



**The Independent Monitoring
Board**

HMP DARTMOOR

ANNUAL REPORT

2016

1 OCTOBER 2015 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

Section 1

STATUTORY ROLE OF THE IMB

1.1 The Prisons Act 1952 and the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 require every prison and IRC to be monitored by an independent board appointed by the Ministry of Justice 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.

1.2 Equality and Diversity Statement:

HMP Dartmoor IMB will not discriminate directly or indirectly against anyone with protected characteristics in recruitment, in the treatment of members, and in the way we monitor the treatment of people in custody. Protected characteristics are: disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race including ethnic or national origin and nationality, religion or belief, age, marriage and civil partnership, sex and sexual orientation.

We aim to value diversity by respecting people from different backgrounds, and by recognising that their different experiences, skills and requirements enhance the Board's ability to monitor fairness and interaction between prisoners, detainees, staff and visitors.

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Section 3

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRISON

3.1 HMP Dartmoor is a Category C training prison for up to 640 adult male prisoners. The prison is situated in Princetown on the western edge of Dartmoor National Park, eight miles from Tavistock and sixteen miles from Plymouth (the nearest main-line railway station). Access is difficult with very limited public transport. The local environment is harsh and can be particularly bleak in the winter months. The prison comprises six residential wings (known in HMP Dartmoor as tors), a care and separation unit (CSU), healthcare suite, chapel and education facilities and workshops. In addition there is a large gymnasium, a well-equipped kitchen and other facilities to support the life of the prison. A fully-integrated smoke-free regime is in operation: all tors accommodate main and vulnerable prisoners. The prison and prisoners are supported by a number of contractors and charities, either working in the prison or visiting on a regular basis.

3.2 The buildings are leased from the Duchy of Cornwall and the Prison Service is responsible for their upkeep. Many of them are old, prone to damp, and asbestos continues to be an issue in certain places. There are, however, very well-maintained and attractive garden areas. The prison is one of the major employers in the town alongside agriculture, tourism and a small brewery. Employment opportunities in the local area for prisoners on release are, however, limited.

Section 4

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4.1 Overall judgement

4.1.1 HMP Dartmoor has faced a number of challenges throughout this reporting year. Like many other establishments, it has seen a large increase in the incidence of New Psychoactive Substance (NPS) usage amongst prisoners and the consequent rise in serious medical emergencies with instances of sometimes dangerous and disruptive behaviour. The other challenge to the regime came from the introduction, as one of the pilot prisons of the national no smoking policy, which, when it first began, resulted in outbursts of uncooperative behaviour by prisoners. The fact that major disturbance did not occur at HMP Dartmoor, the Board believes, was largely due to the commendable, professional manner minor unrest was dealt with by staff, and the effective prisoner-staff relations which have been achieved here. The Board recognises that staff often work under extremely difficult and challenging circumstances and would therefore like to begin this year's report by commending all staff for the professional way prisoners have been managed.

4.1.2 The other notable event during the year was the consolidation of the integrated regime, introduced shortly before the end of the last reporting year. Following an uncertain start, the move to integration seems to have improved the general behaviour and atmosphere of the prison. There have been some indications that a small number of prisoners who are serving sexually-related offences have felt intimidated and anxious (as possibly indicated by some self

isolating prisoners). But overall it would appear to the Board that integration was successfully accomplished and is operating effectively. Where the integrated regime is challenged is when prisoners are not properly briefed before their transfer to Dartmoor. Similarly, there is evidence that some prisoners have not been warned that a move to Dartmoor means agreeing to a compliance with the no smoking rule.

4.1.3 Apart from commending the way these events have been managed by staff, this has been a year when the Board would like to recognise and record other achievements: the continuing improvements made to the decor and cleanliness of wings and around the prison generally, including the prison gardens; another year of efforts made to advance staff-management relationships through improving communication such as through the Governor's often witty and newsworthy blog and a series of special events: charity and family occasions, all very important in raising staff morale and well-being. The Board notes the low levels of staff sickness, especially compared with other South West prisons, and believes this to have arisen out of the efforts made to recognise and value staff. Other noteworthy points which should be mentioned include: continuing efforts to diversify employment opportunities for prisoners, the continuing good quality of educational provision, and the work of the safer custody team.

4.1.4 Aspects causing the Board concern this year, however, many of which have been mentioned in two preceding years' reports include :

- The fabric of the prison is old and in several places prone to damp, and there remains a need to deal with these deficiencies. Several cells, in a recent survey just before the end of the reporting period, were observed to still suffer from penetrative damp and are in need of remedial attention.
- A recent close survey also of showers revealed that some showers were either broken or had shoddily and poorly fitted screening installed, at great cost by Carillion. This had either not been reported by wing staff or had not been properly attended to by the maintenance team.
- The Board has been concerned about the sometimes lengthy delays in the Carillion contract for maintenance and their sometimes very expensive quotations for works.
- The Board has observed regularly up to about a third of prisoners remaining on the wing, occasionally up to a half, during weekday working time. Although some will be wing cleaners, this does not explain these significant numbers remaining and, the Board has struggled to understand the reasons given why this should be so. The prison should be commended for the valiant efforts made to provide new employment opportunities for prisoners but further work is needed if this is to be universal and full-time.
- The Board has been concerned to observe that the Offender Management Unit (OMU) continues to work under extreme pressure

with heavy caseloads and some offender supervisors having to operate a dual role, reverting to wing duties when deficiencies in the regime dictates. This results in potential mistakes and deficiencies in Parole Board reports and the possibility that prisoners will not receive a fair Parole Board hearing. The Board has also received, once again, complaints from prisoners that they find it hard to see their offender supervisors.

- The Board has been made aware that significant numbers of prisoners are still transferred from other prisons without a fully completed offender assessment system in place (OASys) or even without one at all
- The Board has continued to receive many complaints from prisoners about loss of property on transfer from other prisons, in particular HMP Bristol, and has been made aware that the complaints' clerks at HMP Dartmoor, who assiduously follow these through, have found HMP Bristol often refuses to answer queries.
- The Board notes the increasing number of bedwatches and outpatient hospital appointments, which exert significant pressure on Healthcare.
- The Board has been concerned about reductions in regime mainly caused by this high number of bedwatches.
- The Board was seriously concerned about the management of prisoners who witnessed one of the deaths in custody this year, but recognises that this was an exceptional and unusual tragic event, and realises that important lessons have been understood and learnt by the prison.
- The Board was also seriously concerned about the long term management within the prison system of a prisoner who had been transferred directly into HMP Dartmoor's Care and Separation Unit (CSU) from HMP Guys Marsh's segregation unit where he had been for 84 days on continuous dirty protest. He spent a further 86 days at HMP Dartmoor on continuous dirty protest. Despite making detailed representations to the Deputy Director Custody South West, and further detailed representation to the Director, Public Sector Prisons and then to the Minister of Justice with a further reminder to each, all by recorded delivery, there was no response or even an acknowledgement. A copy of the representation was sent to the local MP Geoffrey Cox, who acknowledged receipt, said he too would write to the Ministry, but to date he has received no reply. At the time of writing neither the local MP nor the Board has received any response to their concerns.

4.1.6 This has been a good year for HMP Dartmoor. Despite the many challenges faced by all prisons, good staff-prisoner relationships here have

prevailed, and staff at all levels have worked effectively and professionally to achieve what the Board believes overall to be a safe, clean and well-managed prison.

4.2 Matters for which a response is sought

4.2.1 Questions to the Minister

1. Why has the Minister failed to respond to serious detailed concerns drawn to her attention by this Board about the long term management of a prisoner within the prison system? (5.7.2; 5.7.3)
2. Despite raising this with the Minister last year, significant numbers of prisoners are still transferring between prisons without a completed Offender Assessment System (OASys). What steps have been taken to remedy this? (5.4.4)
3. What measures have been taken nationally to improve the delivery of the Carillion contract? (5.3.4; 5.6.2)

4.2.2 Questions to NOMS

1. Why has the Director of Public Prisons failed to respond to serious detailed concerns drawn to his attention by this Board about the long term management of a prisoner within the prison system? (5.7.2; 5.7.3)
2. Despite raising this issue last year what measures locally have been taken to remedy the significant numbers transferring locally without OASys? (5.4.4)
3. Has NOMS any plans to modernise the system of recording and tracking prisoners' property? (5.6.3)
4. Does NOMS recognise that managing a rising prisoner age demographic brings additional financial consequences over and above most other South West prisons, and will it therefore allocate extra resources for HMP Dartmoor to manage this growing challenge to its budget? (5.1.1; 5.1.3; 5.3.5; 5.3.6; 5.6.5)
5. Will NOMS restore the necessary resettlement resources to enable HMP Dartmoor to give proper recognition to its newly found requirement to discharge prisoners back into the community? (5.2.5; 5.4.2; 5.4.3)

4.2.3 Questions for the Governor

1. Despite raising the matter last year, heavy caseloads of OMU staff persist, with resultant deficiencies in OMU performance. What measures does the Governor intend to take to improve this? (5.4.3)

2. What measures does the Governor propose to manage the prison's growing ageing population, particularly with respect to end of life care? (5.1.1; 5,1,3; 5.3.5; 5.3.6)
3. Will the success of the integrated regime be fully evaluated and in what ways would the Governor envisage building on the progress made? (3.1; 5.6.6)

Section 5

KEY AREAS

5.1 Equality and Inclusion

5.1.1 The Board recognises the efforts made by the prison to respond humanely to the challenges offered by a rising age demographic in its population. For example, Fox Tor has been used on one occasion this year for end of life palliative care. Currently prisoners with mobility difficulties are housed on the ground floor in Fox Tor – but the exercise yard has two steps down to it. Measurements have been taken to construct a removable ramp for access for those with disabilities. Prisoners on this wing have spoken to members of the Board very positively about the support they receive there.

5.1.2 Two trans gender prisoners on separate occasions approached the IMB and 'Inside Times' and volunteered that they have felt welcomed and supported by both staff and prisoners at HMP Dartmoor.

5.1.3 The wheelchair lift to Healthcare has been inoperative since November 2015, necessitating the wheeling of seriously ill prisoners outside in all weathers to reach the Healthcare suite. Carillion have been unable to source the parts needed throughout the past eleven months. The Board recognises that a full replacement is being considered, but commends urgency before the bad winter weather sets in.

5.1.4 The Chaplaincy have managed to organize input from an imam from Bristol and Plymouth on five occasions this year. There is currently a recruitment campaign for an employed imam, and there are seven applicants. After several years without an imam, the Board welcomes this development.

5.2 Education, Learning and Skills

5.2.1 During the year, the Board has noted that attendance figures for Education courses have remained high. The Board is concerned that many of these courses are part-time, and has observed a significant number of prisoners regularly on the wings during the working day. Shift work patterns for kitchen workers contribute to numbers of prisoners recorded as employed but spending a proportion of the working day on the wings. This may give a false picture of the employment pattern the prison is achieving.

5.2.2 The Acting Head of Learning and Skills provides good direction, and works closely with the manager for Weston College and the Industries Manager to promote opportunities in Education and Industries for prisoners. Attendance figures recorded for the academic year in Industries have averaged 89% during the year, and for Education 94%.

5.2.3 At one point during the year, it was difficult to maintain prisoner numbers in the Call Centre due to the enhanced risk assessments that have been put in place which restricts the number of prisoners that can apply for this employment. A single risk-assessment for IT-based work was introduced earlier this year for completion by Security and OMU but the Board notes there are often delays in these being completed. The Call Centre provides good opportunities for prisoners to be employed but is subject to a contractual agreement with an outside employer which has been challenged by these delays. During this reporting year there have also continued to be issues with recruiting instructors to Industry workshops and a lack of qualified cover resulting in workshop closures due to staff absence. For example, closures of Carpentry resulted in classes being halved and prisoners sent back to the wings. The Board regrets such shortfalls, caused largely by a lack of temporary cover.

5.2.4 The Board would like to celebrate the new initiative of family days when relatives were invited into some workshops to see their relative's work and view the awarding of certificates. The Board can also commend the introduction of Re-engagement Boards where prisoners who are not in work are formally interviewed to discuss current barriers to learning and employment. Mention should also be made of the work of the Shaw Trust who work with offenders with complex needs and support these prisoners prior to their release back into the community. The Inspiration in Custody project has been introduced at HMP Dartmoor this year and has provided opportunities for prisoners to experience mock interview sessions prior to taking part in actual interviews with a local company with feedback on their performance. There have also been opportunities provided by outside employers to write a CV and to apply for assessments into an apprenticeship training scheme upon discharge. The gardens and ground works working parties have continued to maintain the gardens within HMP Dartmoor to an excellent standard and increased the supply of plants and produce. This produce is used in the kitchen. The Board is pleased to observe that the library has been effectively used this year with an increased footfall.

5.2.5 Despite not being a resettlement prison and not benefitting from discharge services or funding, the Board has noted that within the last few months, HMP Dartmoor has, commendably, set up Discharge Boards to address the needs of the growing number of prisoners which the prison has found itself having to discharge on a regular basis. The Board has observed that the Offender Management Unit (OMU) was not regularly represented at these meetings and was therefore not briefed to support prisoners in their resettlement. The Board welcomes the move to re-establish Discharge Boards, but feels that the lack of NOMS recognition of its resettlement function disadvantages prisoners being released back into the community.

5.3 Healthcare and Mental Health

5.3.1 The Board is aware that there has been a large rise in the number of recorded incidents dealt with by Healthcare staff. Two thirds of the incidents involved the use of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS). There were several emergency hospitalisations and some close medical calls.

5.3.2 In addition, and coinciding with this increase, the Board was aware that Healthcare staff were involved in preparing prisoners for the smoke free pilot, which started on April 24th. A range of clinics and medical support is in place to enable prisoners to reduce their reliance on nicotine. Some newly arrived prisoners have complained that their previous prison had not told them that HMP Dartmoor is now smoke free. As Healthcare staff no longer complete a full medical assessment on arrival, only a safety check, this has meant that these prisoners cannot be helped for their first couple of days until their full assessment can be completed. However, the Board has observed that in spite of early difficulties with enhanced potency of NPS, the smoke-free pilot has been successful and commends all staff in managing effectively what could otherwise have been an extremely problematic period.

5.3.3 The Board has received several written applications concerning delays in receiving medication. Healthcare has raised with Dorset Healthcare Trust that HMP Dartmoor has only been allocated the equivalent of a three day a week pharmacy service; the volume of demand exceeds the capacity.

5.3.4 An issue raised in last year's report was the cleaning contract held by Carillion. There has been progress in this area: two Carillion cleaners have now had training and oversee the Healthcare orderlies who do a good job. Healthcare would welcome this extending to the monitoring of orderlies using the right equipment, the management of spills and a general ongoing audit of the orderlies. There has also been progress and contractual change on medical deliveries to the suite.

5.3.5 The Board has noted a significant increase in the age of prisoners – 35% of its population is aged over 50. This has resulted in the need for a wide range of largely age-related conditions requiring attention; for example, concern was expressed that podiatry was under resourced so there was a trial of doubling the number of sessions. Training has been organized for nurses to enable more monitoring of foot problems. Other standard age-related treatments are now available: annual retinal screening, aortic aneurism screening, flu and shingles jabs, and the Board welcomes the addition this year of the opportunity offered to prisoners for bowel cancer screening. This year also saw the introduction of The Macmillan clinic and The St Luke's clinic for end of life/life limiting conditions such as dementia. The requirements of an ageing prison population increase the interventions needed by Healthcare. Despite these welcome developments, the Board remains concerned about the provision of appropriate end of life care.

5.3.6 The Board notes a very heavy requirement for the prison to provide staff for hospital escorts and bed watches. On one occasion there were six escorts required for urgent appointments and bed watches which resulted in significant staff shortages and wing closures.

5.4 Resettlement

5.4.1 Resettlement continues to be largely monitored through the Reducing Re-Offending Committee which meets quarterly. Representatives from seven key pathways are invited to attend as are OMU and the Chaplaincy. The Board notes that attendance continues to be erratic and there are occasions when no representative is present and no written report is forwarded. The new chair of this committee is keen to see a more coherent and holistic approach towards reducing re-offending.

5.4.2 The reintroduction of Discharge Boards has been most welcome but the inconsistency of OMU attendance has been a concern. Although Dartmoor is not a designated discharge prison, it has found itself having to discharge approximately 15 – 20 prisoners monthly with a peak of 26 in September. As HMP Dartmoor is no longer a resettlement prison, the lack of an accommodation worker results in some prisoners leaving the prison with no planned accommodation. This is particularly true if a prisoner is not under probation supervision. The reintroduction of a full time National Careers Service employee is welcomed by the Board.

5.4.3 The Board is aware of a number of rehabilitation and resettlement programmes: Money Advice Plymouth, Citizens Advice Bureau (the future of which is uncertain), Hotfoot Substance Misuse programme, Resolve and the piloting of Coach and Change, the wide range of workshops and education classes as well as the work of the Chaplaincy in developing volunteer counsellors and Restorative Justice. These programmes are widely discussed at the quarterly committee meetings. In addition, the Board commends excellent practice witnessed in the Thinking Skills Programme and the Better Man course.

5.4.4 The pressure on OMU is a serious concern to the Board. Case Administrators in OMU have caseloads regularly exceeding 100 prisoners each, and Probation Officers 75-80, and as a consequence many prisoners express their frustration to the Board in trying to arrange meetings with their Offender Supervisor. In addition, the workload has resulted in missing a Parole Board deadline and a mistake in the categorisation of a prisoner. The demands are not made any easier by the significant numbers of prisoners still being transferred to the prison with an incomplete or with no OASys at all. The Board is encouraged by the planned review of OMU by the prison.

5.5 Safer Custody

5.5.1 The Board is pleased to note that it has observed significant efforts once again this year to continue to keep the prison safe for prisoners and for staff. The Safer Custody team meets on a monthly basis receiving data from multiple sources and collating and responding to this information. It is a well-run well-attended, multi-disciplinary meeting, including usually the Deputy Governor, Security, Custody Managers, Chaplaincy, Mental Health and, for appropriate parts of the meeting – Listeners and Safer Custody Representatives from each wing. The Board welcomes the introduction of the role of Safer Custody

representatives this year as a further channel to enable prisoners to express their concerns. Of particular praiseworthy mention should be the team's promotion of bite-sized learning modules, partly to train staff and partly to provide timely and frequent reminders of standard working practices, all of which enhance safer custody.

5.5.2 The Board notes that self-harm rates reported by the prison are lower than comparator Category C prisons and that they are also down by about one third from levels in the previous IMB reporting year. The Board has observed several ACCT reviews during the year and has found that, where these have been monitored, they have all been professionally and sympathetically conducted. The Board was concerned to identify that numbers of prisoners placed on an ACCT had increased marginally since last year and also that this spiked just after the establishment went 'no smoking', coinciding with an increase in NPS usage and a resultant increase in debts. The Board considers that restricted regimes, caused by increased bed watches, can lead to vulnerable prisoners' sense of isolation being adversely affected.

5.5.3 In the latter six months, the Board can report that ACCT numbers have reduced to their former levels, averaging across the whole of the reporting year at 17 per month. The Board commends the use of distraction kits regularly offered by wing and CSU staff which seem to have been well received by prisoners. The Board would like also to commend the effective peer support systems in place, especially the listener system which seems particularly effective with good support at Reception and on the wings. The Listeners are supported with effective training and co-ordination by The Samaritans. All recorded incidents are entered into the national Violence Diagnostic tool but with the current low level of incidents they are as yet of limited use as a predictor.

5.5.4 There were two Deaths in Custody during the year. These have been subject to the usual police and Prisons and Probation Office (PPO) investigations. Deaths occurring within the prison establishment are normally visited as soon as possible afterwards by a duty IMB member. There was only one incident which was of serious concern to the Board, following an attack by one prisoner on another in the kitchens and the Board expressed its concerns to the Governor, the police and PPO in the immediate aftermath. The Board was fully involved in the prison learning process after this unfortunate event and was able to visit all the prisoners and staff involved, some of whom had been notably affected by it. IMB members have not been asked to attend any Coroners' proceedings this reporting year.

5.6 Residential Services

5.6.1 Throughout the year, rota reports have noted the cleanliness and tidiness of HMP Dartmoor, and the Board has found the prison to be clean, tidy and presentable inside and out. The gardens should be mentioned as evidence of the skills of the prisoners who tend them and are to be particularly commended. Most cells are decorated adequately; those that suffer from damp have either been 'tanked' and redecorated or taken out of action until this can be achieved. The Board recorded last year that a programme of screening in showers, much requested over the years, had been completed. However, the Board had been

misinformed and there were deficiencies noted on joint walk-rounds between the Chair and the Deputy Governor. One wing, East Tor, remains unscreened.

5.6.2 Rota reports have regularly observed serveries and tasted food on offer. Most wings have dedicated serveries but Granite Tor's servery is still situated in the centre of the open area, despite an earlier promise to rectify this, raising some Health and Safety issues. The kitchen appears to be working well, despite suffering from regular break-downs of equipment which often seem to take quite a time to rectify. For example, one boiling copper has been out of use since last March. Leaks of rainwater have contaminated the food preparation area. The speed of repair work was affected by the slow and cumbersome relationship with Carillion. Staff work hard to continue to provide a reasonable food service. There have been a few verbal complaints regarding food, but the Board has received no written applications about it.

5.6.3 The loss of prisoners' personal property continues to be a significant issue, particularly on transfers from other establishments, and especially when not all the property travels with the prisoner. Other prisons are often slow to respond to complaints regarding property loss, and an increasing number of complaints about property have had to be referred to The Prison Ombudsman. This has particularly affected transfers from HMP Bristol.

5.6.4 There have been a few complaints once again about losses or delays from the post room during the year, which have proved difficult to investigate. "E-mail a Prisoner" was introduced during the year but there have been some technical difficulties with this service and it has been subject to curtailments. The Board commends the work of the charity Choices which continues to provide a good service to prisoners and their families during visits.

5.6.5 There have been occasions during the year when exercise/gym time has been limited due to a restricted regime caused by staff shortages. Once again wings were subject to patrol state due mainly to large numbers of bed watches caused by an increasingly ageing prison population. The gym and the library continue to offer good service to prisoners. The gym is well-kept and maintained and the Board commends the positive interaction between staff and prisoners. Good use is made of orderlies in both places.

5.6.6 Reception is a busy but clean and orderly space. Prisoners appear to be treated here with appropriate courtesy, and there have been no complaints about the first night experience. There is a dedicated induction area on Down Tor. Again, the induction programme does not appear to suffer any adverse criticism from prisoners. However, it appears from other complaints from prisoners that some had not always been fully briefed before transfer from other prisons that Dartmoor had been designated a 'smoke free' pilot prison, nor that it also had a fully incorporated integrated regime.

5.6.7 After a somewhat hesitant start - 'smoke free' seems to have benefitted many prisoners and staff. However the downside was a sharp increase in the usage of NPS, and seemingly also its potency, resulting in near fatal casualties, frequent and costly hospitalisations, increased disturbance and some violent disorder on the wings and the potential for staff to experience unfortunate physical side effects due to secondary inhalation.

5.7 Segregation, Care & Separation, Close Supervision, Order and Discipline

5.7.1 Board members have attended the majority of GOOD reviews throughout the year and have found most of those observed to have been conducted professionally, often with sensitivity shown to prisoners.

5.7.2 There have been two dirty protests this reporting year, the first of which lasted ten days. However the second lasted much longer and the Board refused to sign off any of the GOOD Reviews of this prisoner who had been held for 84 days on a dirty protest in a segregation unit of another prison prior to his transfer to the CSU here. Representation about this was made to the Deputy Director of Custody (DDC) for the South West, the Director of Public Sector Prisons UK (DPSP) and eventually to the Minister, making serious, detailed points about the adverse and inadequate way this difficult prisoner had been managed within the prison system over many years.

5.7.3 The prison here managed this difficult prisoner with the professionalism and integrity the Board has come to expect of HMP Dartmoor, and staff at all levels showed great patience and forbearance in their dealings with him, particularly, the Board should mention, those in CSU. Although he had displayed these behaviours for many years, he had never been assessed by a psychologist or psychiatrist, until he was admitted to HMP Dartmoor. This difficult prisoner caused major disruption and extreme disturbance to prisoners and to staff which included physical and psychological threats. He was transferred, again on the express order of the DDC, to Winchester Prison on his 86th day at HMP Dartmoor. The serious questions asked by this Board of the prison authorities outside HMP Dartmoor remain largely unanswered, and in the case of the DPSP and the Minister, not even acknowledged, despite sending reminders and recorded delivery mail. This treatment seems to the Board to negate the oft quoted comment from ministers and others, of the great value they place in the work of IMBs. The arrival of this prisoner on the specific orders of the DDC, has caused the prison much financially due to the cost of managing this long stay in CSU, in the provision of special clothing for staff, weekly industrial cleaning of the prisoner's cell and finally the cleansing and refurbishment of the two cells used.

5.7.4 Since the introduction of 'smoke-free' there was almost a doubling of Adjudications referred to the External Adjudicator, predominantly in NPS related offences, resulting in a large increase in the number of days added to sentences. There were many occasions when the CSU staff, particularly when there was a high number of adjudications, were under a high degree of pressure to provide the paperwork and yet at the same time deal with a full unit and also with the particularly difficult prisoner on dirty protest. The Board commends the work of the CSU staff in maintaining a high standard of professionalism during this extremely trying period and that of the prison's senior managers in attempting to deal with this prisoner's difficult behaviour firmly yet humanely.

5.7.5 There were two forced cell removals during the year notified to the Board, but the Board discovered that reporting of serious incidents had not always been consistently reported in a timely fashion to the Board. However, this has been

rectified by prison management. There were two deaths in custody during the year and, where possible, a member of the Board attended soon afterwards. The overall impression gained is of extreme professionalism being exercised and the Board would like to commend all staff involved for the respectful and reverential way such deaths are handled. The Board was, however, not comfortable with certain aspects of the aftermath of the murder of one prisoner in the prison kitchens, but is unable to comment further as the PPO and Coroner are yet to conclude their investigations and report.

5.7.6 Members of the Board, from their own observations, and from talking with most staff and prisoners, feel able to walk around the prison in comfort and safety. Anecdotal evidence suggests that most prisoners feel safe and complaints about safety and violence are rare. The large rise in NPS usage this year had a negative effect on the behaviour of some prisoners and there have been examples where the good order and discipline of the prison has been challenged. The fact that this has not resulted in significant disturbance or unrest is largely due to the professionalism of staff, the relationship staff have with prisoners, and possibly the integrated regime itself. The Board, however, remains concerned at the apparent ready availability of illegal substances and of mobile phones on wings and believes that the prison still has further work to do to combat these problems.

Section 6

ADDITIONAL AREAS

None required

Section 7

THE WORK OF THE INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD

7.1 Board duties have continued to be split between rota visits and addressing applications from prisoners on a weekly basis. The Board works in teams of two: one Board member being assigned to rota visits each week, a second available to process applications. Every effort has been made to provide a weekly IMB induction for prisoners newly arrived at HMP Dartmoor.

7.2 Each Board member has had an area of special interest (ASI) and quarterly specialist reports have been discussed at monthly Board meetings. ASI monitoring has involved observing a number of prison meetings including: the Prison Council; the Safer Custody Group; the Quality Improvements Group; the Segregation Monitoring and Review Group; Security; the Health and Safety Committee and the Reducing Reoffending Committee. In addition, individual discussions have taken place with the Governor and the management leads for specific areas. The Board has been represented at the Area IMB Chairs' meeting.

7.3 Issues of concern have been raised with the governor through rota reports and directly at the chair's monthly meeting. The governor, or her deputy, has

also attended the IMB monthly Board meetings for a dedicated agenda item and she/he has continued to be open and frank in addressing the Board's concerns.

7.4 Where possible, Board members have attended segregation reviews (GOOD Boards). Less regularly, Board members have attended adjudications and ACCT reviews. There have been four call-outs for serious incidents, although the command suite was not opened. There were two Deaths in Custody.

7.5 Maintaining Board numbers has continued to be a challenge. Developing a Board that is truly representative of the community continues to prove elusive.

7.6 A breakdown of applications and Board statistics can be seen below:

BOARD STATISTICS

Recommended Complement of Board Members (reduced from 16)	14
Number of Board members at the start of the reporting period	12
Number of Board members at the end of the reporting period	8
Number of new members joining within the reporting period	0
Number of members leaving within reporting period	4
Total number of Board meetings during reporting period	12
Total number of visits to the Establishment	482
Total number of segregation reviews attended	86
Date of Annual Team Performance Review	12 th Nov 15

APPLICATIONS

Code	Subject	2012/ 13	2013/ 14	2014/ 15	2015/16
	Accommodation	9	6	10	5
	Adjudications	4	10	3	4
	Equality and Diversity	8	5	2	4
	Education, Employment, Training inc. IEP	16	7	28	25
	Family Visits inc. Mail and Phone	53	37	26	26
	Finance/Pay	15	23	8	9
	Food/Kitchen related	7	6	0	0
	Health Related	58	27	15	12
	Property within this prison	29	30	21	10
	Property during transfer	37	33	28	34
	Canteen, Catalogue shopping	9	4	2	7
	Sentence related inc. ROTL, parole, release, re- cat etc.	34	47	23	18
	Staff/prisoner/detainee concerns inc. bullying	37	30	26	32
	Transfers	17	25	16	16
	Miscellaneous	17	32	25	27
	Total	350	326	246	229
	Confidential Access	13	5	15	6