



Annual Report
of the
Independent Monitoring Board
at
HMP and YOI PARC
for reporting year
1 March 2018 to 28 February 2019

Published October 2019

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Work of the IMB

Applications to the IMB

Statutory Role

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.

1. Executive Summary

Main Judgements

- **The Board believes that this report confirms our perceptions that prisoners at HMP and YOI Parc are treated fairly.**
- **All the Board's observations confirm that prisoners are treated humanely.**
- **The Board can confirm that the wide and ever-extending range of activity enables prisoners to be prepared well for their release.**

This report presents the findings of the Independent Monitoring Board at HMP and YOI Parc from March 2018 to February 2019. These findings are based on observations, scrutiny of records and data, attendance at some prison meetings, meetings with prisoners, staff and managers and prisoners' applications.

The Board remains concerned at the level of violent incidents, substance misuse and acts of self-harm which are reported to us month by month. However, we are well aware that these are continuing problems in establishments throughout England and Wales and believe that these issues continue to be given a very high priority by the management of this establishment.

The size of the Board has been at a low level throughout this reporting year, with only seven members available to undertake weekly rota duties, and to carry out both general monitoring and a focus on areas of special interest. This has undoubtedly impacted on our capacity to observe and monitor the very many aspects of life in this large and varied establishment and the new and positive developments of which we are kept well informed. Managers and staff alike are willing to give us time to discuss their role and the various initiatives and developments taking place, and we hope that if we can extend our numbers over the next year we will be able to develop our monitoring activity more effectively into the range of new programmes we are aware of.

In this context, we have prioritised the applications we receive from prisoners and our responsibilities to the special areas of Phoenix, safer custody and the young persons' unit (YPU). The number of weekly applications has reduced considerably, seldom reaching double figures. We have taken this reduction seriously, and discussed possible reasons for it with no very clear conclusions.

The quality and standard of the physical environment remains generally excellent and the maintenance and extending of the gardens is spectacular. The Board is very pleased to see the introduction of the key worker programme which is being quite rapidly rolled out across the establishment and hope to be able to monitor the impact of this in more detail over the next year.

Another significant area where the Board has been able to observe further positive developments is in safety and the reduction of self-harm. The growth in the size and skill base of the safer custody team enables a wider understanding of both the reasons for this and the interventions most likely to achieve improvement.

The Board has been pleased to observe the positive changes which have been made this year by the healthcare team to reduce non-attendance at appointments and feel that we can attribute some of the reduction in applications to the Board to these changes.

The provision of a wide range of work and purposeful activity continues to grow, and the cheerful bustle we regularly witness during movements to and from industries and other locations bears this out.

The Board remains satisfied with the provision of resettlement support provided for all prisoners and anticipate that change of provider should not impact on this in any way.

The overall impression of the Board is that HMP and YOI Parc remains a well-managed establishment with an ethos of continuous development and improvement. Everything we observe and monitor demonstrates that the safety of prisoners remains of paramount importance.

3. Description of the Prison/YOI

HMP/YOI Parc is a category B local establishment and young offender institution with a small young persons' unit and an agreed:

- i) baseline certified normal accommodation of 1699 adults and young adults from 1 March 2018
- ii) current operational capacity of 1599 (including 64 young people).

HMP and YOI Parc opened on 17th November 1997, and is the only privately-run prison in Wales. It is managed by G4S Justice Services on behalf of HMPPS. Many of the prison staff are recruited from the local area.

The prison is located on the outskirts of Bridgend but is easily accessed by road and rail.

In common with all contracted establishments, HMP and YOI Parc has a HMPPS controller. The controller and his team manage the 25-year contract between the Prison Service and G4S, and are directly responsible to the Director of Offender Management (Wales). The Director of the prison is employed by G4S and is the equivalent of a Governor in a publicly-run establishment.

The Coed vulnerable prisoner unit (VPU) Block can accommodate 387 prisoners but the operational capacity is 345.

- Healthcare is provided by Justice Health, G4S Policing Support and Health Services.
- Education is provided by G4S
- Library services are provided by Greenwich Leisure Limited. Resettlement services regarding accommodation, employment and support were contracted to Working Links throughout this reporting year. Because of the complex population make-up, the National Probation Service and Careers Wales are also involved in providing resettlement services.
- The visitor centre is staffed by Barnardo's.

The prison has established links with numerous organisations and companies which provide training courses and employment opportunities.

4. Safety

The declared aim of the safer custody team within HMP and YOI Parc is to promote safety and decency by:

- identifying risks,
- managing and reducing harmful behaviour from men towards themselves and others
- providing a range of holistic intervention and support networks tailored to respond to individual needs.

These aims encompass an increasingly wide range of staff skills, available resources and support services and the Board endeavours to keep up with these developments through monthly reports from the Director, attendance of a member at safer custody meetings and weekly visits to the safer custody wing. Through all these means the Board continues to gain a very clear impression of the seriousness and commitment shown by both staff and managers and the positive and individual understanding of a prisoner's needs at all stages of their journey in custody.

On reception, all prisoners have an initial health and mental health assessment and observations show that this is undertaken with care and respect. The reception area is reasonably welcoming, and well equipped with a wide range of information, although it is understood that many men arriving will not necessarily seek or absorb such information at this stage.

All arriving prisoners are initially accommodated on wing A2 or X1 (VPU) for their first night in custody. Thereafter all new prisoners will transfer to an induction wing, Dewis, on the same block, something which has been effectively developed over the past year. On this wing an extensive induction and assessment programme is delivered over the next two weeks, involving a whole range of inputs from healthcare, education, employment and many others. The aim of this is to ensure that the prisoner is able to move on to an appropriate location with an employment or education plan already in place. Compliance with this programme is rewarded with a payment, thus endeavouring to ensure that some of the debt issues which can face new prisoners can be mitigated before they move on. This is proving successful, with over 80% of men completing the programme.

Incidents of violence and self-harm will naturally always continue to be of concern in this high population of prisoners of every age from 15 to over 80 years. The Board recognises that many of these incidents will be related to drug use and consequent debt and efforts to manage the influx and distribution of drug supplies are a very high and continuing priority for the management of the establishment. The Director provides the Board with a monthly report which includes information on serious assaults and the use of force related to this, both in the adult and young persons' wings. The Board appreciates this information and the discussion it creates and shares the ongoing frustration relating to the impact this inevitably has on the commitment to safety in the prison.

Very detailed figures relating to self-harm incidents are also provided and are regularly analysed in detail at the Safer Custody meeting. The overall picture remains that over 50% of such incidents are carried out by a small group of prolific self-harmers and the focus that is given to working with such men to address their specific difficulties has been shown to pay dividends in a reduction of this behaviour. The Board believes that this is due to the range of behaviour management interventions which are now available, both to reduce such behaviour but also to better understand the needs of prisoners and intervene with those showing emotional difficulties.

The safer custody team has expanded both in size and skills over the past year, with a team of caseworkers developing and delivering a range of imaginative interventions to prisoners identified as vulnerable to self-harm. Evaluation of these demonstrates that there is a positive

impact in wellbeing for interventions which do not necessarily require specialist input or significant cost.

A behaviour analyst is now employed, apparently the first such appointment in a UK prison. She is able to deliver direct interventions and also to advise and guide other staff on how best to support and develop programmes to manage problematic prisoners.

Over the past year the Board is happy to report a very considerable growth of peer-led purposeful activity developed by the regimes department, in the context of a well thought out and significant development programme of which the Board has been kept well informed. This has built strategically on some already existing peer support initiatives. One example of this development is LIFT: Leading Individuals Forward Together. It is run by prisoners for prisoners regarded as at risk and specifically for those on assessment, care in custody and teamwork (ACCTs). To establish contact, LIFT plays a part in the prisoner induction process and their role is seen as a sounding board for prisoners' concerns with a view to developing a more positive outlook. The use of a number of workbooks has proved useful in supporting this contact successfully. These roles are just some of 145 paid and unpaid peer roles.

5. Equality and Fairness

The Board regrets that over most the past year there has been no permanent equalities manager in post, and consequently no regular meetings or minutes. However, this has not prevented the introduction of new activities and the effective continuation of others and the members of the equalities team have worked hard to ensure this.

At the time of this report there are 31 identified LGBT prisoners, with eleven on main location, nineteen on the VPU and one on the YPU. An LGBT focus group has now been established.

The YPU black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) figure is 40%, much higher than in the main establishment. This is because a large number of young people are admitted from a very wide catchment area, as this is one of a decreasing number of YP units in England and the only one in Wales.

Prisoner complaints about discrimination issues are submitted using a discrimination information referral form (DIRF). The Board has been made aware of concerns about the inconsistent investigation of these by operational managers, who may not have received the necessary training in this area. We are pleased that this issue is now being addressed and members of the equalities team have now taken on this task.

We are pleased to report the increasing focus being put on the Welsh language, evident in the range of bilingual signage around the establishment. The prison currently has 26 Welsh-speaking prisoners who have made themselves known to the prison, and all Welsh-speaking prisoners have been given "siaradwr Cymraeg" stickers for their cell door. Sessions for Welsh speakers both on the main and vulnerable prisoner units have been set up and will be held every other month. During these sessions there will be the opportunity to watch Welsh language DVDs, read Welsh books and discuss their content. Speakers from various walks of life will be invited to talk to the group. These sessions will be an opportunity for fluent Welsh speakers to use the language more openly.

One of the most innovative and successful aspects of service delivery in the prison, is the wide-ranging and ever-increasing work undertaken by the Parc 'Supporting Families and Invisible Walls' team, which now comprises over 60 staff. The Board has always been and remains very positive about the impact on prisoners and of the national and international reputation that this service has developed and it is appropriate for its continuing range and growth to be reported here.

Beginning with the transfer of the running of the visits provision over ten years ago from security to this team, a unique family friendly and supportive regime has blossomed and extended. The visitor centre, a separate building at the entrance to the prison, is a comfortable, warm and welcoming environment run by staff from Barnardo's who have been longstanding partners of the Prison. It now also has a pleasant snack bar, recognising that many visitors have travelled some distance, and has both indoor and outdoor play facilities. The visits hall reflects this warm and friendly atmosphere. Not only used for the regular visits regime, the resource is also used for a wide range of family days, including particular events like a recent parent-teacher afternoon observed by a board member. This was a pleasant and positive event, with teachers from six schools present. To see children sitting with both parents and their teacher in the visits hall discussing their progress was a heart-warming experience. To deliver an event of this kind requires the building and maintaining of good and co-operative relationships with schools attended by the children of prisoners. This has been an area which has been successfully developed by an extending partnership with voluntary organisations and local authorities in the south Wales area so that staff employed by the team can go into schools and offer specific support to families and children of men at Parc.

This service has won many awards and this year has again won a Butler Trust Award for family intervention. It has also achieved Investors in Families accreditation, the only prison in Europe to gain something which is normally only achieved by schools.

6. Segregation/Care and Separation Unit

The Phoenix unit is the segregation resource for the prison, which contains 24 cells and is regularly full. Board members are all familiar with the functioning this unit, as GOOD (good order or discipline) are held there two or three times each week at a regular time and Board members are almost always able to prioritise attendance. A Board member speaks to all prisoners on the unit at their cell door once a week and makes a record of this on the wing log. Members find the staff on the unit to display respectful and helpful attitudes to the prisoners in their care. The staff often have to deal with challenging behaviour, including dirty protests, and manage these in a calm and professional manner.

Whilst obviously somewhat starker than other living environments, the wing is well kept and decorated and always appears clean, neat and tidy. There is access to a telephone and a small library and radios and various paper-based puzzle books and activities are also available.

It is clear to the Board that efforts are always made by the manager chairing the GOOD Review to establish a plan for return to normal location as soon as appropriate. However, it is also clear that some prisoners do not want to return to normal location and hope by continuing refusal to be able to achieve a transfer.

Adjudications are also held daily on the wing, and the independent adjudicator attends twice each month. Board members have endeavoured to observe these sessions once in each month and observed fairness and respect in the way they are conducted.

During this reporting year there have been seven deaths in custody. Of these three have been identified as from natural causes, one as apparently self-inflicted and the others are in process of investigation by the PPO. None have yet proceeded to inquest.

7. Accommodation including Young Persons Unit

The accommodation blocks are clean and tidy with a planned maintenance programme. There is a maintenance department in the prison with appropriately qualified staff completing most maintenance and service repairs.

All accommodation blocks are painted every year with employed prisoners carrying out the function, usually to a high standard. The recreation areas on the ground floor of each

accommodation unit are cleaned by wing cleaners using various electrical appliances. They receive extensive training on the use of this equipment and on the chemicals that are used in the cleaning process. This training can lead to a BICS qualification which can be useful on prisoner release. Provided behaviour is to the required standard, there is provision for table tennis and pool in all the association areas.

The Board is satisfied that all the accommodation blocks are fit for purpose and all prisoner needs are met in this area.

Unfortunately, as previously reported, the exercise yards for A and B Blocks continue to cause concern as they accumulate lots of litter and general rubbish, thrown from cell windows. Even though the Board is informed that they are cleaned on a daily basis we observe that it can take a considerable time for them to be cleaned and we will continue to monitor this.

X and T Blocks are the most recently built accommodation and all cells have en suite facilities. Prisoners say that this 'makes the accommodation more homely and less institutionalised'. Cells in all the other wings have WCs and washbasins, with showers being located on all landings in each wing. These showers are all equipped with the necessary modesty screens/leaf doors but can also be effectively monitored when required.

Each wing has a laundry facility with prisoners employed in collecting, organising and supervising the washing, drying and redistribution of prisoners' clothing and bedding. These arrangements continue to work well, as previously reported, and the Board seldom receives any applications in relation to this.

Prisoner property continues to be a serious issue. Prisoners being transferred into Parc from another prison do not always bring all their property with them for various reasons; no room in transport or disciplinary problems. It can take weeks or even months for all their property to follow them and on occasions it gets completely lost. When prisoners are moved to the Phoenix Unit or another location for reasons of misconduct, and their property is left in their cell this can cause problems. Items appear to 'go missing' when a cell clearance takes place which again leads to lost property issues. This said, the property problem has improved since our last report but is still a work in progress which the Board will continue to monitor.

There has been a significant problem with food throughout the prison during this reporting period, since a new contractor took over food provision. Issues with portion size, wrong meals being delivered, and food not being delivered have led to many negative comments from prisoners to Board members. The Board is pleased that this matter has been taken seriously by the managers and they have worked hard with the new contractor to bring about improvements, so that the Board can now report a general improvement which it will continue to monitor.

All cells are equipped with an in-cell telephone with the exception of basic regime prisoners who have the handset removed under the basic regime provision and make use of the unit phones on the association areas.

Generally staff-prisoner relationships are positive and supportive with good interaction noted during association periods. A new system of key worker support, in line with a national programme, has now been introduced on some wings and will roll out across the whole establishment over the next few months. This means that the personal officer scheme, about which the Board has had concerns in past reports, will no longer exist.

The prison shop employs 12 prisoners, whose main duty is to assemble and bag canteen orders so that prisoners receive their weekly orders on time, and the Board can confirm that this does take place.

The grassed areas and gardens all around the prison site have, as ever, been very well maintained throughout the year with an excellent show of blooms. The Board congratulates both supervisory staff and inmate workers on the beauty and consistency of their displays which undoubtedly contribute to the wellbeing of everyone at Parc.

The young persons' unit (YPU) in HMP Parc holds up to 64 boys under the age of 18. The facilities comprise two accommodation blocks: G1 houses up to 36 young people and E1 up to 24 young people, both with a mix of sentenced and remanded young people (YPs). Population throughout the year averaged 40 YPs.

The Board visits the unit at least weekly and monitors every aspect of its provision.

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons conducted an unannounced inspection of the YPU in October 2018. The subsequent report was good, with inspectors encouraged by the effective implementation of previous recommendations and improvements recorded across most areas. The Board shares this favourable perspective.

The challenges of managing and complications generated by the YPU cohort are constantly changing. There has been an increase in young people being identified as having complex needs and significant violence/disciplinary records on admission and transfer. The YPU has experienced spikes in violent and disruptive behaviour over short periods during the year, evidenced by an increase in the number of incidents of disorder/disruption, use of force, adjudications and young people subject to the bronze regime (equivalent to basic). Whilst instances of violence were frequent, most remained low level, and skilful and timely staff interventions prevented escalation.

Levels of interaction and engagement between boys and staff are good. Staff display considerable tolerance but demonstrate the confidence to challenge inappropriate behaviour when necessary.

The Board commends the professionalism of the YPU staff. It finds them enthusiastic and assiduous in their duty of care. Many are proud to chat about their continuing professional development which is supported financially by the prison: 17 staff are enrolled on the foundation degree in youth justice, with others working towards postgraduate qualifications. New behaviour management processes have been introduced which foster a reward-led culture to encourage positive behaviour amongst the YPs.

Five new staff were recruited to form the needs, engagement and well-being team (NEWT). These staff have a range of skills focused around behaviour management and work directly with young people throughout their sentence planning journey and maintain an overall focus on the young person's progress, working closely with prison staff, education and other relevant departments. An evidence-based instant rewards scheme called the token economy has been introduced which operates every day and begins with each young person receiving a 'stamp card'. This stamp card displays a full 24 hours (excluding education time). The 24 hours has been divided into 11 time periods, each of which represents an opportunity for the young people to be rewarded for meeting behaviour expectations. The Board finds the young people are motivated by the scheme, which is sufficiently customised and ever-changing to sustain their interest.

Education and learning provision for the young people is impressive. Teaching is individual to the personal and educational needs of the students in class. In those lessons observed by the Board, the students were engaged and the teaching well structured. Some very creative and caring approaches were seen in the work we monitored.

Importance is attached to consultation with the boys over every aspect of their lives. Much of this takes place informally and spontaneously, but the monthly student council meetings

provide an opportunity for a small number of boys to serve as delegates and make representation of their concerns to senior staff and external agencies. The Board has attended most of these meetings and found them to be well managed and effective conduits for two-way interaction between the YPs and the prison. The impression gleaned from monitoring the YPU throughout the year is of conscientious, committed and professional staff keen to do their best for the boys in their care. As new challenges arise then innovative ways are found to address them, with the trajectory of progress going consistently upwards.

8. Healthcare (including mental health and social care)

Primary care within Parc is provided by G4S Health Services. Secondary care continues to be provided by the local acute hospital and mental health in-reach services.

During 2018 the Board has become aware that a significant piece of work to address the high non-attendance rate (DNA) has been taking place. This rate at Parc had been too high, previously, running at 30% or more. Operational staff and the healthcare administration team have been working closely together, to collate data and chase reasons for non-attendance. There has also been a dedicated group of officers, employed as 'runners', who are responsible for bringing prisoners across to their appointments. Healthcare champions on each wing are also responsible for encouraging men to attend their appointments and collating reasons when appointments are declined. This has had a significant positive impact on the number of wasted appointments.

Staff retention in 2018 was a big concern, with a high number of nurses leaving. The Board was aware of a significant number of agency nurses being employed. Health care managers conducted exit interviews and identified issues with lack of support, long hours of work, and lack of opportunity for clinical activity as opposed to long medication rounds. The Board is pleased to report that the management responded by offering more flexibility with hours of work and also by recruiting pharmacy technicians to complete the medication rounds. The Board has noticed the more regular pattern of nursing presence.

Subcontracted services, such as GP, dentist, optician and physiotherapists are well embedded and stable, with waiting lists very similar to community waiting times. However, during 2018 there were concerns about the list for podiatry so additional sessions were authorised and there is now a plan in place to address this.

The mental health pathway for access to primary care services is now embedded and working well, with a dedicated RMN appointed to complete group work on a daily basis. The lack of secondary psychiatric care, particularly for elderly prisoners continues to be a major concern.

Formal complaints about healthcare services continue to be fairly low, largely due to the work completed by the patient advice and liaison officer (PALS). This officer is well known to Board members and helpful in addressing issues raised in applications which have certainly reduced this year. She has a team of champions, who are prisoners employed on each wing, to assist her in signposting men to the correct services and encouraging them to take responsibility for their own health, and these champions have told Board members of their pride in contributing to this role.

The Board notes that in the last quarter of 2018, HMP and YOI Parc was awarded autism accreditation from the National Autistic Society. This was a great achievement and the learning disability (LD) nurses at Parc contributed greatly to the accreditation. HMP and YOI Parc is the joint first prison in the UK to receive this award.

9. Education and other purposeful activity

Education services within Parc are provided by G4S.

In line with the HMPPS' strategy for learning, skills and employment, Parc has focussed on aligning all educational provision and qualifications offered to both the needs of the employment market and to provide an appropriate pathway of learning for each prisoner. To achieve this, a team now assesses the levels of each prisoner on entry. The Board is pleased to report that Parc has secured funding for 110 virtual campus PCs to be installed across the prison to embed learning and aid progression. Prisoners are enabled to access a wider range of courses using secured resources outside the main education provision.

Parc works with the Prison Education Trust to secure funding for courses.

To support all learners, Parc offers a comprehensive programme of additional learning needs (ALN) provision. There are more than 70 prisoners identified at entry level 1 and below, and programmes are carefully designed to meet their needs and ensure progression where possible. The Board is particularly pleased to note that Parc is currently setting up a bespoke ALN wing where specialist teachers will work alongside LD nurses, and will watch the development of this initiative with interest. There is a dedicated young adults wing, where a multidisciplinary team works with the families manager delivering the 'Man Up' programme which is having a profound effect on improving the lives and educational progression of young adults. A further wing is centred around an education and support project aimed at prisoners who are in custody for the first time and want to engage fully in education. Lessons observed by the Board show that the peer mentor scheme is operated across a variety of areas in a very successful way, including in the essential skills department which is extremely well organised and run, enabling learners to make substantial progress.

There is a vibrant creative arts department where courses are over-subscribed. The department continues to be very successful in a number of initiatives. Working with the writers in residence, a group of learners wrote and presented a screenplay at the Iris Film Festival exploring the experience of transgender prisoners. At the prestigious Koestler awards, 95 learners, more than from any other establishment in the country, gained awards in a wide variety of categories, including one at platinum and six at gold. An engaging programme of extracurricular activities is offered, with learners creating mosaics, sculptures, music and producing children's story books which they read and record for their own children.

The Board is pleased that Parc has exceeded its targets in most areas, notably literacy and numeracy qualifications, vocational skills qualifications, GCE A and AS levels and GCSE passes, several at A grade.

There is a successful further and higher education department which has seen men gaining places at college and being awarded Open University degrees in various subjects, supported for some learners by excellent provision at Ty Dysgu (*the learning house*). The department has partnerships with a number of colleges to provide placements for postgraduate certificate in education students: evidence of the high importance placed on the role of excellent teaching.

The education and skills department is supported in its work by the excellent library provision in the Academi, Ty Dysgu and the YPU. Learners have allocated sessions to use the library, and can request extra visits at weekends. The Board has observed that learners make excellent use of the libraries both for study and for leisure.

The Board acknowledges the hard work and dedication of staff and learners in achieving the successes noted above.

10. Work, Vocational Training and Employment

The activity rate across the prison remains high; at the end of our reporting period there were only 66 prisoners recorded as unemployed, a rate of 4.03% of the prison population.

There is purposeful activity for any prisoner who wants it, subject to the requirements of the particular role. Of the current 1402 prisoners in purposeful activity, 316 are in education, the remainder spread across the various work opportunities throughout the estate.

The industry activity continues to be linked to commercial activities around the area local to the prison. Senior managers take the responsibility for developing those links and since the last report have developed new activities. For example, work has been contracted with Too Good to Waste, a recycling project based in the Rhondda.

A training programme linked with Network Rail is close to fruition and a specialist training area is planned for this. This initiative is particularly promising as it anticipates further training and employment post release. For that reason, prisoners have to be within six months of release and have, and maintain, an exemplary conduct record.

A bicycle refurbishment project started last year and has now moved into the main industries area. This is proving very popular, with men acquiring useful transferable skills.

The work in industries is closely aligned to vocational training. In the last reporting year prisoners were awarded 768 certificates across the various certification bodies. The concept of the “virtual campus” is extending into potential vocational e-training for both prisoners and staff.

Reliable information on post-release experience is still not available. However, the prison takes a proactive approach in developing employable skills which can only be beneficial post release.

11. Resettlement preparation

Resettlement services continue to be delivered by an external provider who deliver a tailor-made package of support for every prisoner approaching release, beginning at least 12 weeks before that date. This is designed to help the prisoner with housing and financial management and Careers Wales are involved in offering advice and assistance regarding employment opportunities.

Arrangements are in place to provide external validation for the award of the construction skills certification scheme. This is a prerequisite for anyone wishing to work on a construction site and would assist in a post release job search.

Good links remain with several external sporting organisations such as Cardiff City Football Club and the Welsh Rugby Union and these organisations have provided courses giving the opportunity for various qualifications in coaching.

The Board recognises that the work of the Invisible Walls project described elsewhere in this report is an important contributor in enabling many prisoners to settle effectively back into family life.

THE WORK OF THE IMB

BOARD STATISTICS	
Recommended Complement of Board Members	22
Number of Board members at the start of the reporting period	9
Number of Board members at the end of the reporting period	7
Number of new members joining within the reporting period	0
Number of members leaving within reporting period	2
Total number of Board meetings during reporting period	11
Total number of visits to the Establishment	230
Total number of segregation reviews held	92
Total number of segregation reviews attended	86
Date of Annual Team Performance Review	20 November 2018

APPLICATIONS

Code	Subject	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
A	Accommodation	11	23	13
B	Adjudications	12	5	5
C	Equality & Diversity (inc religion)	14	9	8
D	Education/Employment/Training including IEP	36	49	26
E 1	Family/visits inc mail & phone	61	40	34
E 2	Finance/Pay	13	15	12
F	Food/Kitchen related	8	4	14
G	Health related	98	96	63
H 1	Property (during transfer/in another establishment)	28	19	24
H 2	Property (within current establishment)	72	60	47
H 3	Canteen, Facilities, Catalogue shopping, Argos	4	1	5
I	Sentence Related (inc. HDC, ROTL, parole, release dates, re-cat etc)	38	34	34
J	Staff/Prisoner concerns including bullying	66	53	44
K	Transfers	22	21	27
L	Miscellaneous	17	21	23
	Total number of IMB applications	500	450	379