



**HER MAJESTY'S PRISON**

**&**

**YOUNG OFFENDER'S**

**INSTITUTION (HMP/YOI)**

**PETERBOROUGH**

ANNUAL REPORT

1 APRIL 2009

TO

31 MARCH 2010

## SECTION ONE

### **Statutory Role of the IMB**

1.1 The Prisons Act 1952 require that every prison to be monitored by an Independent Board (IMB) appointed by the Home Secretary from members of the community in which the prison is situated.

1.2 The IMB is specifically charged to:

1. 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.
2. Inform promptly the Secretary of State, or any official to whom he has delegated authority as it judges appropriate, any concern it has.
3. Report annually to the Secretary of State on how well the prison has met standards and requirements placed on it and what impact these have on those in custody

1.3 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 excepting for medical records.

## SECTION TWO

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## SECTION THREE

### Description of the Prison

3.1 Her Majesty's Prison (HMP) and Young Offenders Institution (YOI) Peterborough is a male Category B (Cat B) local prison and a Female closed prison managed by Kalyx and is currently the only dual purpose prison, with male and female prisoners, in the country. The female prison also contains a Mother and Baby unit.

3.2 In the male prison the catchment area originally was Cambridgeshire. This rapidly became unsustainable because of overcrowding in London and so prisoners from wider afield began to be admitted. This has continued to date, with the doubling up of many cells, to assist in the accommodation of the general increase in the prison population. Within that general increase in the prison population there has also been an increase in the numbers of elderly prisoners and those with severe mental health issues.

3.3 The female prison had a catchment which included Cambridgeshire and the surrounding counties of Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Warwickshire, Norfolk and Suffolk. It now takes in prisoners from anywhere in England and Wales. In addition a Young Offenders Unit was opened, for female prisoners, in December 2006 and a Lifer Unit again for female prisoners in March 2007. Within the female prison's population are also housed many with severe mental health issues.

3.4 The introduction and implementation of PSO 4800 ("free flow") has made a huge difference to the regimes within the Female prison. No longer are comparisons made between the Male and Female establishments. Changes are evident in the structure and in the treatment of female prisoners and this has been achieved by strong leadership and the cooperation of all staff.

3.5 The LINK centres in the two prisons continue to develop, providing a link between prison and the community at large and connecting prisoners to services on the outside.

3.6 With the exception of the Director and the Deputy Director all the other Senior Management Team (SMT) members changed their respective roles and functions during the reporting year. For example the former Healthcare Manager became responsible for Male Residential matters and the former Female Residential Manager became responsible for Healthcare. These (SMT) members took a little time to settle into their new roles and staff took time to become accustomed to working with them. The new Male prison manager commented that some Prison Custody Officers were finding it difficult to come to terms with her more frequent presence on the Wings, for example. At the time of going to print these fundamental changes to the Management of the prison appear to be having a positive effect.

3.7 The work of both prisons, including the work of the IMB, is affected by the fact that they are continually disadvantaged when compared with the Public Sector establishments. It appears that any innovation has to be provided to the Public Sector prisons first. The effect of this apparent policy is that Private Sector prisons and their prisoners are severely disadvantaged.

3.8 The Board has been delighted to witness the development of the gardens. Produce was in abundance and the gardens themselves made the ambience of the prison environment much more appealing. The development of the gardens in the female prison is also to be commended. They too enhance the prison environment for the benefit of all.

3.9 As mentioned in the last reporting year, the plans to increase the size of the male prison are progressing. The Board has had sight of the detailed plans which have been presented for final approval. The Board hopes that the inherent problems with the heating system in the prisons will not be found again in the extension.

3.10 The Board's attention has been drawn to the fact that Courts, both Magistrates and Crown, are committing people to prison, but failing to provide the appropriate paperwork at the same time. This hinders the work of the prison, is costly and makes the induction through very busy Reception departments extremely slow at times.

3.11 The death of two valued prison officers during the reporting year has been felt by all concerned. Similarly the loss of a well respected IMB member has been felt by both the prisons and more especially by the Board itself.

## SECTION FOUR

### **Executive Summary**

4.1 During the reporting year there have been many developments. Some of these have begun in previous years and continued to develop whilst others are new. The Board wishes to highlight just some of these developments in this summary.

4.2 Once again the Board took part in the Prisons' Week exhibition in Peterborough Cathedral and as a direct result some additional candidates applied to become members of the Board.

4.3 A feature of the prisons workshops is that activities should be purposeful and develop the basic work skills of prisoners. There has been an increase in the number of outside contracts and in activities leading to external qualifications. The prisons continue to strive to provide prisoners with more purposeful activities and a number of new developments are scheduled for the next reporting year.

4.4 The Board remains concerned that, in a minority of cases, the prison has failed to advise it of "serious incidents". This matter has been highlighted at monthly meetings of the Board. "Serious Incident" exercises also need to be treated as incidents themselves to test the Board's processes as well as those of the prisons. There is the potential for improvement, at least whilst Board members "on call" are in the prisons, because the Board has been provided with a contact "pager". But even this potential is reliant upon the prisons complying with the requirements.

**Issues for the Minister:**

1. It remains the case that one Foreign National (FN) prisoner is being kept in prison well beyond the end of his sentence. Despite the Court's apparent approval this cannot be appropriate. (5.1.2)
2. It is of considerable concern to the Board that the prison is receiving an increasing number of people with severe mental health issues. The time taken to locate secure accommodation for them in appropriate hospitals is too long.(5.3.11)
3. The position of the Controller and his/her relationship with the Board needs clarification. (7.4)

**Issues for the Prison Service:**

1. Anomalies continue to occur because HMP/YOI Peterborough is a private prison and as such is not always included in new innovation etc. P.NOMIS is but one example where the prisons are deliberately put at a disadvantage when compared with the public estate. Unnecessary problems occur as a result and these are neither easy to explain to prisoners or to be understood by them. An example is the inability to transfer prisoner's monies electronically as in the public sector. (3.6)
2. Prisoners continue to arrive at HMP/YOI Peterborough without documentation. This occurs when they come from both Magistrates and Crown Courts. This situation is being actively addressed by the Director. Nevertheless it is an unhelpful situation for both prisons. (3.8)

**Issues for the prison:**

1. There remain occasions when the Board is not informed of serious incidents, including training exercises. (4.3)
2. The Personal Officer scheme introduced into the prison does not work as effectively as it might. This is disappointing given the efforts that have already been made to improve the situation. (6.6.1 & 6.6.4)
3. The transfer of both incoming and outgoing mail has continued to be a problem throughout the reporting year and the prisons have been slow to address the issues. The Board is pleased to note that, of late, action has been taken and it is to be hoped that this is effective.(6.7.1)
4. The prisons heating system appears to have been designed with inherent faults in that it appears insufficiently sensitive to unexpected changes in climate. This has been the cause of many problems throughout the prisons and there seems to be no resolution to these at present. The inherent design fault needs to be rectified. The Board is concerned that, should the proposed extension go ahead, it too should not be beset by similar heating problems. (3.7)
5. The Board has become increasingly concerned about the apparent ease with which contraband, in particular drugs and mobile telephones, enter the prisons. The staffing levels in the visits departments are often inadequate and this should be addressed as a matter of urgency if the problems are not to continue and even increase. A culture has arisen that drugs are more easily imported at evening and week-end visits when, due to staffing levels, security is less. (6.10.1)
6. The routine obstruction of emergency fire escape routes should cease. (6.2.2)
7. Greater coordination in order that prisoners can retrieve their property from the Reception department would be very helpful and much less frustrating for prisoners. (6.5.1)
8. The Professional Development of SMT members in respect of the Board should continue. (7.2)

## SECTION FIVE

### **Diversity**

5.1.1 During the reporting year, the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) populations have increased in both the male and female prisons and so has, on occasion, the number of Foreign National Prisoners (FNs).

5.1.2 Following a review, the prisons appointed a second Equality and Inclusion (E&I) officer thus enabling one to be allocated to each prison. This has proved very successful in raising the profile with both prisoners and staff, as has a similar appointment of a Foreign National Liaison Officer (FNLO). This appointment has allowed immigration and removal issues to be dealt with without there being lengthy delays. There is now only one male prisoner who is detained for any length of time beyond his release date. In this case every effort has been made to remove him, but without success to date. In addition there has also been the appointment of an Assistant Disability Liaison Officer (ADLO) who works closely with the E&I officers.

5.1.3 A major focus during the year has been the involvement of prisoners in the decision making. Thus prisoners are members of the Race Equality Action Team (REAT) committees which meet regularly to discuss issues of concern. As well as these meetings, peer support groups have been introduced. These have proved a success and could be the reason for the reduction in the number of discrimination complaints which come to the committee.

5.1.4 Ethnic monitoring has shown that the BME population continues to average approximately 19% in the prisons as a whole with FN numbers significantly lower. However, there are a number of FNs from Eastern European and South East Asian countries, many of whom speak little or no English. The prisons have thus invested in translation services, including the provision of equipment and necessary training for staff.

5.1.5 A new protocol has been established to work with new arrivals with disability issues, which continues with their through care whilst they remain at HMP/YOI Peterborough.

5.1.6 In summary, the prisons have a Race Equality Plan, an Equality and Diversity strategy and a Disability programme all of which have been put into action during the year and they appear to be serving the prisons well.

### **Learning and Skills**

5.2.1 Since the last report the Head of Education has been promoted to the more senior position of Head of Learning Skills. As the new title would imply this has greatly increased her area of responsibility and encompasses the Workshops, Library, Link and Bridge as well as academic education. Three middle managers have been appointed, a Learning and Skills Manager (female prison) a Deputy who is the Education Manager (male prison) and an Industries manager. It is thought that this management structure will enable the prison to comply more effectively with OfSTED requirements. Recruitment and retention of staff within the department continues to be an issue.

5.2.2 The workshops continue to offer a wide variety of work with qualifications available in many of them. A sound partnership has been made with Sue Ryder Care. Two hundred and forty bags of clothes are sorted and labeled each week. Next year if funding allows there will be an appointment by Sue Ryder of an instructor who will allow prisoners to alter and redesign some of the clothes.

5.2.3 The gardens are maintained to a high standard producing vegetables for the kitchen as well as attractive floral displays. Skills qualifications are available to laundry workers. National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) in hospitality, food safety and health and safety in the kitchen are also available. Computer courses enable prisoners to obtain European Computer qualifications.

5.2.4 Plans are in place to expand the male gymnasium and alter the focus of the female gymnasium where the emphasis will change from work with weights to dance, aerobic exercise, body combat and body pump courses.

5.2.5 The garden outside the Male prison continues to flourish and provide constructive work for prisoners and a Female garden is currently being established. The officer in charge is to be congratulated for his contribution to the Male gardens which was recognized by an award from the Cambridgeshire Criminal Justice Board during this year.

5.2.6 The Compass workshop has extended the range of white goods it can repair and is now well supplied with machines.

5.2.7 The Recycling workshop opened this year and is proving very successful. Initial difficulties with supplying enough recyclable material appear to have eased and the workshop now recycles both in-house waste and waste from the local Sue Ryder Hospice. A domestic science/home economic workshop has recently been created for the female estate.

5.2.8 The Board has expressed concern throughout the year about the lack of work available in some workshops. Frequently when members visit prisoners are not busy. Officers cite inadequate supply of raw materials with prisoners quickly completing the work that is available. The prison is aware of this issue and is working to address it.

5.2.9 The transference of partly completed courses has been giving problems, especially for gymnastic qualifications, where a newly arrived prisoner has to restart a partially completed course. Some progress has been made to alleviate this problem where the course supplier is the same., but without the agreement of suppliers on unified syllabuses this may well continue to be a hardship for some prisoners.

## **Healthcare**

5.3.1 In last year's report the Board detailed the changes that had occurred in Healthcare and that the next year would be one of consolidation of those initiatives that had been put in place.

5.3.2 The Board is pleased to report that good progress was maintained and in addition a comprehensive range of nurse-led clinics were started as well as Health Promotion clinics such as Smoking Cessation. In addition, there was pro-active management of prisoners not attending appointments with the doctors which resulted in a decrease of non- attendees.

5.3.3 There was also a pro-active approach to complaints. Senior nurses, rather than giving written responses, now visit prisoners to discuss their complaints, especially those that are more complex.

With this approach the prisoners feel that they have been heard which has resulted in a better relationship between prisoners and healthcare staff.

5.3.4 Her Majesty's Chief Inspector's Reports had identified certain areas that were deficient. A further visit recognised that excellent progress had been made towards correcting these deficiencies.

5.3.5 The Team from the Strategic Health Authority visited to review the Prison Health Performance Indicators. In general it was a good report with many targets achieved. As expected, there were areas identified as needing further work particularly in the area of pharmacy. No problems were identified in respect of direct patient care.

5.3.6 The Integrated Drug Treatment System (IDTS) has been implemented successfully with the appointment of a specialist physician for this programme. There have been the necessary structural changes to the particular wings.

### **Mental Health**

5.3.7 A Multidisciplinary Team which includes both Healthcare professionals and Safer Custody Team members has been developed to discuss management plans for prisoners/patients. This Team approach has been successful in developing a plan for the management of prisoners/patients with psychiatric problems.

5.3.8 The Mental Health Team works jointly with IDTS to identify prisoners/patients who are both substance misusers and who have in addition an identifiable but separate psychiatric disorder not related to their substance misuse.

5.3.9 The Primary Care Mental Health Team has been developed with plans for the safe management of mental health problems, wherever possible, in Primary Care.

### **Partnership Board**

5.3.10 This Board continued to have problems with lack of commitment from the Primary Care Trust (PCT). This was evidenced by the variable attendance of PCT members and if certain persons were missing then no progress could be made on certain issues. If PCT members did attend they did not seem to have the responsibility to make decisions. This delayed the work of the Board. This situation has been prevalent for a number of years and the Director has now taken over the Chairmanship of the Board to try to help relieve the frustration this has caused.

### **Nursing Recruitment and Retention**

5.3.11 As this report is written, there are vacancies for nursing staff, within Healthcare. The main problem is with retention. This is not due to any particular problem within the staff but with job satisfaction. During nursing training, nurses are not exposed to Prison Healthcare and all that it entails. Neither, as a matter of interest, is there exposure to Prison Healthcare in the training of General Practitioners who work in Prison Healthcare.

There are some nurses who enjoy the challenge of managing prisoners but others find it does not fulfill their nursing ambitions, especially with the constant drug administration rounds and care for

prisoners with psychiatric problems, for which they may not have had adequate training before entering the Prison Service. This leads to unfilled vacancies and the need to use agency staff if they are available. In any healthcare situation agency nurses are not ideal as their competencies are variable as is their commitment to the role.

5.3.12 This situation is recognized as not acceptable for maintaining standards and continuity of care. As such the Director will be reviewing the structure of and roles within the Healthcare Department in an endeavour to correct the problem of recruitment and retention

### **Mental Health In Reach Team**

5.3.13 Over the last year the team has constantly out-performed expectations despite the lack of staff and resources. They are under a lot of pressure due to the increase in the number of prisoners with mental health issues being sent to prison rather than being treated in a hospital environment. There are concerns that the authorities take an inordinate amount of time to relocate these people to a specialist hospital environment.

5.3.14 To this end they have started a primary mental health team to operate in HMP/YOI Peterborough who will assess those coming into the prisons. This started well but staff shortages now mean one mental health nurse has to cover both the Male and Female prisons. The Board is aware of the situation and will continue to monitor it.

### **Male Safer Custody/Violence Reduction**

5.4.1 There has been much focus employed over this last year with significant strides made. There now appears to be a consistent and well structured approach. The target is to keep prisoners safe and try to break the self harm cycle. As a result, a number of interventions are being developed which provide a release for the prisoners such as stress balls and writing journals. Some are also given responsibility e.g. making up self harm packs.

The Coordinator meets with the vulnerable prisoners on a regular basis to help them through their difficult times. Prisoners on Assessment, Care in Custody and Teamwork (ACCTs) are monitored carefully. They are reviewed every seven days or as and when it is needed. There are fewer male prisoners on ACCTs than in the female prison.

5.4.2 Additionally, in order to help these vulnerable prisoners relax and concentrate on other things, there are workshop sessions which they can attend such as gardening, yoga and an art workshop.

5.4.3 The Listener's scheme is well established and efficient. The Samaritans attend the prison on a regular basis, give advice and monitor the scheme. They also hold a meeting with the Listeners every Tuesday. The numbers can vary due to prisoners being discharged or transferred and a training programme is set up when there is a need for new Listeners. A Listener suite is currently being prepared.

5.4.4 There is greater consistency now for Violence Reduction in the male prison. This has been developed over the year and there is more focus employed and a greater 'buy in' from the prison staff. The three Violence Reduction stages that prisoners can be placed on, depending on the seriousness of what has occurred, are well set up and taken seriously. They are also carefully explained to the prisoners placed on them with accompanying paperwork. Additionally, weekly Reviews are held.

5.4.5 Meetings for both Male Safer Custody and Violence Reduction are held every month. Over this last year the meetings have been redefined and attendance is much improved.

## **Female Safer Custody/Violence Reduction**

5.4.6 There are a large number of prisoners, in the female prison, who self-harm and the staff manage this situation well.

5.4.7 The population of the prison is very varied. There are clashes of culture, age and “friendship”. Generally speaking these situations are managed well by the staff and everything is investigated and documented. Challenges are robust and anti bullying procedures are used appropriately. ACCT documents are being well managed and they help prison staff to maintain an up to date record of what is happening in the prisoner’s life. Any ACCT document deficiencies are being are being addressed.

## **Deaths in Custody**

5.5.1 It is with considerable regret that the Board has to write that there have been a number of deaths in custody during the reporting year. These have been due to natural causes.

## **Separation & Care (Male and Female)**

5.6.1 These departments have continued to give care and support to very difficult prisoners whilst under their care. New staff selection has been carefully considered so as to maintain the ethos of the departments.

5.6.2 The Board’s rounds are conducted as required and members receive an update on each prisoner’s wellbeing and behaviour. Any problems are discussed before the cell door is opened. When it is opened a Board member talks to the prisoner.

5.6.3 The Rule 45, 14 Day Reviews are taking place on a daily basis. However, due to the re-organisation of the Boards Duty and Rota weeks to include Reviews Board members are able to attend more often than in previous years without individual members undertaking an undue workload.

## SECTION SIX

### **Maintenance:**

6.1.1 The Maintenance Department has been very busy during the reporting year which began with a full survey of the prisons' heating system. Investigations revealed that the Building Management System software which controls the heating was defective. The Board is pleased that this is in the process of being remedied and that there will be a further investigation as to the improved effectiveness of the heating system.

### **Fire, Health & Safety:**

6.2.1 Several requests by the Board for a schedule of Meetings during the reporting year were made. These were not acknowledged and the requested schedule was not forthcoming.

6.2.2 A greater degree of urgency in the implementation of policies appears to have occurred recently. It is apparent that operational experience throughout the prisons is leading to procedures being implemented appropriately, with the health, safety and welfare of prisoners and staff of the highest priority. In these improved circumstances it is sad to report that at least one emergency escape route is routinely used for storage purposes.

6.2.3 In addition checks are being made to ensure that staff are implementing the prisons' policies correctly and have appropriate training when necessary. This has involved the local Fire Service working alongside prison officers both in the prisons and at their Fire Station. Joint exercises have been mounted in order to ensure the veracity of procedures and where issues have arisen, steps have been taken to rectify the problem(s).

### **Canteen:**

6.3.1 There has been a much more acceptable regime operating during this reporting year since there have been separate facilities for the two prisons. This has enabled the female prisoners, in particular, to have a more sympathetic and appropriate list of items which may be purchased.

6.3.2 In addition a "shop" has been opened in the female prison and it is staffed by prisoners. Some "teething" problems occurred during the initial set up. Over time these problems have been overcome by the dedication and willingness to make the system work by both prisoners and staff. In addition to the weekly "canteen" prisoners also have access to a monthly catalogue system; a fortnightly Argos catalogue system and a three weekly Avon catalogue system.

### **Kitchen:**

6.4.1 The changeover to the staffing of the kitchen by male prisoners was effected well and without incident. It appears to have progressed throughout the reporting year and been well received by those using the facilities. Menus have also developed and the Board have received fewer food related complaints during the year.

6.4.2 However, the Board have been apprised of potential difficulties and these centre on the area of prisoner/staff safety. On occasion there are over forty prisoners working in the kitchen supervised by three staff. This has been "risk assessed" and found to be appropriate. The Board has been apprised of situations where the level of supervision available at any one time has the potential to allow a serious incident to occur. Given the surroundings and the implements available to prisoners, prison officers may well have cause for concern. Even if this risk is deemed to be minimal, prison officer fears should not go unaddressed.

### **Property**

6.5.1 The taking of prisoners to male Reception, in order to get property has been very erratic on occasion. The Reception department can also be extremely busy and unable to deal with the prisoner by which time the Wing officer has returned to the Wing thus leaving the prisoner locked in a holding cell, sometimes for several hours.

### **Wings /Staffing**

6.6.1 It is disappointing to report that there has been only marginal improvement in staffing levels in the male prison. The Board recognises the difficulties and time lapses which occur when staff leave and need to be replaced because this cannot be done on an immediate basis. The prison has brought forward replacement staff training schedules in order to try to alleviate any difficulties which have arisen. Unfortunately from time to time this has meant that the Personal Officer scheme has not been as effective as it could be. (as reported in the Board's 2008/9 Annual Report). Staff have, on occasion, reported feeling undervalued and overly pressured. The Board was pleased to hear and read of the extensive staff consultation exercise which took place during the reporting year and hope that this will lead to yet more progress.

6.6.2 The Board was assured, for example that each Wing in the male prison would be staffed by three prison officers. It is rarely the case that this prevails on any Wing. In November/December of the reporting year an attempt was made, by management to address staff concerns and an "Action Plan" was drawn up. All prison staff were involved in the process and they have received regular feedback. It remains to be seen how effective the "Action Plan" and its implementation prove to be.

6.6.3 The staff sickness regime has also been abused. However, this problem has now been recognised and changes are currently being made to the sickness procedures.

6.6.4 New shift patterns have been introduced in order to try to improve the regimes for both prisoners and staff. These are said to incorporate time for staff to carry out Personal Officer activities. Some officers have been very sceptical that this will be the case unless, they say, there is a general increase in the prisoner/staff ratio especially in the Male prison and in particular on the Wings. All too often, when a Board member visits a Wing and reports to an Officer, he/she is greeted by the comment, "I do not normally work on this Wing!"

6.6.5 During the 2008/9 reporting year the SMT initially contained two Deputy Directors, one for the female and one for the male prison. This was reduced to one during the year, with one Deputy Director taking charge of the leadership of both prisons. Inevitably this led to changes in function for the middle and lower tiers of management. The workload in the Male prison is significantly greater than that of the Female prison and to that end the Male prison Management Team has been significantly bolstered during the reporting year.

## **Library**

6.7.1 A major change in the management of the Library has taken place this year. Trained operational staff now run the Libraries thus enabling prisoners to be escorted to the library at times consistent with the regime. Weekends and evenings are efficiently used with up to fifteen prisoners at a time accessing facilities. It is anticipated that a morning reading group involving unemployed prisoners will be instituted shortly. With a budget of ten thousand pounds the library is adequately stocked and the acquisition of material on Legislative and Immigration issues has been a priority this year. Peterborough Library continues to source books and materials.

## **Mail**

6.8.1 During the course of the year, the IMB received many applications concerning inefficiencies and problems with sending and receiving mail. The systems in place did not seem to be meeting the needs of many prisoners, sometimes due to cumbersome or inefficient procedures and at other times due to a shortage of staff or poor timetabling arrangements. New arrangements are now in place to improve the entire mailing system and there has recently been a big drop in the number of applications concerning mail which suggests that the new arrangements are working.

## **World Faith**

6.9.1 The Board welcomed the arrival of the new Coordinating Chaplain, during the reporting year, to give the department both impetus and direction. His avowed intent is to build on what has gone before rather than to disband and begin again. He has already begun to make his mark taking charge of the Prisons Week exhibition at Peterborough Cathedral, introducing new events such as the Salvation Army Band playing in each of the Wing Hubs and a Carol Service in both prisons. He is very aware of not allowing one faith to dominate and has plans to build on what has been achieved in the relatively short space of time he has been in the prisons' employ.

6.9.2 The World Faith team now consists of a Chaplaincy coordinator, 3 full time chaplains and up to 5 part-time chaplains. However as the fulltime chaplains represent only Anglican and Free Church faiths, the demographic spread of the prison is not accurately represented. At the time of writing this report, the issue of under-representation for Roman Catholics is being addressed. The arrangement for the Muslim faith is adequate and problems finding a suitable Buddhist priest are ongoing.

In addition to statutory duties staff offer courses including Alpha, Anger Management, Bereavement and in the female prison a Choir. Overall this year the World Faith has become more proactive within the prison with the attendance of chaplains at Activity Meetings.

## **Visits**

6.10.1 There have been serious concerns over the constantly fluctuating number of officers assigned to both the male and female visits, which has resulted in the inability to prevent a steady flow of drugs passes during visiting times. It was reported by officers who are regularly on duty in the visits area that they are often short-staffed. There should be five staff present, two for searches, two on the floor and one on camera duty, but this rarely occurs. Despite the fact that there are now three trained sniffer dogs, they too are not always deployed. This situation is particularly common at week-ends and in the evenings, despite this being the busiest time for visiting.

## **Security**

6.11.1 The aim of the Security Department is to provide Security, Safety and Control throughout the prison. There has been an almost complete change of personnel on the team which has not helped provide consistency, however the team is strong and balanced. Having to cover both prisons and with a wide job brief their resources are considerably stretched. As a result their focus over this year has been to provide better quality rather than quantity.

The team have continued over the year to try to be seen around the prison more often and to improve the perception of security. They have also been involved in training staff to help them to understand their individual responsibilities. Their target is to continue to improve searching and the quality of that which they achieve. They are actively involved in Accommodation Fabric Checks (AFCs) and this frequently involves the whole team.

6.11.2 Security Information Reports (SIRs) are approximately the same in number as last year but the focus has again been on better quality and intelligence received from all areas of the prison. They process from thirty five to fifty a day which is extremely time consuming, but necessary. There is also better joint working with the police especially where there is specific intelligence.

## SECTION SEVEN

### **The Work of the Board**

7.1 The past year has seen a number of changes in the make up of the Board. The Board should have a complement of twenty, however the current membership is fifteen. Sadly one of its most valued members passed away during the reporting year. Steps to increase the complement are currently underway.

7.2 The Board continues to receive a wide range of applications from both the male and female prisons and these are dealt with on a regular weekly basis. Prison staff have been asked to ensure that prisoners go through the prison complaints system before requesting to see the IMB but prisoners do not always adhere to this.

7.3 At the outset of the existence of the prisons, the Controller attended all Board meetings and provided the Board with a monthly written report. Since the present Chair took up office in January 2009 the Controller has attended the monthly Board meetings only once and no written reports have been received by the Board in that time. However, the Controller has access to the minutes of each and every Board meeting, is included on the Board's agenda and invited to submit to the Board a monthly report. Given the importance of the Controller's on site team and their functions, the Board is of the view that the relationship between the controller and the Board should be a two way process.

### **Meetings Attended by the Board**

#### **Internal**

Diversity	Prison Health Partnership
MAPPA	Self Harm & Suicide Reduction (Female)
Security	Safer Custody (Male & Female)
Violence Reduction (Male & Female)	Complex Needs (Male & Female)
Drugs Strategy	Adjudication Awards
REAT	Prisoner Consultative Meetings (Male & Female)

#### **External**

National Foundation Course	Continued Development Course
Board Development Officers Course	IMB National Conference
Eastern Area Chairs Meeting	Contracted Out Prisons Meeting
Eastern Area Cluster Meetings	Breakaway Techniques Course
Female Prisons Meeting	New Chair's Training

7.4 BOARD STATISTICS	
Recommended Complement of Board Members	20
Number of Board Members at the start of the Reporting period	14
Number of Board members at the end of the Reporting period	15
Number of new Members joining within the Reporting period	1
Number of Members leaving within the Reporting period	3
Total number of Board Meetings during the reporting period	12
Average Number of Attendances at Board Meetings during the Reporting period	12
Number of Attendances at Meetings other than Board Meetings	176
Total number of visits to the prison	765
Total number of Applications received	397
Total number of Separation & Care Reviews held	467
Total number of Separation & Care Sessions Attended—These may cover multiple Reviews	168

7.5 CODE	SUBJECT Applications Received	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10
A	Accommodation		7	42	7
B	Adjudications		3	8	3
C	Diversity Related		1	7	1
D	Education/Employment/Training		26	30	26
E	Family/Visits	33	52	56	52
F	Food/Kitchen Related		12	9	12
G	Health Related	97	88	153	88
H	Property	48	63	98	63
I	Sentence Related	12	73	99	73
J	Staff/Prisoner Related	32	44	54	44
K	Transfers	53	12	49	12
L	Miscellaneous		16	185	16
	Total Number of Applications	509	397	790	397

N. B. Full breakdown figures are not available for 2006/7

7.6

#### Analysis of MALE Application Clinics

Total Number of Applications 2009/10 224.

Code	Heading	Number	%	Code	Breakdown	%
A	Accommodation	2	1	A1	Cell Quality	0
				A2	Wings/all	1
				B1	Adj. Internal	0
B	Adjudication/ S&C	1	0	B2	Adj. External	0
				B3	S & C	0
C	Diversity	1	0	C1	Staff Prejudice	1
				C2	Non Staff Prejudice	0
				C3	Other Issues	0
D	E/T/E & Regimes	11	5	D1	Ed/ Employ.	5
				D2	IEPs	0
				E1	Visits	8
E	Family/Visits	27	12	E2	Resettlement	3

				E3 Mail/Phone	1
F	Food/Kitchen	7	3	F Food Quality	3
G	Healthcare	52	23	G Health/Meds.	23
				H1 Previous Location	5
H	Property	38	17	H2 Current Location	12
				H3 Canteen/Argos/	0
	Facilities			I1 Basic Sentence	5
				I2 HDC	3
				I3 Immigration	5
				I4 Category	5
I	Sentence Issues	43	19	I5 Police Days	0
				I6 ROTL	0
				I7 Parole Bd/Recall	1
				J1 About staff	6
J	Staff/Prisoner issues	22	10	J2 About prisoners	4
				J3 From Staff	0
K	Transfers	7	3	K Transfers	3
L	Miscellaneous	13	6	L Miscellaneous	
6					
	TOTALS	224	99		100

## Analysis of FEMALE Application Clinics

Total Number of Applications 2009/10 173.

Code	Heading	Number	%	Code	Breakdown	%
A	Accommodation	5	3	A1	Cell Quality	2
B	Adjudications/S&C	2	1	A2	Wing/all	1
C	Diversity	0	0	B1	Adj. Internal	1
D	E/T/E & Regimes	15	9	B2	Adj. External	0
E	Family/Visits	25	14	B3	Sep & Care	0
F	Food/Kitchen	5	3	C1	Staff prejudice	0
G	Healthcare	36	20	D1	Ed/Employ.	8
H	Property	25	14	D2	IEP	1
				E1	Visits	8
				E2	Resettlement	2
				E3	Mail/Phone	5
				F	Food/Kitchen	3
				G	Health/Meds	20
				H1	Previous Location	5
				H2	Current Location	8
				H3	Canteen/Argos/ Facilities	2
				I2	HDC	2

I	Sentence Issues	30	17	I3	Immigration	3
				I4	Categorisation	1
				I5	Police Days	0
				I6	ROTL	2
				I7	Parole Bd/Recall	1
				J1	About staff	10
J	Staff/Prisoner Issues	22	13	J2	About prisoners	3
				J3	From staff	0
K	Transfers	5	3	K	Transfers	3
L	Miscellaneous	3	2	L	Miscellaneous	
2						
	TOTALS	173	99			101