



Annual Report
of the
Independent Monitoring Board
at

HMP Hatfield

**For reporting Year
May 2017-April 2018**

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Monitoring fairness and respect for people in custody

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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 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Main judgements

2.1 This report presents the findings of the Independent Monitoring Board at HMP/YOI Hatfield for the period 1 May 2017 to 30 April 2018. IMB evidence comes from observations made on visits, attendance at meetings and contact with prisoners and staff.

2.2 It is the opinion of the Board that prisoners are treated fairly and humanely. The food is excellent, catering for ethnic, cultural and other special dietary needs. Although living accommodation is old it is as clean as possible. A prisoner working party has refurbished the showers in the 3 oldest units. With a few exceptions all prisoners are provided with purposeful activity upon entry at The Lakes which then continues on their transfer to Hatfield.

2.3 Prisoners are well prepared for release. All will have had Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL) usually to their home before release.

Main Areas for Development

TO THE MINISTER

2.4 Hatfield holds some 14 IPP prisoners, some many years over their original tariff. When will these prisoners be given a parole date to enable them to plan for their future?

2.5 Hatfield is a top performing prison, ranked number 2 on the prison list. The Board would like the Minister to congratulate the Governor and her staff on this achievement.

2.6 Under Care UK , healthcare performs well, particularly in the area of substance misuse.

TO THE PRISON SERVICE

2.7 When will a decision be made, and funds provided, to replace D and E units which are not fit for purpose?

2.8 Ceramic sinks have been fitted in some of the unit recess areas, replacing the old and shabby metal units. This has made a tremendous improvement. When will further funds be provide to complete the refurbishment?

TO THE GOVERNOR

The Board do not receive many applications. We believe that this is because of the good relations between prisoners and staff who are experienced and empathetic to the prisoners' needs.

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE PRISON

3.1 Hatfield is a Category D Resettlement prison situated on the outskirts of Doncaster, South Yorkshire. The CNA is 378.

3.2 The prison is on 2 sites which are 4 miles apart. Both sites are based on former Royal Air Force bases.

3.3 The smaller site Hatfield Lakes holds 112 prisoners and is used as a reception area where prisoners spend their first 3 months. The accommodation is in large double rooms in 2 wings holding 56 prisoners in each wing. Although the buildings are old the Prison Service has spent money on refurbishment from its previous use which was as an Immigration Removal Centre.

3.4 The Lakes site has extensive horticultural facilities, free range chickens, a furniture refurbishment workshop, education and IT rooms and a bicycle repair shop. There is also a well organised group of prisoners who carry out general maintenance of the site.

3.5 The Hatfield site comprises 6 separate accommodation blocks with 260 single rooms and a small 6 bedded unit for independent living. Two of the units E and D are in constant need of repair and maintenance. These units were originally used by the Channel Tunnel workers and subsequently relocated for further use at Hatfield. We believe that they had a 10 year life span and currently they have been at Hatfield for 20+ years. In spite of continuous refurbishment of showers, cladding and roof they remain dated and inappropriate. Quite frankly the Board are of the opinion that they are well past their sell by date. Although there are plans for a replacement this is not happening.

3.6 At Hatfield work opportunity is provided by the charity "Recycling Lives", horticulture, general recycling and maintenance. Retail experience is gained in the "Thyme Served" shop which is open to the public and the Barista coffee bar which also serves lunches and snacks. Education is provided by NOVUS with courses in IT, corporate business, welding and barbering. Outside work is in two stages. Stage 1 voluntary work and Stage 2 paid employment.

3.6 Healthcare is provided by Care UK. It has been a seamless change from the previous provider Nottinghamshire Health Authority.

4 SAFETY

4.1 Hatfield and The Lakes are a safe environment for both prisoners and staff.

4.2 During the reporting period 4 ACCTs were opened, 3 for the same prisoner. All members of the Board and prison staff have had SASH training.

4.3 There are 5 Samaritan trained Listeners who are rarely used.

4.4 The security of both Hatfield and The Lakes is given a high priority. The security committee meets monthly and a member of the Board is invited to attend. The Board feel that the committee could be better attended by other departments of the prison other than the Security Department but understand that shift patterns and other commitments make this difficult. The Head of Security reminds all staff on a regular basis of the security objectives and reminds them to be vigilant at all times. Both sites are vulnerable to illicit items being "dropped off" inside the perimeter and both staff and Yorkshire Area Search team (YAST) have made significant finds. The recent installment of additional CCTV cameras will help this situation.

4.5 This year 105 prisoners have been returned to closed conditions. The principal reasons are failing an MDT and being in possession of illicit items. A change this year is that prisoners are not automatically returned to closed conditions for possession of a mobile phone. Instead they are returned to The Lakes for individual assessments.

4.6 Sadly this year we have to report a death in custody which was from natural causes.

4.7 During the reporting period there have been only 2 absconsions. The prison is to be congratulated on this low number.

5 EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS

5.1 This committee is under the leadership of the Governor. Meetings are held bi-monthly with the prison having a positive and proactive approach to equality matters. To this end there is an Equalities Officer who does excellent work. This officer operates across both sites. Equality meetings are attended by staff from relevant departments, prisoner representatives and a member of the Board. One of the prisoner representatives takes the minutes.

5.2 All prisoners are requested to complete an equality questionnaire on arrival at The Lakes which asks about ethnicity, nationality, disability and other protected characteristics. Included in the induction process at The Lakes is a module on race, equality and diversity

5.3 There are a number of focus groups, in particular BME, Travellers, older prisoners and LGBT. The number attending these groups is dependent upon the prison population at the time and also those currently working outside the prison.

5.4 Whilst there are no specific rooms for prisoners with disabilities there is plenty of ground floor accommodation available. Any prisoner requiring additional medical aids not already provided will be given help to acquire these by the Equalities Officer and Healthcare. Staff are aware of those prisoners who have a PEEP in place. At the time of writing the report there were 6.

5.5 The catering manager provides excellent menus for all appropriate festivals and celebrations. This year there has been: a Travellers night, an American night, a Pakistani night, a Yorkshire night and a Chinese night.

5.6 The Discrimination Incident Reporting System (DIRFS) is in place. This year there were six. These were scrutinised by two members of the Board who were satisfied that correct and timely procedures were in place. The Board have not received any complaints concerning discrimination. The same board members checked the Use of Force paperwork and found it all in order.

5.7 Family days are held on a regular basis at The Lakes. These are well attended. Refreshments are now provided by prisoners who as well as serving drinks prepare fresh meals to order. This is a welcome improvement from the previous arrangement

6 SEGREGATION/CARE AND SEPARATION UNIT

HMP Hatfield does not have a Segregation/Care and Separation Unit. Any prisoner requiring segregation is removed to a closed establishment.

7 ACCOMMODATION AND COMMUNICATION

7.1 The Board closely monitors the cleanliness of the units on both sites and are satisfied that these are cleaned to an acceptable standard. During the reporting year there has been an ongoing refurbishment to shower rooms and the toilet facilities on the landings. There has been an improvement to the privacy and decency in these areas.

7.2 The hygiene standards in the kitchens at both sites are good. Identical menus are served. Meals are generally served on time and at the correct temperatures. The kitchen staff are always correctly attired in clean uniforms. Prisoners can choose to eat in the dining room or their rooms. On all units there are microwaves and toasters.

7.3 There are no problems with regard to accessing phones, canteen, mail order catalogues, or the facilities list.

7.4 The complaints regarding prisoners' property not following them after a move are few and these are handled by the staff in a timely manner.

7.5 It is the Board's opinion that the officers have a good knowledge of individual prisoners and staff-prisoner relationships are generally very positive and supportive.

7.6 The Governor is proactive in making the prisoners aware of changes in the estate both locally and nationally by holding regular briefings. There are also prisoner consultation meetings where there is an opportunity to make suggestions and put forward ideas to improve the regime.

7.7 The maintenance work at the Lakes is carried out by Amey. They do not have personnel on site and are drafted in from adjacent HMP Lindholme. In the past response times have been poor, but in this reporting period there has been an improvement.

8 HEALTHCARE (including mental health and social care)

8.1 Healthcare is provided by Care UK who deliver an integrated service. A dedicated team operates across the two sites and in the opinion of the Board are providing an excellent service.

8.2 Healthcare is delivered by a multi-disciplinary team of General Practitioner, Registered General Nurse, Registered Mental Nurse, Pharmacy Technician, Substance Misuse Practitioner, Health Care Assistants and Specialist Nurses.

8.3 All Clinical Pathways meet weekly to discuss case management to ensure those with complex needs are proactively managed. This is becoming more significant due to the ageing prison population. Social care arrangements are working well and regular meetings take place to discuss assessments outcomes.

8.4 Mental healthcare is provided across the sites, and can be accessed on entry. This is well managed.

8.5 Dental care is provided by HMP Moorland and prisoners are taken from both sites for treatment on a weekly basis, this generally works well and waiting times are commensurate with those in the community. Optometry needs are available.

8.6 Hospital appointments are well managed.

8.7 In this reporting year substance misuse has been prioritised, educating the prisoners on the effects of drugs and focusing on recovery paths. Posters are displayed on all units regarding drug usage. In the near future Narcotics Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous will be starting weekly meetings. For those prisoners who do not wish to attend group sessions a package is being developed in the learning centre and will eventually be on virtual campus. The Board recognises the excellent work being carried out and the close working relationship with the other areas of Healthcare.

8.8 All national campaigns are being delivered and meetings are held regularly to make prisoners aware of health issues such as strokes and diabetes.

9 EDUCATION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

9.1 The Board is pleased to report that there are sufficient learning and skills places to meet the needs of the population and all of working age are purposefully engaged. At the time of writing the report, 5 men (1.3% of the population) were ill and not engaged in purposeful activity. Novus is delivering excellent quality learning. The last Ofsted Report in August 2015 rated the department as **Grade 1 Outstanding** in both quality of learning, skills and work provision and leadership and management of learning, skills and work.

9.2 A Training Needs Analysis is completed for the population annually which takes into account sentence plans and provides a focus on vocational training and self-employment. All provision offered is linked to real prisoner need and progression opportunities. This has been enhanced by the development of community partnership arrangements, particularly worthy of note are welding and barbering where prisoners have been successful in securing employment post release. Learning staff are also supported by a resourcing consultant who works 'across the gate' and has supported 60 men into employment and a further 10 into ongoing training since October 2016. All learning staff work closely with all partners in the prison and externally offering a 'joined up' approach.

9.3 Men are assessed on arrival to establish learning needs, taking full account of assessment and work completed in the referring institutions. Action plans take into account entry level needs and are regularly updated throughout their sentence. A lot of work has been undertaken during the last year to ensure development objectives in plans are SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time bound). Minimal waiting times for courses occur very rarely and at the time of writing this report all courses were 90%+ full. Good achievement rates are maintained across all learning provision; currently an 80% success rate is being delivered for CSCS (Construction Skills Certification Scheme).

9.4 HMP/YOI Hatfield is a Category D Resettlement Prison and learning provision includes higher level courses affording good progression opportunities for men. This is further encouraged and supported post sentence with good working relationships with external institutions, for example Leeds College of Building, supporting learning progression on ROTL and on release. Distance learning is both encouraged and supported.

9.5 Learning staff offer a 'wrap around' service to men that includes pastoral support and help with life skills. They aim to develop the whole person and support is provided as flexibly as possible in response to need.

9.6 Very rarely are courses cancelled. Currently this figure is less than 1% and are attributable to exceptional events that were not able to be planned for, for example a short notice training day.

9.7 Learner forums are facilitated by both the prison and Novus and prisoner feedback is actively sought on what learning the men feel they need and want. Additionally, men can also request provision through the prison newsletter DN7. Requests that are reasonable and justified are given serious consideration and response.

9.8 Prisoners are offered access to provision equally based on need and aspiration and vulnerable prisoners are provided with reasonable adjustments and support to ensure they have equal access. Lone study by the men is encouraged and supported where appropriate, particularly on functional skills, where they may feel more comfortable undertaking this learning away from a group. Annually, Novus produce a number of case studies that

demonstrate the impact of learning on lives and progression and these provide encouragement to all men to engage.

9.9 The gymnasium continues to offer a national Navigational Award scheme that builds self-esteem, confidence and working together skills to problem solve: skills that are readily transferable within the prison and in employment.

9.10 There is a well-stocked library at both sites run by Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council and very well used by men at both sites. Both have regular access time which include evenings for those out of the prison on outwork during the day.

10 WORK, VOCATIONAL TRAINING and EMPLOYMENT

10.1 The Board is pleased to report that there is sufficient learning, skills and work places to meet the needs of the population who are all purposefully employed. All prisoners including those who are retired or have disabilities, are given the opportunity to work or attend education and the level of take up means that very few are unemployed. The Board is able to report positively on the purposeful activities that are available in the prison.

10.2 On arrival at HMP/YOI Hatfield the prisoners are assessed for levels of numeracy and literacy and one to one training is available if required. The holistic needs of the individual prisoners is taken into account together with any previous qualifications and skills already gained at previous establishments.

10.3 The allocation process is both efficient and effective. The range of work is good and includes cleaners, peer mentors and PID workers (men who work on the Prisoners Information Desk) located in various places throughout the prison. Work is also available in the gardens, where poly-tunnels are used for the production of fruit and vegetables and where chickens are kept. Work is also available in the recycling and waste management department and in the stores, kitchens and fabrication workshop. Recycle Lives is an external company where men can earn up to £50 per week plus their prison wage for productivity and meeting targets. There is also Refurnish, a shabby chic workshop which renovates furniture for resale through a number of shops and where prisoners can be employed and a Cycle Refurbishment workshop and coffee shops. A Tool Shed project with the Conservation Foundation Trust charity to renovate old tools has been established and the tools are to be donated to local schools and community groups.

10.4 The welding workshop continues to be successful and produces more diverse products for the farm shop. Level 1 qualifications are undertaken by prisoners. This sector of industry offers good employment prospects on release. It should be noted that this workshop is totally self-funding.

10.5 The gymnasium staff have started a national Navigational Award scheme for prisoners that is designed to build self-esteem, confidence and working together to problem solve. These are skills that can be transferred into the prison and work environment. Recently, Partnership links with Leeds Rhinos have been made and courses will start to be delivered in 2018/9.

10.6 There is an IT suite, providing Levels 1-3, a barbering suite and a business suite which has won an award for the provision of SFEDI courses which cover all aspects of business development especially for those wishing to set up their own business.

10.7 Those prisoners eligible to work outside the prison are assessed with regard to the skill sets needed and to match these to the expectations of each prisoner for their future employment on release. Prisoners are required to complete a short period of unpaid/voluntary work in the community during which time they will be assessed prior to them moving on to paid employment. For some prisoners this is the first time that they will have been involved with legitimate employment and is an important step to returning to a life outside prison.

10.8 There are excellent working partnerships with external providers and employers including Timpson's and Road Tankers Northern who are both extremely supportive and proactive in offering employment experience and opportunities on release. In 2017 Hatfield was awarded the Timpson Award for being the best prison to work with.

10.9 The farm shop on the Hatfield site is well established for the sale of fruit, eggs, vegetables, plants and garden furniture and articles made in the welding shop e.g. plant and flower holders. The shop has proved extremely successful since opening in May 2016 and the income generated has provided funds for this to be extended. This will support partnership working with other establishments and the sale of new lines.

11 RESETTLEMENT PREPARATION

11.1 The men are allocated an Offender Supervisor (OS) on arrival at the Lakes and a new one on transfer to the main Hatfield site and these remain the same for the duration of their stay. The OS is easily accessible to men should the need arise and they provide consistent and accurate information in supporting the men, identifying issues at the earliest opportunity to minimise disruption.

11.2 Offender management arrangements in HMP Hatfield support Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and offender supervisors are required to submit a report to support MAPPA meetings about members of the population and will attend the meeting where necessary. Offender supervisors identify if a prisoner to be managed under MAPPA on release 6 months in advance in order to support management and release arrangements.

11.3 As a Resettlement Prison, HMP Hatfield provides a wealth of information, advice and support to men approaching release. Case administrators, offender supervisors and other managers are all available to answer questions and provide support. These are supported by prisoners who have a PID (Prisoner Information Desk) role and offer the men a first port of call for information on induction, applications, ROTL and general support. Partner organisations also support the release process, for example, a prisoner with no home address to return to on release will be supported by NACRO. APM (Advanced Personnel Management) offer more intensive resettlement preparation and support those prisoners with most need. This process is managed by a monthly discharge board which brings together OMU, healthcare and mental health, education, activities and programmes and partner organisations in order to identify individuals needs on release and put in place the appropriate advice and assistance to support them.

11.4 ROTL and HDC are an important part of the resettlement journey of all prisoners in Hatfield once they are eligible and the prison has worked closely with other referring institutions to ensure that prisoners have sufficient time left on their sentences to fully benefit from this. Each month approximately 2200 ROTL licences are issued and licence breaches by way of failure to return from ROTL or adhering to a curfew are extremely rare. All applications for HDC are considered where the prisoner is eligible and unless they have very poor behaviour or unsuitable addresses are usually approved. There have been 35 HDC releases since January 2018 (correct at 07.06.18).

11.5 The prison places a strong emphasis on the establishment for the rebuilding of family ties and ROTL is instrumental in supporting this. A high proportion of men accessing ROTL do so in order to see their families in an environment other than prison.

11.6 Cooperation between Probation services and the Community Rehabilitation Company is good and previous communication issues have now largely been resolved. The probation officer based in the prison supports the gathering of required information to support the granting of licences for ROTL and HDC.

11.7 It is very rare that HMP Hatfield releases a prisoner with no accommodation to go to. The majority return to family or friends and a small number will be required to stay temporarily in a hostel. As above, if necessary a prisoner will be supported by NACRO to find suitable accommodation.

11.8 Many long serving prisoners will not have bank accounts, however throughout their stay in HMP Hatfield support is available to open an account should it become necessary and is encouraged prior to release.

Work of Board

1. At the beginning of the reporting period the Board had 4 members but lost a long serving member due to the 15 year tenure rule
2. A recruitment campaign yielded 3 prospective members, unfortunately 2 of these withdrew their applications during the period of “purdah”.
3. The Board was fortunate to receive a transferee from another local Board.
4. A member of the Board visits both sites on a weekly rota visit. Members also attend various committees.

BOARD STATISTICS	
Recommended Complement of Board Members	6-8
Number of Board members at the start of the reporting period	4
Number of Board members at the end of the reporting period	5
Total number of visits to the Establishment	204
Total number of segregation reviews attended	N/A

Applications

Code	Subject	Current reporting year	Previous reporting year
A	Accommodation including laundry, clothing, ablutions	0	1
B	Discipline including adjudications, IEP, sanctions	0	0
C	Equality	0	0
D	Purposeful Activity including education, work, training, library, regime, time out of cell	1	4
E 1	Letters, visits, phones, public protection restrictions	0	1
E 2	Finance including pay, private monies, spends	1	6
F	Food and kitchens	0	0
G	Health including physical, mental, social care	0	3
H 1	Property within this establishment	0	7
H 2	Property during transfer or in another establishment or location	2	1
H 3	Canteen, facility list, catalogue(s)	0	0
I	Sentence management including HDC, ROTL, parole, release dates, re-categorisation	0	0
J	Staff/prisoner concerns including bullying	0	0
K	Transfers	1	0
	Total number of IMB applications	5	23