



HMP KIRKLEVINGTON GRANGE

INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD (IMB)

ANNUAL REPORT

1st January 2011 – 31st December 2011

Section1

THE STATUTORY ROLE OF THE IMB

The Prisons Act 1952 and the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 require every prison and IRC to be monitored by an independent Board appointed by the Secretary of State from members of the community in which the prison or centre 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 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 the standards and requirements placed on 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.

Contents

<u>Section 1.</u>	The statutory role of the IMB	Page no. 2
<u>Section 2.</u>	Description of the prison and its role	Page no. 4
<u>Section 3.</u>	Executive summary	Page no. 6
<u>Section 4.</u>	Areas on which the Board is required to report	Page no. 7
	Diversity	
	4.1 Healthcare	
	4.2 Learning and Skills	
	4.3 Safer custody	
	4.4 Segregation	
<u>Section 5.</u>	Other areas of the prison regime on which the Board chooses to report.	Page no. 14
	5.1 Offender management and resettlement	
	5.2 Community work and resettlement	
	5.3 Physical Education	
	5.4 Kitchen	
	5.5 Visits	
	5.6 Drug Strategy	
	5.7 Staff Awards	
	5.8 Chaplaincy	
	5.9 Security	
<u>Section 6.</u>	The work of the IMB at HMP Kirklevington Grange	Page no. 17
<u>Section 7.</u>	Applications to the Board	Page no.18

Section 2

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRISON AND ITS ROLE

HMP Kirklevington Grange is a Level 4 Category C and D Resettlement prison for adult male offenders with an operating capacity of 283. The prison is situated in Teesside on the Southern outskirts of the small town of Yarm.

The main building of the prison is a large Edwardian house that was originally a private residence. In a separate area there is a purpose built Education department and office building and also a separate modern large building which houses the kitchens and the communal dining hall. There are other outside units for the Health Centre, Drug testing unit and teaching units. There is also a (permanently located) mobile dental unit.

In the large grounds surrounding the prison there is an area for the establishment workshops of Welding, Garden and Ground - works, White Goods and Recycling. There are prison gardening areas and 3 large greenhouses for use in the horticultural training that is available.

The surroundings are rural with views of woodland and surrounding countryside. The grounds surrounding the main prison buildings are well kept and attractive with flower beds. There is an all weather football pitch outside the gymnasium building. There are 3 areas of car parking.

There is a small railway station/halt within walking distance of the prison which is used by some of the prisoners who travel to work or home visits. Other public transport links are available within walking distance of Yarm.

Many of the prisoners are from the North East of England and who are intending to remain in the area after release.

The catchment area is from Carlisle to Leeds although there may be a very small number of prisoners from a further distance.

Transfer to Kirklevington Grange from other prisons follows an extensive application process. Prisoners who do transfer are Category C or D.

Lifers and IPP prisoners are accepted following a parole board review of suitability for open conditions.

Determinate sentence prisoners have a minimum of 8 months and a maximum of 24 months to serve.

Prisoners must demonstrate certain evidences to be accepted into this designated resettlement prison

- A desire to change
- The need of a resettlement regime
- To be a manageable risk when granted temporary release

Prisoners are offered access to education, workshops and gym facilities in the prison.

After a period of time spent on induction programmes, assessments, working within the prison, attending classes and training, the prisoners' Risk Analysis criteria must be met. At this stage prisoners complete 30 days Community Work in the local area. After which they can begin a programme of home leaves, and town visits. They also can have access to paid work and further training and Education outside prison if this is available and part of their sentence plan.

At the time of writing the prison population is: 45 prisoners at Category C,
235 prisoners at Category D.

This includes;

34 IPP

35 prisoners on Life sentence

Staff employed by the prison is 132 (excluding Health unit staff and Manchester College and A4e employees).

Education provider is Manchester College

Health care is provided by **Care UK**.

CARATS (Counselling, Assessments, Referral, Advice and Throughcase Services) is the provider for addiction related programmes.

The charity **Mind** provides weekly advice and support on mental health issues when needed.

The charity **Barnado's** had workshop inputs with a Parenting Project dealing with the effects of parent drug use on families.

Shop facilities are provided by DHL. Prisoners can fill in a request sheet each week for listed items which are then delivered to the prison. The prisoners collect their own order.

NEPACS (North East Prisoners After Care Society) Volunteers work in the tea bar in the visits room.

Accommodation in the prison is all single rooms with storage. Some of the units have shower facilities in the rooms. All rooms have privacy locks and prisoners have their own key. The accommodation is in 2 sections of the establishment. There are rooms inside the main building and there are 4 units situated in the grounds. Prisoners have a key to admit them to the outside unit where they are housed. The outside units have simple shared cooking facilities (a toaster and a microwave oven), sink and washing machines. There is a recreation room or area with pool table and a communal TV area. This provision may vary as the units are not of a uniform design. The newest unit, L, was purpose built, whilst D, E and K units were originally accommodation units from oil platforms. Pin phones are available in the outside units and are also available in the main building. There is a prison Laundry.

Budget

The Governor's annual budget is £5,472,846

Section 3

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

a)

The board has no particular issues requiring a response.

b)

Kirklevington Grange is one of only 2 designated resettlement prisons in the country.

As such, the main focus of all the work in the prison is to help offenders develop responsibilities, skills and education in order to increase their abilities to rejoin outside society as useful members and to reduce their likelihood of reoffending.

It is the opinion of the Board that all departments in the prison have a clear understanding of their role in this resettlement.

The Education, skills and training provision all give clear focus to securing a successful life outside prison.

There is also an overall expectation that prisoners become independent in their attitudes and take charge of their own lives (reference Health care appointments, dealing with addiction issues, using the Job club, Community work, workshops, ownership of the key to their own room, self motivation to find courses relevant to employment on release)

HMIP and OFSTED

The 9th to the 13th of May 2011 saw an announced inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Prisons. The result was a Level 4 grading for the prison.

OFSTED (Office for Standards in Education) also inspected at this time and as a result of their findings Kirklevington Grange is now featured on the OFSTED good practice website.

MQPL (Measuring the Quality of Prison Life) followed the OFSTED inspection and once again the resulting information gained was good.

The Chair of the Board was interviewed in some of these processes.

The Board has no issues at all with these findings and congratulated the Governor and staff on the results.

The board feels that the Governor and staff continue to administer a regime well suited to the specialist role of the prison.

Section 4

AREAS ON WHICH THE BOARD MUST REPORT

4.1 Diversity

The major change in the year was the introduction of the Equality Act 2010; this came into force on the 5 April 2012.

The Act amalgamated all aspects of equality into one, with a general duty replacing the previous divisions of race, gender and disability. The aim of the Equality Duty is to embed equality considerations into everyday activities within organizations.

The Equality Duty requires prisons to have due regard to the:

- the elimination of discrimination, harassment and victimization
- advancement of equal opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not
- fostering of good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

The Act requires public bodies such as prisons to publish more information than previously, and to show how policies are delivering improvement so that they can be held to account.

Kirklevington Grange's monitoring and SES policies were already Equality Act compliant.

The Act does not require prisons to have an Equality Meeting; this is at the discretion of the Governor.

The minutes of the Prisoner Equality Meeting, which were chaired by the governor, showed a wide range of policies for the requirements of disabled prisoners and the various ethnic groups represented within the prison, including Gypsy and Travellers.

There were no serious ethnic incidents reported, although prisoner representatives on the committee raised the issue that prisoners were concerned that raising incidents through the complaints procedure would jeopardise their stay in the prison. The Governor sought to reassure them that this would not be the case.

There was on average one Discrimination Incident Report per month, all of a minor nature. All were investigated and the complainants were satisfied on the outcomes.

The Board believes that the equitable treatment of all prisoners in the prison adheres to the relevant policies.

There are notice boards in the corridor of the main prison building with information about diversity issues and contact details for the people responsible for this area.

4.2 Learning and Skills

These elements are at the centre of the work done with the category C/D offenders in the prison.

The beginning of 2012 saw a change in the lead of this Department and the outstanding Head of Education Learning and Skills moved on to the position of Acting Head of Learning, Skills and Employment, Southern Cluster, North East Prisons. There is a continuing contact maintained with the new head of department to continue the good work that is the centre of the ethos of Kirklevington Grange.

Every offender in the prison is involved with the Education, Learning and Skills opportunities that are on offer. At the time of writing this is a population of **280**.

Manchester College

Are the contractors for delivering Education in Literacy and Numeracy at Levels 1 and 2 and in other levels of learning. (For example at March 2012 there are 15 offenders studying with the Open University who are able to access help if needed) This contract has been extended for a further 3 years. The staff employed by Manchester College consists of the Head (full time), 2x 0.5 tutors, 9 sessional contracts and a 0.8 administrator.

All offenders who come to Kirklevington Grange from other prisons are screened to assess their levels of Literacy and Numeracy. This information is then used by the staff to tailor the individual input needed for each offender. There is active interest shown in all aspects of Literacy and Numeracy difficulties and good personalised support and guidance is made available by the tutors.

All prisoners are required to achieve Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy. The take up to progression to Level 2 is desirable but not compulsory. The staff would like the levels of achievement to improve and do work hard to try and convince students that this is to their benefit.

The board is aware and appreciates that in some prisoners this is a difficult idea to promote, especially if the prisoner has a family run business to return to after release or has had years of managing without these skills.

A new qualification called Functional Skills is proposed and it is hoped that this will be successful in raising levels of Literacy and Numeracy.

There are good wall displays and information outside the teaching areas for prisoners to access.

Offenders receive praise for their successes in the form of verbal encouragement, the award of certificates and an annual award afternoon. This is attended by prisoners, tutors, prison staff, IMB members and some outside agencies. It is a very popular event and a pleasure to attend.

A4e CIAS (Careers Information and Advice Service)

Is responsible for the delivery of information, advice and guidance on obtaining qualifications that will fit the outside prison requirements and needs. This area of work in prison is a vital link between educational achievement and the needs of the work place. The staffing of A4e is 1 full time and 1 part time deliverer.

On admission, (or as soon as is possible) A4e hold individual interviews to ascertain the training needs and requirements for each prisoner to enable them to find employment after release.

The team has a good understanding of prisoner needs and good contacts with outside agencies and work places that can be utilised by the prison to gain successes in the resettlement of prisoners.

The employment difficulties and financial constraints in accessing courses and placements are well understood by this team. They deal with the many and varied needs and requests of the inmates in a professional and efficient way.

There are good wall displays outside the offices of A4e explaining the many opportunities that are available.

Prison establishment

The Board is aware of the expectation from all workshop tutors and instructors that what happens in these training areas is good preparation for work outside prison. The certificates gained by the prisoners are a clear indicator of the positivity of the focus for gaining employment on release. The prisoners are treated as prisoner/employees by the tutors and instructors and are expected to comply with all that this entails.

The Welding Shop is always busy and a popular choice for the offenders. At present there are 7 prisoners under training.

The articles produced for projects in the community are of an extremely high quality and the work done to produce a large scale model of a train for the gardens in Saltburn on Sea was spectacular.

The White Goods Department, (where larger domestic appliances are stripped down, a completely refurbished and then distributed to local Charities) has 7 prisoners in training at the time of writing, and continues to be very successful in the levels of certification. This includes PAT (portable appliance testing) certification and 6 prisoners received City and Guilds level 2 certification for electronic and domestic appliances.

It is hoped that there may be opportunities to further expand this department and there have been ongoing talks with contacts in Hartlepool.

The recycling unit employs prisoners to recycle much of the waste produced in the prison. 6 prisoners achieved certificates from WAMITAB9 (Waste management industry training and advisory board.)

The Gardens department focuses on a variety of Land based courses. At the time of writing there were 24 offenders under training.

The Physical Education Department

In the past year 23 prisoners have completed an Open College network Level 2 in Diet and Nutrition.

The Prison kitchen

All prisoners take a NVQ certificate in Food safety. There is at the time of writing one prisoner on a NVQ level 2.

The Works Department

The staff of the works department take prisoners who show an interest or have pre sentence qualifications/experience in plumbing, joinery, electrical work, painting and decorating and work along side doing work in the prison as required. Qualifications can then be achieved with outside agencies. One prisoner will receive a Level 3 Plumbing qualification in 2012.

Range of courses

The range of courses covered by the prison establishment, Manchester College and A4e is broad reaching and at the time of writing numbered 28 certificated courses available.

There are other outside agencies used who provide other practical courses, e.g. brick laying, plastering, HGV driving, fork lift truck qualifications. These can be attended when prisoners have their required risk assessment in place. These are popular but are subject to financial and availability constraints.

These courses do sometimes have to be funded by the prisoners themselves. It is to the credit of the confidence and belief that the prisoners gain in Kirklevington Grange that some are able to do this.

The Board has noted that there is some concern expressed by the department of Learning and Skills at the achievement gap for prisoners of Asian ethnicity.

Outside Education opportunities and paid work

After Risk Assessment requirements are met prisoners can attend local colleges in Middlesbrough, Stockton and Hartlepool. The courses undertaken are wide ranging. Some prisoners are able to, and do, find placements further afield although this can be problematic with expenses of travel and fees.

The meeting of the Partners was held in November 2011 (this is attended by in-house learning and skills staff plus outside agencies involved as providers plus the IMB member with special interest).

The achievement data for 2010 -2011 was as follows; There were 38 prisoners in paid employment, 90 prisoners engaged in external, unpaid community work, 52 prisoners had been enrolled on Education courses plus 98 prisoners had enrolled on short vocational courses. The success rates for all these opportunities were excellent.

At the meeting it reported the strengths, highlighted by OFSTED, of partnership working. It was noted at this time that paid employment showed a decreasing trend but that prisoners were still continuing to find jobs with new employers. The Board is aware that this is a problem in the present economic climate.

After initial reservations the Government PEA (Prisoners Earning Act) seems to have been accepted by offenders in Kirklevington Grange.

Job Club

The Job club helps prisoners with advice and information in their search for paid employment.

Help is available with C.V. writing, telephone technique and interview skills.

The motivation to find employment is part of the resettlement regime and it is seen to be important that prisoners take responsibility for finding their own employment.

Vacancies are well displayed in the Job Club. There were 36 potential jobs displayed at the last Rota visit.

At the time of writing there were 31 prisoners currently in paid employment.

In the reporting period the average monthly number of prisoners in paid employment was 42.

At the time of writing 85% of prisoners were in work or training at the time of release.

PERTEMPS supplements the work of the Job Club by providing a through the gate service to prisoners for enablement to further training and employment following release.

4.3 Healthcare and Mental Health

Provider

In this reporting year the provider for health care to the prison was awarded to Care U.K. (from April 2011)

This change of provider resulted in the restructuring of staffing.

One team member was lost and clerical duties are now shared with HMP Holme House.

Access for prisoners to the medical centre was reduced.

Despite this reduction checks during rota visits did not find any evidence of excessive waiting lists. Prisoner patients are seen on average in 4 days. This is a comparable availability of appointments in surgeries for the general public.

However some prisoners expressed dissatisfaction that instant access to the medical centre was no longer available in the establishment.

Admission health checks

Medical examinations are carried out within 24 hours of admission.

Outpatient need

When necessary referrals are made to the appropriate external services. Prisoners are escorted, or, if they are successfully risk assessed, can make their own arrangements to be seen by outside prison agencies, e.g. optician appointments and hospital out-patient appointments.

For the more serious medical conditions requiring in-patient care there is an agreement with HMP Holme House to enable transfer to their more comprehensive on site facilities. This arrangement also applies to emergency week- end need.

Mental Health

The health care team has developed its own documents; Mental Health Assessment Matrix. This was in partnership with Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Trust. Whilst it is not ideal that there is a reliance on the clinical staff to assess mental health problems of prisoners, it is encouraging to see that there is close working together with suitably trained mental health professionals.

There is also one counsellor from the charity Mind available for one session each week in the prison. Some concern has been expressed by the medical staff that this would not be adequate should demand for advice to prisoners increase.

Dentistry

There is a mobile dentistry unit on site.

April 2011 saw a new contract awarded for this unit. At first the provision was without problem and there were visits every Tuesday. However there has been a problem with the treatment chair in the unit and at the time of writing there is no on site dentistry provision. Prisoners requiring treatment are now referred to an outside agency. The Board is aware that this creates problems of transport and supervision.

Optician

If an optician is required it is the usual practice for prisoners with successfully completed risk assessment to arrange visits for themselves. There is an agreement for prisoners not at this stage in their sentence to be able to visit an optician, but these visits are only available for 8 visits / month.

Counselling services

The Health Centre has self help manuals available for loan to prisoners who may be suffering from forms of anxiety or depression. These prisoners are also able to have regular meetings with health care staff. The prison library also carries a selection of self help books for loan. There is access to the organisation Jigsaw which deals with childhood abuse issues.

Physical Health and Well - being.

The Health centre has a close partnership with the Gym providers on site. Health care and Gym staff work together in a number of ways to improve the physical health and well being of prisoners. (see section 5 - P.E.)

CARATS (Counselling, Assessments, Referral, Advice and Throughcare)

It is clear from rota visit discussions with the deliverers of Carats that they are client focused. There are currently 22 prisoners receiving regular help and advice on addictions with drugs, and or alcohol issues.

A course called Parenting Factor (initially provided by the charity Barnardos) also holds regular meetings for prisoners who have had addiction related family problems.

At the time of writing there is only one prisoner accessing the new IDTS (Integrated Drug Treatment Scheme) unit within the prison.

In conclusion

The medical services in Kirklevington Grange are provided in suitable accommodation which has been updated and provides comparable facilities to outside prison general practice surgeries.

Patients are treated with courtesy and privacy at all times. The inspection team (section 3, page 5) described the Health Care provision as excellent.

4.4 Safer Custody

Bullying appears to be very rare and Board members have not had any incidents drawn to their attention. The Board is confident that the prison has appropriate arrangements in place to deal with any incidents of bullying which may arise. Two officers act as safer custody coordinators. Security Information Reports are the main route into investigation of any potential bullying problems. The prison has a clear anti-bullying policy.

There have been no incidents of self harm this year.

There have been no deaths in custody.

2 ACCTs (Assessment care in custody teamwork) were opened in 2011.

The prisoners we visited on R unit shortly after their arrival have nearly always been positive about their initial experience of the prison and have felt safe.

There are 9 Prisoner Listeners in the prison.

There are also prisoner elected Wing representatives who have regular meetings with the Governor and staff to discuss issues that may arise.

4.5 Segregation

Visits to the Segregation Unit are part of the rota duty schedule

The segregation unit is used mainly to hold prisoners waiting to be transferred back to closed conditions following adjudication on a proven or admitted offence committed in prison.

This unit operates in a different way to a closed establishment segregation unit; the prisoners who are placed in the unit are subject to adjudication by a Governor and prison staff who decide (usually within 24 hours) if the prisoner is to be transferred back to closed conditions. In this way it is a holding/transfer unit and is not used as a 'prison within a prison.'

When a prisoner is placed in the Segregation Unit, the prison Control Room contacts the rota duty IMB member. The IMB member can then see the prisoner if that is the wish of the offender.

Prisoners invariably knew the reasons for their segregation when asked by the visiting IMB member. The prisoners are given the opportunity at their adjudication to make representations on the accusation. An adjudication was attended by a Board member this year who reported no concerns.

The paper work for the segregation unit is up to date and can always be seen by the IMB members.

The unit is basic but clean. On an occasion when there was water leaking from a pipe in the toilet area, when this was brought to the attention of the staff by the visiting IMB member in the unit at the time, it was fixed by the next morning.

Prisoners held in the segregation unit have access to an outside area.

Board members who visited prisoners in the unit recorded no special concerns.

Section 5

OTHER AREAS ON WHICH THE BOARD CHOOSES TO REPORT

5.1 Offender management and resettlement

All prisoners have a sentence plan where they are actively involved with the relevant staff. Families too are able to attend sentence plan meetings. Prisoners are aware of the targets that they need to achieve. The work done in the other departments of the prison fully supports the targets needed. Resettlement needs play an important part of this plan. ROTL (Release on Temporary Licence) is used extensively as part of the resettlement into life outside prison. Prisoners are assessed on the basis of their risk. The Offender Assessment System (OASYS) is used in this process. The Board was aware that there were concerns expressed to Board members (on the hoof) by some prisoners about delays in granting ROTL. Periods of "structure" (limited temporary release) also caused concern to some prisoners. However at the time of writing, these concerns seem to have been settled and no complaints have been reported by Board members in recent months.

Prisoners have their own file, kept freely available, in the Information Office where the prisoner shares information with their offender manager. They usually have a diary like format to record successes and concerns about progress through their particular plan. Some prisoners are taken on escorted visits and these are particularly useful to long term prisoners before ROTL is granted.

In informal discussions with Board members, prisoners often express a positive attitude to their future on release. All prisoners on release in this reporting period had a release address. 70% of prisoners were released to paid employment

5.2 Community work

As part of the development of employability, prisoners are required to complete 30 days of unpaid work that is community based. The TEG (Training and Employment Group are the organisers of this). This is a pre cursor to a Release on Temporary license (ROTL) into paid employment or training. TEG also provides pre employment training and self assessment through RARPA (Recognition and Recording Progress and Achievement)

The placements for this are varied. Examples being working in Charity Shops, working at a riding school and land based projects such as the Halcyon project where a vegetable garden was created at a Local Authority Day Care centre. The prisoners from the Welding Shop in the prison were involved in the regeneration of a local park, providing the railings. And of course there was the Saltburn on Sea model train. They are at present involved in making new gates for a local Primary School.

Prisoners have also been involved in the work required to refurbish and regenerate a local Museum.

At the time of writing there were 90 prisoners involved in community work.

The comments made to board members by prisoners on this community work are usually very positive.

5.3 Physical Education

In 2011 this department went through a review and as a consequence has been reconfigured to provide a more diverse content. This now includes sessions for Carat referrals, Medical referrals, an Over 50's session and Health assessments.

The department works with other regimes in the prison and has had a series of special interest weeks that support work happening throughout the establishment.

Health Awareness Week consisted of opportunities for prisoners to be assessed in checks for BMI, blood pressure, weight issues. There was also sexual awareness advice, alcohol awareness and smoking cessation. A Yoga session was arranged for both staff and prisoners.

In Diversity Fortnight 5 a side football was played with teams from differing backgrounds competing against each other.

The P.E. hall was used by a drama group who presented a play dealing with racism and extremism.

Community links continue with a Senior citizens visiting bowls club taking place each week.

The prison football team competes in the Teesborough League 1st Division.

The department has hosted wheelchair Rugby, an employment fair, and has organized a popular strong man competition and a fitness competition.

A half Marathon took place around the sports fields which raised £342 presented to a local charity.

5.4 Kitchen

The quality of the food delivered by the kitchen is good and there is a pre selection menu which caters very well for all dietary requirements. The menus are varied and healthy eating is always a consideration.

Board members who taste the food on Rota visit have only positive comments to make. The plates provided by the prison have recently been changed from pottery to plastic. This was due to financial considerations.

Religious festivals such as Christmas and Ramadan are catered for with thought and consideration.

The Board can report that there are very few complaints from prisoners about the quality of meals produced in the prison.

5.5 Visits

There are visits on the afternoons of each Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There is an attractive visits room with grouped, coloured upholstered chairs and low tables. There is one differently coloured chair designated for the prisoner. This was put in place as a security check as the prisoners do not wear clothing that distinguishes them from visitors. There is a small outside area with wooden seats and tables and outside play equipment for the smaller visiting children. This is popular in the warmer weather. Inside the visits room there is a recently revamped play area. It has attractive flooring and a good selection of toys and equipment for the children. The visit room is

welcoming, clean and tidy and a relaxed meeting place for families. The tea-bar is staffed by the charity Nepacs (North East Prisoners After Care Society) who were also responsible for the re-furbishing of the inside play area.

There are the occasional family visits arranged where prisoners are given the opportunity to interact with their children in a relaxed atmosphere.

There was a Christmas party-visit arranged for the prisoners' families with a puppet show, food and party bags for the children. This was a co-operation between the prison and Nepacs.

5.6 Drug strategy

The Board acknowledges the on-going work that happens in prison with substance abuse. This is a continuing problem and stringent measures are taken with prisoners who are found with illegal substances of any kind. This usually results in the return to closed conditions.

The area drug dog team makes random unannounced visits to the prison. There is a mandatory drugs testing system in place. A voluntary drugs testing system is also used. Prisoners returning from home visits are tested on return to the prison.

5.7 Staff awards

Congratulations from the Board are due to a staff member who became Diversity Category overall winner in the North East Region Staff Recognition Awards.

Congratulations are also due to another Officer on his success as North East Region Category winner in Reducing Reoffending.

Both members of staff are through to the next stage of the National Prison Officer of the Year Awards.

5.8 Chaplaincy

The chaplaincy provides support and advice to prisoners in Kirklevington Grange.

The major religions have an available corresponding representative. There is a Muslim prayer room and a Faith room which is used by some prisoners as a quiet place to read or relax and think.

This reporting year a group of interested prisoners were taken on a visit to Ripon Cathedral. The Imam makes regular Friday visits to supervise prayers by the Muslim prisoners. The chaplains are friendly, relaxed and approachable.

There are attractive multi-faith wall displays near the Chaplains' office with contact and worship details.

5.9 Security

The Security department in the prison is also at the centre of the regime. Although Kirklevington Grange as a resettlement prison has differing needs from a secure closed unit, Security remains an essential corner stone for its success.

Prisoners spend the majority of their time out of their rooms with free movement around the prison. This is usually respected by the prisoners and is an important part of the resettlement regime.

There was an on-going problem with damage in one of the outside units which the residents of that unit blamed on visiting prisoners from other units. The Board, through discussion with staff and an "on the hoof" application from a group of prisoners, was aware of this problem and this was made known to the Governor and prison staff. This now seems to have been resolved in a constructive way by the prison and, as a result, prisoners now carry a key that will only admit them to their own resident unit. The unit has also been repainted by the Works department together with a working group of prisoners (reference 4.2 Page no.9)

Positive staff and prisoner relationships play an important part in enabling the Security of the prison to be successful.

Board members are aware as they walk around the prison that these relationships are seen to be effective. Staff are friendly and approachable with prisoners being called by their first names, as are staff.

Section 6

THE WORK OF THE IMB AT KIRKLEVINGTON GRANGE

Board statistics

Recommended number of Board members is **10**

At the start of the reporting period there were **8** members.

The BDO left the Board leaving a compliment of **7** members at the end of the report period.

There are no members in their probationary year.

1 member is also a member of another Board.

The number of Board meetings held was **11**.

Average number of attendances is **6.9**

Number of attendances at other meetings is **21**

Total number of visits to the prison including all meetings is **164**

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Conferences attended by Board members

3 members attended the Northern Conference at HMP Hatfield.

Board meeting information talks.

The board had a pre meeting talk from the Head of North East Region Prison Chaplaincy

Information was given to the Board about the use of the Computer in IMB work.

1 member attended the meeting for local prison IMB Chairs' meeting.

A talk reminding / refreshing members' information on Serious Incident procedure was given by a fellow member.

Members of the Board continue to regularly attend the meetings held in prison that are their chosen area of special interest.

The Board from HMP Northallerton visited the prison with a special interest in the White Goods unit.

3 members attended the Christmas Carol service.

Section 7

Applications

Total number of **formal written** applications is **9**

The analysis of the written applications is :

1 transfer request,

1 problem with home leave delay

1 long standing hand injury received at another establishment

1 loss of property

1 problem with a canteen/shop order

1 delay in course availability

1 slight problem with the menus

1 request to move to another unit

1 request for a reading lamp

In the reporting period there were **13 “on the hoof”** applications, where a prisoner speaks to a visiting Rota member without putting forward a formal written application to the Board. These are recorded and kept in the IMB office.

Usually these varied “on the hoof” applications are settled within the rota visit period.

At the present time there are none outstanding

Examples of verbal concerns were;

Damage and dirty toilets in an outside unit (resolved as reported on Page 7)

Telephone charges in prison , lack of heating at night, home visit delay, parole date hearing uncertainty, reasons for delays in risk assessments, lack of variety in the shop facilities, lack of variety in provided packed lunches for prisoners working outside the prison.

IMB Clerk

The IMB Clerk has provided members with an excellent standard of support throughout the year, delivered with efficiency and cheerfulness.

A Service Level Agreement is now in place.

For and on behalf of the Independent Monitoring Board, HMP Kirklevington Grange,
Gill Allen BDO.