



# **The Annual Report of the Independent Monitoring Board 1<sup>st</sup> January - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014**

## **Her Majesty's Prison Liverpool**

**Chairman of the Board  
Miss Margaret McKinney**

**Vice Chairman  
Mr Jim Hall**

Contents		Page
Section One	Statutory Role of the Board	3
Section Two	Description of the Prison	4
Section Three	Executive Summary	5
a.	Issues requiring a response from the Minister	5
i.	Mental Health/Personality Disorder Problems	5
ii.	Staffing Levels	5
iii.	Drugs, Bullying and Mobile Phones	5
iv.	Prisoner Activities due to Closure of Workshops	5
b.	Other areas of concern or excellence not requiring a response	6
i.	The Bike Shop	6
ii.	Kitchen	6
iii.	Staff Mess	6
c.	The Board's Overall Judgement	6
Section Four:		
a)	Healthcare	7
b)	Separation & Care Unit	8
c)	Chaplaincy	8
d)	Safer Custody & Suicide Prevention	9
Section Five:		
a)	Learning & Skills/Education	9
b)	Offender Management	10
c)	Reception	11
d)	Drug Strategy	11
Section Six:	Work of the Board	12
Appendix (i)	Applications to the Board (Analysis)	12
Appendix (ii)	Analysis of the Board's Work	13

## **Section One**

### **STATUTORY ROLE OF THE INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD**

The Prison Act of 1952 and The Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 require every prison and I.R.C. (Immigration and Removal Centre) to be monitored by an Independent Monitoring Board appointed by the Justice Minister from members of the community in which the prison or I.R.C. is situated.

The Board is specifically charged to:

1. Satisfy itself as to the humane treatment of those held in custody within its prison and the range and adequacy of the programmes preparing themselves for release.
2. To 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 its custody.
4. To enable The Board to carry out these duties effectively, its members have the right of access to every prisoner and every part of the prison and also prisoner's records.

## Section Two

### DESCRIPTION ON THE PRISON

- i. Liverpool Prison is a Category B Local Prison
- ii. The prison has averaged housing 1200 with a maximum capacity of 1446.
- iii. Liverpool Prison is a Victorian Prison and consequently faces ongoing problems with the infrastructure of the main body of the prison which houses cells and showers. This part of the prison has suffered due to lack of capital investment in the past. The cells vary in size from single occupancy to dormitory cells holding up to six prisoners. Generally the cells are in poor condition however the shower issues are still being addressed.
- iv. The prison is split into 9 wings A, B, F, G, H, I, J, K and HCC with some wings providing specific roles within the prison:

A Wing	-	First Nighters
B Wing	-	First Night Remand
		B5 landing is now given over to vulnerable prisoners in an overflow from K Wing.
K Wing	-	Vulnerable Prisoners
J Wing	-	J1 Reintegration
		J2 Enhanced Labour and Basic
- v. The following contractors deliver services in Liverpool Prison:
  - a) Healthcare - Liverpool Community Health
  - b) Learning & Skills - The Manchester College
  - c) (N.A.C.R.O.) - National Association for the Care & Resettlement of Offenders

## **Section Three**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **a. Issues Requiring a Response from The Minister**

##### **(i) Mental Health/Personality Disorder Problems**

There is a gap in the services at HMP Liverpool for personality disorders and serious mental health issues. There is no provision for ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder). The sectioning of prisoners and their transfer to mental health facilities happens frequently and transfers are taking an unacceptable amount of time making it necessary on occasion to house them in the Separation and Care Unit pending transfer due to their refractory or violent behaviour. This is not an ideal situation but unfortunately unavoidable. While located there they are monitored closely by mental health professionals and afforded care and medication if appropriate. Whilst prison staff are offered support and guidance from the Mental Health Care Team it still puts a strain on the ability on officers for doing their other duties.

##### **(ii) Staffing Levels**

The Board raised concerns in both the 2012 and 2013 Annual Reports regarding staffing levels at HMP Liverpool. Governor Pete Francis and his Management Team have had to implement substantial cuts and due to lack of staff prison regimes have to be changed as staff are redeployed to other areas. 15 minutes regime time has been taken off prison activities mornings and afternoon. This again has an impact on prisoner/appointed personal officer relations. C and R teams (Control and Restraint) do a tremendous job and HMP Liverpool has had incidents in 2014 that required them being deployed on numerous occasions. The Board have major concerns as regards a large increase in the abuse and violent assaults on staff and cannot reiterate enough if a very serious incident of unrest should manifest itself owing to low ratio of staff the capability of the prison to cope remains extremely unlikely.

Staff redeployment in both Security and Service Groups is having significant impact in the ability to manage intelligence being received and act upon it.

##### **(iii) Drugs, Bullying & Mobile Phones**

These issues remain a constant concern of the Board. The Management and in particular Security and Prison Officers strive constantly to combat these problems but they never go away. The Board appreciates all the hard efforts put in to curtail this problem but stress more resources are needed to curtail the issues.

##### **(iv) Prisoner Activities due to Closure of Workshops**

In the past year 3 workshops have closed at HMP Liverpool. This has severely restricted prisoner activities.

## **b. Other Areas of Concern or Excellence Not Requiring a Response**

### **(i) The Bike Shop**

The Bike Shop does excellent work refitting wheelchairs and recycling bikes in partnership with the Jole Ryder and Margaret Carey Foundation affording prisoners the opportunity to work in it and take pride in their work. They are sent to Africa, Eastern Europe and Iraq for children and adults..

### **(ii) Kitchen**

The kitchen budget has been increased for the year 2014/2015 to £2.02 per prisoner per day. At present the catering department are working towards the delegated budget target of around an annual budget of £884,760 based on an average of 1200 prisoners housed in HMP Liverpool on any given day. The main food budget is approximately £6000 overspent due to an increase in the food spend over the Christmas period though this overspend will be reduced by the beginning of the next financial year. It is estimated that the food budget will be on target for this financial year. The Board are pleased to say the food has improved as part of strategic priorities plans and complaints as regards food have decreased from last years report.

### **(iii) Staff Mess**

The Staff Mess is again a big success. Prisoners are able to take vocational training at four levels run by Manchester College (NVQ levels 1 and 2) – professional cookery and customer service. 65% of takings are ploughed back into the mess. The Board perceive this is an excellent training for future employment.

## **c. The Boards Overall Judgement**

The overall judgement of the Independent Monitoring Board at HMP Liverpool is that management and staff provide a high standard of professional care for prisoners in sometimes very difficult circumstances given the infrastructure of many parts of the prison which is Victorian and requires continued attention to modernisation in workshops and Separation and Care Unit. The Board acknowledge the work of management and staff in continuous improvement and modernisation during 2014. The Board also wish to be placed on record its thanks to all staff and management for their continued cooperation through the applications system.

### **Major Concerns**

- (i) Mental health/personality disorders problems
- (ii) Staffing levels
- (iii) Drugs, bullying and mobile phones
- (iv) Prisoner activities due to closure of workshops

## **Section Four**

### **a. Healthcare Facility at HMP Liverpool**

(1) Liverpool Community Health, the Healthcare provider for Liverpool Prison was issued with a warning notice in relation to lack of service delivery to patients in their care. There were other aspects of delivery which was below the standard required and could not continue as this would have put patients at an unacceptable risk. To eliminate this risk NHS England decided to put in an interim provider to address the immediate shortfalls to support the prison and ensure that healthcare needs were met. This would remain in place until 15<sup>th</sup> June 2015 when a new provider would be appointed after a bid process. Since the arrival of the interim provider in conjunction with MerseyCare who were already in place the service has been enhanced in the following ways.

All new receptions will have a second screen within 24 hours of arrival. This will include the clinical second screen and when required a mental health secondary screen. This has ensured the health needs of all prisoners are addressed immediately.

An Offender Health Care Service Manager has been seconded to ensure delivery is as required and new initiatives are introduced. MerseyCare now attend all ACCT (Assessment, Care in Custody and Teamwork) reviews enhancing the provision to those in crisis and enhancing the assistance that can be given.

Unlike previously there is now a 24 hour doctor on call system which again provides the HCC with the expertise to assist the in house service.

A risk register to record progress has been developed and has been maintained by the Project Manager.

The lack of appropriate equipment to provide healthcare needs has now been addressed and Lancashire Community Foundation Trust have addressed this.

All new receptions have a medication reconciliation conducted by the HCC staff to ensure sustainable treatment is offered. This includes communication with the relevant external healthcare professional within 24 hours weekdays.. The current provision currently being provided is on a journey which when recruitment process of specialist personnel is complete will be greatly enhanced from previous delivery.

We recognise the HCC provision in HMP Liverpool is scrutinised and we welcome the advice and guidance by both the CQC (Care Quality Commission) and HMIP which is in the process of being addressed. The current provider has had their own quality assurance advisors in to tackle the challenge we face.

The sectioning of prisoners and their transfer to mental health facilities happens frequently and the Board needs to strongly reiterate the strain put on staff who behave with the utmost professional manner as some prisoners behave in a violent and abusive manner.

### **Healthcare Service Review (involving Lancashire Area Team)**

- (1) Full healthcare needs assessment of men held in prison completed.
- (2) A three person crisis team is now in place and up and running.

(3) Development of a more structured mental health pathway and mental working group set to explore issues and look at referral pathway.

(4) One part time GP working with 3 locums.

(5) Day care centre.

(6) Development and improvement of dental needs is increased to 6 sessions a week.

### In Patient Unit

Operating at 96% for most part of the year although several cells are out of action due to damage by disruptive patients/prisoners.

### Primary Care

The plan to end lunchtime treatments has now ended. Primary Care shift patterns have changed to accommodate different ways of working the prison regime since reprofiling. GP surgeries have now moved to outpatients. A patient survey received 150 replies. All positive outpatients' attendance is improving. The target of 70% + attendance is being achieved on some days but need to be improved.

### **b. Separation and Care Unit**

The intention of this unit is to provide accommodation which does not exceed that of J Wing (this wing has been allocated as a wing with basic regime). Prisoners are held in this unit with humane and just treatment. The objective of the unit is to influence prisoners' behaviour for the better. Prisoners are reviewed every 72 hours after their initial segregation and again every 7 to 14 days. Reviews are attended by a Governor, IMB, Chaplaincy SO and HCC. Every effort is made to reintroduce the prisoner back into the main prison. Prisoners with mental health issues remain a great concern and efforts are made to move them to a more suitable establishment as soon as possible. SAARG Meetings (Segregation and Adjudication Review Group) are held in order to discuss management of this unit and are able to provide radios, newspapers, books and puzzle books. An exercise yard is used on a daily basis. Staff and agencies work hard on a daily basis to manage quality and care for prisoners.

### **c. Chaplaincy**

The Chaplaincy underwent a significant period of change in 2014 as all of the full time Chaplains left. A new managing Chaplain was appointed and commenced employment in November. In addition a new Catholic Priest was appointed in October. He is currently waiting for CTC clearance to come through so he can take up the post to help with the shortfall. A full time Salvation Army Chaplain currently on the surplus list has been seconded to HMP Liverpool until staffing issues have been resolved. It is hoped within the next 12 months that staffing issues will be resolved and be back to full strength and reflect the prison faith population by employing 2 full time Roman Catholic Priests, 1 full time Church of England and a Muslim Imam for 3 days a week. There are vacancies for a Buddhist, Mormon and Spiritualist sessional posts which are currently being addressed. Despite staffing difficulties, the Chaplaincy is managing to ensure the core statutory provision of sessional Chaplains to meet the needs of the prison.

#### **d. Safer Custody & Suicide Prevention**

The Safer Custody & Suicide Prevention Department continue to provide and operate a positive suicide prevention policy. During 2014 there were 5 deaths in custody (1 natural causes, 1 overdose, 3 self inflicted hangings). Of these 2 were on open ACCT's at the time of death). 739 ACCT's were opened in 2014 and there were 177 acts of self harm. Prisoner ethnicity incorporates strands of equality, disability and homophobia. Shelter has informed the inspectorate that no prisoner leaves HMP Liverpool without accommodation to go to.

### **Section Five**

#### **a. Learning & Skills/Education**

The Education Department has gone through a complete makeover over the last 9 months with a new manager in post and changes to their delivery with more focus on the quality of their provision being the key focus area. This is inline with the support and challenge of arrangements with OFSTED (The Office for Standards in Education) and PIAP (Post inspection Plan) that both the Manchester College and the prison have signed up to. More focus has been on investment on continuous professional development (CPD) for all staff which has ultimately had more benefits for learners with teachers and trainers being more focused in key result areas in classes and workshops.

Headline figures below show an overall summary of teaching and learning performance and breakdown of curriculum strand performance for 2013/14. Observation of teaching and learning grades (OTL) from 42 staff that were observed in their teaching performance.

Grade 1	-2 candidates	4.8%
Grade 2	-33 candidates	78.6%
Grade 3	-4 candidates	9.5%
Grade 4	-3 candidates	7.1%
Overall good or better	- 35 candidates	83.3%
Learner enrolments		5532
Learner achievements		3592
Retention rate		98%
Success rate		86%
Employability and vocational strand		87%
Functional skills strand		87%
PSD strand (Personal and Social Development)		84%

#### **Examples of Other Activities and Events Delivered**

Merseyside Mental Health Awareness Reading Programme, Black History Month celebrations (photos, displays, creative writing and multicultural food tasting sessions for learners), Remembrance Day, Christmas celebrations which include cooking and providing Christmas lunch for local elderly people with Age Concern and the PE Department and men's health promotions (Merseyside Primary Trust).

## Vocational Training

On-site partnership with Manchester College and Fusion 21 in running the Construction Academy where learners can achieve Level 1 diploma in basic construction skills covering painting and decorating, bricklaying and plastering.

## Virtual Campus

The Education Department delivers an employability skills qualification which includes offers start up of resettlement programme provided by the education providing internet job search facilities, recognising your own employability skills, cv, writing letters of application and support. The new VP Centre (Vulnerable Prisoner) will offer education and training in the form of functional skills in Maths and English, IT qualifications and an independent living class to our vulnerable prisoners here at HMP Liverpool in a custom built facility which will also have prison run workshops running along these.

### **b. Offender Management**

Currently the number of Probation staff on placement at HMP Liverpool is as follows:-

- 1 Senior Probation Officer
- 4 Probation Officers (3 full time and 1 part time)
- 6 Probation Service Officers (3 in Offender Management Unit Department (OMU) and 3 in Programmes Department)

The Probation Staff Offender Management Unit generally holds or has input in to the following types of cases – public protection, high risk, complex life and IPP (Indeterminate Public Protection Sentence) sentenced offenders.

The Probation Team hold lead responsibility for the public protection cases including MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Agency) and ViSor (Violent and Sex Offenders Register) KPT's (Key Performance Targets). They also take the lead in OASYS (Offender Assessment System) countersigning and quality assurance. Whilst the figures below will fluctuate on a week by week basis the OMU Probation Team are likely to be holding the following:-

Life sentence/ IPP Offenders	40 as a team.
High risk/very high risk offenders	40 per staff member.

Other relevant figures that Probation staff are likely to be involved with are:-

Number of MAPPA's completed in previous 12 months	73.
Number of current ViSor offenders	269.
Number of current public protection cases	288.
Number of public protection cases subject to active monitoring	121.

The 3 Probation staff involved with the Programmes Team has been involved with the successful delivery and treatment management of Building Skills for Recovery (BSR). This is a drug and alcohol based programme.

### **c. Reception**

Reception has processed 9965 admissions and 9957 discharges.

### **d. Drug Strategy**

HMP Liverpool operates a zero tolerance policy to illicit substance misuse in custody and has a series of measures in place to robustly monitor and challenge this behaviour whilst also offering appropriate support. Drug Strategy in Liverpool continues to progress with good multi function and multi discipline support. The monthly drug strategy meeting is well attended across all disciplines, partners and HMP staff work together with Merseycare drug dependency provider and Lifeline Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service to promote a recovery, rather than maintenance, focussed service for prisoners with a substance misuse issue in Liverpool, this has evidenced a gradual 20 - 25% reduction in numbers in treatment over the last 6 months. Following first night screening, induction and stabilisation processes, the majority of prisoners with a substance dependency will be located on H-wing DDU (or K wing for vulnerable prisoners) with regular appointments and support from clinical and psychosocial services and they will be allocated a DARS team case worker. H wing is developing their Help to Recovery (H2R) Policy through location and partial separation on H5 landing to offer additional support and group work for those motivated to reduce their substance dependency towards abstinence. There will be a natural pathway referral to the Journey to Recovery (J2R) therapeutic programme run by the Lifeline Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service on J-wing. For the wider population in HMP Liverpool there are a number of Lifeline DARS Mentors (Drug and Rehabilitation Services) located on or visiting the residential units offering advice and support to prisoners. The Lifeline DARS team deliver a weekly programme of substance misuse group sessions on G3 education.

## Section Six

### Appendices – The Work of the Board

#### i. Appendix 1 Applications to the Board

CODE	SUBJECT	2012	2013	2014
A	Medical	89	125	195
B	Property	69	62	185
C	Transfers	39	38	41
D	Visits	28	32	39
E	HDC	16	12	19
F	Parole	5	4	19
G	Prisoners Monies	34	19	63
H	Immigration	3	4	2
I	Release Date	43	24	12
J	Assaults	9	10	11
K	Workshops	-	-	3
L	Categorisation	4	9	56
M	Pin Phones	34	23	29
N	Education	42	10	12
O	Canteen	4	5	9
P	Adjudications	1	2	2
Q	Food	27	11	14
R	Drugs	-	-	4
S	Early Release Scheme	-	-	3
T	Mail	Inc with PIN Phones	12	37
U	Miscellaneous	106	59	47
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>803</b>

Application forms (now following guidelines and using the revised application forms as per the National Council/Secretariat) are available to all prisoners on the eight wings of the prison and the Healthcare facility. These are situated on the sides of sealed 'posting facilities' which are distinctly coloured blue and clearly marked IMB. These are opened weekly by IMB members and applications dealt with in a timely manner and recorded in the IMB Office.

**ii. Appendix 2 Analysis of The Board's Work**

Recommended complement of Board Members	16
Number of Board Members at start of reporting period	5
Number of Board Members at the end of reporting period	7
Number of new members joining within the reporting period	7
Number of members leaving within the reporting period	5

Board Meetings	12
Rota Visits	52
Visits for Applications	52
IMB National Conference	1 delegate
Training Sessions	1
National Courses	2 delegates
Review visits	52
Prisoner Reviews attended by IMB	416

