



**HMP North Sea Camp**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**1 March 2015 - 29 February 2016**

**Chair Margaret Smith**

## **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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### **3 DESCRIPTION OF HMP NORTH SEA CAMP**

1. HMP North Sea Camp is an Open Category D male Resettlement Prison with a Certified Normal Accommodation of 420 (341 on roll at 29/2/2016). It opened in 1935 as a Borstal and became an adult male prison in 1988. The prison is six miles east of Boston.

2. The prison holds a highly complex group of prisoners. It carefully manages the risk associated with such offenders being held in an open prison, with risk assessment being a core part of management.

3. 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 8 pm in the summer months.

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

- Healthcare is provided by Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust
- Education and Training is provided City of Manchester College
- Lincolnshire Action Trust continues to provide elements of training
- Addaction - provides drug/alcohol support and counselling
- Probation Service
- Lincolnshire Library Service (now Greenwich Leisure Ltd)
- Amey delivering maintenance and stores facilities

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

## **4 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND ISSUES**

### **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 2015 and 29 February 2016.

2. The changes imposed on all prisons this year continue to provide us all with challenges. The Board is happy to report however that despite the current staff shortages and a number of politically driven changes to the prison regime and services the Boards view is that the establishment has had a satisfactory year.

3. Changes to the rules on ROTL that were introduced nationally in 2014-15 have now bedded in and the position on ROTLs has been less of an issue for the board. Good work by the Prisoners Advice Centre (PAC) (run by prisoners) in helping manage the application process and the OMU ensuring that the PAC is resourced to do this has helped the ROTL Application process. ROTL Boards are held four times a week and the IMB attend at random throughout the year.

4. The Board see positive developments in the work of the Farm, with an increase in produce, success in agricultural shows and qualifications being gained. There is the continuing commercial success of the Lobster Pots and this year a large cost saving and environmental contribution made by the prisoners and staff working in the recycling facility. The bicycle workshop repairs abandoned bikes which are then passed on to charity shops to sell or be used by prisoners living in the Jubilee Houses. They have also supported local Scout Groups by servicing bikes used by these groups.

5. The chaplaincy was successful in its re-inspection and the Library continues to support a number of national and local initiatives for the benefit of the prisoners. A wide range of education opportunities continues to be available, whether provided directly by the education contractor, The Open University or prison departments.

6. The Board continues to have concerns with the level of personal property problems. When prisoners are transferred from one establishment to another, their property continues to be lost, left behind or sent to the wrong prison. The problem is worse where transfers are from private prisons. The Board is aware that dealing efficiently with prisoners' property moves is a major problem across the prison estate and would like to see NOMS taking urgent steps to address the issues rather than stating that their contract management processes are addressing this. Clearly they are not as the problems continue and indeed grow.

7. The Board continues to be concerned with the problems the prison faces with a growing elderly population and the increasing incidence of age related illnesses and the growing number of prisoners with Dementia and Physical Disabilities. The Prison and the Healthcare Provider are trying to ameliorate this but a dedicated unit for the care of the elderly is long overdue.

8. The Board recognises that within the wider community access to healthcare does involve waiting for appointments and that the same should apply to those in prison

who should expect not better but equal access to treatment. In the main this is true at North Sea Camp but there are two important areas where treatment is significantly worse.

- i. The first concerns Dentistry where waiting lists for emergency treatment are unacceptably long. In addition attempts by the local healthcare team to mitigate this through a sensible Dental Triage service were stopped by the contractor. It would appear that prisoners do not get annual check-ups at the dentist and merely attend if they have pain – this does not mirror treatment available in the community.
- ii. The second relates to appointments that are cancelled through no fault of the prisoners but lead them to having to be re-referred. This is becoming less common but still happens and it would be beneficial if the healthcare provider could negotiate with the NHS so that another appointment can be offered without affecting any NHS performance measures or penalising people who have no control over whether they attend appointments or not.

9. The Board would repeat the need for the dormitory accommodation in South Unit to be replaced and some of the old officers' houses to be refurbished. The Board is pleased that there is regional support for this but concerned that it never appears to become a priority nationally.

10. The Board is concerned that the introduction of the Amey Estates contract has caused great difficulties at the prison. At the time of the preparation of this report the Governor and Staff had identified 171 outstanding jobs to be done. The new OMU build and the installation of the Bread Ovens in the prison are but two project casualties that are causing both operational problems and preventing significant cost savings for the Kitchens. On a positive note the Stores function run by Amey is working well with their problems being externally driven with goods ordered from Branston not arriving in a timely manner, in the case of work-boots some three months later. It is to the credit of the team in the stores that they set about refurbishing used boots to meet the deficiency.

Margaret Smith  
Chair  
Independent Monitoring Board  
HMP North Sea Camp

## ISSUES

### 4.1 For the attention of the Minister

1. Poor Contract management and tendering is still causing problems in the prison. NOMS is neither addressing contract failures nor exacting penalties so poor performance is likely to continue. This applies to Transfer of Prisoners Property as described at **2 below** and the issue of Dental Provision described at **3 below**. The area that concerns the board the most this year is the newly let maintenance contract with AMEY. The board is concerned with the backlogs that have been drawn to its attention by the prison and observed on monitoring visits. A further concern is the suggestion that the contract at NSC was a hybrid of that of a normal closed prison with little regard to the unique nature of the prison estate at NSC.

**See 6.3.7, 6.3.8, 5.3.5.i, 5.10.3, 5.12.1, 5.12.3, 5.12.4**

**In addition see 4.3.3 which is an assurance that contracts will be properly monitored having been raised in last year's report.**

2. Problems surrounding property continue to be an issue that provides the Board with its highest number of applications. It is accepted by the board that this is partly due to storage problems and the level of personal property that some prisoners have acquired while serving long sentences. However the majority of problems are due to poor service by contractors when prisoners are transferred to and from North Sea Camp. **See 6.3.7, 6.3.8,**

**In addition see 4.3.2 which is an assurance that the matter will be addressed having been raised in last year's report.**

3. Despite plans having been shared with the Prison Management and the IMB there is still no on-site dental service. There has been a long waiting list for Dental Visits for almost all the reporting year. Attempts by the Healthcare professionals at the prison to ameliorate it through the provision of dental triage facilities were stopped on the orders of the Trust management. The Board continues to raise this issue to the attention of the senior management team at the prison as prisoners are not getting the same treatment that they could expect to receive in the local community. The Board does not know the terms on which the contractor was awarded the contract, but has seen plans for a dental suite. On that basis if the contract was awarded on the expectation of a Dental Suite being built the contractor must be held to account for this. **See 5.3.5.i**

### 4.2 Questions for the Prison Service

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

1. Although this is used less regularly than in previous years there is still dormitory accommodation in the prison. With judicious use of capital funding a number of former officers' houses could be refurbished to replace the remaining Dormitory Accommodation. There are already two houses that were refurbished using some grant funding and in house maintenance expertise. Others could and should be brought up to the same standard in what the board see as a cost effective use of resources they understand are scarce. **See 5.10.1**

2. The long standing issue of the Bread Oven shows that all projects need to be carefully planned. There are potential benefits for both cost saving in the Kitchen and access to specialist training for the prisoners working in it. It appears that in the initial stages of planning errors were made in terms of the work that would be needed to install the Bread Oven. Nevertheless an expensive asset has been bought and the view of the board is that agreement must be reached with the Maintenance Contractor to install it, something they are reluctant to do, placing the blame on the previous maintenance provider. This is seen as unacceptable by the Board. **See 5.11.5**

### 4.3 Progress made from last year's report

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

<p>1. There remains a need for better facilities to be put in place for the care of older prisoners, particularly those with disability and age related illnesses like Dementia and the terminally ill. Plans were in place for a dedicated palliative care centre but these have not been realised.</p>	<p>The response made reference to the New PSIs which have been introduced in response to the requirements of the Care Act and PSI 17/2015 Prisoners Assisting other Prisoners. The minister also sought to reassure us that NOMS continues to improve practices so that greater emphasis is placed on the care and support for older prisoners. Finally he states that the Gold Standard framework for palliative care will continue to be used in the prison.</p>
<p><b>The Board recognises that the Healthcare professionals and prison officers are working well to address the issues of older prisoners and that the frameworks the minister mentions are being adhered to. The Board is disappointed that yet again the Minister is not able to commit funding to set up an on-site palliative care suite which would mean issues being fully rather than partially addressed.</b></p>	
<p>2. 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. This has been particularly poor when prisoners have been transferred from private prisons.</p>	<p><b>The Minister's response reassures us that the Directorate of Commissioning and Contract Management has close operational oversight of contracted prison contracts and assists with any issues relating to property transfers.</b></p>
<p><b>This is not a satisfactory response by the Minister as problems have persisted this year, and as far as property matters are concerned have got worse with applications to the Board on this topic rising by 100 %, despite the Minister's assurance that appropriate action is taken.</b></p>	
<p>3. 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. This applies to Catering and Maintenance contracts and Transfer of Prisoners Property as described at <b>2 above</b></p>	<p><b>As with the response to Question 2 the Minister's response is to reassure us that the Directorate of Commissioning and Contract Management have close operational oversight of contracted prison contracts. He explains that those maintenance contracts did not come under the Competing Delivery of Services and that NOMS were satisfied that the contractor had fulfilled their contractual requirements.</b></p>
<p><b>This was not a satisfactory response by the Minister as it does not explain why the specific issue being addressed concerning the showers took so long to rectify. Under the new Amey contract internal works are not completed to the satisfaction of the prison management team never mind any external work that might be contracted out. So matters have got worse, despite the Ministers assurance that NOMS are addressing contractual failures.</b></p>	

#### 4.4 Previous year's concerns

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

<p>1. There continue to be problems with Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL). While because of work undertaken by the prison these are at a lower level than last year there have still been a number of applications to the board about cancellations at very short notice, which have incurred unnecessary travel costs to families</p>	<p>The NOMS response highlights the fact that on the rare occasions that ROTL is now cancelled the reasons for this are fully explained to the affected prisoners. The response states that Senior Managers are working hard so that ROTL Boards are processed in a timely manner.</p>
<p><b>The Board recognises the efforts of the Prison in this matter and where applications have been made to the board all but a small minority had extenuating circumstances for those cancellations.</b></p>	
<p>2. There is still dormitory accommodation in the prison. With judicious use of in house expertise and some capital funding the existing dormitory accommodation could be divided and a number of former officers' houses could be refurbished to replace the remaining Dormitory Accommodation.</p>	<p>The NOMS response states they are aware of the problem and support the funding bids made to upgrade the Linton Close Housing to reduce the dormitory accommodation. NOMS point out that while it may be supported regionally the proposals are subject to competing national priorities</p>
<p><b>The Board recognises the efforts of the Prison and the DDC in supporting the capital bid but would urge NOMS to prioritise this nationally. For a relatively small sum existing property could be refurbished and the dormitory accommodation taken out of use. The Board notes that the Prison have undertaken work this year to improve the quality of the dormitories albeit this has been more complicated due to having to deal with Amey. Previously under the old arrangements prisoners would complete a lot of the work under supervision.</b></p>	

## **5 DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

### **EQUALITY AND EDUCATION**

#### **5.1. Equality and Inclusion**

1 A lot of work has been undertaken to support prisoners with disabilities. Two wings have been adapted to provide disabled facilities, which include ramped exits for emergencies and the fitting of handrails. There are more single occupancy rooms available for prisoners with wheelchairs. All disabled prisoners are assessed with regards to their disability and if a single room is required this is provided.

2. The Equalities Officer persuaded RECOOP to come into the prison and assess the need for a day care centre for elderly and disabled prisoners. A RECOOP member of staff has been working in the prison for approximately 4 months. It is hoped later this year to set up a sustainable day care centre. This will hopefully be run by prisoners, once they have been trained. Age UK provide support on a twice weekly basis offering cookery lessons which have been opened up to younger prisoners.

3. The Equalities Hub works well. There are 2 full time Equality Orderlies and 2 full time Safer Custody orderlies based there. The Equal Opportunities Officer holds bi-monthly Equality Action Team Meetings. Orderlies from across the prison attend these meetings.

4. The Royal British Legion continue to provide support with a monthly drop-in clinic for staff and prisoners. This year contacts have been made with other agencies supporting veterans and there are discussions with Care after Combat to start providing input later this year.

5. The Equal Opportunities Officer continues to promote links with the local community. Positive relationships are in place with Boston Borough Council, Boston College & Boston Community Voluntary Service. The Equal Opportunities Officer has managed to get a seat on the Boston Disability Forum. Membership of the Forum is invaluable as it offers access to support networks for prisoners upon release.

6. The Prison continues to hold awareness events with regards to Protected Characteristics. In February a LGBT awareness event was held where over 60 prisoners attended. In 2015 a successful prisoner Wellbeing day was held.

7. The Prison got the highest mark possible for its work on Equal Opportunities in the revisit of the Governance & Order Audit Team. The Equal Opportunities Officer was nominated for the Lincolnshire High Sheriff Community Awards and has gone forward as the regional representative to the Prison Officer National Awards for 2016.

#### **5.2. Education, Learning and Skills**

1. Education is provided through a partnership approach with NOVUS providing the OLASS education provision. In addition Lincolnshire Action Trust and the National Careers Service provide education and training opportunities. Funding is drawn down through attendance at classes and learning outcomes.

2. The curriculum has continued to grow over the last year in accordance with Ofsted's recommendations about the breadth of provision, especially in vocational areas. This includes a large scaling up of the Horticulture provision and a significant increase in Forklift Truck qualifications. The qualifications offered are shown in the table below

<p><b><u>Employability</u></b>  Employability Level 1  Business Start-up Level 2  Customer Service Level 1  Volunteering in the Community  Team Leadership  Working in the Creative Industry Level 2  Peer Mentoring level 2  Business Administration  Retail Knowledge Level 2</p>	<p><b><u>Functional Skills</u></b>  English (all levels)  Maths (all levels)  Information Communication Technology (ITC)</p>
<p><b><u>Personal and Social Development</u></b>  Personal Cooking Skills  Community living (pre-release)  Personal Finance Money Management Level 1  Sculpture Level 1  Drawing Skills Level 2  Personal and Social Development</p>	<p><b><u>Vocational Training</u></b>  Bricklaying Level 1 and Level 2  Painting and Decorating Level 1 and Level 2  Forklift Truck – Counterbalance Level 2  Forklift Truck – Telescopic Level 2  Practical Horticulture Level 1 and Level 2  NVQ Diploma In Rail Engineering Track Maintenance</p>

3. Achievement and success continue to be very high with the academic year to July 2015 ending on 97% for the department. Success levels for 2015-16 are running at 96%. Attendance at sessions is very high at 94%.

4. Another positive development has been an increase in the amount of non-OLASS qualifications in the kitchen and the farm. This has been supported by Prison Staff who have attended observation of teaching, learning and assessment training in partnership with the OLASS provider to support this provision.

5. The introduction and training of a new Peer Mentoring programme has been effective. The qualification is now mandatory for all Prisoners undertaking key roles where they are offering a support service.

6. All Education, Learning and Skills provision is accessible by all prisoners. Learners with any kind of additional support needs are catered for as far as practically possible. There is additional learning support in classes to provide extra help where necessary. The department has access to a wide selection of additional learning support materials if required when dealing with a specific physical need.

### **Specific strengths across all Education Learning and Skills provision**

7. Functional ICT skills are built into vocational courses. The OLASS Bricklaying and Painting & Decorating courses have had ICT embedded and all learners produce their portfolio of evidence electronically whilst simultaneously working towards appropriate ITQ units. The Board is concerned that we may lose the Painting and Decorating courses because the College is unable to recruit staff to teach the course.

8. Established collaborative working relationships between strategic partners is improving the quality of provision offered - for example, National Careers Service interventions in the Employability course, Mental Health delivery in the Personal and Social Development course and interventions from Lincolnshire Action Trust to secure funding for prisoners wanting to continue their rail industry training following completion of the rail engineering course.

9. There is a strong Education Induction process. The process focuses on the need for good English and Mathematics skills and relates each course to long-term employment opportunities. Induction includes a full Advice and Guidance interview to assess previous knowledge and skills and to action plan and sequence interventions with the establishment to achieve long term aims.

10. National Careers Service ensures that prisoner needs are identified and signposted appropriately and 100% of customers feel very satisfied with the service they receive.

11. The Education Department works with Lincolnshire Action Trust REACH services to provide on-going support for education, training and employment. This enables Prisoners to use qualifications gained within work activities.

12. An extensive publicity and marketing campaign has been implemented. The OLASS provider has worked closely with the prison to produce a comprehensive set of information leaflets and posters designed to inform Prisoners of courses available, the time scales for each course and the minimum requirements. Displays around the prison inform Prisoners of the employment opportunities for each qualification.

13. Additional qualifications are delivered through the Farm, Kitchens and Physical Education Department. One member of the PE Department has recently completed his Level 3 Personal Fitness Trainer to enable this qualification to be delivered. Using funding available from the Skills Funding Agency the prison has a number of both internal and external verifiers in place so that prisoners work can be assessed.

14. There are excellent attendance levels and punctuality at all Education, Learning and Skills provision.

## **HEALTHCARE AND MENTAL HEALTH**

### **5.3 Healthcare**

1. Nottingham Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (NHFT) provides healthcare services at NSC. Three GPs from Boston visit the prison on a rota. A GP visits for the morning on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Waiting time to see a GP is two weeks unless a nurse deems a prisoner needs to see a GP urgently. Prisoners can request an appointment with a nurse; this is provided the same day or the next day.

2. A physiotherapist attends one morning a week. An optician attends once a month and usually sees everyone who has been put on the waiting list that month. The diabetic retinopathy screening van attends twice yearly to test the eyes of prisoners with diabetes. A podiatrist sees prisoners once a month and in between visits a nurse will do things such as nail trimming. There is a waiting list for Podiatry. Prisoners needing hearing tests are sent to the local hospital in Boston. Twice a year an

ultrasound machine is brought to the hospital to carry out the over 65 AAA (abdominal aortic aneurysm) screening

3. A variety of clinics are held – well man clinic, diabetes management, respiratory condition management, chronic heart disease management, older persons clinic, social care assessment, pain management, medication management and pharmacy review, blood pressure monitoring, smoking cessation (4-5 week wait), epilepsy monitoring, immunisations and vaccinations, Chlamydia screening. The pharmacy is open twice a day on weekdays and in the morning at weekends and on bank holidays for the dispensing of medication.

4. The healthcare team has to meet the wide range of healthcare needs of long term prisoners including the elderly, those with complex conditions, wheel chair users, those who require support with social care and those who have terminal illnesses. The team is supported by social care providers in Lincolnshire, Marie Curie, Age UK, McMillan and St Barnabas Hospice

5. Areas of concern with regards healthcare during the reporting year include:

- i. There is no on-site dental service. Prisoners visit a local dentist once a week although this dropped to once a fortnight with a consequent build-up of a waiting list to around 60 which will take 10 weeks to reduce to nil. Prisoners are not allowed to go for check-ups and are only allowed to go to the dentist if they have pain that cannot be held at bay via pain killers. This has been brought to the attention of the senior management team at the prison as prisoners are not getting the same treatment that they could expect to receive in the local community.
- ii. There has been a shortage of trained nurses at times during the reporting year due to resignations and agency staff have on occasions failed to turn up for shifts. More permanent staff have now been appointed.
- iii. Due to changes within the NHS such as the local hospital no longer dealing with complex cases in certain disciplines and the NHS doing more proactive health management, there has been a considerable increase in the number of appointments in hospitals and also an increase in appointments a long distance from NSC e.g. Nottingham, Sheffield, Lincoln. This has an impact in that often escorts are required for prisoners attending appointments. Although the healthcare provider is willing to pay for escorts, the prison benchmarking exercise gave zero hours for escorts and did not take into consideration the number of escorts that were in fact needed.
- iv. Providing one escort per day (often one officer in the morning and another officer in the afternoon) was difficult at certain times during the reporting year with a number of appointments having to be cancelled or rearranged.
- v. If a prisoner with an appointment in, for example, Sheffield needed an escort it meant that those prisoners who had appointments at the local hospital in Boston would often have to have their appointments cancelled or rearranged as the allocated escort was in e.g. Sheffield all day. Having said that, if there was an urgent need for a prisoner to attend an outside healthcare appointment the prison always ensure that an escort was provided. This at times impacted upon the normal regime of the prison.

- vi. Over a 30 day period during November and December 2015 one very poorly prisoner needed to go to Lincoln hospital each day – that prisoner required an escort and this put a strain on other appointments. Due to careful management at the prison the sick prisoner attended all his appointments and other prisoners were also able to attend their appointments. However, getting the staff escorts meant that some activities at the prison had to be curtailed.

## **5.4 Mental Health**

1 Nottingham Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust provides mental health services at North Sea Camp. The Clinical Matron continues to be based at HMP Lincoln but visits HMP North Sea Camp on a regular basis where the Primary Healthcare Team is based. Prisoners are seen on induction and can refer themselves if necessary. There is no waiting list as such - prisoners are seen within a week for assessment and urgent cases are usually seen for triage the day of referral.

2 The Primary Mental Health team comprises mental health nurses, counsellors, cognitive behaviour therapists and clinical psychologists. Some are based permanently at North Sea Camp and some visit regularly. Mental Health Nurses are on site Monday to Friday. The team offer psycho education and supported self-help, psycho educational groups on common mental health problems, individual Counselling sessions, individual Cognitive Behaviour therapy Sessions (CBT), individual psychology sessions and individual Interpersonal therapy sessions (IPT)

3. The Secondary Mental Health Team offer specialist mental health services to support prisoners with severe and enduring mental illnesses. The team can refer prisoners to a Consultant Psychiatrist who can prescribe appropriate medication if needed. An occupational therapist can help prisoners with enduring mental health issues to participate more fully in everyday occupations.

4. Mental Health Nurses can be called in a crisis and to help to manage ACCT (Assessment Care in Custody & Teamwork) reviews where there is danger that a prisoner might self-harm or commit suicide.

5. The Team is based in a building separate from the Healthcare Centre which can cause some prisoners to not seek help as they feel there is a stigma attached to being seen entering the Mental Health block. A number of listeners are based around the prison and these specially trained prisoners are available for prisoners to talk to at any time. Prisoners can access the Samaritans via a Freephone service and officers facilitate this.

6. Apart from the high level of prisoners with Mental Health issues which is similar to other parts of the prison estate, the Board has no concerns about the service to prisoners provided by the Mental Health Team at North Sea Camp

## **5.5 Substance Misuse**

1. Addaction run drug treatment services at North Sea Camp. The two service workers are supported by a nurse prescriber and admin support is planned for. There is a Peer Mentor who is available in the substance misuse suite for drop in sessions and who will offer support to prisoners when the substance misuse center is closed. In addition, there is a designated peer mentor on each wing so that prisoners can obtain support at any time.

2. Members of the Addaction team attend NSC Monday to Friday to offer counseling sessions. On Saturday and Sunday they attend to give out medication such as methadone (in the healthcare building). There is a two week waiting list to see a member of the Addaction team. Prisoners can work with the team for as long as they need to and often ask for a session to help manage their relapsing risk factors when e.g. they go out on town visits. The Addaction team sometimes get referrals from the OMU department.

3. Some prisoners have written about their journeys from drug users to being clean as a result of working with Addaction and these have been published around the prison to encourage others to use the service and to reassure that attending sessions with Addaction is a positive step as far as the parole board is concerned.

4. From time to time, the taking of Mamba and Spice (new psychoactive substances) becomes a problem at the prison as some men still manage to obtain these substances despite being in prison.

## **PURPOSEFUL ACTIVITY (INCLUDES WORK)**

### **5.6 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. The Activities Function deals with all paid and unpaid work placements. The team organises training to help equip prisoners on placements with life skills and personal development and supports the Resettlement Programme.

3. Paid and unpaid work opportunities are advertised in the Job Club, where a detailed job description is available. Individuals are encouraged to complete an application form to highlight their skills and what key attributes they can offer the Employer. The Prisoner Advice Centre (PAC) provides support for prisoners to complete forms where this is required.

4. Work parties go out into the local community. Boston Borough Council has formally recognised the hard work that Prisoners carry out within the local area. Commendation has been received for the work undertaken as part of Boston in Bloom (for helping Boston to achieve a Gold Award) and for Fly-tipping work parties (who have collected tons of fly-tipped waste across Boston and South Holland). Work parties have also been a positive introduction for those needing several periods of accompanied RDR's.

5. There is a variety of work opportunities available within the Establishment to support each individual's needs. One such area is unique within the Prison Service. North Sea Camp has a workshop producing lobster pots from materials supplied by a contractor. When completed, the pots are distributed to fishing ports in the UK and overseas. The contract provides full time employment for approximately 20 Prisoners. The work is hard, requiring strength and use of acquired skills. It provides good earnings for those prisoners able to maintain a high output with production currently between 150-160 pots per week.

6. The recycling workshop is now well established, enabling the establishment to recycle approximately 90% of the site's waste produced. This has further developed by bringing in work through an external company, to segregate and bale plastic waste materials and bale. Full training is delivered for the baler and skills gained from the forklift qualification can be put into practice within a work setting.

7. Further industries have been developed with the growth of the cycle workshop, pallets workshop and the introduction of the badges workshop, which has been a popular employment option.

8. The Prison has developed a relationship with HIS Church, which provides a HIS Market where prisoners can buy clothes and other goods donated by firms to HIS. This is seen by the Board as a very positive feature for the prisoners particularly those who have limited finances perhaps due to age or lack of outside links. The HIS market also provides the opportunity to shop in person rather than through a catalogue and that is important to resettlement.

## **5.7 The Farm**

1. The management of the farm is under the direction of the Head of Reducing Re-offending and directly managed by an experienced farm manager.

2. The farm provides employment for prisoners who also undertake qualifications. It is planned to develop this further in conjunction with the Head of Education. Prisoner numbers continued to grow through 2015 and the Farm met its employment SLA targets. Training continues with Land Based prisoners achieving Level 1 and 2 City and Guilds. The Farm has recently recruited a new Livestock instructor.

3. The Farm entered the 2015 Windlesham Trophy and received good feedback from the judge in all areas and will be entering again in 2016. The farm returned to the show ring in 2015 with several good wins such as Champion Large Black and best traditional gilt at Lincoln and reserve interbreed champion and Best gilt with our Large Black pigs at Melton Mowbray Rare breed show. This activity enables prisoners to demonstrate additional skills in preparing the Livestock for the shows and to gain experience of exhibiting them.

4. The Farm received a fully compliant audit for Bio diversity from the Ministry of Justice Ecology manager. Off the back of this success the Farm was entered for the NOMS Wildlife Award and received a highly commended award. The Judges were particularly impressed with the way offenders are involved in this work. The Red tractor farm assurance audit was successful again and there will not be another audit for 18 months.

5. The Farm continues to supply commercial customers with meat for which it often receives premium price. This is a positive as nationally pork and lamb prices have fallen in the past twelve months. The kitchen continues to be supplied with butchered livestock on a weekly basis. A first for the Farm this year was a request for Large Black breeding stock for export to Italy. Four breeding pigs were exported to Italy. There are on-going discussions with a local farmer who would like the Farm to rear calves for him which would provide another commercial return and would give prisoners experience in working with cattle. Finally the Tozer seeds harvest was down last year. New products will be grown this year including a new venture where there is the potential to grow saffron in partnership with a Commercial Supplier.

6. Work was undertaken during the year to re-open the Farm Shop. This will now take place in March 2016. It will be another venture that allows prisoners to work in different environments. The farm will sell some of the excess produce that is produced but the farm will still continue to supply the kitchen with fresh produce.

## **5.8. Resettlement**

1. The range of custodial sentences in the open conditions of North Sea Camp restricts external resettlement activities for some prisoners which is a challenge to staff trying to find employment for prisoners in a non industrial area.

2. On a positive note there has been a significant increase in OMU (Offender Management Unit) staff during the year. There remains a shortage of probation officers and psychologists but recruitment is on-going and it is expected this will be remedied in the coming months. This increased staffing has improved the quality and timing of OASys (Offender Assessment System). Those subject to the quality assurance process were either sufficient or good. During the period an Offender Management Audit was introduced. 3 of the 11 baselines require minor remedial action, otherwise OMU was fully compliant.

3. Following a number of high profile failures locally and nationally, ROTL (Release on Temporary Licence) procedures have been changed. Staff have reacted positively to this but it still produces a number of queries / applications to the Board as lack of timely information means prisoners have to cancel arrangements. However this is a small proportion of the 11,540 ROTLs granted, 1,354 of which were for overnight release. Only 2 of these were temporary release failures.

4. All parole dossiers were prepared on time for the 138 Parole Boards held. 56 prisoners were released on HDC (Home Detention Curfew) and 88 on parole. The prison roll has been low during the reporting period and the OMU has been active and imaginative in their efforts to rectify this.

5. Staff have been trained to help with the Restorative Justice programme. Lottery funded Open and Fair training has helped staff to support prisoners with learning difficulties and personality disorders.

6. Monies have been approved to improve the OMU office, enhancing the Integrated Offender Management, Public Protection, Parole Board and Video Link Facilities. Unfortunately while the tasking orders for this work were submitted to Amey in July 2015 the work is still outstanding.

## **5.9. Safer Custody**

1. There has been one Death in Custody during this reporting period, this occurred at the end of August 2015 and was of natural causes, the coroner's report was satisfied that this prisoner had received care not only of equal quality to community care, but more likely better. This reflects the rising age of the prison population at North Sea Camp which has been raised by the board in previous reports. Figures taken in January 2016 confirm that 32% of the prisons population was over 50 years of age years. There are proposals to provide greater levels of palliative care within the establishment but the necessary funding has not been secured.

2. The Safer Custody team has had staffing problems with staff on long term sick and with an unfilled vacancy. Despite these problems team have provided a high level of service to prisoners.

3. The Safer Custody committee meet once a month and there are attendees from many departments. Staff have received training to improve their awareness of behaviour that could be an indication that a prisoner is not coping and could result in that prisoner causing harm to himself. This has resulted in a higher number of ACCT documents (Assessment, Care in Custody & Teamwork) being opened which means prisoners get timely intervention to resolve issues that endanger their wellbeing.

4. A new system of reporting violent incidents (V.I) has also been introduced which has led to a rise in reported V.I incidents. The majority of these are low level bullying and verbal/emotional threats and are mostly offence linked. This has resulted in a higher level of adjudications being given in the last reporting period. A new system of: "How to Report; How to Respond and How to Reduce" has been introduced.

5. Promotional campaigns are being run to make prisoners a part of the solution. The First 12 weeks of the arrival of a prisoner has the biggest impact for risk of abscond and self-harm. The Prison has been running a Bus to Bed Campaign to help prisoners settle into North Sea Camp. As many reception prisoners are allocated dormitory accommodation when they arrive this does not support the Safer Custody teams efforts as it can often increase anxiety and add adverse risk to new prisoners. The board is pleased that Absconds are down from last year.

6. The Safer Custody team provide a daily drop in service to prisoners to air any concerns they may have on a variety of topics. This service continues to be successful in reducing complaints and continues to alleviate work for officers and administrators. Prisoners often respond better to informal verbal advice than written responses, and the team liaise with other departments quicker and therefore deliver responses to prisoners much quicker. Conversations and actions are logged.

7. The stand-alone Camera systems were installed last summer giving more security to the staff car parking areas. More work on these and the planned permanent surveillance camera system across the estate along with improvement on lighting on the camera masts, and the introduction of holding rooms has received funding and work is planned to start in Autumn 2016.

## **RESIDENTIAL**

### **5.10 Accommodation**

1. The Board is aware that accommodation remains dated and overcrowded. However it is noticeable that cleanliness is driven to a high standard. Core accommodation is in five residential blocks two of which retain some dormitory accommodation. The dormitory accommodation is used as a last resort and prisoners have priority when re-allocations take place. Funding options are being looked at to expand the Jubilee Independent Living Units. This would provide 48 additional spaces which would mean dormitories being decommissioned and some shared rooms returning to single rooms. The Certified Normal Accommodation would stay at 420. This is a Prison priority but is hampered by lack of funds.

The Board is concerned that there are plans for asset disposal by NOMs Estates of these houses. The Board has long advocated that the Dormitories should be decommissioned and supports the Prisons proposals for a cost effective extension of the Jubilee Units. These Units are an essential part of the work the prison does to re-integrate long term prisoners back into society. The Board understands that some of the houses are of a very poor standard due to the time they have remained empty. Recognising that and the benefits of subsidising a mains sewer connection the board hopes that the prison will be supported nationally in its proposals to sell some of the houses. The Board would wish that after any sale a sufficient quantity of houses were upgraded to enable dormitory accommodation to disappear

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, are independent living units situated outside the core prison boundary. The independent living units support the resettlement of 66 prisoners near the end of their sentences and like the main residential blocks are staffed during the core working day.

3. Remedial work continues to be carried out on the Estate but since the contract takeover of maintenance by Amey there have been significant concerns raised about the time taken to complete reported defects. The board has concerns about the performance of this contract. Storage remains an issue but a review of accommodation and a room refurbishment project will see the replacement of current furniture and better storage for all rooms.

4. The Prison has a fulltime Equalities Liaison Officer and has achieved a Green rating in the last Governance & Organisation audit. Healthcare apply the gold standard framework and work in partnership with local authorities under the Care Act 2014 to ensure the needs of older prisoner are met at North Sea Camp. Prisoner "Buddies" are allocated to disabled prisoners to assist with access issues. Dedicated activities for older prisoners are run on a weekly basis in partnership with Age UK and RECOUP. Care for terminally ill and end of life prisoners is a priority and every effort is made to meet their individual needs, up to and including compassionate release. The provision of a palliative care facility remains a need and a priority for North Sea Camp however currently is unfunded. The Prison and healthcare providers are working together explore potential funding streams to provide these much needed facilities which would be both a local and national resource. The strong partnership working between the establishment, healthcare and community agencies for palliative and end of life prisoners continues to improve. The recent death in custody of a prisoner at North Sea camp identified significant issues that were barriers to early compassionate release. The PPO report and coroner's inquest identified that he received a level of care equal or better than that which he would have accessed in the community.

5. Most disabled prisoners are located on North unit on dedicated landings with access to disabled washing, showering and toilet facilities. These landings have additional aids such as handrails and specialist equipment in rooms (provided by the local authority).

## **5.11 Catering and Kitchens**

1. The catering manager is supported by a team consisting of three grade 4 staff members and three at grade 3. They are assisted by 53 prisoners, four of whom are

currently working towards their NVQ. All prisoners who do not already hold a food hygiene certificate are working towards this qualification.

2. The menus have a 7 day cycle giving 5 daily choices including one healthy option, one vegetarian and one halal, and an additional separate vegan menu. The menu changes twice a year. The Prison offers a full cooked breakfast every day, unique within the prison estates, which is very popular. The majority of food provided is home cooked rather than pre-prepared. The home made lunchtime soups are very popular. The food is sampled daily by the duty governor and weekly by IMB rota members. The quality is shown by the high level of praise left in the comments book

3. The Kitchen has retained its food hygiene rating of 5 from Boston Borough Council, as well as all audits continuing to be Green.

4. The Farm continues to supply seasonal vegetables, pork and some lamb to NSC kitchens; however the cross charges for these products are expensive when compared to the tight food budget of £2.20 daily per prisoner.

5. The issue with the bread oven reported last year continues. The IMB has concern that the project has not been completed. On investigation it appears that a full feasibility study was not carried out by the initial instigator of the project who has since left the prison. The Catering Department has an asset that could benefit it, but the cost of installation means that the cost benefit of the asset is not as great as the board was originally led to believe.

6. The kitchens have reported many problems with maintenance this year. An example is walk in freezers and fridges taking up to 3 weeks to be repaired. Many smaller jobs taking an unacceptable length of time to get sorted since Amey took over the contract. These constant delays put catering staff under additional pressure.

7. On-going problems with suppliers 3663 have become the norm, out of stock items are replaced with alternatives which causes inconvenient short notice menu changes.

8. All religious and cultural events are catered for and a culturally themed evening meal is laid on once a month and is very popular with prisoners eg Chinese food evening. On Family visit days the catering department provide either a hot meal or a buffet. The catering department are also responsible for running the visits shop.

9. The staff mess is popular and a good employment opportunity for the prisoners who work there. The facility runs without staff supervision so there is a lot of trust placed in the prisoners employed.

## **5.12 Maintenance**

1. The responsibility for Maintenance moved this year from an In House Team to a private sector contractor Amey. This was part of a national tendering process with the prison having no choices or input into the contract specification. This has meant that a national contracting process has not taken into account the needs of this prison which is part of the open estate with unique accommodation and other estates problems. After many years where Maintenance have worked well to support the Governor in his drive to improve the cleanliness and general conditions at North Sea Camp this is a retrograde step.

2. Prisoners continue to 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.

3. In the previous two year's reports it was highlighted that some of the work undertaken by Contractors took a long time to complete. This year the Board has to report that the work carried out by the in House Contractor Amey is taking far longer than under the previous regime and while individual members of staff try and provide as good a service as before they seem to be tied up by even more complex layers of bureaucracy. Experienced Staff have also left the service adding to the problems.

4. Just before the reporting year finished there were 171 outstanding pieces of maintenance work. The Board requested a meeting with the local AMEY manager to hear the AMEY view on this but no meeting took place. The board understands that once a request has been placed on Planet FM and AMEY respond eg to assess what needs doing, this can be classed as having been dealt with for performance purposes even though no work has been done.

Two specific examples of the AMEY contract adding significant costs to the establishment are firstly the cost of the OMU refurbishment which has gone up from £37,000 under the in house provision to £85,000 through AMEY. The Board are also concerned to hear that AMEY take 10% of any contract let as effectively an arrangement fee for doing very little.

The second concerns the Bread Oven in the kitchen referred to at 5.11.5 where the issue is AMEY not taking responsibility to undertake a piece of work which they inherited when they took the contract on.

### **5.13 Stores**

1. Currently staffed by one full time member of Amey and one administrative member shared with maintenance. Both are licensed to update the computer system. In addition a prison administration manager supervises the stores. Four prisoners are employed as orderlies, who are preparing to engage in a course via the education department to gain related stores qualifications.

2. Orders from Branston are not always being supplied in a timely fashion. This led to shortages in the supply of boots during the autumn; approximately 100 pairs of boots had to be sourced locally as boots could not be supplied for at least three months. Ironically these were cheaper locally than through the contractor, saving a significant amount.

3. An initiative from stores led to boot recycling which started in October and has continued to the end of the reporting period but which is expected to cease in the near future. Used boots sourced from NSC and Lincoln were recycled with the monies earned being put into prison clothing purchases. Another initiative has been orderlies with tailoring skills strengthening and repairing clothing.

4. Future plans see Amey improving the computer system to a Min & Max system which is planned to be introduced during the spring. This would allow the levels of stock to be automatically replenished and updated.

5. After ironing out some initial teething problems, Amey's running of stores has maintained a good standard of service and they plan to continue to improve on

previous systems. This is due to the enthusiasm and competence of the staff members and the orderlies.

## **6 ADDITIONAL DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

### **6.1. Chaplaincy**

1. The Chaplaincy Department at North Sea Camp provides pastoral support to all prisoners and staff, irrespective of their faith. The department facilitates corporate worship and religious study for many faiths, and provides several secular activities, such as a weekly quiz night, an art group, a band and a choir. A member of the Senior Management Team delivers "Newsnight" once a month, to give prisoners up-to-date information about relevant issues, and an opportunity for questions.

2. The Chaplaincy consists of one full-time Managing Chaplain, nine regular Sessional Chaplains, three regular volunteers and two Official Prison Visitors. There is a request for two additional part time Chaplains.

3. There are currently 13 distinct faiths or denominations represented in the establishment population. Sixty per cent of the current prison population have indicated they follow one of these faiths while 40 per cent (141) have stated that they follow no specified religion.

4. The last Chaplaincy Assurance & Compliance in April 2015 achieved a high Amber/Green score. The auditor recognised the improvements that had been made in Chaplaincy provision in the establishment, and was satisfied that Chaplaincy had become well-integrated into the prison. The next audit is in May 2016. The Action Plan from the audit consisted of 24 actions, most of which were amber. All but 8 of these actions have now been closed, and most of those remaining relate to resourcing and budgetary issues outside of the control of the establishment.

5. The principal area of concern highlighted by the audit relates to staffing. This is due in part to the difficulty of finding appropriately qualified people to fill these roles on a sessional basis, and in part due to budgetary constraints. Major achievements have included:

- Increasing the number of Sessional Chaplains from five to nine.
- Increasing the number of OPVs (official prison visitors) from one to two (with a third awaiting security clearance).
- Increasing the number of volunteers from two to three (with a fourth awaiting security clearance).

6. The small walkway to the left of the Chapel is to be turned into a 'sensory garden' featuring highly scented and textured plants that will benefit prisoners with visual disabilities.

### **6.2. Security**

1. The Security team consists of one band 7 officer, one band 5 officer and a part time band 2 officer all shared between security and operations. The team also has a band 3 officer in security and a band 4 analyst both at full time status. The OMU

department have alleviated some of the security department's work as some band 4 and above staff have been trained in ROTL security intelligence.

2. After a high profile escapee from NSC went to court in May 2015, the Judge criticised ROTL procedures and made recommendations. This case along with other high profile cases of ROTL failures in other establishments led to national changes to the ROTL procedures. These include that ROTL should be for purposeful activity, involve more risk assessment, and that prisoners be re-risk assessed on receipt of new information. More risk assessment tools are now utilised such as OASIS, MURCURY and security data.

3. Intelligence reports (IR) fluctuate from month to month but have fallen this year. This is believed to be due to the increase in Violence Reduction (VR) referrals made to the safer custody team. IR reports continue to be an important factor in keeping the Prison safe for Prisoners, Staff and Visitors.

4. The Prison is constantly running on Amber alert. This is because of low staffing levels across the estate due to long term sickness and phased returns as well as the usual holidays and vacancies. This often causes double detailing for officers and unattended units. This may have led to less intelligence reporting.

5. The board is pleased that the proposed surveillance camera system with additional lighting across the estate, along with the much needed holding facility has been given the go ahead. This will make NSC much safer for both staff and prisoners; with a secure area for prisoners waiting to be transferred back to closed conditions reducing the risk of further absconds.

### **6.3. Induction/Reception**

1. North Sea Camp has an office near the prison gate where staff receive prisoners arriving at the Prison, deal with issues concerning prisoner property and check licenses for prisoners going out of the prison for work, healthcare appointments, home or town leave. The reception process is continued by officers and prisoners in the South induction unit which houses all newly arrived prisoners. The prisoner led induction unit has access to stand alone computers. The unit produces a booklet with a map of the prison and such information as the prison core day which is given to each new prisoner. A team of listeners are available to listen to and help with concerns that those arriving at North Sea Camp may have.

2. The prisoner induction unit runs a five day induction programme that operates every week except for Christmas and New Year weeks. Prisoners new to North Sea Camp join it as soon as they arrive and do the five days induction before they can consider getting a job or going to education. Talks by members of staff are given on South unit and prisoners have additional sessions including the gym and healthcare.

3. A review entitled "From Bus to Bed" was conducted in July 2015 and a report produced. The review looked at the first 24 hours after arrival at North Sea Camp. As a result changes were made to improve the impression made on prisoners during their first 24 hours. The reception and induction processes are now seen as an opportunity to engage positively with newly arrived prisoners and to set them on the path to rehabilitation. Officers who have been observed by the IMB on the reception and induction wing show a genuine concern for the prisoners they are dealing with and try their best to resolve issues speedily. Staff are especially helpful to those who

are spending their first night in an open prison after many years in closed conditions as an open prison with no fences is often a daunting place on arrival.

4. When the roll was higher 6 person dormitories were used to house newly arrived prisoners. There are plans to erect screens in the dormitories should they have to be used again. It is recognised that dormitories are not ideal particularly as most prisoners arriving come from closed prisons where they have had single cells.

**Areas of concern in the reception/induction area include:**

5. Use of dormitories could increase if the roll at North Sea Camp grows and this could have a detrimental effect on some prisoners

6. The processing of licenses is not always smooth and thus prisoners sometimes miss appointments. Adequate time between ROTL boards and license issue needs to be ensured so that prisoners know at least 24 and ideally 48 hours before they are due out of the prison that they have been granted leave (subject to good behaviour up to departure). This gives prisoners adequate time to arrange monies, contact their families, confirm appointments with for example outside probation officers and let their external places of work (whether paid or voluntary) know with at least 24 hours' notice that they will be absent.

7. The IMB receive a lot of queries from prisoners who have had to leave property behind at their former prison due to the fact that Geo Amey are unable to carry more than a very limited amount of prisoner property on the van with the prisoner. This limitation is particularly hard for prisoners who have been in prison for many years. It is not reasonable to expect prisoners to have only 3 bags of property when they have paperwork for parole boards to carry round with them as well as clothes. The problem is exacerbated during winter when clothes are bulkier.

8. For the second year running property issues have been the main reason for applications to the board. Many of the issues are resolved but they often take time and cause undue anxiety to the prisoners concerned. The time spent by Prison Staff chasing problems sometimes caused by other establishments but lost often by poor contractor performance takes them away from other important duties.

9. To help the latter problem the Prison operates a clothes exchange programme during the first 28 days after a prisoner's arrival when they can exchange winter clothes for summer clothes and vice versa via family and friends and this helps many prisoners. Those prisoners who do not have family and friends who can help them can find that managing their property is difficult.

#### **6.4. Gymnasium**

1. There are two full time and one part time staff members, with an additional full time vacancy currently advertised. Four orderlies are also employed in the gym, two hold level 2 qualifications and all four have first aid qualifications.

2. The level 2 gym instructors course currently offered at NSC is being undertaken by 6 prisoners and takes 4-5 months to complete. The first aid course has been completed by 36 staff members and approximately 20 prisoners.

3. Gym staff offer remedial sessions for those with health issues either by illness or

injury, and sessions are available for the over 50's and for retired prisoners. NSC also works with Age UK for Thursday afternoon sessions.

4. Supervised classes are available from 8.30 am and offer 4 classes a day each lasting 1.5/1.75 hours, closing at 4.45pm ready for open recreation period between 5 & 8pm. At induction PE Staff see all prisoners to explain these opportunities. The gym currently is utilised by approximately 100 people each day.

5. As reported in previous reports, the equipment and facilities at NSC has not been updated in many years, used equipment has been sourced and repaired from closing prisons. If the gymnasium is to continue its success then significant investment is required to renew and update the ageing and already repaired equipment.

## **6.5. Library**

1. The library is managed by Lincolnshire County Council Library Service (now Greenwich Leisure Ltd). The library is a vibrant part of the prison, open 7 days a week and staffed by 1 librarian assisted by prisoner orderlies. Stock of books and DVDs is constantly reviewed and increased. The Library 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. In 2015 the average monthly footfall was 4,361 with 2,385 items loaned, one third of which were DVDs. Papers are delivered daily and there is a selection of magazines.

3. Story Book Dads helps prisoners with young children stay in touch. 6 Book Challenge, Reading Ahead Challenge and World Book Night all encourage reading. 28 prisoners borrowed over 100 books each during the year.

4. The library staff took an active part in prisoner and staff wellbeing events and the prison open day.

5. Four stand-alone computers were installed in the library last year. The introduction of the computers has helped prisoners with their study courses and enabled them to search for local employment.

## **SECTION 7 THE WORK OF THE IMB AT HMP NORTH SEA CAMP**

### **7.1 Overview**

1. The Board has had a successful recruitment year with three new members appointed. There are now seven Board Members. Although the official full complement of 10 members has not been attained, the Board is happy that with the increase in the number of members the board can function more effectively and carry out a higher number of Rota visits. The Board welcomes the change to the national appointment process which has reduced 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 electronically 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 benefit from the support of a conscientious and willing Board Clerk.

## 7.2 Training

1. The Vice Chair will attend the Annual Conference in March. Board members continue to take the opportunity to attend 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

## 7.3 Board Statistics

Recommended Complement of Board Members	10
Number of Board Members at start of reporting period	4
Number of Board Members at end of reporting period	7
Number of new members joining within reporting period	3
Number of members leaving within reporting period	0
Number of attendances at meetings other than Board meetings	142
Total number of visits to the prison (including all meetings)	193
Total number of applications received	98
Total number of segregation reviews held	N/A
Total number of segregation reviews attended	N/A

## 7.4 Prisoner Applications to the Board

Code	Subject	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
A	Accommodation	3	6	4	0	3
B	Adjudications	2	4	2	3	0
C	Diversity related	0	3	0	2	3
D	Education/Employment/Training	0	6	6	2	10
E	Family/Visits	3	7	11	2	n/a
E 1	Family/Visits	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4
E 2	Family/Visits	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2
F	Food/Kitchen related	3	0	0	0	1
G	Health related	1	5	5	1	10
H	Property	7	9	11	17	n/a

H 1	Property	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	13
H 2	Property	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	16
H 3	Property	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6
I	Sentence related (inc. HDC)	18	18	25	16	17
J	Staff/Prisoner related	4	1	2	2	6
K	Transfers	4	6	1	1	2
L	Miscellaneous	3	7	6	3	5
	Total Number of Applications	48	72	73	49	98