



Annual Report
of the
Independent Monitoring Board
at

HMP/YOI Hindley

for reporting Year
1st January – 31st December 2017

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Monitoring fairness and respect for people in custody

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1 STATUTORY ROLE OF THE IMB

1.1 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.

1.2. 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.

1.3 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 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1: This report presents the findings of the IMB at HMP /YOI Hindley for the calendar year of 2017, 1st January – 31st December inclusive. Evidence is gathered from members weekly rota visits, scrutiny of records, attendance at meetings, formal and informal contact with prisoners as well as applications to the Board.

2.2: Main judgements

2.2.1 Are prisoners treated fairly?

The IMB is most concerned about the shortfall in the ability of the activities available in the prison to meet the needs of prisoners at HMP/YOI Hindley and effect positive outcomes on release. This is compounded by the uncertainty over the future of the prison thus making it difficult for providers to recruit staff. (Paragraphs 8.13; 9.14; 10.4.)

2.2.2 Are prisoners treated humanely?

Psychoactive Substances continue to be a great danger to prisoners in Hindley and a cause of prisoner on prisoner bullying. (Paragraph 4.13)

2.2.3 Are prisoners prepared well for their release?

Much has been done to improve prisoner preparation for release. Despite multi-disciplinary working within the prison, prisoners have been released without a fixed address. As a result there have been a number of tragic instances in 2017 and one death, within 48 hours of release, which was not followed up by the Prison and Probation Ombudsman. The IMB continues to have concerns about this situation. (Paragraphs 11.2; 11.3)

Main Areas for Development

TO THE MINISTER: Would the minister support a consistent multi agency approach in preventing the passing of illicit substances, especially psychoactive substances into prisons? See Paragraph 4.13

TO THE PRISON SERVICE: The uncertainty about the future of HMP/YOI Hindley has been a major factor in the difficulties faced in 2017 which continues into the coming year. (See Paragraphs 3.1; 8.13; 9.14; 10.4). Despite this, HMIP confirmed in December 2017 the impressive improvement that has been made in the prison regime at Hindley. Can this be supported by giving a clear direction about the future of this prison as soon as possible?

TO THE GOVERNOR

None.

Improvements

Staff recruitment has improved the staffing levels at Hindley and despite some occasional shortfalls when regime restrictions have been increased, the trend has been positive during the year. The support available at this prison for those on the prison officer entry level training scheme (POELTs) is to be commended and has seen staff increase in confidence and skill in facing challenging situations and to the benefit of prisoners.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE PRISON

- 3.1 The secure site at Hindley was originally opened in 1961 as a Borstal and became a youth custody centre in 1983. In April 2009 Hindley became a dedicated centre for offenders under the age of 18 years. In December 2013 Hindley rerolled to a split site to also house Young Offenders aged 18-21 years. From March 2015 the prison re-rolled to a split site to hold Category C Adult Prisoners and Young Offenders. It is classified as a 'Resettlement' prison. In March 2017 it was announced that the prison would be closed for a two year refurbishment. This was postponed in July 2017 but the impact of the closure announcement was significant leading to the departure of a large number of experienced staff in all areas.
- 3.2 The prison uses seven main residential wings and the two populations are housed separately, although they mix throughout the day in all other areas. The operational capacity is 606 but, as at 31st December 2017, the baseline Certified Nightly Accommodation (CNA) was 580, with the 'in use' CNA at 540.
- 3.3 Reception Criteria. Category C adult males who have been sentenced to four years or less and young men, aged 18 to 21 years, who are serving sentences of over 12 months and up to 4 years. In 2017 approximately 70% of the prisoners in HMP/YOI Hindley have arrived with less than six months to serve in custody. This inevitably limits the amount of resettlement work which can be achieved as well as reducing the capacity for prisoner peer support roles such as Listeners and Peer Mentors. There have been concerns that the majority of prisoners are aged under 30 years. However the structural constraints in parts of the prison mean that it can be difficult to accommodate suitably a wider age spread of the overall prison population.
- 3.4 Accommodation. The site has seven residential units in operation (Alder, Beech, Cedar, Dove, Elm, Fir and Juniper). Juniper has major structural difficulties leading to it only being able to take approximately half the number of prisoners for which it was intended originally. The Care and Segregation Unit is situated on Willow residential wing and there is also Sycamore Unit which has not been used for residential accommodation in 2017.
- 3.5 Education and training. The education and training services at HMP/YOI Hindley are provided by NOVUS which is part of Manchester College. The courses offered link in with the National Employers Engagement Strategy and NOMS for the North West which stipulates that all learners are mandated to achieve a minimum of Level 1 in Literacy and Numeracy before they can move to an employment pathway of their choice. Once in this placement they are supported to work towards Level 2 in Literacy and Numeracy. The curriculum offered has been criticised for not being attractive to prisoners to help them meet employment market requirements.
- 3.6 PE facilities: There is a large sports hall, marked out for football, badminton and volleyball, two fully equipped weightlifting areas, cardiovascular area, remedial room, good showering and changing facilities, two Astroturf football pitches, grass sports field (full size football and rugby pitch). Security issues limited the use of the pitches in the later part of 2017.
- 3.7 Sports and leisure hub. Available for adults/young adults who are keen on gaining employment in the health and fitness industry. A wide range of professional sports qualifications are available to enable every opportunity of success.
- 3.8 Chaplaincy. Hindley has a Christian Chapel and a separate Multi-Faith Centre, which is where the Chaplaincy team are based. There is a full programme of services and groups for all faiths. Offenders are informed of these on reception and given a leaflet with full information. As well as services and faith-based groups, personal support is available to those of all faiths and none.

3.9 Healthcare. The provision of healthcare services within HMP/YOI Hindley is provided by Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and Greater Manchester West Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust Partnership who operate as an integrated team. The healthcare centre is purpose built and has outpatient facilities staffed 24 hours a day by trained nurses who provide care for both physical and mental health needs. The healthcare provided includes regular access to a doctor who has a daily surgery, at least twice weekly access to a dentist, immunisation clinics and a variety of nurse led specialist health care clinics aimed at maintaining and improving individual's health and well-being.

B Evidence sections 4 – 11

4 SAFETY

- 4.1 Prisoner on prisoner violence has been a major concern in the prison along with ‘unexplained’ injuries to prisoners and sometimes the relatively high number of self-isolators. Prison managers sought the views of frontline staff through a ‘Violence Reduction’ summit exercise which resulted in various measures being put in place. These included greater visibility of officers and managers on residential wings and at movement times with good results.
- 4.2 HMP/YOI Hindley now only receives prisoners transferred from other prisons so they do arrive in good condition after reasonable journeys. Concerns about the successful transfer of an individual’s property from one prison to another continue
- 4.3 The Reception process is thorough and careful. First night provision has been considerably improved during the year including the issuing of adequate packs of clean bedding and clothing. Management checks are in place to ensure that the process operates well.
- 4.4 As well as receiving a health assessment within 24 hours of their arrival, an accuracy check on prisoner’s Cell Share Risk Assessment (CSRA) is also undertaken.
- 4.5 Effective use of Assessment Care in Custody (ACCT) plans to the benefit of individual prisoners is a high priority. The IMB has observed how some prisoners in 2017 improved their mental health and wellbeing considerably as a result of the care with which prison staff have supported individuals, through low moods /psychiatric illness, to be able to function well within the prison environment.
- 4.6 In December 2017, HMOP/YOI Hindley was included in the ‘pilot’ for CSIP (Challenge Support Intervention Plan) which started at the beginning of December 2017. It should strengthen the way in which the prison challenges and changes bullying behaviours. There is concern as to whether it will adequately meet the needs of more vulnerable prisoners who may recently have come off an ACCT. For most of 2017, the use of the prison’s own ‘Support Intervention Plans’ (SIPs) did this most effectively both for those who had been on ACCTs and self-isolators.
- 4.7 The Offender Management Unit leads on ensuring the prison manages an effective Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) scheme. Multi agency meetings have been held monthly which an IMB member has attended on occasion.
- 4.8 There are designated wings to receive new arrivals and considerable work has been done to ensure that first night cells are of a good standard. There have been problems with damage to the Samaritan phones but these were repaired as quickly as possible. IMB members have observed how good use is made of prisoners who are Listeners and Peer Mentors. Peer Mentors lead the Induction session which new arrivals undertake on their first workday morning. Listeners are integral members of the ‘Safer Custody’ group which meets monthly to monitor violence reduction, suicide and self-harm prevention measures, training etc.
- 4.9 A high number of violent incidents have been gang related. Most of Hindley’s population is aged under 30 years with prisoners from both Greater Manchester and Merseyside as well as other parts of the North West. Most incidents happen in cells. One wing trialled locking cell doors whilst prisoners were on afternoon association time which led to a clear reduction in incidents.
- 4.10 Considerable measures have been taken to improve security at the prison including new security fencing for both internal and outer boundaries which had been necessary since housing adults. The large scale replacement and improvement of window grilles has

also had a considerable effect in reducing the amount of illicit items coming into the prison.

- 4.11 There has been a concerted drive to improve the quality and quantity of cell checks including daily inspections of cell windows and grilles and weekly fabric checks of all cells.
- 4.12 However the use of mobile phones is common amongst prisoners and there has been the occasional instance where the use of social media has been discovered.
- 4.13 Psychoactive substances continue to be a danger to prisoners. During 2017 there was a dip in them being detected through mandatory drug tests with a rise in the detection of cannabis. The prison became 'no smoking' at the end of October 2017, since when there appears to have been a considerable rise in the availability and use of psychoactive substances which have been the focus of debt, bullying and serious ill health. Staff are vigilant in the interception of illicit items with some support from the police but this has not always been available.
- 4.14 New Directions provide a bespoke service (Phoenix) to support prisoners who wish to address substance misuse difficulties and they undertake an assessment of every prisoner found to have been using psychoactive substances. Use of peer mentors in both prisoner induction and regular group work has been most beneficial.
- 4.15 There is a clear five day induction programme for all newly arrived prisoners starting from the first working day after their arrival. The model assumes that by Day 5 a prisoner will be allocated a suitable activity either within a classroom or workshop but this is not always achieved.
- 4.16 There have been three deaths in custody during 2017. The Inquests on all three are expected to be held in 2018. The IMB are not aware of any 'prevention of future deaths' report being made as a result of inquests held in 2017 on previous deaths in custody at Hindley.
- 4.17 Despite some challenging circumstances, the IMB were impressed by the sensitive way in which prison staff supported both the families of the deceased and staff who were involved.

5 EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS

- 5.1 The IMB has primarily monitored any disadvantages highlighted as a result of the protected characteristics through the prison's Equalities Forums. Because of staff shortages during 2017 they did not meet often. An IMB member has looked at the Discrimination Incident Report Forms (DIRFs) and spoken to prisoners who had made complaints. They have felt that they had been well supported by the staff member responsible. Because of the staffing problems, the prison did have an underdeveloped Equality and Diversity Policy, as noted in the HMIP Inspection in December 2017.
- 5.2 Prisoners are aware of how to complain about prison matters including health and education and regularly contact the IMB if they are dissatisfied with the result.
- 5.3 Information about the IMB is readily available on each wing on the Prisoner Information Desks, and members have supplied laminated posters to each point which is regularly checked.
- 5.4 Information provided at induction tells prisoners about the complaints procedure including complaints to the Ombudsman. When giving feedback on applications to the IMB, prisoners are reminded as appropriate.
- 5.5 The Board undertook one recruitment campaign during the year when several venues, including places of worship, libraries, and medical centres, were asked to advertise vacancies in order to diversify the Board. The announced prison closure appears to have had an impact on the small number of applications received as staff at a number of venues commented on the prison closure despite the campaign being held after the reversal of that proposal had been publicised. The IMB has recommended for appointment two applicants, one of whom will improve our age range if appointed.
- 5.6 The Incentives and Earned Privileges (IEP) scheme appears to have worked effectively throughout the year and has been reviewed to include a greater differential between 'standard' and 'enhanced' levels, at prisoners' request.
- 5.7 The Visiting Area is spacious and well monitored. Visit times are on seven afternoons a week with the maximum visiting period being one and a half hours. As in 2016, eight Family Days were organised by Partners of Prisoners (POPs) and the Chaplaincy Team. These included one mini athletics day which was very popular.
- 5.8 There were several occasions in the year where prison officers have ensured that prisoners made visits to family members on compassionate grounds e.g. where a close family member was dying.
- 5.9 Where possible the prison tries to transfer prisoners near to their family's home. Similarly Discharge Boards work to improve the delivery of services on release. From discussion with prisoners leaving the establishment, IMB members have noted an improvement during 2017.

6 SEGREGATION/CARE AND SEPARATION UNIT

- 6.1 The Care and Separation Unit (CSU) has a maximum capacity of 11 single cells and has good facilities with showers, laundry and gated exercise yards.
- 6.2 The Unit has had a number of designated cleaners, all of whom have undertaken the role conscientiously. The cells are kept in a good condition, other than those 'out of use' due to being 'trashed' by previous occupants. Repairs are usually completed quite speedily.
- 6.3 During 2017 the use of the Care and Separation Unit has remained consistent and the unit staff have maintained a high level of professionalism, care and consideration for the prisoners in the unit as well as visitors e.g. IMB members.
- 6.4 Reviews are usually held on three days a week, but there have been variations depending on circumstances. Considerable improvement has been made in recent months to ensure that both the IMB and a health professional are present for all reviews but this is difficult to maintain due to staff pressures in the health team and the availability of IMB members when reviews are not held at the usual times. Other sections e.g. Chaplaincy and OMU staff, attend as appropriate. All governors chairing reviews have been happy to discuss any concerns expressed by the IMB members in attendance.
- 6.5 It is usual for prisoners to attend their review and IMB members are satisfied that the prisoner is always made aware of the process and their voice heard as part of that. The priority is to return the prisoner to 'normal' location as soon as is deemed possible. From the observations of IMB members, prisoners are usually satisfied with the fairness and outcome of the process.
- 6.6 In 2017, seventeen prisoners spent over thirty days on Good Order or Discipline (G.O.O.D) on the CSU. No cells on other residential wings or units have been used for segregation purposes.
- 6.7 As part of Rota visits, IMB members try to speak to all prisoners on the Unit and check documentation e.g. Log Book and Assessment Care in Custody plans (ACCTs). Unit staff have always facilitated an IMB member to be able to speak to a prisoner on request.
- 6.8 The Unit also takes the lead in managing adjudication hearings and all prisoners are made aware of their rights of appeal following an adjudication outcome.
- 6.9 During 2017 there have been three 'dirty' cell protests but no mechanical restraints have been used.
- 6.10 The one area for improvement identified is for the IMB to be informed consistently within a 24hr period of new arrivals in the Unit including those re-located on Rule 49. This happened regularly at the beginning of 2017 but became more occasional as the year progressed.

7 ACCOMMODATION (including communication)

- 7.1 Cleanliness and tidiness has been a priority for improvement throughout the prison during 2017. A competition for the cleanest wing led to considerable improvement.
- 7.2 Litter is the main problem especially in and around wings. The concerns are that this is one way of disguising illicit circulation of contraband items. Staff vigilance continues to control this wherever possible.
- 7.3 Despite some difficulties, showers in all areas are kept clean. To improve personal protection and security, shower times are specified but extra times are available to men if their daytime employment necessitates the need for them to shower after work.
- 7.4 At least one wing has a 'deep clean' of showers every other week by the prison cleaning team. Juniper Wing prisoners keep their in cell showers clean.
- 7.5 The prison ensures that it complies with the minimum space requirements for workplace and residential accommodation of individual prisoners.
- 7.6 Overall the regimes have been reasonably well managed with few applications or comments from prisoners to the contrary. Written 'notices to prisoners' giving details of regime restrictions are issued weekly giving details for the following two weeks. Notices about changes in IEP and other areas of concern e.g. psychoactive substances are issued and staff are always encouraged to ensure that each prisoner is aware of the contents of these notices. IMB members have checked that this is done.
- 7.7 Staffing issues and the change in the core day did result in a few complaints that there was insufficient time for prisoners working in recycling to get showers before meal time. This problem was addressed.
- 7.8 Domestic periods allow enough time for prisoners to have phone calls. IMB regularly observes this happening.
- 7.9 Concerns about the temperature of served meals are being addressed by planned provision of replacement trolleys.
- 7.10 The majority of meals are provided in individual portions to ensure appropriate portion control. Additional food has been provided to wings on request in exceptional circumstances.
- 7.11 Hygiene standards are well maintained in all food serving areas despite a number of difficulties during the year including broken equipment and at times an infestation of rodents in the prison. Towards the end of the year, all prisoners working in the kitchens sign a daily declaration of fitness to handle food and acknowledge food hygiene requirements. The local authority's Environmental Health Department last inspected the main kitchen in December 2017, and found it satisfactory. The Catering Manager checks all wing serveries weekly to monitor hygiene standards.
- 7.12 Overall the IMB has been impressed with the standard of food served in all areas of the prison and the commitment to serve meals of a good standard despite all the constraints.
- 7.13 Prisoners working in the residential wing serveries are provided with white overalls. There has been a focus on ensuring these are always worn appropriately and kept clean.
- 7.14 Formal communication with prisoner representatives has involved some prisoner forums in specific areas such as 'food' or 'learners' as well as more general 'prisoner forums' held at various intervals e.g. weekly or monthly. IMB members have been impressed that prisoners have been able to represent the views of others on their wings effectively at these meetings.
- 7.15 There is an 'own clothes' policy at Hindley. At stages in the year there have been shortages in bedding and towels.

- 7.16 Towards the end of the year a weekly kit change was instituted and so the supply has improved. When a prisoner leaves the prison, he is required to hand in his duvet to ensure there is a supply for new prisoners which are kept, after laundering, in the Reception / Discharge Area. Now each new prisoner receives adequate bedding and towels on admission.
- 7.17 The prison does have a policy of keeping individual property cards up to date but it does remain an area of contention for prisoners removed to the Segregation Unit or after their cells have been searched. It has been the second highest area of concern in applications to the IMB.
- 7.18 Sometimes property does not follow prisoners automatically but the complaints system is effectively applied and IMB members are satisfied that each complaint has been investigated thoroughly.
- 7.19 As the year progressed and staff numbers both increased and new staff became more experienced, it became apparent that more staff were interacting in a consistent and positive manner with individual prisoners. This was noted by HMIP in December 2017.
- 7.20 The high number of prisoners serving a short time of their sentence at HMP/YOI Hindley and wing transfers limits how well staff can know all individual prisoners.
- 7.21 Prisoners are aware of and have access to their legal rights. This is demonstrated both at adjudications and GOOD reviews. Prisoners have access to their solicitors and talk to them in private.
- 7.22 IMB members are satisfied that prisoners have adequate access to canteen and mail order catalogues. Prisoners are invited quarterly to review the facilities lists and suggest amendments.
- 7.23 All staff are informed through the personal radio system when there are incidents or situations which require a prison lockdown. This information is on a strictly 'need to know' basis but includes workshop tutors where prisoners are required to be returned to their cells quickly to avoid any escalation.

8 HEALTHCARE (including mental health and social care)

- 8.1 All Prisoners are seen by healthcare within 24hrs of their arrival at HMP/YOI Hindley, usually at reception, and healthcare screening is completed, which covers self-harm risk, physical, mental health and substance misuse. Staff aim to check information received from prisoners against their records but this is not always available.
- 8.2 The service provides a comprehensive G.P., dental, and optician service for prisoners with reasonable waiting times and emergency appointment access if needed. Prescriptions are generated and issued on time. There is good provision to address substance misuse including psycho-social and clinical interventions which are available throughout the week. In the latter part of the year, the prison started an ongoing initiative to reduce the number of prisoners not attending health appointments.
- 8.3 Healthcare can access a bed on Willow unit, which also houses the Care and Segregation Unit, for a patient with physical or mental health needs if required. Referrals can also be made to HMP Preston for a clinical bed within their inpatient facility. The prison supplies escorting discipline staff and bed-watches in hospital are provided. There have been a substantial number of these required during 2017.
- 8.4 Services are provided in the Healthcare outpatient department and prisoners receive interventions in the wing based treatment rooms a number of times during the day.
- 8.5 The mental health team provide assessment / advice / support and referral to external agencies on release and liaise with external mental health trusts if a clinical bed is required under sections of the Mental Health Act.
- 8.6 A cognitive behavioural therapist, counselling and psychological wellbeing practitioner service are provided within the mental health team. 'Building Futures' provides a bespoke psychosocial service to support prisoners wishing to address substance misuse difficulties.
- 8.7 The Healthcare team also employs a health development nurse to complete screening programmes, NHS health checks, and provide healthy lifestyle advice.
- 8.8 There is effective partnership working between internal and external partners and commissioners. The IMB observes regularly good multi-disciplinary working between all staff at HMP/YOI Hindley whether employed directly by HMPPS or by partner agencies, particularly around the most vulnerable of prisoners.
- 8.9 IMB members regularly ask prisoners awaiting healthcare appointments how they feel about the service and receive generally positive feedback and compliments about it.
- 8.10 Both NHS provider trusts advertise their complaints and compliments policies on all units throughout the prison including the Prisoner Information Desks.
- 8.11 Bridgewater NHS Community Healthcare Trust works in partnership with Wigan local authority's 'Life' department and can refer prisoners for a social care assessment as needed.
- 8.12 When social care undertakes an assessment recommending the provision of any equipment and /or adaptations, the local authority, in partnership with the healthcare providers and the prison accept responsibility for the provision of anything that is needed to support an individual with specific needs or facilitate a transfer to a more suitably equipped prison.

8.13 Staffing of healthcare has been problematic since 2015 when juveniles were no longer placed at Hindley. It was only in March 2017 that the team became fully staffed and within a week the proposed closure was announced with subsequent staff losses which are still needing replacement.

9 EDUCATION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 9.1 Education services at Hindley HMP/YOI are provided by the NOVUS Group. Educational and vocational classes suffered due to staff departures and grants being difficult to obtain due to the closure announcement. Classes had to be run by existing staff members supervising classes or supply staff
- 9.2 Various factors, including staffing constraints and prison searches, have led to half day lockdowns on different wings. Therefore classes were missed and men took longer to achieve their learning.
- 9.3 At times there were insufficient education and workplace activities to cater for all prisoners and prison management and providers have worked hard in trying to address this.
- 9.4 Since July 2017 the prison has been working to improve and develop educational and vocational courses. There have been some management changes within NOVUS employed staff and the new team has acknowledged the need to improve the service which was deemed to be inadequate by HMIP in December 2017. The team is therefore working on strategies to improve the quality of its provision and attendance.
- 9.5 Towards the end of 2017 a certificate presentation took place at the end of courses with some monetary incentives for some awards. The event was developed to encourage and praise the achievements of the men who were encouraged to talk about their course and their plans for future courses. Some of the men would like to have continued to the next level but this is not always possible due to staff shortages. The feedback will be helpful for future course planning.
- 9.6 The IMB welcomes the plans to review the curriculum in 2018 as currently it is not able to meet the needs of all prisoners. The Board is concerned that there is a mismatch between the activities on offer and the uptake by prisoners leading to 'unemployed' men but spaces in the courses / workshops. There also appears to be a lack of adequate provision for those with special educational needs (SEN) with them being grouped with those who have English as their second language (ESOL).
- 9.7 The IMB also feel that the prison has struggled to meet the needs of prisoners aged over 50. This is partly due to lack of any transfer of evidence of previous educational or employment experience.
- 9.8 In August Wigan MBC withdrew from providing the library. In December NOVUS opened a Library and Learning Centre. However two learning support workers are required for it to operate effectively.
- 9.9 Future courses are being structured with input from the prison and the men. The priority is that courses and qualifications are to help the men to get jobs when released.
- 9.10 Men are assessed when they arrive at HMP/YOI Hindley and assessment information is based on the information given by the men. Some prisoners have stated they do not always get the course they chose at first, and have to wait a while to get a chosen course. Men with learning issues are put into relevant classes, but are not able to do some jobs or courses because of their ability level.
- 9.11 Towards the end of the year activity packs were developed for men in the CSU to use and it is hoped that this will be extended to men who are self-isolators and / or refuse to attend courses or work.
- 9.12 This year some men have been introduced to different experiences e.g. Gamelan musical instruments, and plays performed by professional groups. Men have given positive feedback.

9.13 The new management is aware of the improvements that are needed and is working on strategies to improve the service they provide. The prison has ensured the class times are at a regular time. Some tutors would like to see more funding to give the men an opportunity to develop their skills and qualifications.

9.14 Since the prison is still only promised to stay open until 2019, there has been difficulty recruiting tutors to posts that have a limited life span. When a member of staff leaves unexpectedly it may take months to find a replacement with the consequent closure of an activity/ workshop.

10 WORK, VOCATIONAL TRAINING and EMPLOYMENT

- 10.1 The board is satisfied with the Health and Safety arrangements that are in place across the eight workshops in the prison. Good knowledge of areas such as risk assessments, safe systems of work and COSSH have been demonstrated by the workshop tutors and the availability of Personal Protection Equipment such as boots, eye protection and ear defenders as well as other equipment is prevalent throughout all workshops as well as safety induction to all who work in them.
- 10.2 The prison tries to maintain work levels in all shops but at times throughout the year there have been shops closed, including cycle, plastering and Osco homes. This is mostly due to staffing levels and has had some impact on the day to day running of the prison. New courses re-started towards the end of year including cycle refurbishment and Osco homes. Six of the eight workshops delivered recognised qualifications which has proved invaluable as the prison has had a number of successes in prisoners obtaining employment in construction and track laying
- 10.3 Prisoners attending six of the eight workshops, excluding assembly and laundry, have a realistic expectation of securing jobs on release providing they complete their awards and follow the guidance. Because of this attendance is good at 90-95%. Non-attendance is normally due to prison regime restrictions, visits or prisoner appointments. Tutors have to be congratulated on maintaining attendance and keeping prisoners interested in their courses.
- 10.4 Workshops have been planned to give prisoners a better chance of employment on release. This year has been difficult with the announcement of the prison closing then being told that it may not. This has had some impact on the workshops, causing uncertainty and accounts for some workshops closing then reopening again as staff were looking to leave or had left. Despite this, prisoners have gone into employment on release.
- 10.5 There are appropriate types of work available from low skills to higher, ranging from basic assembly to construction of prefabricated homes with qualifications available. By the end of 2017 allocated profile jobs stood at about 81% of the prison population for both morning and afternoon activity sessions. Some unemployed prisoners are not included in the above for various reasons, including waiting for activity allocation or refusing employment.
- 10.6 The prison has had some success over the year with employment outcomes but not as good as it could have been, mainly due to the possible closure. It is hoped next year will see the roll out of VCC (Virtual Campus in the Community). The board is satisfied the management and staff of HMP/ YOI Hindley are committed to the rehabilitation of its prisoners and are keen to see them reintroduced to society with employment and accommodation.

11 RESETTLEMENT PREPARATION

- 11.1 During the year attendance at Discharge Boards has improved. If the prisoner has involvement with MAPPA, pre-release reports are discussed. The chaplaincy team has been helpful with resettlement. Advice and assistance is well organized, as are the Discharge Boards themselves.
- 11.2 Shelter sees each prisoner at the Discharge Board and about 3 out of 10 say they are of 'no fixed abode' (NFA). During the course of the year the worker has been referring more prisoners to accommodation providers with less success as there is a general increase in homelessness in the community and prisoners cannot present themselves for assessment before release. They can only be referred to where they came from before arrest even if they say they are in danger there.
- 11.3 As there are still some prisoners who do not have a place to live when they leave, there have been a number of tragic outcomes during the year. These include those where, despite the hard work done with individuals whilst at HMP/YOI Hindley and accompanying them to the place of their release to ensure they have at least initial accommodation, within days they have either been re-arrested or in one case died within 48 hours of release, probably from a drug overdose. The Inquest in that case has yet to be held but the Prison and Probation Ombudsman is not pursuing the matter.
- 11.4 About half of prisoners arriving at Hindley do not have an OASys. This proportion has increased of late. Hindley has not been staffed to complete OASys for these numbers and, due to operational needs, those staff in November were being used elsewhere for 2.5 hours each every day, although at other times of the year extra staff were deployed to help complete OASys. If OASys is completed, this enabled those qualifying to go to open prisons. With new prisoners requiring OASys arriving at the prison regularly, the numbers without completed OASys in Hindley continue to be high.
- 11.5 The attendance at Behaviour Management courses has improved with 90% -100% attendance.
- 11.6 Every prisoner is seen by his Supervising Officer within 28 days.
- 11.7 Sentence plans have become fully embedded.
- 11.8 Family links have been actively encouraged all year. The announcement of the prison closure and then its cancellation, together with the contract coming to an end with Partners of Prisoners (PoPs), meant the prison was without a family engagement worker for October and November but the workers in the Visitors Centre together with the Chaplaincy arranged a family day and a separate 'Family Carol Service' in December. The Visitor Centre and the Visits Hall are both attractive places and the staff receive compliments on how welcome visitors are made.
- 11.9 Those prisoners on whom the UK Border Agency has not reached a decision about their immigration position are transferred to HMP Forest Bank or HMP Risley on sentence completion.
- 11.10 During the course of the year no prisoners were released on ROTL (Release on Temporary Licence). Applications and granting of HDC (Home Detention Curfew) has been managed well throughout the year. There were 138 HDC releases in 2017 from HMP/YOI Hindley.
- 11.11 OASys assessments are prioritised to enable the re-categorisation of Category C prisoners to Category D appropriately. The Offender Management Unit (OMU) organises the transfers when spaces at receiving prisons and transport are available. Safeguarding at Hindley works well in highlighting needs for transfers where necessary.

11.12 Prisoners are given information about opening bank accounts at initial induction. At their DWP interview, usually at the Discharge Board meetings but at least 4 to 5 weeks before release, they are told about opening a Post Office account if they have no bank account because a bank account takes eight weeks to open.

C Section – Work of Board

BOARD STATISTICS	
Recommended Complement of Board Members	20
Number of Board members at the start of the reporting period	14
Number of Board members at the end of the reporting period	9
Total number of visits to the Establishment	399
Total number of segregation reviews attended	220

D Section - Applications

Code	Subject	Current reporting year	Previous reporting year
A	Accommodation including laundry, clothing, ablutions	10	2
B	Discipline including adjudications, IEP, sanctions	16	7
C	Equality	2	1
D	Purposeful Activity including education, work, training, library, regime, time out of cell	9	20
E 1	Letters, visits, phones, public protection restrictions	6	6
E 2	Finance including pay, private monies, spends	4	1
F	Food and kitchens	8	4
G	Health including physical, mental, social care	12	19
H 1	Property within this establishment	17	10
H 2	Property during transfer or in another establishment or location	11	12
H 3	Canteen, facility list, catalogue(s)	0	2
I	Sentence management including HDC, ROTL, parole, release dates, re-categorisation	20	14
J	Staff/prisoner concerns including bullying	8	7
K	Transfers	6	7
	Total number of IMB applications	129	115