



INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD

FOR

HMP CANTERBURY

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2011/12

1. STATUTORY ROLE OF THE IMB

The Prisons Act 1952 requires every prison to be monitored by an Independent Monitoring Board appointed by the appropriate Secretary of State from members of the community in which the prison is situated.

The Board is specifically charged to:

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;

inform promptly the Secretary of State, or any other official to whom he has delegated authority as it judges appropriate, any concern it has;

report annually to the Secretary of State on how well the prison has met the standards and requirements placed on it and what impact these have had on those in custody.

HMP Canterbury Independent Monitoring Board is committed to an inclusive approach to diversity:

It will encompass and promote greater interaction and understanding between people of different backgrounds including race, religion, gender, nationality, sexuality, marital status, disability, age etc.

It will respond to differences that cut across social and cultural categories such as mental health, literacy and drug addiction.

It values this approach to diversity within its recruitment and board development practices to increase its repertoire of skills and awareness among its members of the diverse needs and perspectives of the population within HMP Canterbury.

All members of HMP Canterbury IMB will undertake their duties in a manner that is accessible to everyone within the establishment regardless of their background or social situation.

It will not tolerate any discrimination, harassment, victimisation or any unfair treatment of prisoners, detainees, staff or visitors.

It will not accept any racially abusive or insulting language or behaviour on the part of any member of staff, prisoner or visitor.

In the event of any misconduct the Board will alert appropriate authorities and individuals including the Governor, Regional Custodial Manager and the Prisons Minister.

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3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PRISON

Since 2006, the main role of the prison has been to provide for male foreign national prisoners who are scheduled to be deported and have reached Category C status. The current maximum number of prisoners is 314. It has been difficult to keep the prison numbers at full capacity as, unlike fixed end of sentence dates, immigration removal is difficult to forward plan. Often actual removal is only known days before the end of sentence.

The prison is a small compact unit just outside Canterbury city walls. There are three wings. Recreational facilities consist of two small gyms and one Astroturf pitch.

Diversity is the essence of HMP Canterbury since its population in the period 1st July 2011 to 30th June 2012 was composed of between 65 to 69 different nationalities. The steady increase in Polish and other Eastern European nationalities makes the “White Other” group the single largest in the prison. The top five nationalities are Polish, Jamaican, Nigerian, Lithuanian and Albanian.

On the whole, the population can be seen as relatively compliant with minimal positive drug tests. An integrated drug treatment system was introduced in 2010 to meet any needs of prisoners.

Healthcare services are delivered by HMPS staff commissioned by the local PCT

Since 2009 the Education Contract has been provided by Manchester College but currently the onward provider has to be confirmed.

As previously reported, prison staff have worked hard to establish good links with the community, especially the local universities, national organisations such as the International organisation for Migration and charities such as Migrant Helpline. There are also a number of volunteers who work within the prison.

4. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OVERALL

Canterbury Prison continues to develop itself as a facility for foreign national prisoners. However, the emergence of new statistics from UKBA suggest that many more prisoners than originally thought are not deported but either released at a late stage into the community or on reaching an IRC are released either permanently or on temporary bail. There are very limited facilities within Canterbury to address the specific needs of these cases.

Great effort has been made to keep numbers of sentence expired detainees to a minimum with a structured procedure for transfer to the IRE in place. However, notification to deport still regularly happens very late on in sentence making sentence planning and population management difficult.

The prison has repeatedly met the demands for cost cutting with diligence. As yet there are very little indications this is having a direct affect on prisoners. However, as cuts continue and increase, it is hard to see how they will not have an impact in the future.

Notification to the IMB of movements to the Care and Containment Unit continue to improve. It is still difficult for the Board to attend all reviews as, although notification does happen, specific timings for reviews are often made at the last minute. However, notification of ACCT (Assessment Care in Custody Teamwork) Reviews have recently improved greatly enabling on duty Board Members to attend.

There have been minimal uses of force and the Command Suite has only been opened on one occasion for a practice in this reporting year. The Board was informed and two IMB members attended.

A recent survey has indicated the foreign nationals within the prison continue to feel safe, reflected by the fact that if no space is immediately available within the Immigration Estate, the individuals are more often than not content to stay at Canterbury, rather than be returned to remand conditions until a place is found.

The Board would again like to commend the work in particular of the Chaplaincy Team who have exhibited phenomenal energy in their provision of a multi-faith service for the foreign nationals held at HMP Canterbury. However there have been a few changes to the team this year, our Anglican chaplain Judy Griffiths, the Imam Faisal Ahmed, the Roman Catholic Chaplain Michael Bunce and the Salvation Army Chaplain Gordon Hughes have all left. Those joining the team are Father Phillip Smith, Imam Muhamed Gani and Rev. Ed Ghinn.

We were all very sad to lose Cathy Hitchens our Chaplaincy Team Leader this year. She gave many years of very valuable service and will be greatly missed by everyone.

Our Education Department continues to thrive and obtain good results. The education team work well together and all classes are well supported and are obviously well received by the prisoners. This is largely due to the hard work and dedication of the Education Manager, Maria Thomas. During this year she was

awarded the Butler Trust Certificate for the high level of dedication, skill and creativity she has brought to her work within a UK correctional setting.

ISSUES FOR THE MINISTER

The Board would like to express its appreciation to the Minister for his response to the Annual Report and for his cogent remarks.

The Board still has concerns that resettlement provision is lacking for those prisoners who are released into the community either directly from the prison or from the prison through the IRC's (Immigration Removal Centre) into the community. Though a resettlement centre has been created to help address their needs, it would benefit from an increase in provision quality (funding for staff training in the addressing of finance, benefit, debt and accommodation issues). There is also an evidenced need for the development of accredited attitudes, thinking and behaviour programmes, that specifically target foreign national offenders overcoming language issues.

The working relationship between the Prison Staff and the in-house Immigration Team is still to be commended and highlighted across the Estate as good practice. However, there is on-going frustration among prisoners about the lack of clarity regarding their immigration status. This remains largely unchanged from previously reported.

With regard to specialist provision of care for HIV prisoners which currently takes place in an outside clinic (Gates Clinic) thus necessitating the use of handcuffs, the Board is concerned that this may further damage their self-esteem. Accordingly funding for an in-house service is to be encouraged.

ISSUES FOR THE NOMS AND THE PRISON SERVICE

As the Board states every year, HMP Canterbury is overcrowded and operating substantially above the Prison Service certified normal occupancy of 196. An operational capacity of 314 is not acceptable.

At the end of this reporting year we have to report a slowing down of prisoners moving to open conditions. This is largely due to difficulties in getting other establishments to accept our prisoners. The PMU (Population Management Unit) have their own priorities and they are responsible for all inter-prison moves.

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5. REQUIRED AREAS

5.1 DIVERSITY

Canterbury has been committed to improve and restructure the diversity team in the last year. This started in September 2011 with a multi discipline approach and input from the staff. The principle change in the management has been the implementation of PSI 32/2011. In the past the focus used to be on Race, the change is currently more directed to Equality. Accordingly the emphasis has shifted more on discrimination of any sort and not just Race. In view of this change the old RIRF's forms (Racial Incident Reporting Forms) have been changed to DIRF (Discrimination Incident reporting Forms).

The Equality Action Team (EAT) meets quarterly. The meetings are represented by all functional departments, plus representatives from each wing after they have received in-house training.

The 9 protected characteristics embrace:-

Age, Disability, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Reassignment, Religion or Belief, Civil Partnership i.e. Marriage/Partnership, Maternity/Paternity.

Some of the characteristics are catered for, but for example sexuality, disability or age are difficult to visibly promote on the wings.

During 2012 the Auditors came and the prison was given an Amber/Green rating which requires a number of improvements in certain areas. However, resettlement received a marking from 1 to 2 and does reflect improvement on 1 level but there are issues which have to be addressed. The difficulty is that HMP Canterbury is dealing with 2 agendas: 1 for the Prison Service and 1 for UKBA.

A number of practical changes are in the process of changing or have already been changed. These are:-

...All DIRF's (Discrimination Incident Report Form) will from now on be logged regardless of whether there has been discrimination or not.

...PEEP's (Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans) for prisoners with disabilities has been rectified.

...The PSI 32/2011 is now available for prisoners in the library.

The CICI (Challenge it, Change it) training was at 69% for staff and 25% for non-directly employed staff. There is a training plan for the year and extra courses to be put on where possible.

The Smart data, which is monitored by the establishment, was available to prisoners in the library, but not the residential areas, or to visitors. The NOMS Equality Policy Statement had not replaced the old Race Equality Policy Statement around the prison. This will be completed with the next set of data collection at the end of July. The new Policy Statements have been ordered.

There has not been a significant change in the mix of races since last year which means that the Other White group remains the highest.

The largest of the faith groups within the prison at the moment is the Roman Catholics at 25.41% slightly more than Muslims at 25.08%.

Prisoners over the Age of 55 totaled 7 at the end of our reporting year.

The number of disabled prisoners has increased during the year to 9, but there has not been a significant increase in other protected characteristics. The disabled prisoners are all catered for in ground floor cells.

5.2 LEARNING AND SKILLS

Our Education Department continues to thrive and obtain good results. The education team work well together and all classes are well supported and are obviously well received by the inmates. This is largely due to the hard work and dedication of the Education Manager, Maria Thomas. During this year she was awarded the Butler Trust Certificate for the high level of dedication, skill and creativity she has brought to her work within a UK correctional setting.

Manchester College have tendered for the provision of education within the prison and as far as is known they will be delivering the education contract. The curriculum, as set up, is appropriate for Foreign National prisoners in providing suitable skills in preparation for their release.

During this reporting period 99% of completed qualifications have been achieved. These are Esol Level entry 1,2 and 3 , ITQ levels 1,2 and 3, Literacy and Numeracy at levels 1 and 2 , Art level 1, Financial Literacy Level 1, and Healthy Living Level 1. The Employability course has been changed due to prisoner needs and Customer Services is now offered with full attendance. Business Skills Level 1 is also offered and fully attended.

So far as Art and the Art qualification is concerned it has to be stressed that it is important in relation to the fact that it is a stepping stone into the more formal educational subjects such as IT etc.

During this year there have been two Data Audits by the College with good results - namely 2 Ambers and 1 Green and subsequently 2 Greens and 1 Amber.

There is a requirement for 10,620 hours of education to be delivered and delivery was 99.3% and 99% retention.

Work on the problem with the new flooring within the education department has been completed. It has, however, not 100% cured the original problem but is probably as good as it is going to get. The work was completed within the guarantee period and therefore at no cost to the prison.

In the Gym, PE provision continues to increase and courses such as Heart-start, Manual handling and First Aid continue to be offered with good qualification results.

There are now three workshops in operation. The system of part-time work plus education continues with a combination of Work, Art and IT activities. Also on the walls in the workshops are visual aids to reinforce education input.

In a previous Inspection report there was criticism that reinforcement of language skills was neither planned nor systematic. Following this a system of reinforcement was set up with tutors going into the workshops and onto the wings to support language and literacy. This has been very successful and is still in place.

Prisoners continue to be employed within the kitchens and prison qualifications can be obtained; certificates are given by the prison but accredited by Health Care Safety Services. Certificates are awarded for Health and Safety, Food Hygiene, Infection Control and Manual handling, with approximately 250 certificates awarded over this reporting period. BICS Cleaning Certificates have also been externally awarded. The kitchen offers good quality food for all the ethnic and religious groups and the feedback from prisoners continues to be very favourable.

5.3 HEALTHCARE AND MENTAL HEALTH

All prisoners have contact with Healthcare at Reception when they arrive at the prison. They are also made aware of Healthcare during their induction and there is information on the Wings about how to access help. All prisoners are interviewed by Healthcare when they leave the prison for whatever reason. The Triage system is well organised by the primary healthcare team and ease of access to services is kept under regular review in meetings where a representative from the prison population is invited to attend.

Clinics are organised according to need, all run by the Healthcare team or by Healthcare assistants from outside agencies. Clinics currently include:-
....Sexual Health (advice, screening and treatment for STI's, Hepatitis B vaccination etc.), Oral Hygiene, Foot-care, Smoking-cessation, Under 25's (including vaccinations) and Well-Persons (BP, diabetes screening etc). About 2-4 diabetics are insulin dependent, with no reported problems associated with self-injecting in their cells.
....When there is a particular request from 6 or more prisoners, a new clinic can be set up (and others closed if there is no demand).

Healthcare, from July 2012, will be provided exclusively from outside and no staff member will work within the prison in any other capacity. This simplifies and strengthens the provider/patient relationship, improving the potential for trust and confidentiality. Southeast Health have won the contract overall but the calculation of pensions etc. is delaying agreement of individual contracts.

The new Healthcare leader is aiming to hold a review in the next few months.

Currently 2 members of the team have both general and mental health qualifications, 3 are trained general nurses (1 also acts as Clinical Nurse Manager, but is currently on long-term sick leave with no locum provided). Non-clinically trained personnel include a Healthcare Line Manager and 2 Healthcare support Workers. There is a feeling that fewer 'managers' and more nurses would make for a more effective team.

3 doctor's surgeries are held per week with the doctor being on call for emergencies 9 - 5 Monday to Friday; out of hours cover being provided by Southeast Health.

The Education department currently runs a popular "Healthy Living" course.

An Integrated Drug Treatment System (IDTS) continues to operate in the prison. However, our current foreign national prison population does not seem to have significant drug-related issues, so the cost-effectiveness of such a regime in these stringent times is questioned. (Both mandatory and voluntary random urine testing for drugs very rarely prove positive).

New receptions, placed on an IDTS in another prison can arrive without an up-to-date drug-chart, making short-term dispensing of opiate substitutes a real problem. There is the additional worry that, if foreign nationals are put on a treatment schedule, they can be transferred or deported with very little notice - sometimes with no provision of on-going treatment.

IDTS was introduced in November 2010. Prisoners who are transferred to Canterbury on maintenance therapy are encouraged to withdraw completely before discharge. If time allows a suitable reduction schedule is put in place especially if deportation is likely. Currently 3 prisoners are receiving medication - dispensed daily. The scheme employs a dedicated doctor and nurse-practitioner (funded by the PCT).

CARATS - their caseload currently is 44 of which 18 are 'Not in Treatment'.

DENTAL SURGERIES - The provision of dental services has been satisfactory this year. The dentist sees about 15 patients every Friday afternoon with a waiting list of 6-8 weeks.

OPTICIAN - The optician holds a morning and afternoon clinic, every 3-5 weeks, seeing about 18 prisoners in the day with a waiting list of 6-7 weeks.

OTHER SERVICES - the psychiatrist, physiotherapist and dietician come in as and when they are required.

The community Consultant Psychiatrist usually attends monthly and sees on average 1-2 patients. This will be reviewed as the service seems comparatively under-used for a prison population and the psychiatrist is contracted for up to 1 clinic a week. Patients are followed up approximately weekly by Secondary Mental Health Nurses, from the community 'In Reach' team.

Primary mental healthcare is offered by the trained in-house team.

Counselling is provided by a counsellor (from KCA) as required.

Trained 'listeners' are also available on a 24 hour basis from within the prison.

The Resettlement Scheme tries to identify doctors and health services for the prisoner to access locally on release.

There have been no deaths in custody this year and very few serious cases of self-harm (necessitating hospital in-patient care).

The specialist provision of care for HIV positive prisoners continues to take place in an outside community clinic (Gates Clinic). Usually 3-5 patients attend the clinic (with 2 dedicated uniformed staff) every quarter. A wait of up to 2 hours at the pharmacy after the consultations is not unusual. There is the potential for a breach of confidentiality (regarding HIV status) as no other group of prisoners regularly attends an outpatient clinic.

Funding is being sought to make an in-house service available. Staff time would be reduced and patients would be spared the added humiliation of attending the HIV clinic in handcuffs.

1 case of tuberculosis reported (compared with 5 last year).

There have been no reported incidents of other communicable diseases or of food hygiene related illness this year.

Prisoners have access to good quality hot food (the allocated daily budget is only £2 per person!). This is a real tribute to the kitchen staff. The quality and variety of prison food is rarely the subject of complaint in the Applications we receive.

Health and Safety standards are well maintained with no reports of fire or serious accidental injury to prisoners.

Cardio Emergency - a defibrillator is kept in A-Wing Main Office and a list of trained staff is available (with a list of First Aid trained staff).

Response time for Ambulance/Paramedics is about 9 minutes.

In conclusion the provision of healthcare at HMP Canterbury is of a high standard, with the expectation of an even better service under the new organisation.

5.4 SAFER CUSTODY

Robust Safer Custody meetings happen with regularity and are very productive. Samaritans, Listeners and Insiders attend regularly and contribute to the meeting.

There has been a further significant reduction in ACCT (Assessment Care in Custody Teamwork) cases opened in the last 12 months. Cutting continues to be the most common method of self-harm, but overdosing on prescribed drugs has also occurred.

Cases opened are fairly evenly distributed across the wings.

The reasons given for self-harming seem to vary, with immigration issues given as the main cause.

ACCT procedures continued to be handled in a professional manner and ACCT training and refreshers are regularly undertaken by staff with over 80% of staff fully trained.

Bullying is not tolerated within the prison and an effective system has been established to monitor prisoners' interaction. Over this year 32 cases of unacceptable behaviour (ranging from minor incidences to "bullying") were investigated by the prison. This is a further reduction from last year.

5.5 SEGREGATION / CARE AND CONTAINMENT UNIT

There is little change in prisoner occupancy, however there has been a significant increase in prisoner occupancy days. Use of force has also increased by a similar amount. The gated cell has not been used for any significant periods.

Adjudications have seen a slight reduction. The highest number of adjudications were for disobeying orders with possession of unauthorised items followed by fighting as the top three offences.

There has been a noticeable decrease in prisoners held on GOOD over the last year.

6. OTHER AREAS

6.1 RESETTLEMENT

Every prison needs to address the needs of individual prisoners with regards to re-offending and rehabilitation. The Board is pleased to report that the establishment has been successful in achieving improvement in these areas. However, as previously reported resettlement planning is made difficult by the uncertainty and late notice often given of UKBA decisions.

Within the prison there are 6 Officers delivering support and Resettlement services to prisoners. They have varied levels of previous experience and operate from the Global Resettlement Centre, 15 hours in total per week. There is also administration support for the administration and record keeping as well as organising and running of family days. There are 3 Peer Support Workers to support the Officers. They interview prisoners to ascertain if any interventions are required and take part in the Induction process. A structured framework is still being developed to follow through prisoners from reception to their discharge. However areas covered are Accommodation, Education Training and Employment, Drugs and Alcohol, Mental and Physical Health, Benefit and Debt, Children and Family and Attitudes, Thinking and Behaviour i.e. the 7 Pathways. More facility time is required to deliver a fuller service.

The Visitors Centre, Crèche, Tea Bar, Family Days are all manned by volunteers and we are indebted to their invaluable help. These areas are extremely well run and there is an excellent professional lead ethos towards both prisoners and visitors. (see also 6.2).

The Social Worker Placements (Canterbury Christ Church University) proved to be extremely successful in promoting Resettlement. The placements are at the prison for 100 days and next year will increase from 2 to 4 students. It is hoped that alongside the resettlement work they will be able to organise wider project work and this may well entail support for visitors. Although this will require close monitoring it could prove useful for Canterbury as a Foreign National Prison.

Migrant Helpline, the Red Cross Tracing Project, Job Centre Plus, Story Book Dads and the Resettlement Newsletter are all very valuable tools in Resettlement needs and are in place in the prison.

The most effective approach to foreign national issues at HMP Canterbury has been the utilisation of the Facilitated Return Scheme, co-ordinated by UKBA and the

International Organisation for Migration. This does address resettlement needs of individuals returning to their home country by offering grants and business start up loans etc. Individuals cannot be forced to partake in the project, but those who do benefit greatly and the process of returning the individual to another country is much quicker and more structured than simple deportation. There is a parallel scheme for EU members but, currently, there are particular problems with this section due to the team's heavy workload.

Addressing resettlement needs is still hampered by the late official notification of the intention to deport an individual. Although UKBA stress that they verbally tell the individual the likelihood that they will be deported, more often than not the individual will hold out hope to the very end, until official notification is given. To treat individuals in this way is not acceptable and the Board again repeat that they feel the UKBA have to re-examine their procedures so this does not happen.

6.2 VISITS

The visits centre continues to run well. It is organised from CEYP (Canterbury Early Years Project) who provide a play worker and there are volunteers assisting at weekends and running it on a Wednesday. The play room has recently been painted, new lockers bought and installed and a lead fitted so that the DVD can now be used in the waiting room.

The Family days are run by-monthly at present. The AO's do all the organising for these and are run very well. They are possibly the most impressive Resettlement activity.

The Visits Hall continues to maintain an excellent professionally lead ethos towards all prisoners and their visitors. The portal gate/metal detector has been removed to improve the often long queues and is now situated and in use at the rear of the visits hall/prisoner entrance. All searches at both ends remain thorough and dignified. There is a rota and a dedicated team of volunteers for running the successful tea bar and profits from this pay for the Crèche which is run by Canterbury Early Years Project. There are also two closed visits rooms.

There is a coffee morning about once a quarter for the volunteers which has been well received. They can talk to staff, ask questions and with a tour of the prison planned, gain an understanding of how the rest of the prison works.

The front garden of the prison is a credit to those involved with its upkeep and provides an attractive entrance.

6.3 GYM AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Gym facilities have the potential to double this year subject to workshop contracts whereby workshop 1 will reuse as a 2nd facility for the gym. The first class input of staff should continue to be commended and it is also much appreciated by prisoners.

The issues regarding the close proximity of the changing area and urinals plus inadequate shower provision have been addressed and a dignity screen provided.

6.4 CHAPLAINCY

This is an innovative and highly effective team which delivers and demonstrates best practice on a daily basis throughout the prison establishment.

The faith requirements of all faiths are consistently met and addressed, as are the pastoral needs of the whole prison, for prisoners, staff and managers alike.

Chaplains are visibly united in their shared vision, working with each other to demonstrate their multi-faith ethos.

There is open input from prisoners at the Consultative Committee, SMT members at management meetings and the line manager which is all welcomed by the Chaplaincy Team. Equally Chaplains receive solid support from the prison as a whole.

The integrity and competence of the Chaplaincy at HMP Canterbury has led to a high degree of trust within the establishment and is an excellent standard of faith provision.

All formal religious days are celebrated, while during the year several discussion groups are held including Shaping your own Future and a bible study group, all led by the Chaplaincy Team and Volunteers. It is hoped to develop a cross-religion discussion group as the year progresses.

There have been significant changes in staffing this year with 3 chaplains retiring, one transferring and the retirement of the Co-ordinating Chaplain. However, the team remains stable and the replacements have entered into the vision and ethos with enthusiasm.

6.5 RECEPTION and LOST PROPERTY

This is a purpose built area dating from 2006, where prisoners are admitted into the prison in an efficient and sensitive manner. Space is quite restricted when a large number of prisoners are being admitted and it can become rather hot. We are still awaiting the two mobile air conditioning units which are on order and which should alleviate the situation.

Receptions for this reporting year were 947 and Discharges 946.

On entering Reception, new prisoners are seen by the Induction, Health and Chaplaincy teams where they are informed about HMP Canterbury and any concerns which they may have about the prison or which may effect them during their period at Canterbury can be addressed.

There is a DVD to occupy them while waiting to be seen by the teams.

There are other language leaflets explaining all about HMP Canterbury which they are given and they are also able to select their meal for that day.

Not all of the prisoners' property can be housed at Reception and some boxes have to be housed in the Chaplaincy area.

With regard to Lost Property which may have been lost at a previous prison. The prison is sent a fax with a seal number and prisoner details requesting that the property should be forwarded to Canterbury. There is a noticeboard in the office showing details of the procedure and also when the matter is chased.

7. THE WORK OF THE IMB

For most of this reporting year the Board has operated at a reduced capacity. One new Member joined in December 2011 and three more were appointed in July. This brings our membership back to 10 Board Members for the beginning of the new Board year. This will greatly benefit the smooth running of of the Team.

In March, Board Members from HMP Huntercombe visited us. Having re-rolled as a FN establishment they were keen to meet and talk with us about our experiences in dealing with foreign national prisoners. Dover IRC also visited following our visit there.

In June two of our Members attended a Media Training Day at HMP Highdown which proved to be very informative. One of our members attended the New Members Training Course.

Training Courses within the prison are still on-going and attended by our Board Members covering topics such as CICI (Challenge It Change It) and ACCT (Assessment Care in Custody Teamwork).

Pre-Board Meeting sessions also continue to take place each month with a wide variety of subjects covered. These are run by a speaker from one of the prison departments and cover subjects such as Serious Incident Procedure, UKBA, Migrant Helpline, Security and Handling of Prisoners Finances. They are all found to be very informative and helpful within the area of our work in the prison.

As stated before, the Board are once again indebted to our Clerk for the continued high level of service she provides always accompanied with a smile. More widely we find the Senior Management Team, staff of the prison and the in-house immigration team have always been informative, helpful and open with our enquiries. The Governor continues to provide an open door policy to the IMB and regularly attends our meetings to address our concerns.

The Board still struggles to attend all the Reviews held within the establishment. This is largely due to the actual review timings being set at the last moment to allow maximum attendance. However as we have said before, whilst we appreciate the problem, we would welcome any move to fix specific times of the week for reviews to be held so that we could be present. As rota members are not in the prison every day it is hard to plan for these meetings.

However we are now regularly informed in good time when an ACCT review is to take place and we always endeavour to attend.

Applications to the Board have again fallen this year from 122 to 119 in the current year. The distribution of type of application remains similar with the most common applications being missing property and immigration issues and failure to be re-categorised. There was an increase in the number of applications regarding health issues.

8. BOARD STATISTICS

BOARD STATISTICS	2010/11	2011/12
Number of Board members at the start of the reporting period	8	8 includes 2 on sabbatical
Number of Board members at the end of the reporting period	8	6
Number of new members joining within the reporting period	4	1
Number of members leaving within the reporting period	4	2
Total number of Board meeting during reporting period	11	11
Average number of attendances at Board meetings during reporting period	7.7	6.5
Number of attendances at meetings other than board meetings	25	24
Total number of visits to the prison (including all meetings)	218	287
Total number of number of applications received	126	119
Total number of segregation reviews held		
Total number of segregation reviews attended	18	18

9. APPLICATIONS BY SUBJECT

CODE	TOTAL 2009/10 in brackets	
A.	ACCOMMODATION	1 (2)
B.	ADJUDICATION & SEGREGATION	7 (11)
C.	DIVERSITY	2 (5)
D.	E/T/E & REGIMES	5 (3)
E.	FAMILY/VISITS	6 (5)
F.	FOOD/KITCHEN RELATED	5 (2)
G.	HEALTH RELATED	18 (7)
H.	PROPERTY	19 (13)
I.	SENTENCE RELATED	40 (53)
J.	STAFF/PRISONER/DETAIN EE RELATED	3 (4)
K.	TRANSFERS	7 (4)
L.	MISCELLANEOUS	6 (13)
	Total	119 (122)

Monitoring fairness and respect for people in custody