



Annual Report
of the
Independent Monitoring Board

at

HMP Stocken

for reporting Year
(1 May 2017 to 30 April 2018)

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Monitoring fairness and respect for people in custody

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A. INTRODUCTORY SECTIONS 1-3

1 THE 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

Are prisoners treated fairly? It is the opinion of the Board that prisoners at HMP Stocken are, in the majority, treated fairly. On the whole complaints are dealt with adequately, however there is some frustration among prisoners as to how the process is dealt with, and the length of time it takes to resolve issues. With the roll-out of the new Key Worker function relations between prisoners and staff should improve which is an area where we have had concerns due to the pressure on staff time.

Are prisoners treated humanely? The new Governor has sought to deliver a more caring regime and introduced domestic benefits which improve the day to day circumstances of the prisoners and these would be enhanced if there were commensurate increases in the development of new staff together with improved and integrated communications across all Departments. Accommodation standards are generally good, with the majority of cells light, in good repair and kept clean. The recent roll-out of new curtains, bedding and toilet seats has improved living conditions considerably. The state of repair and cleanliness of the common parts however is less good. Catering provision is adequate. Gym, Library, Education and Healthcare are excellent and widely available, and the Chaplaincy continues to provide good quality pastoral care. Initiatives such as prisoners' art on the walls of the main corridors and buskers performing during movement, help to humanise the atmosphere in the jail. However, the frequently observed practice of calling for prisoners by their surname only is unacceptable.

Are prisoners prepared well for their release? It is the opinion of the Board that **not** all prisoners are well prepared for their release. As we reported last year, some are still being released directly from the prison without being through the services offered by a Resettlement prison. We address this issue in detail in *Section 11, p23*.

Main Areas for Development

TO THE MINISTER

OASYS

OMU and OASys and sentence plans remain inadequate: the Minister's policy of pressing forward retraining and rehabilitation of offenders continues to be seriously inhibited by the failure of establishments to complete OASys reports when a prisoner is first sentenced. (*See Section 11, p23*) This issue has been regularly reported with little or no progress being made in addressing the problem.

Mental Health Provision

Mental Health provision suffered during the year from a shortage of staff and whilst some improvement has been seen we are yet to see a stable level of practitioners. The Board are finding that there are more prisoners than ever requiring mental health support and once again suggest that a review of the volume and efficacy of this provision be undertaken.

Staffing Levels

Staffing levels were again causing problems at the start of the year with pressure felt in a number of areas of the prison due to low numbers of staff, or officers having to “guest” in areas/wings that they were not used to.

Towards the end of the year, due mainly to the impending opening of the new Wing, and the roll out of OMiCs (Offender Management in Custody), the situation has begun to improve. However, the process of recruitment and vetting needs a serious overhaul to speed up the process both to assist prisons to get their staff in sooner and ease the pressures, and retain entrants who are kept waiting for too long.

Maintenance Contract – Amey

There has been a significant reduction in the quality, cost, and speed of maintenance provision since the contract was taken away from the Prison Service and given to Amey. The Board feels that although Amey may well hit their KPI’s (Key Performance Indicators) this is not reflected in the service provided, an example being the unacceptable length of time it took for them to mend the showers and shower room flooring on F wing. The Board therefore suggests that the whole subject of the contracting out of maintenance be reviewed.

TO THE PRISON SERVICE

CCTV

Whilst improvements have been made at HMP Stocken there are still several different systems in use which are not fully compatible. In addition, whilst the whole issue of CCTV is subject to RIPA (Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act) there should be local guidelines as to who can, should, and needs to access CCTV footage whilst understanding the operational needs of the establishment.

Meaningful work for Prisoners

Efforts have been made to attract better quality and more meaningful work but with, it would appear, little support from Prison Service Industries. Whilst levels of “employment” can look high that does not reflect what the prisoners are actually doing: too often, prisoners are to be found sitting idle in workshops. Passing through the door does not of itself constitute ‘working’.

The Board feels that a more “joined up” approach across the whole prison estate regarding employment prospects and liaising with large external companies needs to be explored as the present system does not work.

Property on transfer

It is unfortunate that whilst numerous IMB Boards across the country have raised this issue nothing has been done to limit the amount of property that prisoners are allowed to accrue and subsequently move from one prison to another. It is time consuming to record and check and causes a great deal of angst for prisoners when items are taken or lost when moving to different establishments. The whole system of prisoner property including its availability and retention (whether in possession or stored) should be simplified and reduced in quantity.

TO THE GOVERNOR

The Board would like to draw your attention to the following concerns:

Adjudications

Despite the matter being reported over several Annual Reports, the high level of outstanding Adjudications remains a major concern of the Board. Efforts are being made to clear them but once again committed and regular attention is required to keep the number outstanding at a controlled and reasonable level.

Staff Attitude

Whilst not a widespread problem, concern has been raised by the Board over the attitude of a minority of the staff towards prisoners. The board of course acknowledges the pressure that officers have been under, particularly in the early part of the reporting year, but some staff do need to relate better to the prisoners in their care.

Staff Inductions

It is unfortunate that on a number of occasions in 2017 the Board had cause to raise with Senior Management the lack of care shown to new entrants at their Induction with session speakers missing and new arrivals generally being left to fend for themselves.

Litter

Whilst we acknowledge that steps have been taken to reduce the amount of litter and rubbish on both the outside areas and on the wings, there have been a number of "littering" incidents reported by us throughout the year. This remains an area that needs constant attention.

Improvements

The Board considers the following examples of good practice especially worthy of note:

Smoking Cessation

It is pleasing to report that not only was the Smoking Cessation programme very well planned, but it was equally well implemented with little or no negative comeback from prisoners. In the view of the Board it was an excellent all round effort from both prison staff and Healthcare.

Violence and Drug reduction

Two local intelligence lead initiatives, Operation Boxer (violence reduction) and Operation Scorpion (curtailment of the supply and distribution of drugs) have been successful in reducing the level of violence and drug trading and taking within the prison. Searches under both headings have been undertaken with a good level of success which has sent out a clear message to all inmates that these activities will not be tolerated.

The Stockpot

The reinstatement of the staff mess (known as the “Stockpot”) has proved a huge success with staff, but just as importantly it also provides prisoners with the chance to gain barista accreditation for use on their release.

Artwork

The Board would also like to praise the prison for the provision of prisoners’ artwork along the major walkways at HMP Stocken. This not only softens and smartens those areas but also gives a sense of pride and satisfaction to those producing the work. Additionally, buskers can now be found playing during prisoner movements and this too helps provide a friendlier, more welcoming backdrop.

The Prisoners’ Forum and the Prisoners’ Council

The Board is impressed by the quality of the contributions made to both these bodies by prisoners, and by the way in which the panels are conducted.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT

HMP Stocken is a Category C, male training prison adjacent to the A1 in Rutland. Access to public transport is very limited: the nearest trains and buses are in Oakham, some nine miles to the southwest.

On opening in 1985 the prison held 300 medium/long term prisoners. Expansion over the years now allows for an operating capacity of 843, with a scheduled increase to 1052 on completion of the current expansion programme scheduled for late 2018. At the time of writing the prison comprises six wings (see *Section 7, p16*) and twelve workshops (see *Section 10, p21*). The large and well equipped Gym facility is very popular with prisoners and staff alike, and the Chapel, multi-faiths room and Library are also well supplied and attended.

Education continues to be provided by Milton Keynes, Healthcare by Care UK, and the Library by Rutland County Council Library. Voluntary services operating include the IMB, Samaritans, the Prison Fellowship, the Shannon Trust, the Sycamore Trust, and play workers in the Visitors Hall – refurbishment of which has been undertaken. Current programmes offered include Resolve (an eight week course addressing violence), Building Better Relationships, High Intensity and Partner Violence, and 'Kaizen', an innovation designed to encourage new beginnings and called by the Japanese word for the same.

The building project to expand the prison continues, and is currently on target financially. This work includes one new wing with a capacity of 206, a new and extended kitchen block, a new warehouse (workshop), a re-modelling of Healthcare (to provide 4 more consulting rooms) and a new MDT suite. It does not, however, include enlarged physical accommodation for the Segregation Unit, Visits Hall, or Chaplaincy.

Initially the vetting process for workers due to be used on the project was very slow and onerous with an initial wait time of two to three months to get them accredited, and whilst this is a national issue it held back early progress. As it is, at the time of writing the project is running approximately five weeks behind with the possibility that it may not come on stream until January 2019.

B. EVIDENCE SECTIONS 4-11

4. SAFETY

Below is a snapshot of statistics for July 2017:

ACCT documents opened	17
Transferred in on an open ACCT	02
Open ACCTs at month end	10
Violent incidents	19
Assaults on Staff	01
Assaults on Prisoners	18
Use of Force	23
No. Prisoners recorded with a disability	222

Self harm incidents:

February 2017 – January 2018	161
July 2017	16 (6 prisoners involved)
January 2018	20

There are currently 12-13 Listeners, trained by Grantham Samaritans. The new system of Passports and identifying t-shirts means that they can move around the prison with relative freedom and their increased accessibility is part of the reason why the system works well. Listeners attend the Safer Custody meetings (5 were present in February) for part of the agenda, and are actively encouraged to contribute to discussions. Several opine that Stocken is a safe prison; that prisoners would value more interaction with personal officers; that general approval was given to the recent innovation of photocopying incoming mail as a means of limiting NPS ingress into the prison. The Safer Custody Governor meets with the Listeners every month.

The high levels of drug and substance misuse remain a major concern. From January 2018 a new contact sheet has been in use to record data supplied by Listeners, including the time, type and duration of contact and the problem reported. This data clearly shows that drug-related issues are currently the prime reason for prisoner contact with Listeners. The recent decision by the Governor to photocopy all incoming mail has generally been welcomed and has definitely had a positive effect on limiting the availability of NPSs, as has the increased patrolling of the perimeter. Indicator dogs have recently returned to the prison and are now housed on the premises: a recent demonstration to the IMB of the work they do was very impressive. The perhaps unforeseen consequence of this heightened activity however has been the increased levels of debt within the jail as orders placed before the crackdown remain unfulfilled and this has been followed by increased bullying and the use of force to get payment. The IMB feels that is a price worth paying, provided that the outcome results in less use of drugs within the prison thereby saving others from this pernicious threat..

Safer Custody meetings are held quarterly to enable a more in-depth analysis of trends. Use of Force meetings are still scheduled to convene monthly (but are only now back on track); DEAT meetings are quarterly; Safety, Order and Control (SOCT) are every Monday afternoon in order to look at weekly incidents, as well as the Segregation Unit population and other prisoners of interest. The restructuring of Safer Custody meetings to reflect a multi-disciplinary approach is a welcome innovation designed to manage the prison's strategy for reducing violence and supporting those at risk of suicide and/or self-harm. This will bring the regime in line with PS 64/2011. The revised Violence Reduction Strategy will help identify the prevalence and nature of violence and bullying within the prison: as ever, a greater understanding of the problem faced will help in the addressing of the issues raised. The Violence Diagnostic Tool statistics are at the time of writing a month behind. There is a plan to provide a weekly heat-map to inform the SOCT discussions, with all staff to be supplied with statistics on a regular basis together with suggestions for access or focus. More Safer Custody mentors have been recruited and trained and coverage is now across the establishment with those already in post acclaimed for doing a very good job. A number of prisoners have been trained as Mediators but most of them have already been moved on, and the demand for their services has been minimal, so whether or not they represent the best use of scarce resources is a matter for debate.

Operation Boxer identifies and challenges prisoners thought to be involved in violence and bullying. The IMB understands that this is intelligence based and can involve night searches which are followed by a written explanation handed to the prisoner concerned. (see also p7).

The new National Peer Mentor Toolkit for best practice will be piloted at HMP Stocken. Job descriptions are being written and the aim is for one roaming VR Mentor across the prison, and one on each wing. Meanwhile the Head of Residence & Safety (a new post) is working with Psychology to formulate a revised VR strategy and Debt Management toolkit.

The rolling programme of Suicide and Self Harm Training (SASH) is raising awareness across the prison of the need for accurate, high quality ACCT documentation. This is most welcome, as we mentioned in our last Annual Report that insufficient detail and missing information (including sometimes a photograph of the prisoner) were an issue. Multi-disciplinary involvement at ACCT reviews appears to be working well, with Case Managers holding regular informal meetings to share good practice, and the Duty Governor checking ACCT entries each weekend.

'Biddability' is a gauge designed to predict likely involvement in the prison's illicit economy. It is predicated on the assumption that most debt arises as a result of impulsive behaviour: a prototype featured in the Prison Service Journal of November 2017 and the Head of Residence & Safety is considering including a Biddability questionnaire in the Induction process.

Statistics show that the peak times for violent incidents are Wednesdays (canteen day) 9-11am and 4-6pm, and that most take place in-cell with no CCTV coverage. The Board

therefore commends an initiative to 'deep-dive' into statistics relating to the relationship between violence, Canteen and debt, including the influence of external payments and all matters arising.

Comparison figures:

	2016	2017	2018 (Jan to Apr)
Assaults on Staff	33	39	14
Serious Assaults on Staff	4	6	9
Assaults on Prisoners	45	70	8
Serious Assaults on Prisoners	9	13	2
Prisoner on Prisoner fights	21	35	2

The Board is sorry to report that there have been three deaths in custody during the reporting period, as follows:

1. 12.10.17 58 years old Lung cancer, died in hospital
2. 30.10.17 36 years old Cause as yet unknown
3. 24.03.18 22 years old Cause as yet unknown

At the time of writing HMP Stocken is in discussions with the Prison Ombudsman regarding whether or not the removal of restraints from the prisoner who died of lung cancer was timely.

During the reporting period, finds of illicit goods were as follows:

Mobile phones	51
SIM cards	28
Mobile phone chargers	24
Memory cards	7
Drugs	85

5. EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS

A forum was held during the reporting period to inform a survey about older prisoners, i.e. those over 50. The Board was pleased to see that the prison facilitated this, and allowed it to take place without any prison officers present. Hopefully this allowed a full and frank exchange. It became clear that there was a widespread wish for an 'older prisoner wing or spur'. The counter-argument from the prison was that a mix of ages on the wings helps overall stability.

At the time of writing the age and ethnic breakdown of HMP Stocken prisoners was as follows:

Age range	No.
18-21	11
22-29	277
30-39	269
40-49	148
50-59	71
60-69	18
70+	5

Ethnic Description	No.
Asian British: Indian	32
Asian British: Pakistani	29
Asian British: Bangladeshi	4
Asian British: Any other background	19
Black British: Caribbean	48
Black British: African	24
Black British: Any other background	18
Mixed: White and Black Caribbean	30
Mixed: White and Black African	1
Mixed: White and Asian	4
Mixed: Any other background	12
Prefer not to say	2
Arab	1
Any other background	5
White: Eng/Welsh/Scot/N Irish/British	526
White: Irish	10
White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	5
White: Any other background	29
Total	799

Religion	2016/17	2017/18
Agnostic	0	0
Atheist	4	2

Baptist	1	1
Buddhist	15	15
Christian	76	77
Church of England	109	113
Church of Scotland	1	2
Eastern Orthodox	2	2
Hindu	3	3
Jehovah's Witness	3	0
Jewish	10	11
Mormon	9	13
Muslim	139	129
No religion	296	241
Orthodox (Greek/Russian)	1	1
Other	1	2
Pagan	9	9
Pentecostal	1	8
Protestant		1
Rastafarian	14	15
Roman Catholic	141	140
Russian Orthodox	1	2
Satanist		1
Sikh	12	21
TOTAL		799

At the time of writing the Chaplaincy staff comprised:

Managing Chaplain	Full-time, Church of England
Buddhist Chaplain	Sessional, working 2h every two weeks.
Church of England Chaplain	Full-time, + a Sessional Chaplain
Hindu Chaplain	Sessional, working 2/3h per week.
Jewish Chaplain	Sessional, working 4h every two weeks.
Mormon Chaplain	Volunteer, working 3h per week.
Muslim Chaplain	The 7h/pw sessional Chaplain will leave in June 2018. A full-time Imмам starts on 25 June 2018.
Pagan Chaplain	Sessional, working 4h per week.
Roman Catholic	Three priests take Catholic Mass. One helps out with Bible study every week and one occasionally covers Saturday mornings.
Sikh Chaplain	Sessional, working 4h per week.

The large Chapel and Multi-Faith Room continue to be well attended and a remembrance service for a young prisoner who unfortunately died in custody recently was so popular that two were held in order to accommodate all those who wished to attend.

6. SEGREGATION/CARE AND SEPARATION UNIT

From September 2017 – January 2018 the Segregation Unit was staffed by a small core of permanently assigned staff, and a number of temporary ‘guesting’ appointees. Despite the fact that this was not conducive to the ideal management of the prisoners, who are often challenging and uncooperative, good efforts to address prisoner needs were noted. The IMB pressed for a full-time Custodial Manager in the Segregation Unit to alleviate the considerable administrative demands: the potential benefits were acknowledged and a clerical officer was also appointed. She has speedily assimilated the detail associated with the role and her increasing experience has become a real asset to the unit, with positive effects already apparent in the preparation of paperwork essential to the smooth running of the Unit.

The new Custodial Manager (CM) was appointed in January 2018 and has provided strong leadership with clear guidance, and innovation. Since his arrival eight permanent uniformed staff have been selected and assigned to the Unit. He has introduced a new Prisoner Compact which outlines what is expected of the prisoner while he is on the Unit, what he will be given in terms of support and goods/equipment, and how he will be managed. The prisoner is invited to read it, discuss it with staff, and then to sign it. It is also brought to the attention of members of staff joining the Unit and it is made clear to them that they are expected to work with prisoners to achieve the goals set out. The CM moves on later this year and the Board very much hopes that the energy and skill he has brought to the role will be replicated in his successor.

For much of the period covered by this report, the Unit has operated at or very near to capacity. This is partly due to the changing nature of prisoners within the estate, a phenomenon discussed in last year’s report. In addition however, the consensus is that the recent focussing of SMT attention on reversing the spike in the use of illicit drugs (presumably partly as a result of the prison becoming smoke free) has increased the numbers of prisoners in debt to others as orders taken and paid for remain unfulfilled. Whilst noting that some prisoners may have psychological or mental issues, a number of prisoners seem very ready to turn to dirty protest or repeated self-harming, and these men put further strain on an already pressed Unit with limited constant watch and dirty protest cells. The noise levels are sometimes extraordinarily high, and the unit must be a very testing place in which to work, or indeed to live.

The Board is generally informed of new arrivals within the required 24 hours, and of Rule 45 and 49 reviews, which members attend. Cells are thoroughly cleaned and checked between residents and new kit issued where necessary. Prisoners are expected to keep their cells orderly, and to be out of bed during the working day. They are also expected to engage with the College tutor, who attends each Tuesday, and to manage their own money and canteen order. Emergency PIN phone credits are held by the CM and can be issued as necessary.

A draft Segregation Unit strategy entitled 'Purposeful, Decent and Constructive', and a draft Segregation Toolkit, have been prepared and circulated to the SMT for comment. The Board would welcome improvements in Use of Force documentation and meetings, and more regular meetings in general: currently Diversity Equality Action Team (DEAT) and Safer Custody meetings take place every two months and there is a proposal to introduce an Adjudication Standardisation meeting.

From early 2019 the prison will potentially house another 206 prisoners, and Stocken is already part of the East Midlands Reform Group linked to two local prisons. It is therefore hard to believe that the expansion work under way does not include an enlarged Segregation Unit.

During the reporting period:

Segregation Unit usage	338
Cellular Confinement	1585
Dirty Protests	28
Mechanical Restraints used	0

The Board has also noticed that the length of stay in Segregation has increased and we will be keeping a close eye on the situation during the forthcoming year.

7. ACCOMMODATION (including communication)

The Certified Normal Accommodation (CNA) at HMP Stocken is 768 and the Segregation Unit comprises another 24 cells; in all the prison has 86 double cells. The Operating Capacity is 853 at the time of writing.

At the time of writing the prison consists of six wings and one, 'N', under construction:

F	
H	Induction
I	Drug and Alcohol recovery
K	Generic
L	Generic with Older Person's landing
M	Generic

Regimes are, on the whole, effectively managed and appropriate, within the constraints of the staffing shortages which were apparent until the autumn of 2017. However, given that the number of lockdowns necessary during the reporting period and directly attributable to personnel issues has risen dramatically from 35 in 2015/16 to 95 in 2016/17 and now stands at 15. It is also worth mentioning that to date the prisoners have generally been very reasonable when faced with unexpected and sometimes prolonged confinement to their cells.

The Board feels that the level of cleanliness and disrepair in the prison is currently less than ideal. Common areas are often littered and green dumpsters left overflowing. The state of Workshop 4 (Waste Management) is particularly poor: when visited in April 2018 it was full of abandoned furniture, food packaging waste and old paint tins, some of which were positioned to catch the drips coming from the ceiling. Sluice areas on Wings are sometimes dirty and sink areas are de-laminating. Shower cleanliness however has improved, and this is to be welcomed. The Segregation Unit lobby ceiling leaks to the extent that any meaningful rainfall results in a puddle and the ceiling of the main corridor is stained with wet and damp along some 90m. Examples given to the Board of other prisons in worse states should not constitute a justification of HMP Stocken's acceptance of the status quo.

However, it should be noted that at the time of writing this Report efforts were being made to attend to these shortcomings.

8. HEALTHCARE (including Mental Health and social care)

Healthcare at HMP Stocken is provided by Care UK, who have asked for an increased budget to allocate more funds to dentistry, optician and physiotherapy services. Ad hoc additional podiatry sessions might also be needed to allow Healthcare more regularly to meet its target of appointments being issued within six weeks of application. Perhaps inevitably smoking cessation has had a serious impact on the budget: the anticipated drop off in numbers of arriving prisoners requiring help to stop has not materialised and discussions regarding future funding are ongoing. The prison becoming a smoke-free zone might also have contributed to the spike in NPS usage following a recent plateau.

The inadequacy of mental health provision at HMP Stocken remains a concern. There is a national shortage of mental health nurses and this year the department lost two members of staff who had transferred from Glen Parva on a temporary basis. The posts will be advertised nationally and in the meantime the team is being supported by a Band 7 based at HMP Littlehey. Two bank staff have been appointed but are awaiting security clearance. It is the Board's considered opinion that given this shortage it is inevitable that some prisoners do not receive regular and sufficient professional care and support. Those who cannot be suitably treated in the establishment are certainly not always transferred out within a reasonable time limit. The shortage of mental health staff at the prison often causes considerable delays at R45 (and other) hearings where they are required to be present.

During the reporting period in 2017 there was only one prisoner who required care under the Social Care Act: the Healthcare department is contracted to supply this by Rutland County Council.

Medical care is given in a series of consulting rooms opening off a communal waiting area, offering an acceptable level of privacy and decency. Waiting times from application to appointment are acceptable, and has recently been helped by the introduction of an Advanced Nurse Practitioner post which carries its own case load to manage. Complaints about delays are rarely valid: some prisoners have an unrealistic view of the time they would have to wait to see a healthcare professional if they were not in prison. Retinal screening for diabetics is now available within the prison, as is screening for bowel cancer, and those aged between 35 and 70 who are at risk of heart disease. The department worked well with prisoners in the lead up to the prison going smoke-free, and the prisoner mentors who help with this deserve special mention.

The prison's drug strategy is due for review. The use of the Orange Book, the Drug Misuse and Dependence UK guidelines on clinical management, has already been revised. It still recommends that prisoners serving short sentences should be on a 'maintain' strategy with their methadone medication. However, it has become apparent that some longer term prisoners may choose this maintenance strategy as an alternative to detox. It remains to be seen whether this is an acceptable course, and to see how this

affects inclusion in the longer term. The improvement the Board seeks in data collection within Healthcare will allow mental health provision and substance misuse to be better evidenced.

The number of Did Not Attends (DNAs) fluctuates: the spike in December 2017 occurred despite an initiative specifically designed to improve the rate which was unsuccessful. In September 2017 there were 28 for the Doctor alone, which represents 10.6% of GP appointments made that month. Throughout the department there were 393, or 9.84%. The figures below do not include all the clinics, or Pharmacy, but do include GP, Dental, Nurse-led, Substance Misuse, Mental Health, Podiatry, Physiotherapy and Optician appointments missed:

April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March
10.7%	11.4%	16.3%	12.1%	12.6%	13.4%	13.5%	13.3%	15.9%	12.2%	11.8%	10.6%

The latest initiative to keep these down involved the delivery of movement slips to the relevant wings by the Night Orderly Officer, for distribution by wing staff and resulted in a short-lived improvement. DNAs are expensive and time wasting, and the situation remains under scrutiny. Bed watches too are constantly under review.

9. EDUCATION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

It remains the Board's opinion that Education at HMP Stocken is well run by a highly motivated and efficient team. In 2016-2017 the department offered approximately 25% of the purposeful activity spaces. Education, training and work is available to all prisoners during the core day for 4.5 days per week. All prisoners have their learning needs assessed shortly after arrival at the prison and opportunities are available ranging from Entry Level to Level 2 on either a full or part-time basis. The College (aka 'Education') also provides the majority of the support offered to the twenty learners studying through the Open University and to the six men pursuing distance learning qualifications at Levels 2 and 3. Prisoners overall express high levels of satisfaction with the education provision: places on courses are sought after and in general classroom behaviour is good.

The College also takes learning into the Segregation Unit, with 1:1 support enabling prisoners there to begin or continue their education despite their segregation. New qualifications offered specifically address developing positive behaviour as well as being reflective, with the stated aim of encouraging interest in and attendance at education and training when the prisoner leaves the Unit.

Test results show a steady increase in overall success over the last three years, with English and maths exceeding minimum standards throughout all levels of qualification. The measuring of progression has improved with the introduction of Individual Learning Programmes (ILPs) and 98% of learners report that they enjoy their learning. Attendance and retention are both good at 85% and 100% respectively and learners take pride in their achievements. Highly effective learning support mechanisms are in place for those with learning difficulties and disabilities. Peer mentors reinforce teaching and learning and themselves undergo extensive training to reach the required Level 2 qualifications.

There are real examples of excellence to be seen in education available at HMP Stocken. First class leadership and motivation are evident, to which students respond well; the strong working partnership between the department and the prison; the ethos of continuous professional development and self-assessment; robust data scrutiny; an awareness of and determination to address the wider learning issues faced by prisoners beyond the confines of the College.

However, there are also areas of concern. The involvement of the National Careers Service (NCS) with Education remains ineffective. Sentence planning is not integrated within all courses: while some form part of the prisoners' sentence plans, it is not always clearly documented how others relate to improving knowledge and skills. Punctuality to lessons needs to be improved – the prison has a role to play in ensuring that learners go from the wing straight to their place of training.

The large Library, stocked and staffed by Rutland County Council Library, continues to offer an excellent service to prisoners, staff and volunteers alike. Newspapers and periodicals, books both fact and fiction, (limited) computer access, audio books and CDs are all available. Theme months are imaginative and professionally displayed and in the last year have centred on topics as diverse as Lego in April, International Women's Day in March, Holocaust Day in January, and two in October 2017: National Poetry Day and Black History Month. Storybook Dads is as popular as ever; The Shannon Trust (the subject of the Radio 4 Appeal in April) continues its excellent work of teaching, supporting and encouraging prisoners to read; the Book Group and Reading Ahead scheme continues to flourish and expand; the system created for delivering and receipting newspapers is working well. Unfortunately however the library routine has continued to be badly affected by the restricted regime: due to the weekend closures prisoners have been visiting the library on their way to and from work and healthcare appointments and it has been very difficult to maintain a named role. When open in the evening, the number of prisoners attending increased.

The Gym and surrounding exercise rooms is extensive and well equipped and a perennial favourite with both prisoners and staff. Personal tuition from qualified staff is available and the threatened removal of gym privileges is a proven deterrent to bad behaviour. On a positive note prisoners are able to acquire relevant fitness qualifications.

10. WORK, VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

As a training prison, HMP Stocken is expected to provide employment for all prisoners except those who are either medically unfit, or of retirement age. However, the prison does not always have sufficient activity places available to prisoners. The Board has had cause to be concerned during this reporting period both at the accounting process that enables the prison to consider some prisoners as 'employed', and at the degree to which some of the work undertaken could be described as either 'meaningful' or 'productive'. A prisoner who arrives at work will be considered as 'working', even if a lack of equipment or raw materials means he spends much of the day drinking tea and talking to fellow 'workers'. Some of the workshops provide stimulating, undeniably worthwhile tasks for prisoners, and some of them (those marked with an asterisk below) offer training that can result in meaningful qualifications being earned. Not all, however.

At the time of writing, the workshops are as follows:

1. Cycle Maintenance*
2. VT Motor Vehicle Studies*
3. Plumbing and Tiling*
4. Waste Management
5. VT Catering*
6. Camouflage net and lighter cap manufacture (Production Workshop)
7. (Under refurbishment)
8. DHL*
9. Bricklaying*
10. Painting and Decorating*
11. Cycle Maintenance*
12. CES Laundry*

Kitchen

Gardens* This department employs 32 prisoners who are responsible for the upkeep of internal prison grounds, poly-tunnels, the greenhouse and a workshop where prisoners create engravings on reclaimed slate which can be purchased through the prison.

There are four bands of pay, starting from £1.12-£1.96 per session depending on the type of employment, and prisoners are expected to attend a minimum of nine sessions per week.

The successful launch of a Staff bistro ('The Stockpot') provides meaningful workplace training for prisoners. The VT Catering department has begun making and decorating cakes to order: prisoners and staff members can buy them for visitors or themselves.

The battle to provide sufficient employment places in the prison remains ongoing, and the part Prison Service Prison Industries (PSPI) plays in the search remains unclear at best, and inadequate at worst. There is now further pressure to provide more quality working opportunities with a further 200+ prisoners to be accommodated at the end of 2018.

11. RESETTLEMENT PREPARATION

Approximately 75% of prisoners arriving at HMP Stocken have no Offender Assessment System (OASys) plan: between May 2017 and April 2018 this meant 514 men with no tangible list of goals needed to be achieved during their sentence to ensure their timely release. The prison is not time resourced to carry out initial OASys so this is currently done piecemeal, by payment plus (i.e. overtime), which must surely be the most expensive, inefficient method. This is an unacceptable situation we covered in our last Annual Report, and remains a national disgrace.

Prisoners should ideally see their Offender Supervisor on induction and at least annually thereafter. It seems that this does not always happen. High risk prisoners are meant to be seen by an Offender Supervisor.

There are currently 2.5 probation officers working at HMP Stocken and they are Offender Supervisors who have been seconded from the Probation Service. There are also 16 Grade 4 officers who specialise in offender management: each has a caseload of approximately 60 prisoners.

There is co-operation between the Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC). The latter covers Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Rutland and attends HMP Stocken one day a week to facilitate prisoners' transition to the local resettlement prison, HMP Ranby. However, it is assumed that all prisoners in the prisons in the East Midlands are from the surrounding counties: in reality, most are from the South East and should be transferred to a resettlement prison nearer to their home or family. There are also inevitably some prisoners who refuse to move to HMP Ranby because they feel unsafe there, and they have no option but to complete their sentences at HMP Stocken, a prison without a dedicated resettlement team. However, it remains unacceptable that from June 2017 – April 2018, 129 men were released from Stocken. Over half of these were released following decisions of the Parole Board. Further, 11 of these were IPP prisoners.

The Board has a major concern that those released direct from the prison during the year did not necessarily receive all the appropriate guidance and support before being let out of the door. Resettlement prisons were designated as such to ensure that everything that could and should be done to support a prisoner on release, was done. We believe that releasing 129 men without necessarily having had the guidance and support they needed will not help them as they try to re-acclimatise to life outside.

Following the Farmer Review, Lincolnshire Action Trust (LAT) was appointed as the new family service provider for visits and works with families both in Visits Reception and the Visits Hall, during visits. Over the past year the Visits Hall has been refurbished and a new service bar built to provide better refreshments for men and their visitors. Three themed family days took place during the summer and another one in November for those who had completed the Fathers Inside course which 18 men started and

completed. A Family Stakeholder Group has been formed to try to strengthen men's links with their families.

LAT also helps prisoners with multiple needs such as accommodation, debt problems, no bank account, lack of marketable job skills and drug dependency, with regards to their prospective release. Prisoners can self-refer, and are sometimes guided by OMU staff to seek advice from LAT. There are currently no scheduled meetings with the Governor or Custodial Manager: instead they work with OMU on an ad hoc basis. Anecdotal evidence from prisoners who have been seen by LAT is that their service is good, and helpful. It is a matter of regret therefore that LAT have yet to be seen in the prison either regularly or often, despite their current caseload of more than 200 prisoners and a waiting list of 50.

Funding for the National Careers Service presence in the prison ceased in March 2018 and what, if anything, is to replace it has yet to be announced.

It remains difficult to establish how successful ROTL and HDC are, as prisoners recalled for breaking their parole will be sent to whichever establishment has space available.

C. The Work of the IMB

BOARD STATISTICS	
Recommended Complement of Board Members	20
Number of Board Members at the start of the reporting period	17
Number of Board Members at the end of the reporting period	16
Total number of visits to the Establishment	842
Total number of Segregation reviews attended	138

Board members attend the prison to hear Applications, observe R45 hearings and Adjudications, attend meetings relating to their ASI, and to prepare Rota reports. In addition, members are On Call on a roster, with all that entails in the eventuality of a Serious Incident. The Board works well and cooperatively as a team, with good communication and a strong work ethic. The annual Team Performance Review and Away Day is held in June off the premises, and consists of a morning of training and role play, followed by the monthly Board meeting during the afternoon. When canvassed, the consensus was that Board members feel comfortable approaching peers and the Chairman with issues as and when necessary, confident of support and practical advice.

D. Applications to the IMB

Code	Subject	Current reporting year	Previous reporting year
A	Accommodation, including laundry, clothing, ablutions	11	13
B	Discipline, including adjudications, IEPs, sanctions	16	32
C	Equality	3	3
D	Purposeful Activity, including Education, work, training, library, regime, time out of cell	16	20
E1	Letter, visits, phones, public protection restrictions	12	0
E2	Finance including pay, private monies, spends	12	0
F	Food and kitchens	6	5
G	Health, including physical, mental, social care	33	27
H1	Property within HMP Stocken	40	160 overall
H2	Property elsewhere	63	Inc above
H3	Canteen, facility list, catalogue(s)	3	n/a
I	Sentence Management, including HDC, ROTL, parole, release dates, re-categorisation	50	67
J	Staff/Prisoner concerns, including bullying	38	63
K	Transfers	36	65
L	Miscellaneous	0	36
DNA	Did Not Attend	7	21
	Cancelled	0	8
	Total number of IMB applications	303	531

GLOSSARY

ACCT	Assessment Care in Custody Teamwork
ASI	Area of Special Interest
CM	Custodial Manager
CNA	Certified Normal Accommodation
CRC	Community Rehabilitation Company
DEAT	Diversity Equality Action Team
DIRF	Discrimination Incident Report Form
DNA	Did Not Attend
HDC	Home Detention Curfew
HMIP	Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons
HMPPS	Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Services
IDTS	Integrated Drug Treatment Services
IEP	Incentives and Earned Privileges
ILP	Individual Learning Programme
IPP	Indeterminate Sentenced Prisoner
LAT	Lincolnshire Action Trust
NCS	National Careers Service
NOMS	National Offender Management System
OAYSs	Offender Assessment System
OMiC	Offender Management in Custody
OMU	Offender Management Unit
OSs	Offender Supervisors
PSI	Prison Service Instruction
PSO	Probation Support Officer
QIG	Quality Improvement Group
RIPA	Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act

ROTL	Release on Temporary Licence
SASH	Suicide and Self Harm
SMT	Senior Management Team
SOCT	Safety, Order and Control
TSP	Thinking Skills Programme
UOF	Use of Force
VR	Violence Reduction
VT	Vocational Training