolerated, and during the year the number of cases of such misbehaviour has reduced significantly.

Prisoners who achieve category D status expect to be transferred to an open prison such as Kirkham, but such prisons have hardly any places available because of the high overall prison population, and this creates disillusion and disappointment.

#### **6/34 Visits Centre**

The Centre is run by an independent trust and has permanent staff and volunteers. This facility is much appreciated by visitors after their long journey. It is a valuable resource providing help, advice and support as well as refreshments to prisoners' families and friends, and has a play area for children.

This is an excellent well run centre for prisoner's families and visitors. Care and thought is put into family days and festivals. The staff and volunteers make every effort to welcome visitors, especially children.

#### **6/35 Vulnerable Prisoners**

There is no vulnerable prisoner unit at HMP Haverigg. Vulnerable prisoners are kept on normal location as far as possible, but otherwise in a secure unit, generally Scafell, and are transferred as soon as possible. Transfer is generally not available as quickly as we, or prison staff, would wish. We do not think it is very appropriate to house vulnerable prisoners in Scafell which is basically for prisoners who have misbehaved. Board members are pleased that prison managers are doing all they can to cope with any such prisoners on normal location.

#### **6/36 Yards Party**

The grounds are cared for by a workforce of around twenty five. Despite the appalling weather in the summer, flowerbeds in the entrance and more visible central area have brightened the establishment and provided a welcome for visitors. The prisoners now in the party, particularly the foreign ones, take a pride in their work – clearing, planting, weeding and mowing. There are corners where rubbish accumulates however, detracting from the overall appearance. It is pleasing to report that the appearance and tidiness of the prison grounds and approach to the prison has improved during the reporting year.

## 7) CONCLUSION

Very much of this report is either a revision or a restatement of much of what we reported last year. This is hardly surprising. With a tight budget, minimal staff – a problem exacerbated by absences caused by sickness – there is not a lot of scope for change. Any suggestions made in the last report clearly received scant attention from those to whom they were addressed.

The Governor identified drugs and associated problems, mainly bullying and assaults, as the chief areas where progress could be made. This has been a success, partly by changing the balance of the population in the prison and partly by enlisting more co-operation from the police in the anti-drug campaign. He has also had good relations with the local press. He has also introduced a successful “decency” agenda.

We remain confident that prisoners at Haverigg are managed in a secure, safe and decent environment where the staff are committed to providing a fair and humane regime. We welcome the continuing efforts being made in the development of strategies designed to improve the prisoners' chances of rehabilitation and to discourage them from re-offending, and recognise that this development will become ever more difficult. If the budget is continually being cut in real terms, made worse by a climate of increasing inflation, we can see less and less scope for rehabilitation and warehousing will become the norm.

There have been some improvements in the fabric of the estate but there are still areas where there is a need for better conditions for those living and working in this community. Some of the older buildings are damp, have poor facilities for hygiene and need care and maintenance or pulling down and re-building. These are mainly the workshop areas, but the Health Centre also partly fits this description and so does the Education block.

Vigilance and good security operations have impacted substantially on the reduction of drugs and mobile phones getting into prison. There have been some very good finds of illicit articles and some prosecutions leading to significant sentences. Mandatory Drug Testing (MDT) results have reduced from more than 30% of those tested to less than 5% are a good indicator of the effects of these measures on drug supply in the prison. The IDTS scheme has probably had some effect too. Shortage of drugs seems to increase bullying, but this has been controlled by the TAB scheme. There were no escapes or absconds during the reporting period.

The Board welcome the continued efforts of managers to procure work and training opportunities which are relevant to offenders on their discharge from prison. The Board is concerned however that prisoners still arrive at Haverigg with assessments advising that they do courses which Haverigg does not provide. Whilst acknowledging what is being done in this area, we would like to see more provision of education taken into the workshops and the Separation and Care Unit although we appreciate that this is expensive in terms of time.

Finally the IMB would like to thank the management and staff at HMP Haverigg for their help and co-operation throughout the year, without which we would have found it impossible to carry out our duties.

Report submitted by:

Mark Horsley,  
Chairman of the Board

John Grantham  
IMB Member

## **REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD**

In order to monitor such a vast estate and to be aware of the numerous and varied activities going on in a prison members have to be committed to doing more than the Secretariat lays down as a minimum requirement. During the year 12 board meetings have been held, with a 89 % attendance. We now have a membership of only 7. This puts a greater burden on the remaining members, particularly when the normal round trip to the prison averages over forty-five miles. The average length of time taken for a visit, including travelling time is well over four hours. Three members of the members of the Board resigned during the year and we are currently hoping to recruit another six.

Altogether the Board members made 373 visits to the prison. There were 12 Board meetings, giving a presence within the prison on average well over four times a week. As well as carrying out their statutory duties, members have visited all areas of the prison to report on the state of the buildings and the work being carried out, monitored the healthcare given to prisoners and made random checks on the food provision, the hygiene of the kitchens and arrangements for meal times. There are many working-parties and committees in prison life and members have attended many of these as observers, giving opinions when invited to, but generally remaining in the monitoring role.

Members made over 139 visits to the Separation and Care Unit during the reporting year. Board members attended adjudications to observe on 34 occasions and found that the system is a fair one and that prisoners are clearly led through the process and given help where it is right to do so. Prisoners held in the Separation and Care Unit have a review of their situation on a weekly basis. Members attended these on 13 occasions. These are included in the 139 visits.

There were 163 written applications to see IMB. All prisoners were seen, many on more than one occasion, and replies were sent by the required date. In addition there were three confidential access applications to the Board chairman, although more confidential envelopes were received, but not all matters merited the 'confidential' label. Many minor problems were resolved "on the hoof" and thus often not documented, depending on the judgment of the member concerned, although it would usually be reported at the monthly meeting.

Members have continued to keep their training updated in various ways, some of which are in-house. Prison Staff training has taken place regularly within and without the establishment and Board members are invited to join these training sessions and most have done so. Members of the Board have also been accepted on nationally organised IMB courses. Two members attended the National Conference held at Hinckley, Leicestershire. The board welcomed their feedback and reports and put their experience to good use.

Board members visited Manchester prison, one of our main sources of prisoners, to experience a different prison environment and to learn from their IMB. We were also visited by our IMB Regional Representative for him to see how Haverigg IMB operated and to meet members of the Board.

The Governor attends the Board's monthly meetings when he can (when he is not available his deputy attends) and presents a written report.

The Board has a good and proper working relationship with the Governor and staff of the prison.

The Chairman of the Board would like to express his gratitude to all Board members for the time and effort they have put into monitoring the prison over the year and into the preparation of this report.

## APPENDIX A

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>BOARD STATISTICS</b>  |     |
| Recommended complement of Board Members  | 13  |
| Number of Board Members at the start of the reporting period                     | 10  |
| Number of Board Members at the end of the reporting period                       | 7   |
| Number of new Members joining within the reporting period                        | 0   |
| Numbers of Members leaving within the reporting period                           | 3   |
| Number of attendances at meetings other than Board meetings                      | 43  |
| Total number of visits to the prison (including all meetings)                    | 373 |
| Total number of written applications (not including 3 confidential applications) | 163 |
| Total number of segregation reviews held   | 151 |
| Total number of segregation reviews attended                                     | 13  |

**APPENDIX A (Contd.)**

| <b>Code</b> | <b>Subject</b>                      | <b>2006/7</b> | <b>2007/8</b> | <b>2008/9</b> | <b>2009/10</b> |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| A           | Accommodation                       | 1             | 0             | 2             | 8              |
| B           | Adjudications                       | 2             | 3             | 5             | 19             |
| C           | Diversity related                   | 1             | 1             | 5             | 3              |
| D           | Education/employment/training       | 1             | 6             | 12            | 10             |
| E           | Family/visits                       | 7             | 3             | 19            | 10             |
| F           | Food/kitchen related                | 4             | 3             | 0             | 1              |
| G           | Health related                      | 11            | 11            | 26            | 15             |
| H           | Property                            | 12            | 12            | 21            | 24             |
| I           | Sentence related                    | 15            | 16            | 26            | 18             |
| J           | Staff/prisoner/detainee related     | 1             | 14            | 4             | 11             |
| K           | Transfers                           | 22            | 16            | 44            | 36             |
| L           | Miscellaneous                       | 28            | 13            | 19            | 8              |
|             | <b>Total number of applications</b> | 109           | 102           | 183           | 163            |

**Note**

The total number of applications does not include 3 which were confidential addressed to the Board Chairman

## APPENDIX B - Abbreviations and Glossary

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| AA         | Alcoholics Anonymous (Meetings facilitated by the Chaplaincy)   |
| ACCT       | Assessment, Care in Custody & Teamwork (Replaced F2052SH)<br><i>Anyone fearing a prisoner may self-harm can open an ACCT document.</i>  |
| CALM       | Controlling Anger and Learning to Manage it (a self-explanatory course)   |
| CARATS     | Counselling, Assessment, Referral, Advice and Throughcare Scheme<br>A drug cessation intervention   |
| Category C | Prisoners acceptable for conditions in a low risk Prison  |
| Category D | Prisoners acceptable for the conditions in an Open Prison   |
| CCTV       | Closed Circuit Television   |
| CIT        | Construction Industry Training offering painting/decorating to  |
| ETS        | Enhanced Thinking Skills (an accredited course)   |
| HDC        | Home Detention and Curfew (released with an electronic "tag")   |
| HMP        | Her Majesty's Prison  |
| HMCIP      | Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons  |
| IA         | Independent Adjudicator   |
| IEP        | Incentives and Earned Privileges  |
| IMB        | Independent Monitoring Board  |
| IDTS       | Integrated Drug Treatment Scheme  |
| IPP        | In the Interests of Public Protection (Prisoners sentenced in for an indefinite period - until they are no longer a threat to the public - generally meaning they have to take part in specific interventions and then be assessed. The interventions are not always available) |
| IRC        | Immigration Removal/Reception Centre  |
| MDT        | Mandatory Drug Testing (testing a random sample of men drawn from the total population of the prison selected centrally)  |
| NA         | Narcotics Anonymous   |
| NVQ        | National Vocational Qualification   |
| OASys      | Offender Assessment System (computerised risk and needs assessment which is supposed to follow the prisoner's progress through his sentence, but not all dossiers are complete)   |
| OMU        | Offender Management Unit (the office where prisoners' records and case files are managed)   |
| PASRO      | Prisoners Addressing Substance Related Offending (a very successful course, with a maximum of 12 selected prisoners per course)   |
| PCT        | Primary Care Trust (a National Health Service Organisation)   |
| PE         | Physical Education  |
| RAF        | Royal Air Force   |
| RMN        | Registered Mental Nurse   |
| ROTL       | Release on Temporary Licence - generally for a specific purpose ranging from attending a funeral to working in the staff mess   |
| SMART      | Systematic Monitoring and Analysing of Race Equality Template (a computer programme designed to ensure equal proportions of Ethnic groups are to be found in all areas of the prison. If an area comes up red action has to be taken)   |
| SPOC       | Student's Perception Of Course - a questionnaire to be filled in by students on completion of a course - or during a course - to obtain quantifiable and demonstrable student feedback.   |
| TAB        | Targeted Anti-Bullying document, to alert staff to probable bullies or possible victims of bullying   |

## APPENDIX C

### Explanation of Terms used in this report

#### Accumulated Visits

Prisoners are allowed to defer family visits and accumulate a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 26. They may apply to have these at a suitable prison on temporary transfer. They are useful if the family members cannot travel, for instance. They are not a right, but they are an example of good practice which is becoming extremely rare.

#### Basic Skills Assessment

A computerised test that indicates six levels of achievement in numeracy and literacy:

- Entry Level 1
- Entry Level 2
- Entry Level 3
- Level 1
- Level 2 (roughly equivalent to GCSE Grade C)
- Level 3 (roughly equivalent to A-Level Grade C).

#### Independent Adjudicator

A District Judge who attends the prison periodically to hear serious charges of breaches of prison rules. He can add extra days to the sentence, whereas the prison authorities cannot.

#### Incentives and Earned Privileges

“Rewards” for good behaviour. There are 3 levels; **basic**, where the minimum level of facilities such as visits, ‘phone calls, letters and recreation time are allowed; **standard**, where more perks, including television, are available and **enhanced**, the one enjoyed by well-behaved prisoners who have proved themselves over a period of time.

#### Interventions

A term used to cover all policies and procedures (often courses) designed to help prisoners to become rehabilitated into society. Some are specified in the sentence plan, and without taking part in a specific intervention some prisoners cannot be released.

#### Listener

A prisoner who has been trained by Samaritans to support other prisoners who are feeling low and need to talk in confidence to someone who is not a member of staff. Listeners sometimes share a double cell with a vulnerable prisoner, but the employment of listeners has to be handled with discretion.

#### Targeted Anti-Bullying

A scheme where bullies have their privileges restricted because there is sufficient evidence for staff to take these measures without a formal adjudication. TABs are reviewed regularly, but not always in the presence of the prisoner. The scheme has helped greatly in reducing bullying and violence, although so has changing the population and reorganising the accommodation scheme.