



**HM PRISON Dovegate
Independent Monitoring Board
Annual Report
For the period
1st October 2011 to 30th September 2012**

Statutory Role of the IMB

The Prisons Act 1952 and the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 require every prison and Immigration Removal Centre to be monitored by an Independent Board appointed by the Minister of Justice from members of the community in which the prison is situated.

The Board is specifically charged to: -

- 1) Satisfy itself as to the humane and just treatment of those held in custody within its prisons 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 the Standards and Requirements placed upon it, and what impact these have on those in 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.

Diversity Statement

The Independent Monitoring Board of HMP Dovegate is committed to treating all with whom members interact with respect and fairness, regardless of race, colour, ethnicity, religion, belief, national origin, gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation or disability.

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1. Description of HMP Dovegate

- 1.1** HMP Dovegate is a private prison run by Serco Civil Government and is situated on the Staffordshire/Derbyshire border. It is a Category B training prison, enlarged in 2009 to hold remand and convicted prisoners from local courts. Inside the single perimeter fence is the self-contained Therapeutic Prison (TP). The combined Certified Normal Accommodation (CNA) of the Main and TP is 1060 with its operational capacity remaining at 1135. A number of Category C prisoners and a smaller number of Category D prisoners are held at HMP Dovegate awaiting relocation.
- 1.2** Cells in the two original house blocks, 1 and 2, (with the exception of some 20 cells which can accommodate two prisoners), were designed for single occupancy and have an in-cell washbasin and toilet. The cells are small with poor heating and poor ventilation. Approximately 60 of these cells have a second bunk bed fitted, which have been used this year. The Board has always considered these cells unfit to house two prisoners; happily, the incidence of double occupancy in these cells has been falling steadily throughout the year.
- 1.3** Cells in the newer house block 3 are larger, complying with European standards, and have integral showers. Cells in the TP are single occupancy and have always had integral showers.
- 1.4** Telephones are installed in every cell in the residential areas.
- 1.5** ATMs (Automated Teller Machines) are installed in all residential areas, allowing prisoners to check their accounts, order their meals and access many other functions.
- 1.6** HMP Dovegate has its own kitchen and laundry.
- 1.7** Serco Health provides the healthcare at HMP Dovegate. The Healthcare Centre has an in-patient facility for 12 prisoners and the usual range of outpatient clinics. There is an Integrated Drug Treatment Strategy (IDTS) unit on a wing in house block 3.
- 1.8** HMP Dovegate has a large Education and Training facility, Dovegate College, which is run mostly by Serco, four workshops, a recycling centre, a gymnasium, and a multi-faith centre.
- 1.9** HMP Dovegate has well-maintained and attractive gardens and productive vegetable growing areas.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 Overall Judgement

2.1.1 Overall, HMP Dovegate appears to be a safe, calm and well-run establishment, where prisoners are treated with respect and decency. The small, proactive Senior Management Team and committed and enthusiastic staff cope well with the needs of the wide range of prisoners in their care: those from the local area on remand or serving short sentences, those serving longer sentences, and those in therapy in the dedicated Therapeutic Prison.

2.1.2 The Board wishes to commend HMP Dovegate for the following:

- The continued serious attention accorded to all aspects of diversity and inclusion (para. 3.1)
- The improved stability in Healthcare (para. 3.3)
- The sustained high quality of product from workshops 1, 3 and 4 (para. 3.4))
- The management of the Care and Separation Unit (para. 3.7)
- The reduction in the length of stay in the CSU (para. 3.7.6)
- The reduction in waiting time for TSP and CALM (para. 3.5.5)
- The use of prisoner 'Insiders' in Reception (para. 4.6.2)
- The introduction of an outside play area adjacent to the Visits Hall (para. 4.8.1)

2.1.3 The Board congratulates HMP Dovegate for the following:

- The satisfactory follow-up visit by HMIP (November 2011)
- The 'root and branch' review of the regime, and the resulting successful introduction of a new core day. Whilst this was not without certain teething problems (see paras. 3.1., 3.2.6 and 4.1.6) on balance the Board considers it to have been a well-managed change.
- The introduction of PNomis, and training of staff in its use. The Board has always felt that contracted-out prisons should have access to this system.

- The outcome of an “Equalities Management” audit, which was seen as best practice and would be recommended to the service as a whole.
- The achievement of Level 4 status.
- Achieving the 5* Health & Safety Award
- Setting up and running a workplace Foundation Degree Course in Offender Management when 15 prison officers enrolled on the course run by Staffordshire University, and Stafford College.
- Setting up and running Coaching and Mentoring training for staff at various levels.
- The planned new initiative – TP Plus – to enable therapy to be widened to those of lower intelligence.

2.1.4 The Board has raised the following matters of concern with HMP Dovegate during the year

- the number of sentenced prisoners who appear not to be out of their cells for the stated 10 hours per day (para. 3.8.1)
- the air quality in the workshop dedicated to a plastic-recycling contract (para. 3.4.4)
- the proposed reduction in the number of seconded probation officers in the prison (para. 3.5.4)
- the lack of suitable literature to cover all the languages required by the prisoners at HMP Dovegate. (para. 3.1.3)
- the relatively high number of applications to the Board, compared with other issues, of health-related problems (Appendix C)

2.1.5 The Board is grateful for the courteous co-operation of management and staff, which enables it effectively to carry out its monitoring role throughout the year. The Board is supported by a very efficient Clerk, provided by Serco.

2.2 Questions for the Minister

2.2.1 Whilst acknowledging the need for flexibility as the prison population rises and falls, can the Minister assure the Board that those cells designed for single occupancy, but which have had a second bunk bed fitted, will not be used for overcrowding? (para. 1.2)

- 2.2.2 Can the requirement to transfer prisoners accepted by secure units within two weeks be more rigorously enforced? (para. 3.3.12)
- 2.2.3 Could not the procedure for deportation of foreign nationals be started earlier, so they are not held in custody after the completion of their sentences? (para. 3.1.3)
- 2.2.4 Does the Minister agree that the delays in inquests into deaths in custody coming to court is unacceptable? (para.. 4.2.1)

2.3 Questions for NOMS

- 2.3.1 What steps are being taken to ensure that all prisoners, regardless of the nature of their sentence, have timely access to courses to enable them to progress and prepare them for release? (para. 3.5.5)
- 2.3.2 Could improvements be made in the transfer of prisoners' property, money and education records when they move from one establishment to another? (Appendix C and para. 3.2.2)
- 2.3.3 Is it not desirable that inter-prison visits be facilitated so that prisoners can maintain family contact? (para. 4.8.2)

2.4 Questions for HMP Dovegate

- 2.4.1 Will the staffing vacancies in education soon be filled? (para. 3.2.5)
- 2.4.2 Will steps soon be taken to provide lunch at the workplace for all four workshops? (para. 3.1.7)
- 2.4.3 Could escorting prisoners to the library be improved? (para. 3.2.8)
- 2.4.4 Are steps being taken to increase the time out of cell for those prisoners who spend fewer than 10 hours per day out of cell?

2.5 Previous year's concerns

The Board is grateful for the full responses received from HMP Dovegate to concerns expressed in last year's reports.

- 2.5.1 The problem with the drains in the kitchen was satisfactorily solved before publication of the report. However, equipment in the kitchen continues to break down (paras. 3.8.7 and 3.8.6)
- 2.5.2 The state of the showers in some locations remains unsatisfactory (para. 3.8.2)

2.5.3 The frequency of the Supply Reduction Meetings has improved, but doubts persist as to their effectiveness (para. 4.3.1)

The Board is equally grateful for the full responses received from the Minister, and NOMS. However, concerns expressed in paras. 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3 and 2.3.2 above are repeated for the third year running.

3. Essential areas of prison regime

3.1 Equality and Inclusion

- 3.1.1 HMP Dovegate continues to attach serious importance to all aspects of diversity. Forums for the various strands have monthly meetings and the over-arching Equalities Governance Committee also meets each month. IMB members have attended several of these meetings, reporting good attendance and effective leadership from senior managers.
- 3.1.2 Older prisoners are now mainly located together on the upper landing of one wing, to ensure common interests and a quieter environment. They have their own garden where they can either work or relax. Weekly socials are arranged away from the wing and prisoners have opportunities to practise life skills, play board games and hold quizzes but the socials are not well attended as the older prisoners refuse to mix with VPs.
- 3.1.3 A number of foreign national prisoners (fewer than 10% of the total population) are held at HMP Dovegate and the Board is aware that there is a lack of suitable literature to cover all the languages required. Foreign national representatives meet monthly and foreign national prisoners receive regular visits from UKBA. However, yet again, foreign nationals are held beyond completion of their sentence awaiting deportation and the Board reiterates its condemnation of this practice.
- 3.1.4 The Lifestyle Forum is a particularly lively group discussing sensitive issues.
- 3.1.5 Three IMB members attended a presentation on Travellers, but said it was disappointing. The presentations focussed on Travellers as victims throughout history, without proposals for positive engagement with other cultures.
- 3.1.6 The Board is not aware of any meeting being held specifically for race or ethnicity matters. The topic is covered by the general Equalities Governance meetings. Racial complaints are dealt with by a well-run and fair investigation system.
- 3.1.7 With the introduction of the new core day, vulnerable prisoners working in one workshop now remain there at lunchtime, which has led to a complaint of unfair discrimination, as prisoners employed in the other three workshops return to the wings over the lunch break. Whilst the Board accepts the prison's declared aim ultimately to treat all the workshops the same, it has been aware that the current complaint about discrimination has remained unanswered for several months.

3.2 Education, Learning and Skills

- 3.2.1 As part of the induction process each prisoner completes a literacy and numeracy assessment to enable suitable educational courses to be arranged if necessary, and also to judge his suitability for work. It is vital that the prisoner has this procedure properly explained to him and that when it is completed it gives an accurate assessment of the prisoners' needs whilst at HMP Dovegate.
- 3.2.2 If the prisoners achieve Level 1, then they are cleared to be available for work in 'Industries'. If they only achieve Level 2, but have transferred from another prison where the prisoner states they did achieve Level 1, they are also cleared for work, provided this is credible. HMP Dovegate takes the prisoners' word for it as they do not have access to the records shared between state prisons.
- 3.2.3 It would appear that generally speaking this appears to be working satisfactorily, but the Board has some concerns about the information being used as effectively as it could be.
- 3.2.4 The quality of teaching and learning, including literacy, numeracy and ESOL, and the provision of employability training and vocational courses are satisfactory, and enable prisoners to progress.
- 3.2.5 The prison requires a total of 30 tutors and currently has four vacancies.
- 3.2.6 There is provision for 250 prisoners in classroom sessions morning and afternoons. Currently this provision is not fully utilised as due to staff shortages resulting from the new core day, only 200 to 210 prisoners are able to attend per session.
- 3.2.7 The prison has recently introduced an evening education session which focuses on personal development rather than skills for work e.g. Arts & Crafts and Information Technology for the prisoners' own purposes. The capacity is for 100 prisoners and currently about 40 are taking up this option.
- 3.2.8 The prison has an excellent library and the prisoners are entitled to use it for one hour per week. With respect to the main prison out of 935 eligible visits per week only 318 are currently taking place. This is largely due to insufficient PCO escorts. This has been a concern for a number of years but appears to be a low priority for the prison.

3.3 Healthcare & Mental Health

- 3.3.1 There have been many changes and improvements over the last year:

- 3.3.2 Nurse triage clinics, which now mean that the patients are seen by a nurse prescriber within 2 days and a doctor within 2 to 3 days.
- 3.3.3 The patients now have more medication in possession, following a risk assessment, which saves the patients having to queue at the hatch and get medication on time.
- 3.3.4 Paracetamol is no longer being given out on the wings, but is available to purchase from the shop. The Board was initially concerned about this change; however, it understands that amounts are restricted and purchasing patterns are monitored.
- 3.3.5 There are special clinics for the patients to be assessed and then referred to the nurse prescriber, GP or mental health team.
- 3.3.6 There are frequent internal audits, checking the emergency Grab Bag and all equipment. Auditing of all staff training and appraisals are now 100% up to date.
- 3.3.7 The Mental Health team now have a well man group for mental health, and a veterans' group.
- 3.3.8 There are weekly Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings to discuss prescriptions, attended by mental health nurses, manager, nurse prescribers, GP and substance misuse nurse. After a patient has detoxed all services communicate to give continuity of care.
- 3.3.9 There has been some staff restructuring and there are now more senior staff, including a Primary Care lead nurse, offering out-patient services, and a Primary Care mental health lead who co-ordinates Mental Health services, Secondary care and Mental health in-reach services, Community IDTS (substance misuse services) and care of patients e.g. medication.
- 3.3.10 GP surgeries now have a weekly session for those with chronic diseases. Each patient gets a 20 minute session with the Doctor.
- 3.3.11 All patients are now offered Hepatitis B vaccinations and figures are reported to PCT.
- 3.3.12 During the reporting period, on the days when on rota the Board visited the Healthcare Centre, the number of in-patients varied from one to nine and mostly they were on ACCTs. Often these patients have been assessed as suitable for secure units and await transfer. We understand that yet again, no such patient was transferred within the specified time.

- 3.3.13 The healthcare team have a good relationship with PCT and staff are able to harness training for example suturing and assessment of acutely ill patients.
- 3.3.14 Clinical Governance meetings are held quarterly. An IMB member attends.

3.4 Purposeful activity

- 3.4.1 The workshops are visited every week according to the rota. Two workshops produce parts for Coopers Lighting; until March the two others produced and repaired pallets.
- 3.4.2 The new core day, introduced in June, removed the facility for prisoners to work part-time. The move to full-time working appears to have increased the motivation of the workforce.
- 3.4.3 In April Workshop 2 was refurbished to work on a new contract reclaiming plastic parts from window frames, and all the pallet work was transferred to Workshop 4.
- 3.4.4 The Board observed the work of reclaiming plastic to be dirty and difficult, given the quality of the raw material provided, and raised its concerns to senior management, in particular about the air quality in the workshop. Improvements were made; further we understand that this contract is presently under review.
- 3.4.5 Generally speaking Workshops 1, 3 and 4 have been busy all the year but have occasionally been held up by the lack of component parts.
- 3.4.6 HMP Dovegate continues to provide genuinely purposeful activity for a large number of prisoners, in excess of the contracted 27.5 hours per week, in workshops that are well run by enthusiastic and efficient staff, which results in a good quality product with few rejects. Quality levels at Coopers Lighting own factories run at 86% compared with 94% at HMP Dovegate. They want some of their staff to be trained in Dovegate to help them achieve these levels in their factories.
- 3.4.7 Workshops are allocated prisoners from a waiting list which can result in prisoners with only a short time to serve being sent to the workshops, only to leave before training is complete or shortly afterwards.
- 3.4.8 Staff comment that it would be better if prisoners could have their medication on the wings before going to work as it disrupts production if they have to go back to the wing.

3.5 Resettlement

- 3.5.1 A Resettlement Conference took place in October 2011; two Board members attended, and prisoners joined staff and visitors for lunch and discussion groups.
- 3.5.2 The High Risk Pre-Release Meetings are well organised and seldom cancelled. A Board member attends these reviews and reports that the offender supervisors do an excellent job working alongside the outside probation service to find housing and jobs for these very difficult prisoners. Sometimes this is done via telephone link during the meeting enabling all the relevant people to discuss the needs for this prisoner.
- 3.5.3 Reviews take place at three months prior to release to enable the team at Dovegate to express their concern with all the relevant parties outside the prison. A further review is conducted at one month prior to release, when there is time to make any changes e.g. to area of discharge, and accommodation.
- 3.5.4 The Board was concerned to discover that the number of seconded probation officers was to be dramatically reduced, and will monitor if this change has a detrimental effect on the timely delivery of parole reports, such as occurred before the team was strengthened two years ago.
- 3.5.5 Accredited Offending Behaviour Programmes (OBPs) offered at HMP Dovegate are Thinking Skills Programme (TSP) and Controlling Anger and Learning to Manage it (CALM). We understand that waiting times for these have decreased during the year. However, HMP Dovegate continues to hold a significant number of Indeterminate Sentence Public Protection prisoners (ISPPs) who, we understand, are given priority of access to these programmes, resulting in a negative impact on other prisoners who wish to progress.

3.6 Safer Custody

- 3.6.1 Safer Custody Meetings continue to be held every month. An IMB member is always in attendance and Peer Support Workers (PSWs) attend the first part of the meeting.
- 3.6.2 At the end of each meeting 3 or 4 random ACCT documents are checked in detail by those present. The process is very thorough and any points discovered are discussed in detail and lessons learnt.
- 3.6.3 There was an increase in self-harm incidents during the reporting year; 568 compared with 332 in the previous year. Many were due to a few multiple self harmers who frequently caused injuries which were

considered to be only marginally reportable. Very few of the self-harm incidents have required hospital treatment.

- 3.6.4 The PSW scheme continues to work well. The Samaritans, however, have failed to follow up their promised prison attendance and have not introduced a listener scheme. Unfortunately one or two prisoners have caused problems by telephoning the Samaritans hundreds of times each month. Although the prison knows which prisoners are responsible they are reluctant to restrict their access to the Samaritans for fear of missing a genuine call.
- 3.6.5 At every meeting there is a detailed review of all prisoners on Stage 1 bullying watch and victim watch. Each prisoner's behaviour and condition is discussed in detail by the whole meeting. Generally there seems to be few incidents of bullying and the prison continues to operate a zero tolerance policy.
- 3.6.6 There were 27 assaults on staff, a little up from 22 and 21 in the previous two years. Prisoner-on-prisoner assaults continue to be generally of a fairly minor nature with very few requiring medical treatment.
- 3.6.7 Overall HMP Dovegate continues to be a relatively safe place for both staff and prisoners.

3.7 Segregation, Care and Separation, Close Supervision

- 3.7.1 The Care and Separation Unit (CSU) is a separate building away from the main prison and contains 20 cells: 17 normal cells, 1 special accommodation cell, 1 gated cell, and 1 cell which has been converted into a fitness suite.
- 3.7.2 The CSU team consists of a Manager and ten officers who are to be applauded for their professionalism and dedication to ensure that prisoners in their care are well treated in a clean and well-run establishment.
- 3.7.3 9 staff have completed training on the recognised courses, and 2 new staff have been booked onto the relevant training courses.
- 3.7.4 The performance of the unit is monitored by the Segregation and Review Board (SMARG), which is held quarterly, and is a well-run, well-attended committee.
- 3.7.5 The initial segregation health screens, the daily occurrence logs, the Rule 45 Review Board write-ups, and the observation logs have all been randomly checked over the period and have been found to fully comply with PSO1700.

- 3.7.6 The average length of stay in the CSU has reduced from 5.11 days last year to 3.34 days this year.
- 3.7.7 The Board is informed of any prisoner being moved into segregation and members can speak freely with those prisoners at any time. All prisoners are reviewed after 72 hours and Board members attend these reviews. Further reviews can take place at intervals of up to 14 days which are also attended by Board members.
- 3.7.8 The unit is well maintained with good facilities and a good regime, with staff always trying to de-escalate any problems with awkward prisoners before taking action. This works well as the special accommodation cell has not been used in the reporting period, and the use of control and restraint has fallen from 33 last year to 14 this year.
- 3.7.9 Every day the Duty Director, a nurse and a member of the multi-faith chaplaincy visit the unit, with the Director visiting every 3rd day.

3.8 Residential Services

- 3.8.1 The residential accommodation is visited on a regular basis throughout the year and the Board is pleased to report that generally speaking there were no major problems with respect to the fabric of the wings and their contents. However, spot checks on the number of prisoners locked up during the day suggest that many do not benefit from the stated 10 hours per day out of cell.
- 3.8.2 Problems with the showers on some wings were noted from time to time; similar problems were mentioned in last year's Annual Report. The upper shower on E Wing was reported in May this year as leaking, and this had not been resolved by August.
- 3.8.3 The replacement of failed equipment in the wing laundries appears to take rather a long time and some complaints have been received about mattresses needing replacement. The Board has been assured that all mattresses will be renewed in the New Year.
- 3.8.4 In November the kitchen introduced a "light lunch" for prisoners consisting mainly of soup and sandwiches, which reduced the cost of the prisoners' meals. This was trialled by PIAC who liked it. We were told, occasionally, on our rota visits, that this lunch was not enough, but the number of complaints we received considering the prison holds over a 1000 prisoners was very small.
- 3.8.5 It is our opinion that the kitchen produces excellent food, as was shown by our rota visits, when we were told by many prisoners that the food was very good. Few complain: e.g. on a couple of occasions a

prisoner in the Therapeutic Prison said the food had been served cold and there were certain problems with food served in flasks to Muslims during Ramadan.

- 3.8.6 As reported in our Annual Report last year there were problems with the breakdown and repair of kitchen equipment, which is still ongoing. The Board considers the kitchen functions exceptionally well, given equipment problems, its size, and the number of meals it produces each day.
- 3.8.7 The problem of smelly drains in the kitchen reported last year has been resolved.
- 3.8.8 The immaculately-kept grounds of the main prison and the TP are a pleasure to behold throughout the year.

4. Other areas of prison regime

4.1 Therapeutic Prison (TP)

- 4.1.1 The management of the TP changed this year: a Senior Therapist replaced the Director of Therapy. An Assistant Director and Operations Manager oversee the Community.
- 4.1.2 The Community is stable at around 200 residents, with very few out of therapy. It is unfortunate that those completing therapy, or those who have opted out or been de-selected, are not readily accepted back to their sending establishments.
- 4.1.3 Officer/prisoner relationships are good, with staff demonstrating a high level of commitment to their demanding work.
- 4.1.4 The wings on the Therapeutic Prison were visited according to our Rota every week. Generally speaking the wings were kept clean and tidy and there were few issues to attend to in this respect.
- 4.1.5 In December we had the usual complaints that fresh fruit was not available to the prisoners.
- 4.1.6 In June, after the start of the new regime, a resident from TP Avalon said that morale on the wing was very low, as, under the new regime, prisoners have only 15 minutes lock up after a therapy session (under the old regime 1 hour), and this did not give them enough rest.
- 4.1.7 There are well-maintained vegetable gardens and greenhouses in the therapeutic prison and the excellent produce is used in the prison kitchen, producing worthwhile savings.
- 4.1.8 Plans are underway for the creation of a new unit, TP Plus, to enable prisoners with below average intelligence to benefit from therapy.
- 4.1.9 Board members are made extremely welcome in the TP and continue to be impressed by the work done there.

4.2 Deaths in custody

- 4.2.1 Sadly, there were two deaths in custody this year. The inquest into these deaths, a death in 2011 and two deaths which occurred in 2009 are still outstanding. The time taken to complete inquests on Death in Custody can cause unnecessary stress on the bereaved families and the staff themselves.

4.3 Drugs

4.3.1 A member of the IMB has attended many of the monthly Drugs Supply Reduction meetings. Attendance by prison staff has generally been poor and several have been cancelled or dates changed at short notice precluding IMB attendance. Although the attendees are enthusiastic about their role we are concerned that the Committee may not be as effective as it needs to be.

4.4 Health and Safety

4.4.1 A committee meets monthly, and is well attended, with an IMB member observing when possible.

4.5 Multi-Faith Centre

4.5.1 The Multi Faith Centre continues to act as the hub for the many strands of spiritual and pastoral care which take place in Dovegate, both in the Centre itself and on the wings.

4.5.2 The staff are sensitive and caring and are still ably supported by many volunteers who attend for regular weekly events as well as the many one off events held at the Centre.

4.5.3 All the regular Faith gatherings are well attended and prisoner participation is of a high standard.

4.5.4 Aside from the religious aspect of the Centre, because of its size it also serves as a meeting place for larger staff and prisoner meetings.

4.6 Reception and Induction

4.6.1 On arrival into Dovegate Reception, prisoners are treated with courtesy and respect.

4.6.2 The use of prisoners as 'Insiders' helping in the distribution of food, clothing, some basic information is commendable. They help to reduce the anxiety and tension of newly-arrived prisoners.

4.6.3 HMIP have already drawn attention to the lack of provision of dedicated First Night accommodation. Having followed through the process of accommodating prisoners and talking to prisoners themselves, the Board has no real concerns about this per se and has received no applications in relation to this. However, for prisoners first time in prison the provision of First Night accommodation would make arrival a less threatening experience and ensure their needs and vulnerabilities

were properly met and key information given in a consistent way. A dedicated unit would give easier access to Throughcare staff on the day after admission. The Reception staff consider that their job would be more straightforward if new prisoners were housed in one place. Balanced against that, prisoners, once settled on a wing, do not need moving after a couple of nights.

- 4.6.4 The main Induction process is in the process of a much-needed thorough review. Vital prison information is currently delivered in two half-day sessions by staff from various departments of the prison. The presentations are very inconsistent in quality. They are delivered by a number of different people, some of whom require assistance with their presentational skills. Some Reception staff would benefit from a clearer view of the details of the whole Induction process.
- 4.6.5 Some prisoners feel that they are left to find out for themselves about the workings of the prison. One example of this is that there is no formal help in using the ATM's on the wings yet increasingly this is the means by which prisoners access information and organise other aspects of their lives in the prison.

4.7 Remands

- 4.7.1 No separate arrangements are made for remand prisoners. They are entitled to a different regime and their progress is followed by one section of OMU. They reside largely on one dedicated wing, but this wing sometimes accommodates a few sentenced prisoners. Occasionally remands are housed on the main houseblock wings with sentenced prisoners.

4.8 Visits

- 4.8.1 A children's play area now exists outside the visits' hall. It is well laid out and popular.
- 4.8.2 The Board's attention was drawn to two cases where inter-prison visits were difficult to obtain. These finally took place as a result of HMP Dovegate's interventions.

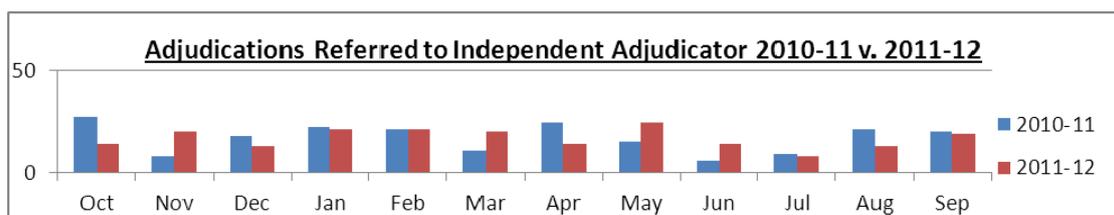
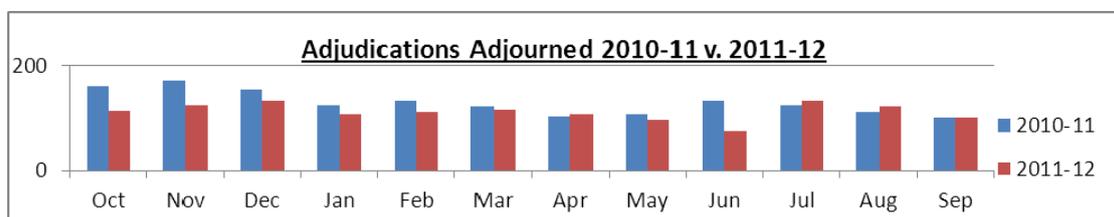
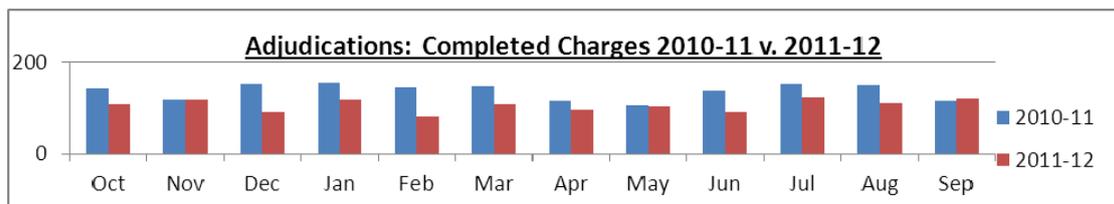
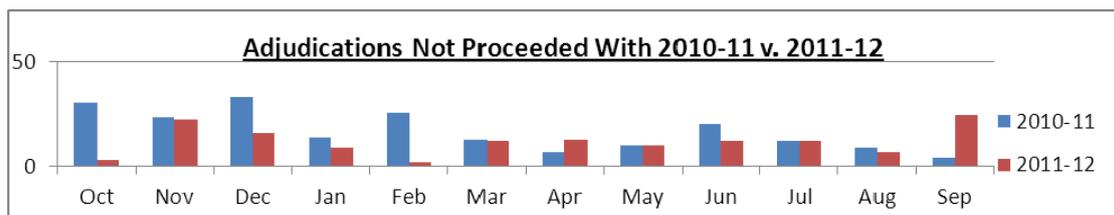
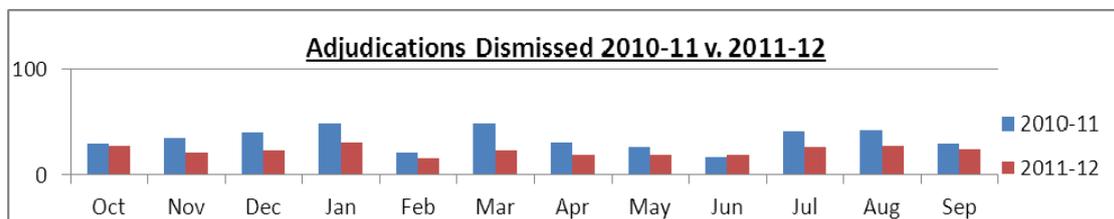
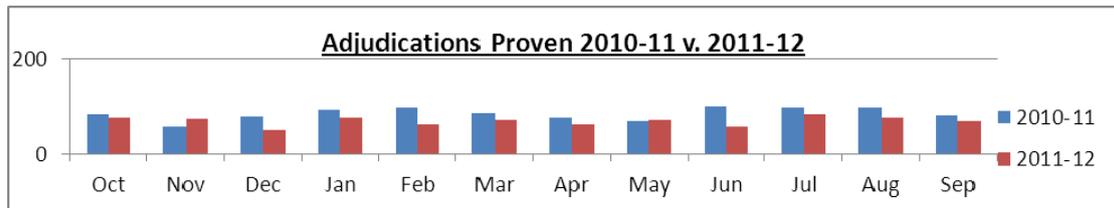
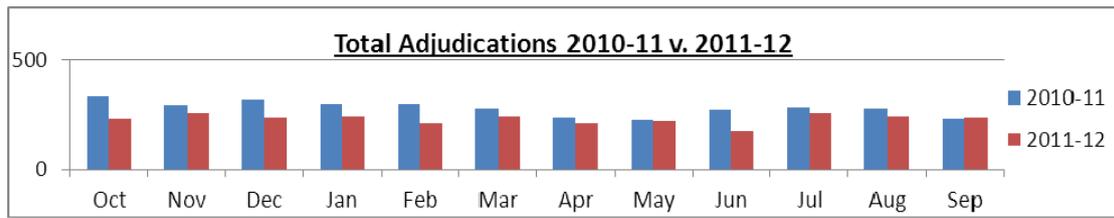
5. The Work of the Board

- 5.1 Two resignations were made bringing the number of members down to 13. Recruitment commenced in the latter half of the year.
- 5.2 Each week Board members attend the prison to conduct rota visits and monitor adjudications. They also respond to prisoner applications, attend Separation and Care reviews and observe meetings.
- 5.3 The Board holds a monthly meeting which a member of the Senior Management Team attends in order to brief the Board on prison matters and to discuss issues from rota reports.
- 5.4 The Board held a full day of training in May. Members have taken advantage of training offered by the prison, in particular when P-Nomis was introduced in February.
- 5.5 Members of the Board hosted a visit from the IMB at HMP Hewell
- 5.6 The Chair and Vice-Chair have attended the biannual meetings of Area Chairs; the Chair attended the only Contracted-out Chairs' meeting to be held in the period. Two members attended the IMB Annual Conference.
- 5.7 The Information Officer attended a media workshop, following which a dedicated email address for the media or potential new members to contact the Board was set up.

Appendix A
Board Statistics

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	13
Number of new members joining within the reporting period	0
Number of members leaving within reporting period	1
Total number of Board meetings during reporting period	12
Total number of visits to the Establishment	613
Total number of segregation reviews held	125
Total number of segregation reviews attended	111

Appendix B - Adjudications



Appendix C - Applications

