



HMP North Sea Camp Boston

ANNUAL REPORT

1 March 2013 – 28th February 2014

Reporting Officer: Margaret Smith - Chair

1 STATUTORY ROLE OF THE IMB

The Prisons Act 1952 and the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 require every prison and Immigration Removal Centre (IRC) to be monitored by an Independent Board appointed by the Home Secretary from members of the community in which the prison or centre is situated. This Board is known as the Independent Monitoring Board (IMB)

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 the right of access to every prisoner, every part of the prison and also to the prison's records, with the exception of individual's medical records unless specifically granted in writing by each individual.

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DESCRIPTION OF HMP NORTH SEA CAMP

HMP North Sea Camp is an Open Category D male Resettlement Prison with a Certified Normal Accommodation of 420 (392 on roll at 28/2/2014). It opened in 1935 as a Borstal and became an adult male prison in 1988. The prison is six miles east of Boston.

The prison holds a highly complex group of prisoners; it manages the risk associated with such offenders being held in the Open with risk assessment being a core part of management.

The accommodation comprises six residential units, a kitchen and dining room, a modern Healthcare unit, a well-equipped gymnasium, chapel, library and a working farm incorporating workshops. There is also a large playing field, which prisoners can use for football and outdoor sporting activities and during association periods up to 20.00hrs in the summer months.

HMP North Sea Camp has the following contractors/agencies delivering services:

Healthcare is provided by Lincolnshire Partnership Foundation Trust (LPFT)

Education and Training is provided by Milton Keynes College.

Lincolnshire Action Trust continues to provide elements of training.

Addaction - provides drug/alcohol support and counselling

Probation Service

Lincolnshire Library Service

Voluntary organisations providing assistance to prisoners include Community Links, Samaritans, Alcoholics Anonymous, local church groups, Macmillan, Marie Curie, St Barnabas Hospice, Age UK and Early Prevention of Cancer (EPOC).

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report has been compiled by the Independent Monitoring Board of HMP North Sea Camp and covers the period between 1st March 2013 and 28 February 2014.
2. The Board is once again in the position of not having its full complement of 10 members. An ongoing recruitment campaign is being conducted.

2.1 Issues which require the attention of the Minister

1. There is a need for facilities to be put in place for the care of terminally ill prisoners and a need for processes to address the growing number of deaths in custody due to the ageing population of the prison. Para 5.1.4 and 9.1.4
This appeared in the 2012-13 Annual Report and was not addressed to the satisfaction of the Board by either the Minister or the National Offender Management Service (NOMS)
2. Poor Contract management is still causing problems in the prison. NOMS is neither addressing contract failures nor exacting penalties so poor performance is likely to continue. Para 9.2.5 and 9.3.2

2.2 Issues of operational concern requiring a response from H M Prison Service

1. The change to education funding processes has presented a number of difficulties. One of the main concerns is interruption to delivery through prisoner non attendance or movements. This impacts on prisoners' achievement rates and has financial implications for the Education Contract. Processes need to be established to minimise the effects on prisoners' achievements and the loss of funding for the provider. Paras 4.2 and 4.3
2. There is still no provision for on site Dentistry. This was highlighted in last year's report. The NOMS response stated that a business case is being developed by LPFT to consider options for providing an in-house dentistry service. This has not taken place and remains a concern to the board. Para 5.1.7
3. There are issues with providing appropriate working footwear for a number of prisoners. Para 5.1.6
4. Hospital and other appointments are frequently missed due to a lack of staff to provide escorts. Paras 5.1.7 and 5.1.8
5. There continue to be problems with Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL). Specifically there have been many applications to the board about cancellations at very short notice which have incurred significant travel costs to families. Paras 7.3 and 7.4
6. There is still dormitory accommodation in the prison. With judicious use of in house expertise and some capital funding a number of former officers' quarters could be refurbished to replace these. Para 9.1.1
7. The decision to suspend use of the farm's own livestock for the kitchen was detrimental to the prison. While this has been re-instated the Board is concerned that this may happen again to mollify the requirements of the 3663 contract. It is the Board's view that it would be wrong and not cost effective to do this. Para 9.2.4
8 There have been significant security breaches in the last twelve months Paras 11.1 to 11.3
9. There are increasing problems surrounding property, partly due to storage problems but also due to poor service by contractors when prisoners are transferred to and from North Sea Camp Paras 12.3 and 12.4
10. Both the Gymnasium and the Library have significant periods where prisoners are using facilities without staff supervision. This means that not all facilities in the Library and Gymnasium can be accessed for considerable periods of time. In the Gym this also raises Health and Safety concerns. Paras 13.2, 13.5 and 14.1

Previous Year's Concerns

2.3 The response from the Minister addressed *last year's concerns as follows:*

<p>1. Facilities for care of terminally ill prisoners and the need for mechanisms to be in place to address the growing number of deaths in custody simply due to the ageing population in the prison</p>	<p>These concerns were addressed by reference to The National Offender Management service (NOMS) working with the Department of Health to progress proposals for a new framework for the provision of social care in prisons. In addition the response made it clear that the Prison Governor has got a clear duty of care to make local arrangements to meet the needs of prisoners with care needs.</p>
<p>The Board feels that this was not the subject of a satisfactory response by either the Minister or NOMS.</p>	

2.3 Issues of operational concern requiring response from H M Prison Service

Issue raised	NOMS response
1. Opticians only attending the prison for half a day a week	Additional sessions have been provided.
2. No provision for on site Dentistry	NOMS response states that a business case is being developed by LPFT to consider options for providing an in-house dentistry service. This has not yet happened.
3. The way in which ROTL is perceived to operate and the initial implementation of the new ROTL system	Every effort is made for prisoners to access ROTL but in many cases delays are due to lack of information from offender management teams or issues relating to individual's behaviour.
4. Storage space in cells.	Any issues raised by prisoners about storage are dealt with appropriately. However it should be noted that some prisoners do not adhere to the volumetric control limits which is an ongoing issue that staff regularly address with prisoners.
5. Ageing population access to wheelchairs and other disabled facilities	LPFT has completed a review of healthcare in line with the increasing number of prisoners and the ageing population. The older adults lead from LPFT is working with staff to ensure they have the appropriate skills and tools to identify people with dementia and partnership with Age UK is ongoing.
6. The poor quality of some contract work	The response suggested that contract work is subject to rigorous contract management systems. The Board at North Sea Camp has no evidence that this is taking place.
7. Problems with the issue and replenishment of stores	The response states that this has been addressed but the reality is that the problems are ongoing although there is an improvement on last year
8. The lack of staff in the gymnasium	The response states that the future intention is to implement new ways of working to create a provision which is reflective of that provided within the community. The problems continue.

3. Equality and Inclusion

1. The position of Equalities Officer (EO) was vacant until November 2013. Since then the EO has built up the profile of the department and has a full team of prisoner representatives covering all the Protected Characteristics.

2. Equalities are managed through EAT (Equality Action Team) meetings and these take place monthly, chaired either by the Governor or the Deputy Governor. The prisoner Equality Orderly is invited to attend the meeting to address issues highlighted by prisoners. Representatives from the local community can also attend these meetings. Each member of the Senior Management Team has been given responsibility for a particular Protected Characteristic, which will help embed the understanding of Equalities in the establishment.

3. Support groups have been reinstated with meetings for sexual orientation, Traveller & Romany prisoners, older prisoners, disabled prisoners and a general equality focus group. These groups meet once a month. Faith/Religion and Race Equality Groups are in the process of being established. Issues highlighted at these meetings are addressed at the EAT meetings.

4. Age UK attends the prison twice a week and runs life skills and social skills sessions for the over 50's and disabled prisoners. They also provide educational material.

5. Every prisoner who arrives at North Sea Camp receives an equalities questionnaire. Any prisoner who states that they have a disability requiring assistance is called up for a meeting. Whenever reasonable adjustments are put in place NOMIS is updated so that all members of staff can see an individual's care requirements. The Establishment is looking at providing specific accommodation for older and disabled prisoners.

4. Education, Learning and Skills

1. Education and Training is provided by Milton Keynes College who successfully won the Offender Learning and Skills Service (OLASS) 4 contract. Lincolnshire Action Trust continues to provide elements of training.

2. Funding has changed from being based on teaching hours to being drawn down through attendance at classes and learning outcomes thus reflecting funding methodologies which have been present outside of OLASS for some time.

3. The change to funding processes has presented a number of difficulties. One of the main difficulties is interruptions to delivery through prisoner transfers, ROTL, healthcare appointments etc. Each 'interruption' to the delivery of a qualification negatively impacts the prisoners' achievement rates and can have financial implications on the Education Contract. Significant work is now being done to view Education as a valuable activity rather than a service and there is a much clearer understanding about the importance of Education across the prison.

4. There has been some recent alteration to the courses on offer and additional enrichment opportunities built into existing course structures to ensure prisoners are obtaining additional skills and qualifications. Links have also been created with other departments within the prison to make use of specialist skills and knowledge. This is especially true with the Employability and Customer Service courses during which prisoners have input from National Careers Service and the Personal and Social Development course, which benefits from a stress management workshop offered by the Mental Health Team.

5. The recent introduction of Peer Mentors has formalised the role that some prisoners fulfil naturally. By offering a position backed by a formal qualification, the important work conducted by some prisoners is celebrated and promoted. The Education Department intends that all prisoners who are Peer Mentors will take this qualification.

6. Another recent introduction is the provision of Additional Learning Support. This is designed to support prisoners who have a physical disability or learning difficulty and allow them to access mainstream courses effectively. A needs analysis is conducted with each prisoner at induction to establish if there is any requirement for additional support. If the need is identified, a 1-1 interview follows to explain and establish the process. The department has just recruited two members of staff to fill this role.

5 Healthcare & Mental Health

5.1 Healthcare

1. LPFT provides Healthcare. The Head of Prison Healthcare is based in HMP Lincoln and visits HMP North Sea Camp regularly. Daily operational management is maintained by the on-site Manager for Primary Health Care Services.

2. The Healthcare Centre is open for appointments with a doctor 3 times a week. Nurses are available for appointments 3 times daily. During the core day they also hold a wide range of clinics, including cardio-vascular, diabetes, epilepsy, respiratory and well man.

3. The team also has to meet the healthcare needs of a wide range of long term prisoners including the elderly, those with complex conditions, wheelchair users and those who require support with social care. The Establishment is currently liaising with social care providers in Lincolnshire, Marie Curie, McMillan and St Barnabas Hospice to support the primary healthcare team. Age UK is currently assisting in providing 2 day care sessions a week which are proving popular.

4. The Board has concerns about the ongoing care of terminally ill and older prisoners. There were plans to provide a dedicated unit for such prisoners. The Board considers this would be a beneficial move. The prison healthcare provider is not contracted to give 24/7 cover.

5. The optician was attending half a day a month, which had resulted in an unacceptably long waiting list. This was considerably reduced during the year by arranging extra visits. The Board hopes the waiting list will continue to reduce.

6. A podiatrist attends regularly and continues to be frustrated at the inability of the prison to provide extra wide fitting work shoes for those requiring them.

7. There are no dental services on the establishment. A minimum requirement should be a trained dental triage nurse. Currently some prisoners make their own arrangements for appointments when out on town visit or home leave. Most attend a local dental surgery under escort, although staff shortages mean that these are sometimes cancelled at short notice. This resulted in a considerable waiting list. However, the procedure has recently been changed and 3 prisoners now attend with 1 escort. This has improved the situation.

8. The healthcare team also finds it frustrating when prisoners are unable to attend hospital appointments because the prison is unable to provide an escort. There is also a problem with prisoners not attending appointments made within the establishment - did not attend (DNA). This now merits an IEP warning and the Board hopes the situation will improve.

9. Staff shortages on the Healthcare team have made the provision of a consistently good service onerous. Recruitment has been hard because the contract is due for renewal in 2014 and prospective members are discouraged by the uncertainty. Emergency cover can be difficult because of the need for security clearance and the time taken to obtain this.

5.2 Mental Health

1. LPFT has responsibility for delivering the service. Operational management is undertaken by a team co-ordinator. The Lincolnshire Prison Healthcare Manager visits regularly from HMP Lincoln. New team members have been recruited and the fact that they are based in the establishment has resulted in an increased number of prisoners presenting.

2. The Community Assertive Treatment Team (CATT) operates 2 weekly clinics. Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) and Interpersonal Therapy (IPT) are offered. In addition a Counsellor or a Clinical Psychologist will attend as requested.

5.3 Substance Misuse

1. Addaction took over drug treatment services from Counselling Assessment Referral Advice and Throughcare Services (CARATS) early in 2013. The team has been working hard to increase their profile and the number of prisoners using the service has increased.

2. The Art Therapy sessions have proved very popular and Peer Mentoring has helped some prisoners. The National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (NACRO) has started monthly visits.

3. Illegal drug use continues within the prison. Drugs, both legal and illegal, are readily available in the local town where prisoners go on ROTL and for work, both paid and voluntary, so it is likely to be an ongoing problem and not all prisoners are willing to seek help.

6. Purposeful Activity (Includes Work)

6.1 The Community Engagement Team

1. The Community Engagement Team (CET) deals with all Community Service Volunteer (CSV) and paid work placements. The team organises training to help equip prisoners on placements with life skills and personal development and supports the Resettlement Programme.

2. Available courses are clearly advertised in each accommodation unit and on the main walkway, as well as within the Prisoner Advice Centre (PAC).

3. The establishment has succeeded in obtaining work skills accreditation. Due to insufficient staff there have been fewer accreditations from the gym. The Education Department has been able to deliver training opportunities in Fork Lift Truck courses and other qualifications. Farm staff are now introducing accredited courses including animal husbandry. The increase in the number of long term/indeterminate prisoners has enabled the establishment to deliver quality training not previously possible with a short sentence population. Now, some prisoners are able to achieve up to NVQ Level 3 during their stay, improving their employability when competing for work in the job market.

4. Currently there are prisoners taking advantage of the CSV and on paid work programmes. Although the local unemployment situation makes paid work placements difficult to obtain. CET staff members are visiting more external placements and sourcing additional placements through word of mouth in the community. Other staff members attend community events to identify opportunities for prisoner placements.

5. For those prisoners unable to access external opportunities the Prison is hoping to develop enhanced paid work roles within the establishment. One such area is unique within the Prison Service. North Sea Camp has a workshop producing lobster pots from materials supplied by the contractor. When completed, the pots are distributed to fishing ports in the UK and overseas. The contract provides full time employment for approximately 10 prisoners, with scope for expansion. The work is hard, requiring strength, use of acquired skills and provides good earnings for those prisoners able to maintain a high output.

6.2 The Farm

1. The management of the farm is under the direction of the Head of Reducing Re-offending. There is a proposal to recruit a Farm Manager. The farm provides employment for prisoners who also undertake qualifications. It is planned to develop this further in conjunction with the Head of Education.

2. A range of vegetables is produced and the poly-tunnels continue to see increased usage. Some of them are hired to a local seed company, which generates additional income for the establishment. At times the farm has provided good quality home grown food for the kitchen and the intention is that this will rise.

3. The Farm Shop closed during the year and there are no current plans to re-open it.

7. Resettlement

1. Resettlement in North Sea Camp is unique. The nature of some of the custodial sentences means that many prisoners are limited as to the external resettlement activities in which they can participate.

2. All able prisoners of working age are required to be employed. To prepare for their release, many prisoners will undertake paid and/or voluntary community work. Prior to this prisoners will have undertaken some appropriate work within the prison. All prisoners are subject to a rigorous risk assessment before they are allowed to work outside. The risk assessment takes into account all aspects of an offender's Offender Assessment System (OASys) and a work placement risk matrix has been introduced to ensure that the right prisoner has the right placement, the drive being public protection.

3. There are continuing concerns about the ROTL system in the establishment. Prisoners still experience problems with the Offender Management Unit (OMU). There are occasions when prisoners who are due out on ROTL are not getting timely information and their arrangements have to be cancelled. Specifically there have been many applications to the board about very short notice cancellations to ROTLs which have incurred significant costs to families, who often travel very long distances.

4. The Board recognises that the work of the staff in the unit is hampered to some extent by external agencies that are slow to provide information. The concentration of Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) prisoners places a strain on staff time. The low staffing levels of this unit continue to exacerbate the problem.

5. Recently the system for approving ROTLs has changed locally and nationally. As a result the Board has dealt with a number of verbal concerns about this process as well as formal applications. The Board is hopeful that familiarity with the new criteria will reduce these concerns.

8. Safer Custody

1. The Board has to report that there has been one death (natural causes) in custody in this reporting year. The Board is aware that the number of deaths over the past few years reflects the ageing population of the prisoners and in the Boards view HMP North Sea Camp needs to be better resourced to deal with this.

2. The Safer Custody Committee meets once a month with a representative from most departments attending. Board members attend some meetings as part of their monitoring role and have noted that, on occasion, attendance has been poor.

3. The Board is pleased to report that there have been very few Assessment Care in Custody Teamwork (ACCT) documents opened during the last year which would indicate that the prisoners we are monitoring have the right support mechanisms in place for when personal problems arise.

4. There are plans to upgrade the exterior lighting and to fit a number of surveillance cameras across the estate in order to improve personal safety. This is now more critical following a serious incident at the prison in January 2014, which involved a member of staff. This will address a number of concerns raised by the Board about safety.

9. Residential

9.1 Accommodation

1. The Board is aware that accommodation remains dated and overcrowded. Core accommodation is in five residential blocks two of which retain some dormitory accommodation. This causes some concerns as there is a greater potential for bullying. 41 prisoners currently reside in dormitory accommodation. This could be addressed through the refurbishment of three more former staff accommodation units which, if completed, could house 42 prisoners.

2. The five residential blocks accommodate 354 prisoners. In addition there are 5 independent living units known as Jubilee 1 – 5. Jubilee 1 is a supervised independent living unit within the prison boundary. Jubilee 2, 3, 4 and 5, the latter being opened during the year, are independent living units situated outside the core prison boundary. The opening of Jubilee 5 relied a great deal on work undertaken by the in house maintenance staff and prisoners. Delays in opening were caused by outside contract matters. The independent living units support the resettlement of 66 prisoners near the end of their sentences. The Board raised a concern that the units were not staffed during the core working day. This has now been addressed.

3. Internally the North and South Units reveal the original decades old structures, clean but shabby and in places exposing bare rotten wood. The Board believe that work must be done to improve the condition of all units before they deteriorate any further. The shower and toilet areas, having been refurbished, are clean and tidy but have again been out of order for long periods. Most prisoner rooms have two beds, are cramped and have insufficient storage space.

4. The Board has concerns about the ongoing care of disabled, terminally ill and older prisoners as the prison is not always able to make appropriate accommodation adjustments. Provision of a special unit was under consideration earlier in the year but no progress has been made. The Board will continue to monitor this.

5. Some efforts have been made to improve both the visitors' room and the visitors waiting area since the last report when it was noted the latter was in a particularly poor condition. Further refurbishment is still necessary.

9.2 Catering and Kitchens.

1. The Catering Manager and his Deputy are supported by a team of 4 staff and approximately 50 prisoners. They are to be commended for producing quality meals of a consistently high standard over a 4-week menu cycle. The menus offer a variety of wholesome hot and cold meals, including vegetarian and 'healthy' options and are sampled daily by the Governor. The Comments Book completed by prisoners shows a high level of satisfaction with the food produced and served in a pleasant environment. Board members sample the food on a weekly basis at point of serving and confirm the high standard of meals and service being provided by the team.

2. In addition to main meals served in the dining hall, the kitchen supplies food to the Visits building, where on visiting days prisoners work to provide light refreshments. Prisoners prepare a daily lunch in the self-contained kitchen in the Staff Mess.

3. Each month the kitchen produces a themed dinner menu of dishes from other countries, an event that proves popular with prisoners. Cultural and religious events are also catered for. Catering for the eight family visits a year is provided free.

4. The Prison Farm continued to supply lamb and pork for the kitchen until half way through the year when a decision was made to use the contractor 3663 for all meat supplies. The Board is pleased to note that following a review by local management the decision has been reversed and the Farm is to resume meeting the requirements for lamb and pork. The Farm also supplies the kitchen with seasonal vegetables and will meet the needs for eggs once chicken numbers have increased.

5. Problems with the service provided by the contractor 3663 have continued. These have included incorrect items being delivered and substitute items being sent without checking their suitability with the Catering Manager. The kitchen operates a 4-week menu and incidences of incomplete orders result in unnecessary pressure on the kitchen management. The Board is concerned that these breaches come on top of concerns raised in previous reports and are aware that other IMBs report similar issues.

6. Further problems affecting the smooth running of the kitchen are caused by delays in getting reliable repairs undertaken by the appointed maintenance contractor when the ovens breakdown. It is only down to the experience of staff in managing alternative solutions that the effect on the production of meals is minimised.

7. Prisoner kitchen workers continue to put themselves forward for the NVQ Level 2 'Diploma in Hospitality' but not all stay the course when opportunities for outside paid or CSV work arise.

9.3 Maintenance

1. Work continues to take place to improve the quality of the accommodation. A significant number of projects were successfully undertaken by the in-house maintenance team assisted by prisoners, some of whom have achieved qualifications in the prison education system. An average of 14 prisoners work on the various trade teams with some projects being supported by an element of unskilled prisoner labour. This in-house team provides the prison with 24/7 cover.

2. Less positive has been the experience of some the major maintenance work that was undertaken by Interserve. The most significant problem was the time it took to repair the generator, which took 15 weeks to repair rather than the 1-2 weeks the contractor promised. Last year's problems with the showers recurred and there was difficulty getting the contractor to accept responsibility and rectify faults.

3. If more resource money was made available, the in house team could refurbish more of the houses in the Jubilee 5 project and this would potentially address some of the overcrowding issues in the main accommodation blocks.

9.4 Stores

1. The Board is pleased to report that the problems stated in last year's report relating to poor stock control have been largely overcome but, surprisingly, shortages of some basic essential items e.g. toilet rolls and cleaning materials, did occur.

2. The proposed transfer of responsibility for maintaining Stores stock levels to the Business Hub did not proceed. Instead, early in 2013, an officer was transferred into the Stores department full time but did not hold a licence permitting use of the computer system. It was therefore necessary to continue accumulating paper records, which were then referred in batches to a licence holder elsewhere in the establishment for inputting. It was no surprise that stock levels continued to be problematical during this period.

3. From July 2013 improvements became evident after the officer attained a licence. There was a gradual normalisation of stock levels and some control measures have been established, but shift patterns give rise to an uneven work flow as no updating of records is done when the officer is on night duty.

4. In the latter part of the year a kit amnesty was held. Prisoners were encouraged to return surplus items to Stores prior to a formal check of their rooms. However, the quantity of returned items was less than had been expected. Subsequently, a kit property card was introduced and it is anticipated that this latest initiative will make an important contribution towards controlling stock and reducing waste.

5. The Board considers it to be unacceptable to run out of basic items having experienced how such shortages can have an unsettling affect on prisoner's lives. It holds the view that the improvements achieved so far can best be sustained and built on by confining stock control processes within the Stores building with staff present and proficient in all the processes.

10. Chaplaincy

1. The appointed Chaplain resigned during the year. The Chaplaincy Team conscientiously continued to function with the remaining full and part time staff. Most religious faiths are represented. Prisoners of some faiths are empowered to lead their worship, prayers and meditation. The Multi-Faith room has been relocated and now has washing facilities.

2. Members of the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy Team meet on a regular basis to monitor religious activity in the establishment and to implement changes as and when required. The Chaplaincy Team are flexible in their views and actively work with prisoners, the regime and the outside community to introduce new ideas into worship and the range of spiritual, learning and social events that are on offer in the prison.

3. The Chapel is well used as a meeting place as well as a place of worship. One day a week a group of representatives of different faiths from the local community meets in the Chapel and offers refreshment to anyone wishing to drop in. The focus of the main Sunday Service is the evening, to enable a range of outside groups to come into the prison. The Chaplaincy has organised a number of prisoner led charitable events for the prison and wider local community and for people with special needs.

4. The Prison Chaplaincy Team recognises the need to change to meet the challenges created by the rise in the prison population and the increasing number of elderly prisoners.

11. Security

1. There have been a number of serious security breaches this year, which have unfortunately led to high profile court cases, negative references to the prison by Judges and negative press coverage. This has led to local and national reviews of ROTL arrangements.

2. There have been staff shortages in security, which have led to delays in Security Incident Reports (SIRs) being processed. This led to some prisoners leaving the prison before the relevant SIR is processed. The Board questions whether lack of emphasis on following up SIRs in the past contributed to security breaches.

3. The Board has been concerned that vigilance of staff checking prisoners back into the establishment has been lacking. Senior managers are addressing this and have planned to introduce security cameras and additional exterior lighting to deter prisoners from bringing back contraband items.

4. The Board notes that since changes in Senior Management Team in late 2013 many of the its concerns are beginning to be addressed.

12. Induction/Reception

1. Induction sessions for prisoners new to North Sea Camp are run by prisoners with good knowledge of the establishment. The Reception accommodation and facilities are adequate and the Board is satisfied with the efficiency of the processes for receiving prisoners, their property and paperwork.

2. The holding room for prisoners being transferred out is characterless, gloomy and lacks comfort. This is not a problem if transport is standing-by, as prisoners are likely to spend little time in there. However, in circumstances where transport is delayed the Board is of the view that some provision should be made for occupying time.

3. This year the board saw an increasing number of applications concerning property that had not correctly followed the Prisoner from their previous prison. In some cases prisoners have waited over a month for their property to follow them. The contractor's excuse has been lack of space on the vehicles. The Board is concerned that the contractor is not sending vehicles of an appropriate size for this work. The Board is also aware this is another poor contract control and applies to many other prisons.

4. Storage for prisoner's property is already tight and is unsatisfactory for the bulk items which prisoners are not allowed in their rooms, also for the property held for prisoners who have absconded. If the prison roll continues to rise a solution for providing further storage will have to be found.

13. Gymnasium

1. The gymnasium activities at HMP North Sea Camp offer opportunities for all prisoners and include specially designed fitness sessions for older prisoners.

2. Instructors provide supervised PE five days a week. Unsupervised P.E. still continues when gym staff is not available and along with this come associated Health and Safety risks. Although these periods do not restrict the prisoners operating the cardiovascular equipment, it does restrict the utilisation of weights which is the most popular element of the gym.

3. The gym staff continues to provide courses for the prisoners. 2 First Aid Courses and a Fitness Instructor Level 2 were delivered during the year.

4. Prisoners and gym staff have been supporting a group of adults with special needs who come to the prison gym every Thursday to do a range of exercises including trampoline and games like volleyball which they are not easily able to access elsewhere. This is a valuable contribution towards engagement with the local community.

5. The Board appreciates that the gymnasium meets current prison requirements and is pleased to note that the new Governor has applied for funding for an additional P.E. Officer and has noted concerns with the high levels of unsupervised use of the gymnasium.

14. Library

1. The library is managed by Lincolnshire County Council Library Service and is open for 3 sessions, 7 days a week. The Librarian is present for just over half of these and for the remainder the Library is operated by prisoners. It caters for all reading abilities. Daily newspapers and a variety of magazines are available in the Library and books, jigsaws, scrabble and DVDs can be borrowed. Inter-branch loans can be arranged.

2. The Shannon Trust, formerly Toe-by-Toe is co-ordinated by the Librarian.

15 THE WORK OF THE IMB AT HMP NORTH SEA CAMP

15.1 Overview

1. The Board is once again in the position of not having a full complement of 10 members. There have been three resignations since 1st March 2013. In addition one member is on maternity leave until June 2014. A recent recruitment campaign resulted in a poor response, with nobody appointed. An ongoing campaign is imminent. The Board is concerned about the length of time it takes to appoint new members.
2. Rota visits are carried out on a weekly basis. Prisoner applications are taken either via the IMB boxes or when a prisoner makes a direct approach to a Board member. Applications are dealt with as they are received and prisoners are kept updated on progress as soon as practicable, bearing in mind that many are out working during the day. The number of applications was similar to last year.
3. Members make brief reports on their rota visits, copies of which are sent to the Governor. Board meetings are held once a month when the Governor attends to deliver his Report and to discuss current issues and respond to members' questions on matters of concern or interest.
4. Board members monitor some of the few Adjudications arising and attend some of the establishment's management meetings.
5. The Governor, Senior Managers and Staff are cooperative and supportive of the Board's presence and activities. Members again benefited from the support of a conscientious and willing Board Clerk.

15.2 Training

1. One member completed their New Member's Course and the Chair attended the Chair's Training Course. Two members attended the Annual Conference. Members have taken the opportunity of attending training courses within the prison. Board meetings are often followed by informal training/information sessions given by professionals working in the prison. All Board members contributed to the Annual Team Performance Review in July 2013

15.3 Board Statistics

Recommended Complement of Board Members	10
Number of Board Members at start of reporting period	9
Number of Board Members at end of reporting period	5 + 1*
Number of new members joining within reporting period	Nil
Number of members leaving within reporting period	3
Number of attendances at meetings other than Board meetings	168
Total number of visits to the prison (including all meetings)	242
Total number of applications received	73
Total number of segregation reviews held	N/A
Total number of segregation reviews attended	N/A

- 1 on maternity leave

15.4 Prisoner Applications to the Board

Code	Subject	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14
A	Accommodation	12	7	3	6	4
B	Adjudications	4	6	2	4	2
C	Diversity related	1	2	0	3	0
D	Education/Employment/Training	2	3	0	6	6
E	Family/Visits	2	7	3	7	11
F	Food/Kitchen related	4	0	3	0	0
G	Health related	6	8	1	5	5
H	Property	2	12	7	9	11
I	Sentence related (inc. HDC)	23	38	18	18	25
J	Staff/Prisoner related	2	6	4	1	2
K	Transfers	13	0	4	6	1
L	Miscellaneous	38	8	3	7	6
	Total Number of Applications	109	97	48	72	73