



Annual Report
of the
Independent Monitoring Board
at

HMP Whitemoor

for reporting Year
1 June 2016 to 31 May 2017

Published
September 2017



Monitoring fairness and respect for people in custody

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introductory Sections

Section	Topic	Page
1	Statutory Role	3
2	Executive Summary	4
3	Description of Establishment	6

Evidence Sections

4	Safety	7
5	Equality and Fairness	8
6	Segregation/Care and Separation Unit	9
7	Accommodation (including communication)	10
8	Healthcare (including mental health and social care)	11
9	Education and Other Activities	12
10	Work, Vocational Training and Employment	13
11	Resettlement Preparation	14

	The Work of the IMB	15
	Applications to the IMB	16

1 STATUTORY ROLE OF THE IMB

The Prison Act 1952 requires every prison to be monitored by an independent Board appointed by the Secretary of State from members of the community in which the prison or centre is situated.

The Board is specifically charged to:

- (1) satisfy itself as to the humane and just treatment of those held in custody within its prison and the range and adequacy of the programmes preparing them for release.
- (2) inform promptly the Secretary of State, or any official to whom he has delegated authority as it judges appropriate, any concern it has.
- (3) report annually to the Secretary of State on how well the prison has met the standards and requirements placed on it and what impact these have on those in its custody.

To enable the Board to carry out these duties effectively, its members have right of access to every prisoner and every part of the prison and also to the prison's records.

2.1 Introduction

This report presents the findings of the Independent Monitoring Board at HMP Whitemoor for the period 1/6/2016 to 31/5/2017. IMB evidence comes from observations made on visits, scrutiny of records and of data, informal contact with prisoners and staff, prisoner applications, attendance at prison meetings and special studies by IMB members.

2.2 Main judgements

Are prisoners treated fairly?

Prisoners at Whitemoor are generally treated fairly (though note our comments below on decency). In most respects there has been progress across the whole year, culminating in an improved report from HM Inspectorate of Prisons and the attainment of Level 4 (i.e. “*there is no evidence that outcomes for detainees are being adversely affected in any significant areas*”).

The prison has been relatively settled. Staff respond well to the challenge of managing the wide diversity of religions and nationalities, and there have been positive efforts to provide better support on equality matters. (pages 7 & 8)

Are prisoners treated humanely?

There are major concerns in terms of basic decency. While staff strive to treat prisoners with respect and humanity, shortages of clothing, bedding and cleaning materials, the poor state of showers and problems with laundry impact negatively on prisoners’ most fundamental needs and dignity. The causes of these problems are largely external to Whitemoor but it is disappointing that more has not been done locally to overcome persistent supply shortages, and that national leaders have failed to effect change. (page 10).

Staff constraints have routinely restricted time out of cell, impacting negatively on most prisoners (page 10).

Like HM Inspectorate of Prisons we continue to report that segregated prisoners have frequently had an impoverished regime due to high occupancy. A number of self-segregating prisoners were on indefinite zero pay and basic allowances, with no review process to identify an exit plan (page 9).

Are prisoners prepared well for their release?

Release from Whitemoor is very rare, with progression for the majority of prisoners being represented by a downgrade to Category B, or a move to a Category B trainer. Whitemoor provides a good range of programmes to support progression, including Resolve, Thinking Skills Programme (TSP) and Self Change Programme (SCP), and we are pleased that the victim awareness programme Sycamore Tree has been reintroduced. However, progressive transfers continue to be difficult to arrange, and can take many months to achieve, though the number of actual transfers has increased significantly since last year. Frequent changes in offender management arrangements have not allowed new procedures to bed in, leading to a loss of effectiveness (page 14).

Many prisoners are located far from their home areas, making it difficult at a relatively early and critical stage in their prison life to maintain contact with family and friends (page 8).

2.3 Main Areas for Development

TO THE MINISTER

Continuing inadequate service provision from the centrally managed Carrillion contract negatively impacts all prisoners (page 11). Will the Minister take action to improve the service level to an acceptable standard?

TO THE PRISON SERVICE

Shortages of prisoner basics such as clothing and cleaning materials are detrimental to all prisoners (page 11). How can this be permanently resolved?

TO THE GOVERNOR

There has been no progress on developing the E wing unit and regime despite plans being in place for over a year. Although E Wing was unoccupied at the end of the reporting period, it remains an option for self-segregating prisoners, for whom there seems no current alternative where Rule 45 segregation cannot be authorised. (page 9)

While many of the basic supply contracts are outside local control, can more be done locally to ensure consistent provision of adequate cleaning materials, clothing and bedding? (page 11)

We note (page 12) that a significant proportion of education teaching hours are lost due to officer shortages. While we recognise the challenge of resource constraints, can action be taken to improve this?

2.3 Improvements

We are encouraged to note that a series of improvements to Healthcare staffing and services have been introduced during the year (page 11)

We noted last year that “*responsibility for adult social care of prisoners, including for disability, was handed over to Local Authorities in 2015. Cambridgeshire County Council were very slow to respond, with little progress made during the reporting year.*” We are pleased to report that Adult Social Care services are now being effectively provided by Cambridgeshire County Council.

The provision of training for staff has increased, with more rigorous weekly training sessions.

The Board have observed significant improvements in educational achievement (page 16).

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE PRISON

- 3.1 Her Majesty's Prison (HMP) Whitemoor lies outside the Cambridgeshire town of March. Opened in 1992 as a maximum security prison for men in Categories A and B, it is one of eight High Security prisons in England within the Long Term and High Security Estate (LTHSE). On 31 May 2017 the prison held 440 prisoners, against an operational capacity of 458. Just under one-third were Category A (134), of whom 11 were High Risk Category A. All Whitemoor prisoners are accommodated in single cells with integral sanitation but separate showers.
- 3.2 The prison comprises the following units:
- Three main residential wings (A, B and C wings)
 - The Fens Unit, accommodating up to 70 prisoners diagnosed with a personality disorder, and undergoing psychological treatment by NHS professionals (D wing)
 - A Close Supervision Centre (CSC) holding up to 10 prisoners, managed under a nationally coordinated strategy to provide a secure location for prisoners who consistently and violently disrupt normal wing life (F wing)
 - A newly introduced Psychologically Informed Planned Environment (PIPE) unit, designed to enable offenders to maintain and build on developments they have previously achieved in prison
- 3.3 Healthcare is provided by Northamptonshire NHS Foundation Trust, Education by People Plus, and maintenance by Carillion. Cambridgeshire County Council provide Adult Social Care services. Psychological services in the Fens unit are provided by Cambridgeshire & Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust.

B Evidence sections 4 – 11

4 SAFETY

- 4.1 Statistics indicate that Whitemoor is a comparatively safe environment for prisoners and staff. The incidence of violence (35 in 2016-17, 43 in 2015-16) remains comparatively low, as does the number of serious incidents (9 in 2015-16). While nationally the number of violent incidents rose from 262 to 305 per 1000 prisoners in 2016, the number in Whitemoor was 78 per 1000 prisoners (95 last year). As last year, there were 2 deaths in custody, both self-inflicted.
- 4.2 The routine questionnaire used by HM Inspectorate of Prisons in March 2017 suggested that one third of Whitemoor prisoners felt unsafe. That figure is surprisingly high and the Board have seen little evidence to corroborate it – although we shall continue to monitor the possible problem. What we are aware of is that Whitemoor wings are not places for quiet, compliant prisoners who wish to get on quietly with their sentence and progress. The community spur for older prisoners and new arrivals is the exception. Unlike in some prisons, there are no separate areas for enhanced prisoners.
- 4.3 Assessment, Care in Custody & Teamwork (ACCT) is the process to manage and monitor prisoners at risk of self-harm. In the year under report 159 ACCTs were opened (144 in 2015-16). Prisoners in the Fens unit are more likely to be vulnerable to self-harm, and therefore have a higher proportion of ACCTs than the rest of the prison (and average of 1 per prisoner, versus 0.26 per prisoner outside the unit). As the Board have commented year after year, this causes pressure on safer custody resources from the very unit that is already best staffed with its own professional specialists. There were 244 incidents of self-harm (234 last year), though many of these were repetition by a small number of prisoners.
- 4.4 The introduction of body-worn cameras (not yet operational) is a welcome initiative to help de-escalate potentially violent incidents.
- 4.5 Anecdotal evidence from prisoners indicates that drugs remain freely available in Whitemoor, including New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) or “spice”. Areas for concern include:
- Bogus Rule 39 legal correspondence has been shown to be a channel for illegal entry of drugs.
 - Mandatory drug testing targets for allocated random tests have been achieved, but tests on those suspected of using drugs have frequently been omitted due to staffing shortages in Reception.
- 4.6 Prison management have focused strongly on finding and removing mobile telephones. However, they acknowledge that there are a significant number of mobile phones remaining in the prison, and that there are more being brought in. Prisoners report that it is easy to obtain mobiles. Disputes about mobiles can cause threats and violence, and mobiles enable prisoners to continue illegal activities.

5 EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS

- 5.1 In a prison in which 49% of residents are of black and other minority ethnic (BME) background, 41% are Muslim and 21% are foreign nationals it is difficult to define who the minorities are.
- 5.2 The Board have been impressed over the last year by efforts to provide better support on equality matters, including by merging the role of the equalities officer with that serving foreign nationals. This has led to greater consistency of effort, even if more hours were needed to do the job thoroughly. Whilst the equalities action team's meetings have not always been regular it is unfortunate that key stakeholders, including the Chaplaincy, are sometimes missing.
- 5.3 As noted at paragraph 4.2 the Board were surprised by responses to HMIP's questionnaire. They include the suggestion that black and minority ethnic and Muslim prisoners face discrimination in progressing to Category B status and/ or out of Whitemoor. We have seen no evidence (nor heard any justifiable complaints) to confirm that. What seems more likely is that such prisoners find it hard to avoid being put under pressure by their peers to behave in ways that make progress less likely.
- 5.4 Nor have we seen evidence to support the claim that relations between staff and BME or Muslim prisoners is difficult. On the contrary, we have noted over recent years that staff are more comfortable working with such prisoners, having a better feel of how to interact respectfully with them. By contrast, we note that some non-Muslim prisoners seem to go out of their way to antagonise Muslim prisoners, in part driven by crude racism. Perhaps more should be done to confront such bigotry, not only in the context of challenging those who use it as a claim to need to be moved from Whitemoor.
- 5.5 The disparate nature of the foreign national population, with multiple languages, makes it hard (and expensive) to try to meet their needs. It has been an inevitable feature that, as fewer resources are generally available, provision for those who are different has suffered – including for the 18% of prisoners over 50.
- 5.6 Despite one complicated case, good provision has been made for disabled prisoners.
- 5.7 Whilst we hope that the formation of the Long Term and High Security Estate will provide more Category B places for those needing to progress out of Whitemoor one early consequence has been the shift into Whitemoor of long-term prisoners from Swaleside, irrespective of the locations of their families and visitors. This compounds an existing problem in that many Whitemoor prisoners are located far from their families.
- 5.8 Over the year we have more consistently monitored the prison complaints system. We share the view of Inspectors that responses are generally comprehensive and accurate. Scarcely any of the confidential access complaints to the IMB Chairman have been appropriate to that special treatment, typically duplicating or unnecessarily circumventing the standard complaints and application processes.

6 SEGREGATION/CARE AND SEPARATION UNIT

Segregation

- 6.1 Segregation unit staffing levels assume 18 prisoners on level 1 unlock (i.e. requiring only one officer to be present when the cell door is opened). However, actual occupancy averaged 25.6, peaking at 31, with up to 7 open ACCTs (where each prisoner requires multiple observations per hour). Refractory prisoners who had to be dealt with in PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and prisoners on dirty protest (22 occurrences during the year) added to the workload. The consequence was that for the last 8 months of the reporting year, prisoners' access to showers, exercise and telephone calls was restricted.
- 6.2 The exit plan for many segregated prisoners is a transfer to either another High Security prison, or to a Category B establishment. Transfers can take many months to agree and execute, leaving prisoners segregated for long periods. It is positive that prison management have focused efforts to achieve transfers and exchanges, and the Board were encouraged to see that over 10 segregated prisoners were transferred towards the end of the reporting period. But at the end of May, of the remaining 22 in segregation, 4 had been segregated for over 3 months, and 3 over 6 months.
- 6.3 Prisoners segregated for over 42 days require additional authorisation by the Deputy Director of Custody (DDC), and for longer periods, additional authorisation by the Director. We observed that DDC and Director authorisations for long-stay prisoners was often late, despite paperwork being submitted in good time. IMB members at Segregation Review Boards therefore frequently had to note that procedures had not been correctly followed.
- 6.4 Self-segregating prisoners for whom there is no justification to retain them under Rule 45 (the prison rule for segregation) can be moved to "E Wing", which is part of the segregation unit, with basic allowances and zero pay and no reviews or exit plans. During the reporting year, up to 9 prisoners were kept in what is effectively segregation but outside the rules that govern it. E wing was unused at the end of the reporting period, the final prisoner having been transferred after over 2 years of segregation. Plans to provide some degree of association for these prisoners, along with limited recreation facilities and psychological support have made no visible progress since our last report.
- 6.5 The physical environment in the unit requires enhancement, despite efforts to improve it. Not all showers work, the "bubble" for private discussion with prisoners is inadequate, insufficient have electricity, and not all cells have the necessary facilities such as shelves for TVs. The telephone booths have been proven to be insecure, with two instances of prisoners breaking out from them (though some limited additional security has now been added). In one case, this resulted in a brief hostage situation. Of the 7 exercise yards, there is some form of exercise equipment in only one. All the others are basic open space with no facilities. Illicit mobile telephones can be passed from cell to cell via the toilet system, and prisoners can and do pass items from cell to cell via the windows.
- 6.6 Little thought is given to appropriate in-cell activities for any of those held in the Unit. Educational support has to be provided through the cell doors. TVs or radios are provided to most residents entitled to have them, but breakages by prisoners have severely depleted the number available. The lack of adequate face to face contact, or any other meaningful mental stimulation, means that some prisoners are held in what the UK Government has accepted as representing solitary confinement.

Close Supervision Centre

- 6.7 Given the small number of prisoners locally and nationally in the CSC system, it is surprising that moves within and out of the unit cannot be more carefully planned. There were several examples where potential clashes between prisoners caused delays or local problems, despite the problematic prisoner relationships being well known.

7 ACCOMMODATION (including communication)

- 7.1 Whitemoor's 25 year old building fabric is showing its age. Showers are frequently out of order and contractors are slow to fix them. The Board routinely tested showers in residential wings, and up to 25% were regularly out of action. Prisoners frequently complain that showers are broken, too hot or cold to use or lack sufficient pressure to be used. Our observations confirmed that those complaints were well founded.
- 7.2 The performance of Carillion as the primary provider of maintenance services continues to be very poor. Minor repairs take excessive time to complete, while major projects are severely delayed. For example, although a budget for renovating wing bathrooms and kitchens had been approved for the 2016-17 financial year, the provision was lost due to Carillion's inability to deliver on time. The Governor described this situation as "*I have the money, but I'm only allowed to go to one shop and they can't provide what I need*".
- 7.3 Most of the bathrooms are in a poor condition, with extensive areas of peeling paint on the ceilings, cracked tiles and ingrained dirt. The Board were pleased last year to see a refurbishment programme for bathrooms and wing kitchens put in place, but for reasons outside the prison's control the work was not carried out in time and the budget for the refurbishment consequently lost. We note that work has finally started on one wing.
- 7.4 Staffing issues have resulted in a significant number of regime changes and prisoners being locked in their cells when they should have been on association. Prisoners have complained that D Wing, Healthcare, Segregation, the Close Supervision Centre (F Wing), Education and the Gym were most affected. Our analysis of regime restriction records shows that this was partially true, though the impact on Healthcare and Segregation was limited, and in the second half of the year restrictions were more narrowly focused on F Wing, Reception, Workshops and Education. Staff levels assume 20% resilience, which prison management admit is inadequate given the frequency of special requirements – e.g. a single Category A prisoner in hospital requires 9 staff over each 24 hour period
- 7.5 As last year, we continue to observe repeated and significant delays in getting personal property to prisoners who arrive at Whitemoor. Our review of all prisoners and their property coming into prison in June, July and August concluded it takes on average 9 days for a prisoner to receive his property with the longest case taking 15 days. The Board consider that the target of 10 days has become a norm rather than a maximum, and is too long.
- 7.6 The impact of property delays is exacerbated by frequent shortages of basic items – underwear, clothing, pillows and toiletries. For example, we have observed newly arrived prisoners were having to borrow underwear from other prisoners; segregation prisoners were wearing jogging bottoms far too large or too small. The reported national shortage of such basic items detracts from the ability to treat prisoners with appropriate dignity.
- 7.7 The ability to cook one's own food is a popular and important facility at Whitemoor with many prisoners supplementing the prison's meals with their own. Kitchens on residential spurs are, like bathrooms, generally tired, with many cookers missing knobs, and grills/hobs and fridges/freezers out of order. For example on a visit to one spur in January we were told the grill had not worked since 2014. A kitchen is typically shared between 40 prisoners on a spur so equipment failures significantly reduce access to these facilities. Nonetheless the kitchens are well used and generally kept clean by prisoners.
- 7.8 After complaints about the high cost of canteen goods compared to the outside world, a study by one of our members in June concluded that many items were indeed significantly more expensive than would be the case on the outside; whilst NOMS/HMPPS does its own comparison work it does not compare prices with the UK's major retail supermarkets. Thus prisoners with very limited means are being charged comparatively high prices for basic items.

8 HEALTHCARE (including mental health and social care)

- 8.1 The integration of healthcare provision under Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (NHFT) is now almost complete. The Board have noted a number of positive improvements in the provision of Healthcare over the reporting year. These include:
- All nursing positions filled or in the vetting process, including a nurse for older patients and a Macmillan trained nurse. It is hoped to provide additional nursing staff above the nominal level.
 - The provision of disability equipment by the external Social Services is now running effectively, with monthly meetings under the lead governor.
 - Healthcare have contact with the Stamford pain clinic. A revised end of life policy is being finalised, with adequate access to pain control equipment and an open-door cell policy at the appropriate time.
 - Trials of a Skype connection to Peterborough hospital, in which it is hoped 15 consultants will participate. Of these, 12 are due to visit shortly and in-house consultations may be possible at Whitemoor.
 - A mobile MRI clinic attends Whitemoor every three months.
 - A new GP surgery adjacent to the waiting room area has improved prisoners' view of the service. A second opinion is offered to patients from another GP who attends once a month.
- 8.2 Further improvements are planned, including a regular surgery in the Fens unit to reduce the number of missed appointments, and introduction of a Patient Representatives scheme using existing Safer Custody wing representatives.
- 8.3 Mental Health care is included under the NHFT contract, for all prisoners except those on the Fens Unit. For much of this year there has been a shortage of two Mental Health nurses, with a consequential negative impact on services. While steps are being taken to fill these posts, access time for patients has extended from 5 to 8 days as a result, though this still compares well to the outside world.
- 8.4 The assessment of prisoners considered to be in need of treatment by Mental Health Hospitals continues to take longer than the 14 day target. For Category B prisoners this may be as little as 4 weeks. For Category A prisoners, access to an assessment for Rampton, Broadmoor or Ashworth can take at least 8 weeks. This is usually followed by an indefinite wait until a bed is available. For prisoners with mental health problems, the delay is likely to cause further deterioration of their condition, particularly when they are segregated.

9 EDUCATION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 9.1 Classes are still being closed as a result of shortage of staff, with only 74% of planned teaching hours delivered in the year to March 2017. More than half of the 26% deficit was due to officer shortages (with the remainder due to teacher absence). The prison has to financially compensate People Plus when teaching is curtailed owing to shortage of officers.
- 9.2 Ofsted's March 2017 inspection of Whitemoor's Learning and Skills provision awarded Grade 2 in all 7 areas, a significant improvement on the last inspection. Improvements also observed by the Board included, for example:
- Partnership working between the prison and the education provider, People Plus;
 - Strategic planning;
 - Closer monitoring of data;
 - Quality Assurance.
- 9.3 Achievement in Functional Skills (Basic English and mathematics) has improved markedly. The average success rate for Entry Level and Levels 1 and 2 rose from 43% in 2015-16 to 95% in 2016-17. The success rate in English for Speakers of Other languages (ESOL) was 85%.
- 9.4 Ofsted's draft report stated "the range of education provision was good extending from Entry Level to Level 2 with some GCSE; however, opportunities for undergraduate learning were too limited.' The Board support this view, and considers that prisoners with little to think about or hope for would benefit from such educational enrichment
- 9.5 In practice few prisoners take GCSE and the fact that each prison can decide its own examining board means that the courses are often not portable when prisoners are transferred. We therefore welcome the decision to replace GCSE with an Access to Higher Education programme in the coming year.
- 9.6 Wayout TV and The Way to Learn offer distance learning via a loop system on in-cell televisions. Wayout TV is accompanied by a range of tools to facilitate greater variety in teaching and learning styles. These packages can be accessed in the Close Supervision Centre and, potentially, by those with televisions in the Segregation Unit, a major step forward.
- 9.7 The budget available to People Plus for 2016-17 is £594,967. The target for draw-down is 99% and as at the end of February performance was 89%, short of the demanding target but still an improvement on the previous year.
- 9.8 Classes are still being closed as a result of shortage of staff, with only 74% of planned teaching hours delivered in the year to March 2017. More than half of the 26% deficit was due to officer shortages (with the remainder due to teacher absence). The prison has to financially compensate People Plus when teaching is curtailed owing to shortage of officers.
- 9.9 The Board observed that there is still a lack of engagement by officers in classrooms which can sometimes lead to prisoners wandering from room to room without challenge, disrupting their own and others' learning.
- 9.10 We are pleased that plans are in hand to repeat the highly successful Learning Together programme, which brought prisoners and university students together for discussion of social issues, with a focus next year on creative writing.

10 WORK, VOCATIONAL TRAINING and EMPLOYMENT

- 10.1 Whitemoor has few higher level vocational courses, though the Board welcome the planned introduction of a Level 2 Construction course. OFSTED's draft report commented that "the range of vocational courses was too limited above Level 1". Physical Education is an area in which many prisoner are highly motivated, but no courses are available.
- 10.2 Board members observed that supervision by officers in the workshops has become consistently more active.
- 10.3 The range of wing based employment opportunities remains limited and at a low level – e.g. wing cleaning. But we noted that prisoners in workshops are generally engaged and motivated when they are at work, even in the re-cycling workshops (handling linens and laminates), where the work is relatively undemanding.

11 RESETTLEMENT PREPARATION

- 11.1 Very few prisoners are released directly from Whitemoor to the community; resettlement work is primarily focused on completion of Offender Behaviour Programmes, providing education and providing skills through work.
- 11.2 Prisoner perception is that Whitemoor is a place from which it is impossible to progress, with Category A prisoners finding it difficult to secure downgrade recommendations. However, a detailed review by a Board member concluded that Whitemoor's downgrade statistics compared well with other High Security prisons, and that prisoner perception was inaccurate. From 137 reviews, 14 prisoners were recommended for downgrade, of which 9 were approved by the relevant central committee. There are a number of structural reasons for the seeming lack of recommendations including a high number of prisoners early in their sentences, and a high number of prisoners in denial of their offence. This affects these prisoners' ability to complete Offender Behaviour Programmes and evidence a reduction in risk.
- 11.3 The Board are pleased to note that prisoner management recognise the need for better communication between OMU and prisoners and for a regular Category A prisoner consultation meeting. We were also pleased to hear that the Deputy Director of Custody (DDC) would speak directly to prisoners on the matter, but disappointed that this meeting was cancelled and has not yet been rescheduled.
- 11.4 We commented last year on the length of time taken to secure a transfer to another prison, and again note minimal improvement. Category B prisoners are regularly reviewed and risk assessed, to determine whether they are deemed suitable for transfer outside the High Security Estate. 304 such reviews took place in the reporting year, of which 78 were approved for a transfer, and 86 were actually transferred. This is a significant improvement on last year's 53 transfer approvals and 33 actual transfers. Unusually, there were also a small number of re-categorisations to Category C. However, waiting time for a transfer following approval remains at 6-9 months.
- 11.5 The number of Sentence Planning Boards reduced substantially from 537 last year, to this year's 393. The 11 Parole Hearings maintained last year's level of 12, an increase from previous years.
- 11.6 Prisoners convicted of drug trafficking offences are often serving lengthy sentences. However, they struggle to evidence any reduction in risk which would allow them to progress from Category A to Category B as no Offender Behaviour Programmes are offered by Whitemoor to tackle this index offence.
- 11.7 The new Psychologically Informed Planned Environment (PIPE) unit at Whitemoor; should provide a place for Category A prisoners who may have completed Offender Behaviour Programmes but are not yet ready to progress to Category B prisons.
- 11.8 The Offender Management Unit has been under strain for much of the year, with staffing shortages and constant change making it challenging to maintain timely and consistent services and reviews. Current plans to introduce Key Workers for prisoners are the latest in a series of changes to staffing and procedures, introduced over a relative short period.

C Section – Work of Board

1. For a further year the Board have run below numbers with few responses to recruitment campaigns: only one new member joined. The introduction of the National Monitoring Framework was timely in helping us to reshape the focus of our monitoring, concentrating on the areas of greatest risk for prisoners. But however we configured it, the workload remained high, especially over the summer months; and it is becoming unsustainable.
2. Small though our team is, we were gratified that the key points picked up by HM Inspectorate of Prisons were all ones we too had identified.
3. As in previous years staff have given us the access and the information we have requested, never seeking to impede our work.

BOARD STATISTICS	
Recommended Complement of Board Members	16
Number of Board members at the start of the reporting period	10
Number of Board members at the end of the reporting period	8
Total number of visits to the Establishment	371
Total number of segregation reviews attended	52

D Section - Applications

Code	Subject	Current reporting year	Previous reporting year
A	Accommodation including laundry, clothing, ablutions	30	12
B	Discipline including adjudications, IEP, sanctions	42	33
C	Equality	14	23
D	Purposeful Activity including education, work, training, library, regime, time out of cell	12	24
E 1	Letters, visits, phones, public protection restrictions	20	
E 2	Finance including pay, private monies, spends	18	na
F	Food and kitchens	8	11
G	Health including physical, mental, social care	38	20
H 1	Property within this establishment	8	11
H 2	Property during transfer or in another establishment or location	39	28
H 3	Canteen, facility list, catalogue(s)	5	na
I	Sentence management including HDC, ROTL, parole, release dates, re-categorisation	36	18
J	Staff/prisoner concerns including bullying	15	29
K	Transfers	25	31
	Total number of IMB applications	310	282 (inc 42 miscellaneous)