



**HMP Erlestoke
Independent
Monitoring Board**

Annual Report

1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015

HMP Erlestoke,
Westbury Road, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 5TU

Section 1

1. STATUTORY ROLE OF THE IMB

The Prison 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 its 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.

The HMP Erlestoke Independent Monitoring Board (IMB) is currently composed of 10 volunteer members (this number varies throughout the year as people join and leave the Board) and is independent of the Prison Service and the Justice Ministry.

The IMB obtains information from many sources in the prison and this is reflected in this Annual Report:

- Informal face-to-face conversations with prisoners and staff whenever we are in the prison, not necessarily regarding complaints
- Our formal weekly rota visits which generate points for our monthly meeting with the Governor (urgent matters are escalated immediately)
- Verbal and written applications made to us by individual prisoners
- Attendance at routine meetings, together with formal and informal briefings by the Governor and members of his management team
- Observation of peoples' behaviour and the state of the prison
- Attendance at incidents when they occur

We are the only independent presence in the prison on a day-to-day basis.

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Section 3

3. DESCRIPTION OF HMP ERLESTOKE

HMP Erlestoke is an adult male; Category 'C' closed rehabilitation prison, built in the grounds of the former Erlestoke Park House. It is the only prison in Wiltshire and is situated in a rural location on the northern edge of Salisbury Plain about 7 miles from the towns of Devizes and Westbury.

Category C prisoners are those who have neither the intention nor the resources to escape. Categorisation of prisoners is not, of itself, dependent on the prisoner's offence. Hence even though HMP Erlestoke is a Category C prison, over 50% of its' prisoners are classified as Indeterminate Sentence Prisoners (ISP), being Life and Indeterminate Public Protection (IPP) sentenced, with the remaining population serving sentences of between 1 and 10 years. 75% of the population are serving sentences of 4 years and over.

There are eight residential units; three are standard units, one of which is used for induction, four are enhanced units and one is dedicated to intervention programmes. The total operational capacity of the prison is around 524.

In July 2013, the Justice Secretary announced a nationwide network of 70 resettlement prisons, with the aim of releasing prisoners in, or close to the area in which they live. As a result of this announcement HMP Erlestoke now focuses on rehabilitation for longer-term prisoners and is a national resource for the prison estate. The intervention programmes address drug and alcohol issues and prisoner behaviours. HMP Erlestoke will retain some resettlement responsibilities: approximately 10% of prisoners will be released from Erlestoke into Wiltshire each year.

The Chief Inspector of Prisons, in a recent HMIP report (19th March 2014) commented that 'HMP Erlestoke was safe, decent and purposeful and well focused on rehabilitation'. The inspection found that improvements had been sustained since the 2011 inspection and are being built upon.

HMP Erlestoke continues to uphold a good image in the community and the Governor and his staff keep local residents involved and informed of relevant developments. The Board is pleased to note that the Friends of Erlestoke Prison continue to partner with the management team to provide resettlement and rehabilitation services outside the scope of prison service budgets.

Performance of the prison overall has been very strong in the reporting period with only two of the Key Performance Targets being missed slightly, i.e. sick absence which came in at 8.64 days per person against a national target of 8.5 days. This is a significant improvement from last year.

The mandatory drugs testing rate is 6.9% against a target of 12%. This reflects the growing use of legal highs including spice for which there is currently no test.

The prison ended the year as the best performing Category C prison in the South West.

Section 4

4. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Governor and staff continue to work extremely hard to provide a safe and secure environment for both prisoners and staff, despite considerable budgetary and resource constraints. The Board are doubtful that this can be maintained if the cuts continue.
2. The Board are also very concerned about staff shortages, this has a negative impact on staff morale and also that of prisoners.
3. The inspection report, compiled by the Chief Inspector of Prisons, at the end of 2013 highlighted examples of good practice such as the innovative links being developed by HMP Erlestoke with local schools and Barnardos. These links are highlighting the difficulties experienced by families having a parent in prison. These links continue to be developed.
4. The Board is concerned by the reported low mandatory drug testing rate of less than 7% which is slightly down on last year. This may well be down to the high use of legal highs such as "Spice" becoming the drug of choice. The number of successful mobile phone confiscations demonstrates that their use continues to be a concern.
5. The Board remain extremely dissatisfied with the Government's plans, if indeed there are any, to deal with prisoners sentenced to an indeterminate term. The population of HMP Erlestoke is in excess of 500 prisoners, about one third are within this group and are over tariff often by many years. The cost of keeping this large group of prisoners who are over tariff is £20,600 per annum per prisoner, giving an overall cost of £16,799,300, assuming an average of three years over tariff. There is no system in place to capture this data or deal with the unacceptable cost in terms of funding and the lack of duty of care to these prisoners and their families.
6. Yet again, this year, we need to report that the custodianship of prisoners' property remains a problem, the numbers of property loss applications received by the board have risen again.

Respondent	Issue	Action Required	Ref
Minister/ Prison Service HQ NOMS	IPP prisoners continue to remain in prison beyond their tariff date. This creates uncertainty and a destabilising influence in the prison.	A finite action plan to address the needs of existing IPP prisoners within the system. Examine the number of over tariff IPPs and the reasons. Set up a National data base which identifies prisons which deliver interventions and matches prisoners to appropriate courses Finance more courses to reduce the wait times and increase the number of parole Boards.	5.5
Minister/Prison Service HQ	Continual reduction in prison staff resources. This issue was also raised last year. Staff shortages cause missed hospital appointments;	Increase staffing to prisoner ratios particularly on the residential wings and in the prisoner management unit	5.4 5.5 5.7 5.8
Minister/ Prison Service HQ	Amount of prisoners' property, which is lost during transfers between prisons. This issue was raised last year and has got worse	Clarification as to why this continues to be a problem and an indication as to how it will be addressed. (this is not unique to Erlestoke)	5.8

NHS England and healthcare staff	medication by prisoners	reduce the loss and illicit use of prescribed medication	
The Minister and NHS England	One full time mental health practitioner is inadequate for the prison population.	The Minister to explain how the complement of mental health workers is decided for each prison and if this figure is adequate	5.3
Governor and senior staff	Induction information sessions do not receive enough support from staff.	Set the expectation that induction information sessions take place regularly and are not interrupted or cancelled by staff.	5.8
NOMS	OMU staff are not up to date with the re-categorisation work.	Increase resources so that this work can be completed.	5.5

Section 5

5. MANDATORY REPORTING AREAS

5.1 Equality & Inclusion

The team addressing this function of prisoner care now consists of 3 designated but part time prison officers and a manager. They are assisted by 2 prisoner orderlies and 14 equality wing reps who have recently been issued with identifying T shirts.

The team works efficiently and although there is still a short backlog of complaint investigations, this situation is improving. The new addition of wing reps allows prisoners to get early advice where they have a grievance and ensures that only appropriate complaints are dealt with by the prison officers. There were 60 discriminatory report forms submitted in the last year. Seven were proved and the rest either dismissed or withdrawn.

The areas included relate to race, disability, sexual orientation, age discrimination and religious belief.

The ethnic breakdown is ; White British 82%, Mixed race 3.1%, Black African and Caribbean 10.7%, Asian 3%. Currently there are 19 foreign nationals.

There are 83 prisoners over the age of 50, of whom 23 are over 60 and 7 over 70. The needs of these older prisoners have been addressed significantly over the last year. These prisoners now have two designated gym sessions per week, two fitness suite sessions per week, weekly walking football and a twice weekly afternoon day centre. All of these activities are well attended. There is also a meeting place for those not gainfully occupied during the core working day where they can spend quality time in the company of others.

There are 122 prisoners stating some form of disability and all new arrivals to the prison are asked about any perceived disability and offered appropriate help where possible.

RECOOP (Resettlement and Care of Older Prisoners) is an active organisation in the prison. It has a contract with NOMS (National Prisoner Management Service) to work on the Care Act and to contribute to a PSI (Prison Service Instruction) on Equality. It holds monthly committee meetings at which the involvement of prisoners is considered essential to ensure a needs based system is established. There are four wing reps on the committee who make an active contribution.

Overall the Board are satisfied that equality, disability and age related issues are dealt with promptly and efficiently. The investigating prison officers have been congratulated on the high standard of their reports.

5.2 Education, Learning and Skills

Education has improved this year. Issues following the introduction of OLASS 4 and the change of education provider to Weston College, highlighted in our last report, have been addressed and there is a more settled regime.

The new Curriculum Manager has secured and retained tutors in the vital areas of literacy and numeracy, and all courses (both educational and vocational) are fully staffed. Three new courses in carpentry, recycling and art and design through pottery are due to start soon. All this has had to be achieved despite a funding reduction from £1.5m to £0.7m.

Work on the development of functional skills (FS) English and maths is beginning to be 'contextualised' across the vocational courses and groups in the workshops and on the units. However, this is not yet consistent. Achievement in functional skills has improved significantly over the year, in FS English from 44% to 81%, and in FS Maths from 28% to 91%. Issues still remain in achieving a full complement on the literacy courses. Staff make good use of the 'Toe-by-Toe' scheme to try to address this. A numeracy version, 'x2', is currently being implemented.

It is the least skilled and least well-educated prisoners who are the most difficult to engage in education. The Curriculum Manager has prioritised this issue and is giving educational achievement a higher profile in the prison, for example, by holding an awards ceremony.

Overall attendance and retention stands at 99%, and the success rate is 94%. Student needs analyses are undertaken, and Weston College's monitoring of teaching and learning is rigorous and carefully addresses staff under performance.

In the kitchen, three staff are training to be NVQ Assessors and 6 prisoners are currently taking the course. Although now working well, managers have been slow to set up and implement this course and numbers are low.

The Library is well-managed and continues to be very popular. 99% of prisoners are members of the library, and 300 use it weekly. Prisoners have a good range of CDs and DVDs, as well as books, to choose from. There is a monthly reading group which meets in a lunchtime session.

Gym facilities are used by 55% of prisoners each week. It has recently been rated by Wiltshire County Council amongst the top three gyms in the whole county for its work with the over-50s. Staff are currently prioritising the involvement of prisoners, on the integrated drug treatment (IDT) programmes, in fitness regimes designed to help with their rehabilitation. This has been achieved, despite major difficulties such as losing a member of staff in September 2014. There are no outdoor pitches for team sports.

5.3 Healthcare & Mental Health

Great Western Hospital Healthcare Trust (GWHT) and Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership (AWP) provide medical and mental health care at HMP Erlestoke. Services for substance misuse are provided by the Rehabilitation for Addicted Prisoners Trust (RAPT). The healthcare team consists of one healthcare manager and seven nurses plus two administration staff. Medical cover is provided by a local GP practice and a GP is available on five days of the week. Weekly visits are made by a physiotherapist. An optician and a chiropodist hold clinics every six weeks. There are fortnightly sessions with a hepatitis C nurse and retinal screening every three to four months. A dentist is available three days a week.

There are mental health sessions with a mental health practitioner every week. These sessions are supported by monthly visits from a psychiatrist and four weekly sessions by a cognitive behavioural therapist on a monthly basis.

It has been an extremely difficult year for health care staff with staff shortages and some long term sickness. Despite these difficulties, staff have worked very well together to achieve the green light status in all categories of the prison quality and performance indicators for the fourth year running. HMP Erlestoke is the only prison in the south west to achieve this.

This year there have been issues with prisoners arriving at the health centre without movement slips. This has a negative impact on the appointment system. On occasions, prisoners become agitated and aggressive when they have to wait or are turned away. This can put healthcare staff at risk. This has been raised with the governor.

Overcrowding in the waiting area has been significantly eased during 2014 by a change in the prison regime. This allows prisoners to be returned more quickly to their wings, or place of work after their appointments. However with continuing shortages of prison staff to carry out escort duties, this needs to be monitored closely.

There is a serious concern about the illicit use of prescribed medication by prisoners. The locked 'safes' where they are expected to keep their medication are insecure. Small safes were put into double cells. However prison officers do not make sure that the code numbers are retained. This makes many of the safes unusable. This causes problems for health staff as they do not know whether prisoners have lost their medication or misused it. Therefore they cannot replace it. When it is not replaced, prisoners can become very upset and aggressive towards health staff.

Prisoners who are suspected of misuse, and those who are prescribed medication, known to have an illicit use, were having their medication checked on a random but regular basis every week. This was very time consuming for the nursing staff. Those found to be abusing their medication had their needs re-assessed by a General Practitioner (GP). However, these checks have not taken place during the last six months. This is because there have been staff shortages in the prison and also low staffing levels in Healthcare.

There has been a serious issue with legal highs. Their use has led to increased issues with overdoses and challenging behaviours.

The number of missed 'in house' Healthcare appointments remains unacceptably high. The average monthly missed appointments are 81. This is the same as last year. Missed appointments account for 7-9% of total appointments. Although the trend is similar to that of GP surgeries in the community, within a prison setting, it should be possible for all appointments to be met. These 'no shows' add to the pressure on the nursing staff and are not an efficient use of time or resources.

Too many prisoners miss external hospital and dental appointments because there are not enough staff available to escort them. This is a matter of concern and has been raised with the governor.

Mental health provision is a major concern and has been under pressure all year. One full time mental health practitioner is inadequate for a population of 532 prisoners. For much of the past twelve months the team have had to manage without cover due to a long period of illness and the resignation of a full time mental health practitioner in December. Temporary cover has only been provided for two days each week. Interviews are ongoing to fill the place on a permanent basis.

The staff have instigated a very useful patient forum which is held quarterly, to reflect the practice within GP surgeries.

5.4 Purposeful activity (includes work)

The Board recognises the range of good quality purposeful activity and work opportunities provided by the prison. All prisoners are strongly encouraged to engage in purposeful activity during unlock. This activity is carefully designed to equip prisoners with work skills on their release and reduce reoffending rates. However, at present, their progress is not tracked after their release.

The reduction in staff has resulted in increased lockdowns. Prisoners have had less time out of cell this year. However, although the board has asked for this information, senior managers have not yet collected data on the amount of lockdowns and in which wings they have taken place. As a result, senior managers are not able to assess the impact of increased lockdowns on the work of the prison, individual wings and prisoners.

There are currently higher unemployment rates due to the reduced number of prisoners in vocation/education but recruitment is underway to employ additional instructors which should close this gap by June.

Good examples of industrial work include the useful Speedy Hire contract which remains in place and provides work for up to 60 men in two workshops, one servicing and repairing power tools and the other heavier industrial equipment.

The Opella workshop, where prisoners assemble plumbing parts, continues to be operational. The workshop has moved from a wing to a workshop which is fit for purpose and provides a more suitable working environment.

A new contract exists with Gripit, a Melksham company that featured on Dragons Den, assembling fittings for plaster board. This exciting initiative was introduced in November, stopped for retooling and is about to recommence in a new workshop. It is planned to provide substantial employment.

A positive feature is the use of a full time manager who is responsible for generating contracts of work to ensure employment opportunities for prisoners inside the prison and making links with the community, including Wessex Chamber of Commerce.

The Farms and Gardens section also offers significant employment opportunities in horticultural work. Meetings have been held between the kitchen and the farms and gardens managers to discuss what planting will be needed for the forthcoming season. This will enable the kitchen to plan to use the vegetables grown and reduce waste.

Building garden furniture is also an important, creative activity which is done for the prison's Community Interest Company (CIC). This is a joint venture with local community volunteers. Items built by the prisoners are sold to staff and the general public through a catalogue system. There are well developed plans to set up a shop outside the prison gates as soon as an external volunteer manager can be recruited. Income from this source has been well used to help fund the Kitchen NVQs. Waste recycling has been expanded to reduce the quantity going to landfill with a recycling instructor recruited to improve overall how recycling in the prison is organised and managed. Erlestoke is a National Resource, one of the few prisons providing programmes to address offending behaviour. The prison's role is now primarily rehabilitation. It continues to run valuable key programmes to address drug, alcohol and offending behaviours such as:

- the 12 step drug treatment programme;
- Healthy Relationship Programme, (HRP);
- Self-Change Programme (SCP);
- Alcohol Related Violence (ARV); and
- Individual and group therapy to deal with drug dependence, organised by the national organisation, the Rehabilitation for Addicted Prisoners Trust (RAPT).

The prison provides many other useful options for prisoners to gain new skills and to be involved in purposeful activity. These include:

- peer mentoring/supporting;
- health trainers;
- orderlies e.g: learning and skills, clothing exchange, library, reception, visits, works, chapel, diversity, induction support, care and separation unit and wing cleaners; and
- kitchen work, including the recently reintroduced NVQ opportunities.

Erlestoke also has a Family Intervention Unit (Kennet) which delivers Family Man and Fathers Inside courses for 16 prisoners on a 3 month programme, run in partnership with Barnardos. These courses are highly successful and in strong demand. They have featured very positively on the local TV and Radio news.

5.5 Resettlement

From May 1st Erlestoke prison's role will be rehabilitation rather than resettlement. As a result, all prisoners serving the last year of their sentences are being identified so that they can serve the the last three months of their sentence in their compact package areas. These are based on their home areas or the court where they were sentenced. There is currently a great deal of movement within the system. There is significant pressure to place prisoners in the right place so that they can complete the appropriate programmes. This is already proving difficult and the Board has serious concerns about how this will actually work. For example, a prisoner from Bristol was relocated to Portland shortly before his release date.

Due to the change in the prison's focus from resettlement to rehabilitation in May 2015 all Release on temporary license (ROTL) has been withdrawn. A number of prisoners who were doing really well, working within the community, had their ROTL removed. The Board considers this a loss of a very useful tool towards rehabilitation/resettlement. There are no home leaves.

Although there have been three managers in the last year, staff, in the offender management unit (OMU), work very well together as a team. The workload is extremely challenging as there are eight band 4 officers working in the hybrid role of offender supervision. These officers regularly help with running the establishment, due to staff shortages. Despite these difficulties the OMU continues to:

- provide all parole documents in good time;
- liaise very strongly and meet responsibilities with other agencies such as the courts, police and probation;
- work closely with the prison programmes to place prisoners on courses;
- contact prisoners wherever possible and appropriate; and
- prioritise public protection.

There has been an increase in the amount of parole hearings which staff are coping well with.

However, there are important issues yet to be addressed. In March 2015, 47% of new prisoners (receptions) transferred in with an out of date prisoner risk assessment, (OASys). As a result, it is very difficult for OMU staff to catch up. Also, OMU staff are not up to date with re-categorization work. This is partly due to having to prioritise OASys completions. OMU staff used to see all prisoners every six weeks. Now this is not possible. Therefore staff have to prioritise who they see in terms of risk. Prisoners miss this regular contact.

In March this year, 152 prisoners, almost a third, with indeterminate sentence for public protection (IPP) were over tariff. The Board commented on this last year but there has been no improvement.

The visits hall continues to be a comfortable and welcoming environment offering a wide range of refreshments and snacks. However, the search area for visitors is not fit for purpose. There is mould on the walls and a leaking roof. As a result, the heating cannot be switched on. The Governor has asked for a full assessment and managers are bidding for a new portakabin to replace the present visitor search facility. This will be a capital bid and will need approval from the Deputy Director of Custody.

The Friends of Erlestoke make a valuable contribution to the welfare of prisoners' families and also to resettlement and rehabilitation.

5.6 Safer Custody

The population at Erlestoke has complex needs due to its role as a rehabilitation prison. The care of those who have complex needs continues to be very challenging.

	ACCT opened	ASBIR opened	Violent Incidents
2013/14	94	189	19
2014/15	132	201	20

During October 2014 the Samaritans carried out a mental health training module and trained thirteen listeners. Listeners are prisoners who are trained to offer support to their peers who are feeling particularly vulnerable. The listening service is well publicised and referral forms giving information for prisoners in need are available on all wings in the prison. Over the December 2014 period the number of formal and informal 'listener' call outs increased significantly. In spite of this the prison remained calm.

The transfer of the safer custody unit to Marlborough wing (the induction unit) has been beneficial. The move has enabled staff to take a more robust approach. Alfred wing continues to house the double cell in which 'listeners' can keep a vulnerable prisoner company in order to offer support.

The safer custody team consists of three officers, an administrative officer and an orderly. They work well as a team to support vulnerable prisoners.

In September, there was a reduction in staff ACCT assessors. Managers addressed this by introducing a programme to increase the numbers. An ACCT assessor course in January 2015 provided training for three more assessors. This was the first in house training held at Erlestoke and was attended by two prison officers from Guys Marsh. There are now twelve qualified assessors working across the prison.

The use of dogs to detect the use of mobile phones is working well and there have been a number of successful finds this year.

5.7 Segregation, Care & Separation, Close Supervision

The Care and Separation Unit (CSU) is small with 10 cells and continues to be very well run by the staff. Staff show sensitivity and carefully manage prisoners with challenging behaviour who are located in the unit for disciplinary matters as well as other prisoners who are on the unit if they are vulnerable.

The "Special Cell" for use in the most extremely difficult situations has only been used once during the year.

Generally the prisoners stay on the unit is temporary, rarely for more than 14 days. Two prisoners stay permanently and act as orderlies responsible for cleaning, laundry etc. This year, the orderlies have completed the redecoration of all cells and common areas with the exception of the Administration Office.

It is becoming much more difficult to move prisoners on from the CSU to other prisons. This is because the movement of prisoners across the prison estate to meet the re-settlement programme takes precedence. As a result, managers have fewer options in transferring an prisoner and a few remain in the CSU longer than they need to.

Due to staff shortages in Healthcare, some reviews take place without a representative from healthcare being present. This needs to be addressed.

The regulation reported last year that the whole unit was a no smoking area for staff and prisoners has been relaxed to allow prisoners to smoke in their cells. This year one cell was closed for two months due to a serious water leak. This has been refurbished and the floor in the common area has been relaid.

We commented last year on the poor condition of the two holding cells, used temporarily for prisoners waiting either for an adjudication or for a cell to be available. There has been no improvement and they remain in poor condition.

5.8 Residential Services (includes accommodation, food, catering and kitchens)

There is a two week induction process for new prisoners. This includes very useful short presentations held on the wing by the IMB and other agencies. However, the Board has concerns that these Tuesday sessions are not managed well enough. They are often interrupted or cancelled. Her Majesty's Inspector of Prisons inspection also criticised the quality of induction. The Board see no improvement in the Tuesday session and has raised these issues with the Governors.

HMP Erlestoke accommodated an extra 30 prisoners in 2014. As a result, more cells were converted into double cells. Although conforming with regulations, the Board considers these cells inadequate for two prisoners. For example, some of the cells have an unscreened toilet area. This is unacceptable.

The intervention courses which run for 3 – 6 months at a time continue to be highly regarded. However, waiting lists are lengthy. Prisoners attending these residential courses come from other prisons as well as from Erlestoke. Those prisoners who have arrived to attend a specific course find it very frustrating when they have to wait for a place. Also, when a tutor/trainer is sick or cannot attend, the course provider does not always have replacement tutors/trainers available. Therefore courses are cancelled. This adds to the delay in places becoming available and is disappointing for prisoners.

There are a number of outstanding issues that need to be addressed on the wings. These include:

- the lack of an association room on Kennett wing;
- cell 18 on Kennett wing has not had a shower for 3 years and there is not always enough staff available to take the occupant to the gym for a shower;
- the poor state of decoration on Alfred wing;
- the lack of ventilation and appropriate drainage in the showers on Wessex wing; and
- the continuing poor recreation facilities on Sarum wing.

Despite continuously raising this issue, the Board remains very concerned that the number of applications received about property lost during transfer between prisons continues to increase. This is extremely upsetting for prisoners as the loss often includes valuable links with home and family such as photographs.

The allocated catering budget for the period April 2014 – April 2015 allows £2.00 per person per day for meals. Although for the period April 2013 – 2014 the catering service was overspent. HMP Erlestoke was the best in the South West for having the least over spend.

The hospitality industry training (HIT) work shop started at the beginning of November 2014, which gives prisoners who work in the kitchen a valuable opportunity to gain a food production and cooking level 2 qualification. The HIT qualification will enable prisoners on release to apply for jobs in mass catering kitchens i.e. works canteens.

The 'guilty pleasures' initiative works very well. Prisoners make and sell a wide range of cakes suitable for celebrations. This is well supported by staff and prisoners.

The Prison's chapel is inclusive and provides a safe haven for all. It plays a major role in the pastoral care of the prisoners, staff, families, and people of faith or no particular belief. Thirteen religions and beliefs are covered with regular weekly worship and meetings. Staff of different faiths work harmoniously together. Their practice and commitment is outstanding.

Section 6

6. THE WORK OF THE INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD

BOARD STATISTICS	
Recommended Complement of Board Members	12
Number of Board members at the start of the reporting period	10
Number of Board members at the end of the reporting period	10
Number of new members joining within the reporting period	4
Number of members leaving within reporting period	3
Total number of Board meetings during reporting period	11

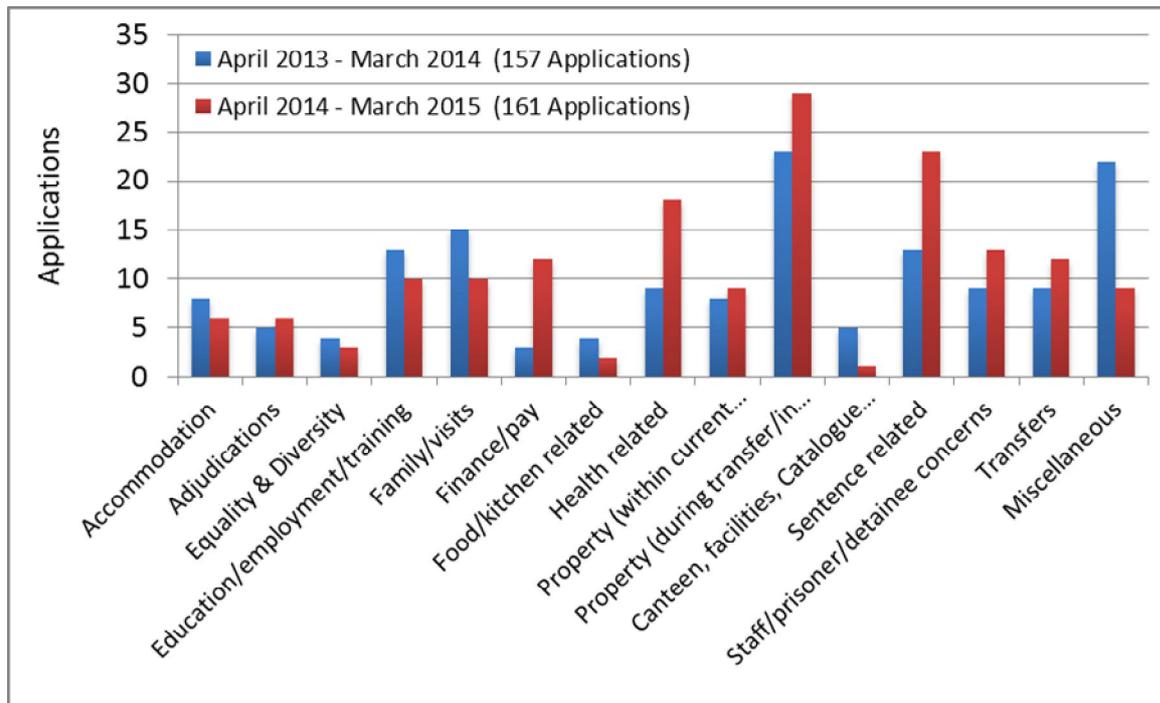
Section 6 (cont.) – Applications received by the Board

Code	Subject	Year: 1 April 2013 – 31st March 2014	Year: 2 April 2014 – 31st March 2015
A	Accommodation	8	6
B	Adjudications	5	6
C	Equality & Diversity (inc religion)	4	3
D	Education/employment/training inc IEP	13	10
E 1	Family/visits inc mail & phone	15	10
E 2	Finance/pay	3	12
F	Food/kitchen related	4	2
G	Health related	9	18
H 1	Property (within current establishment)	8	9
H 2	Property (during transfer/in another establishment)	23	29
H 3	Canteen, facilities, Catalogue shopping, Argos	5	1
I	Sentence related (inc. HDC, ROTL, parole, release dates, re-cat etc)	13	23
J	Staff/prisoner/detainee concerns inc bullying	9	13
K	Transfers	9	12
L	Miscellaneous	22	9
	Total number of IMB applications	157	161

Monitoring fairness and respect for people in custody

	Of total: number of IMB Confidential Access was:	(included in the above figures)	(included in the above figures)
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Section 6 (cont.) - Applications received by the Board



The percentage of applications according to category over the last two years is shown below:

Code	Subject	Year: 1 April 2013 – 31st March 2014	Year: 2 April 2014 – 31st March 2015
A	Accommodation	5.1%	3.7%
B	Adjudications	3.2%	3.7%
C	Equality & Diversity	2.5%	1.9%
D	Education/employment/training	8.3%	6.2%
E 1	Family/visits	9.6%	6.2%
E 2	Finance/pay	1.9%	7.5%
F	Food/kitchen related	2.5%	1.2%
G	Health related	5.7%	11.2%
H 1	Property (within current establishment)	5.1%	5.6%
H 2	Property (during transfer/in another establishment)	14.6%	18.0%
H 3	Canteen, facilities, Catalogue shopping, Argos	3.2%	0.6%
I	Sentence related	8.3%	14.3%
J	Staff/prisoner/detainee concerns	5.7%	8.1%
K	Transfers	5.7%	7.5%
L	Miscellaneous	14.0%	5.6%
	Total number of IMB applications	100%	100%

