



**Annual Report  
of the  
Independent Monitoring Board  
at**

**HMP RANBY**

**for reporting Year  
April 2018 to March 2019**

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**1 STATUTORY ROLE OF THE IMB**

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- 1.1 The Prison Act 1952 requires every prison to be monitored by an independent Board appointed by the Secretary of State from members of the community in which the prison or centre is situated.
- 1.2 The Board is specifically charged to:
  - (1) satisfy itself as to the humane and just treatment of those held in custody within its prison and the range and adequacy of the programmes preparing them for release.
  - (2) inform promptly the Secretary of State, or any official to whom he has delegated authority as it judges appropriate, any concern it has.
  - (3) report annually to the Secretary of State on how well the prison has met the standards and requirements placed on it and what impact these have on those in its custody.
- 1.3 To enable the Board to carry out these duties effectively, its members have right of access to every prisoner and every part of the prison and also to the prison's records.

## 2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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- 2.1 In August 2018 HMP Ranby was one of the “10 Prisons” identified by the Minister of Justice who announced that:
- A new approach to improve standards and security would be piloted in 10 of the most challenging prisons
  - The focus would be on reducing violence through radically increasing security against drugs and challenging all abusive behaviour
  - There would be additional investment in leadership and dedicated resources to tackle drugs, security and building issues
  - Good practice would be spread across the prison estate – ultimately reducing reoffending and future numbers of victims of crime
- 2.2 The prison population during the later part of the year covered by this report started to change from prisoners with over 12 months to serve to prisoners with less than 12 months and some with less than six months before their release. This has put additional strain on resources and management to ensure that this new population have the possibility of purposeful activities. The prison is dealing with this shift in population and the Board will report on it further next year.
- 2.3 We have commended the way that a procedure now in place deals with the non-attendance of prisoners at work and the positive effect this is having. This procedure is about communication, something the Board commented on last year that required improving. The Board is still reporting in a number of sections (9 - equality and fairness – meeting attendance, 7 accommodation (property), 8 (healthcare – missed appointments) the lack of communication and the need to improve this.
- 2.4 Amey and the time taken to receive a quotation for maintenance or repair jobs is still an ongoing issue.
- 2.5 Though HMP Ranby’s level of violence has remained flat and has not increased as the rest of the prison estate has, it still remains high. The Board notes that the prison is taking steps to improve the ambience (Section 7.2) of the prison, this is in its early stages and the Board will be interested to see how this initiative pans out.
- 2.6 Staff turnover, especially new recruits who go through training and then do not take up a full-time job, is a problem for the prison; although the Board does not monitor the training of staff, we can report on the lack of rapport between the staff and prisoners, which is noticeable on the houseblocks.
- 2.7 The prison is making considerable efforts to reduce the level of illegal substance and weapons coming into the prison and the Board is pleased to report the improvement in technology that is being employed to advance this effort. However, ‘hooch’ is now becoming the preferred ‘fix’, but as this is much harder to conceal, ‘finds’ are also increasing.

## **Main judgements**

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### **Are prisoners treated fairly?**

It is our opinion that the prisoners are not treated fairly – ref: Staff communication (5.2), Cell sharing (7.10), Cell clearing (7.15), Lack of hostel space (11.8), Companionate moves (11.9c), Transfer to Category 'D' prison.

### **Are prisoners treated humanely?**

It is our opinion that generally the prisoners are treated humanely, with the exception of prisoners with mental health issues (6.6).

### **Are prisoners prepared well for their release?**

As reported last year - it is our opinion that the prison makes considerable effort to prepare prisoners for their release; however, external agencies and services do not always provide the necessary resources and backup to the prison to provide a completely satisfactory release facility.

## **Main Areas for Development**

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### **TO THE MINISTER**

1. Will the Minister explain what is being done to reduce the need to house prisoners with mental health problems in the segregation unit of HMP Ranby. (Section 6). The Minister responded to the same question last year with a comprehensive list of reports, audits, programmes being compiled/developed by specialised health and justice commissioners, mental health teams in NHS England, the Royal College of Psychiatrists and a Select Committee. Regrettably it appears that no actual action to deal with this problem has been planned or taken and the segregation unit as well as a cell in houseblock four is being used to monitor prisoners who should in the Board's opinion be elsewhere.
2. Can the Minister justify the use of single cells for two prisoners? Can he explain the rationale behind this and how it is reflected in the decency agenda? (Section 7) The Minister responded last year that "...plans to transform the prison estate gather pace and more new prisons are being delivered while existing unsuitable capacity is closed." Meanwhile the prison population of HMP Ranby remains 200 over the prescribed certified normal accommodation (CNA).
3. Will the Minister explain why 35% of prisoners are released with no fixed abode and why for the same reason prisoners suitable for home release are not being allowed out (Section 11) of HMP Ranby?

### **TO THE GOVERNOR**

1. What action is the Governor taking to ensure that every effort is made to reduce the level of violence in the prison?
2. What action is the Governor taking to ensure that every effort is made to reduce the amount of illegal substances in the prison?
3. What action will the Governor take to reduce the level of missed healthcare appointments?
4. What action is the Governor taking to allow all prisoners access to purposeful employment and qualification to enable them to obtain employment upon release? (Section 10)

## Improvements

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1. The ten prisons programme was introduced last August by the Minister of Justice as a trial example of good practice to be rolled out across the HMPPS estate. HMP Ranby was selected as one of the ten.
2. The additional funding has been put to good use by HMP Ranby, in training staff in specialist search skills, and conflict and resolution training which has had a positive result. Additional CCTV has been installed to increase security in the workshops and blind area in the prison (ongoing). A 'wildlife' camera has been installed on the external fence line which has seen prosecutions of individuals for attempting to throw prohibited goods over the fence. Houseblock four has been designated as an 'incentivised living wing' for those prisoners wanting to stop taking drugs.
3. A body scanner has arrived and been commissioned and though this only came into operation after the cut-off date for this report, early indications are that it has become very successful in detecting drugs and phones.

The Board will report further on this in the next reporting year.

Further improvements include:

1. The addition of a procedure to track prisoners to work and education thereby reducing the use of incentives and earned privileges (IEP) on the wing.
2. The introduction of the key worker scheme, providing prisoners with regular and easier access to the establishment regimes.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE PRISON

### Location

1. HMP Ranby is situated in North Nottinghamshire, midway between the towns of Worksop and Retford. Ranby is a category C male resettlement and training prison.
2. Since opening as a prison in 1972, Ranby has had the accommodation capacity regularly and significantly increased due to demand including most recently in 2008 when further accommodation was built.

### Description

3. The certified normal accommodation (CNA) at HMP Ranby as at the end of March 2018 was 892 and its operational capacity (OC) 1098.
4. The residential accommodation consists of seven houseblocks. Located on the houseblocks are: the departments for the induction of new prisoners, resettlement, skills for life and safer custody. One houseblock has prisoners on integrated drug treatment strategy (IDTS).
5. The single storey healthcare building accommodates other functioning departments such as drug and alcohol recovery team (DARTS), integrated drug treatment strategy (IDTS) and mandatory drug testing (MDT).
6. As of April 2018, a 24-hour nursing service is provided by Nottingham Healthcare Trust.

7. The segregation unit is located in one of the old buildings and has sixteen single cells. Attached to the segregation unit is a small, paved exercise area which is contained by a high wall.
8. The education department is allocated within two buildings, one of which holds the library and one the chaplaincy. For prisoners in the segregation unit, there is in-cell learning and teachers visit them as appropriate.
9. The workshops in Ranby, which are run both by the prison and education, include:  
  
Textiles; painting and decorating; woodwork; wood mill; wood assembly; plastics; industrial cleaning; officers mess; data input; laundry; powder coating; engineering; gardens; building trades.
10. Physical exercise takes place within two buildings and the sports field. One building is used to instruct prisoners mainly on weights, while the other treats prisoners who have physical disabilities.

### **Contractors and Agencies**

1. Healthcare is provided by Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
2. Education is provided by Milton Keynes College (new provider from 1 April 2019 is People Plus)
3. Maintenance is provided by Amey
4. Resettlement is provided by Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Rutland Community Rehabilitation Company (DLNR CRC)
5. Library services are provided by People Plus with help from Greenwich Leisure Ltd
6. The Samaritans offer counselling and support
7. Surestart provide support on family visit days
8. North Midlands Construction Academy provides training for Level 1 diploma in construction
9. DHL deliver canteen to the prisoners
10. BT provide telephony services
11. The prison also works closely with employers: Boots, Timpson, Greene King

### 4 SAFETY

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- 4.1 The Board is saddened to report that there was a death in custody in December 2018 which was described as a 'natural causes death that is drug related'. A very good family liaison team assisted the family through this difficult time. At the time of writing an inquest has not taken place.
- 4.2 On arrival, prisoners enter through a well-presented reception area and are processed through the system by professional and caring staff before they are assessed by healthcare. They then move into a houseblock from which they undertake their induction process, which takes approximately two weeks. The process is to ensure that each prisoner is being placed on the correct pathway for his eventual release. IMB members attend various parts of the process to meet with the prisoners to explain the role of the IMB and to confirm the effectiveness of the process.
- 4.3 There is an ongoing vigilance regarding the access of drugs, mobile phones and other illegal items into the prison. During the year there have been improvements to the CCTV coverage with better connectivity to the control room and also more external fence cameras. The regional team of dog handlers is regularly used for visits, mail and in the houseblocks. A Rapiscan itemiser is used to scan all post and property for illicit substances. The use of the "e-mail a prisoner" system is encouraged as this avoids the possibility of the adulteration of the letter post.
- 4.4 The most recent violence reduction survey indicated that the majority (74%) of prisoners reported feeling safe or neither safe nor unsafe on arrival at HMP Ranby. However, only 29% indicated that they felt safe in all areas of the prison at all times, with movement to work being the main area of concern. Fifty-three percent of prisoners reported feeling safer at HMP Ranby at the time of that survey than the one three months earlier. A number of actions have been taken to address the areas of concern during the year, with increased staffing and supervision during the movement to work and increased CCTV provision around all the areas of the establishment.
- 4.5 Safety has not been raised as an issue of concern through the prisoner council, or by focus groups taking place in other areas of the establishment; the monthly statistics indicate that there has been only a small increase from the previous year in the total number of prisoner assaults. This has in part been impacted by the improvement in the reporting and recording systems to ensure that all incidents of violence are properly reported and investigated. A variety of issues including psychoactive substances (PS) and a challenging population of younger prisoners with very little time left to serve have been identified as causing this increase. The number of incidents of violence against staff has remained constant from the previous year, despite a national backdrop of increases in this area.
- 4.6 There has been an increase in use of force from 524 incidents in 2017/18 to 615 in 2018/19. A monitoring system is in place to review trends and footage in relation to the incidents, which Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) recognised as robust. The majority of such incidents involve the use of handcuffs to facilitate the moving of prisoners around the open site and there has been a reduction in the number of planned removals recorded. An IMB member attends the use of force meeting when available and Board members are often asked to attend planned removals. The Board is pleased that prison staff see our independent scrutiny as important when dealing with sometimes difficult prisoners.
- 4.7 The Challenge, Support and Intervention Plan (CSIP) process has been in operation since August 2018 to provide structured support and challenge to those who are violent or who continually behave poorly. The process incorporates investigation and actions required to ensure that victims of bullying are kept safe and supported. Where prisoners choose to self-isolate, individual management plans are in place on houseblocks to ensure that they all have



daily access to showers and phone calls and predictable access to domestics over weekends. Shortly the regime will be expanded and will include purposeful activity where a dedicated workshop will be given over to self-isolators who can then work in an environment where they feel safe. Details of this venture will be reported on next year.

- 4.8 The assessment, care in custody and teamwork (ACCT) quality improved during the year with further focus on the single case manager model to provide consistency of care to men subject to an ACCT procedure. Additional training has been provided to ACCT case management to improve skills in identifying risks and triggers and building effective care maps around the issues highlighted. A duty worker is available daily from the mental health team to provide attendance and input to all ACCT documentation. During the HMIP inspection in June 2018 prisoners subject to the ACCT process reported feeling well cared for. Every week an IMB member monitors the ACCT documents and sees that the process and record keeping are up to date. An IMB member attends the safeguarding meetings and a member will attend ACCT reviews if informed when they are taking place. Difficulty arises with ACCT reviews as the time on the review day is not set and healthcare will arrive at the houseblock at a time that suits them and without necessarily giving adequate notice to IMB.
- 4.9 The provision of Listeners has been increased and they are operating well with a 24-hour rota system in place. Mental awareness peer support (MAPS) navigators are also available as peer supporters who are trained by the mental health team to provide 24-hour practical support to prisoners struggling with their mental health. During the year a conflict resolution peer support scheme was set up involving prisoners, who undergo a three-day training course, to become conflict resolution practitioners and carry out structured meetings with their peers to reduce the impact of conflict and prevent recurrence of violence. The Board believes that these Listener sessions are helping to keep the level of violence static within the prison.
- 4.10 HMP Ranby received a total of 13,783 intelligence reports over the period April 2018 to March 2019, compared to 12,075 in the same period for 2017/18. This is a 14% rise.
- 4.11 In the reporting year there have been nine operations carried out, targeting areas of concern throughout the establishment. In addition to lockdown searches and prisoner-targeted searches, the prison is continually striving to transfer out prisoners who are believed to be causing a concern to the stability of the jail. This use of transfer can be beneficial both to the prison and the prisoner – a ‘fresh star’ can break-up the gang, clear a debt and quieten down the prison. The Board has no evidence to suggest that prisoners transferred in to Ranby have an immediate effect of the regime.

## 5 EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS

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- 5.1 The equalities department at HMP Ranby is to be congratulated for the amount of positive work it has done with the prisoners in Ranby and in particular those coming within the nine protected characteristics covered by the Equality Act.
- 5.2 Meetings held throughout the year for minority populations have gone well although the equalities staff feel that this could be better. For example, staff on the houseblocks do not always inform the prisoners of the need to attend and this is something that the Board will monitor more closely throughout the coming year to ensure that those that can benefit from attendance are given the opportunity to do so. Once again, the Board has to report a lack of communication between departments and staff.
- 5.3 Regular coffee morning have been held for the Gypsy, Traveller & Roma (GTR) and older residents' groups. Members of the Board have attended on occasions and have found these sessions to be very positive, giving the prisoners the opportunity to meet and talk in a relaxed atmosphere. Board members have also reported that it gives them the opportunity to talk to the prisoners in a pleasant environment away from the houseblocks.
- 5.4 At the end of the reporting year there were 10 equalities peer advisors at Ranby, most of whom have completed their information, advice and guidance qualification or are working towards it. The Board is very pleased with this achievement. However, not all the houseblocks have peer advisors and this is a recurring problem for equalities as the peer advisors regularly move on to other houseblocks or to category D prisons or are released.
- 5.5 The equalities department deals with discrimination incident reporting forms (DIRFs) and in the first quarter of 2019 there has been a slight increase in the number of DIRFs compared to the same quarter last year. For the whole reporting period April 2018 to March 2019 there were 110 DIRFs submitted compared to 105 the previous year. Of these approximately 25% were upheld which is consistent with the previous year.
- 5.6 The Board was impressed by the work equalities did with a particular prisoner who suffered acute attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and was constantly causing disruption. The equalities department worked closely with him on a daily basis and with healthcare to get him on the correct medication. He was released from prison having turned his life around and still remains in the community. The Board wishes to acknowledge the amount of work this took from all the equalities staff.

## 6 SEGREGATION/CARE AND SEPARATION UNIT

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- 6.1 The Board is pleased to report its general satisfaction with the running of the segregation unit.
- 6.2 A Board member visits the segregation unit every week and sees every prisoner held there and is able to speak to any prisoner out of earshot of officers. The Board is informed promptly of new arrivals to the segregation unit and all new prisoners are seen as soon as possible.
- 6.3 Segregation reviews are attended by a Board member as often as possible and the timing of the reviews is communicated with enough notice for the Board to attend very regularly. Reviews are invariably attended by all persons necessary: a Governor chairing the review; the prisoner; the prisoner's mental health worker or substitute if their own worker is absent from the prison; an IMB member; appropriate segregation unit officers. There have been occasions throughout the year when the prisoner has refused to attend the review. All effort is made to include the prisoner in the process and some reviews have taken place at the prisoner's door. This is clearly not ideal but the Board is aware of the difficulties that present themselves and is satisfied with the lengths the prison will go to support the prisoners.
- 6.4 When attending segregation reviews, and if time allows, all documents relating to the prisoner's review are inspected and the Board has no cause for concern with the completion of all the relevant documentation that has been seen.
- 6.5 However, the Board has concerns over the number of prisoners held in the segregation unit who are on an ACCT document. In the reporting period this amounted to 37 prisoners in total. All efforts are made to return these prisoners to normal location if appropriate or to other prisons where this would help the prisoner to make a fresh start.
- 6.6 During the reporting year 28 prisoners have been segregated for over 28 days. IMB members have monitored the procedure for dealing with these prisoners and is satisfied that all efforts are made to return the prisoners to normal location or transfer to another establishment, whichever is the most appropriate. However, the Board is concerned with the use of segregation as a holding facility for mentally ill prisoners awaiting transfer to a secure hospital place. NHS Nottingham reports the following examples:

Examples of times waiting to be admitted to a secure bed as follows:

Date of referral to secure care 21/05/19 - Date of admission 19/06/19 - waiting time of 4 weeks

05/04/19 - Date of admission 28/05/19 - waiting time of 7 weeks 4 days

18/02/19 - Date of admission 08/04/19 - waiting time of 7 weeks

## 7 ACCOMMODATION (including communication)

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- 7.1 The prison has invested heavily in a designated project party comprised of prisoners to complete accommodation repairs and substantially improve the first night accommodation for new receptions. Towards the end of the reporting period the prison had also started to introduce positive imagery in cells and on the houseblock landings to improve the living environment. This will continue into the next reporting year.
- 7.2 The houseblocks have a daily and enhanced cleaning schedule which is monitored by houseblock custody managers (CMs) and functional heads to ensure the cleanliness of communal areas is maintained. All cells are checked by residential SO (Supervising Officer) and CMs to ensure that they adhere to the standards set out within the HMPPS living conditions audit. Painting programmes are in place to improve communal and accommodation standards.
- 7.3 The smaller houseblocks have in-cell shower provision and the large houseblocks have communal shower provision. Screening is in place to provide dignified shower access. The larger houseblock showers require a full overhaul as there are issues with shower pressures and temperatures but the improvements are dependent on funding being available. The Board awaits details of how this problem will be rectified when/if funding is secured.
- 7.4 Telephones are available on every houseblock for prisoners to use prior to attending activities, during the lunchtime domestic period and again on evening association. At the time of this report, one houseblock has access to in cell telephony and this will be rolled out to other houseblocks during the year; this will be reported on in the next IMB annual report.
- 7.5 HMIP commented on the constructive work between staff and prisoners on the new enabling environment on houseblock 3, although the report states it was too early to determine if the scheme had a positive impact on behaviour. (HMIP Report 2018 Section 2.4)
- 7.6 Towards the end of the reporting period the prison rolled out the key worker programme to provide a named prison officer to meet with every prisoner once per week. Anecdotal evidence from prisoners to the IMB suggests that this scheme is a positive one and prisoners spoken to benefitted from having regular time with a named officer.
- 7.8 The canteen and mail order process is well established and available to all prisoners, regardless of their location. New arrivals have immediate access to an induction 'tuck shop' canteen, which has been identified as best practice across the service.
- 7.9 Prison clothing is washed in the main prison laundry and the stores maintain sufficient stock for prisoners to have a weekly change of in-possession clothing. The establishment has purchased and installed domestic washing machines and tumble dryers on every houseblock to ensure that there is ample provision for prisoners to wash their own personal clothing.
- 7.10 As noted in previous IMB annual reports, the Board is unhappy with the level of cell sharing on the large houseblocks (1,2 and 3). This was also a concern of the HMIP inspectors:

“Prisoners should not be required to share cells designed to accommodate one person”

HMIP Report 2018 Section 2.11

### Kitchen

- 7.11 The food budget remains under great pressure due to rising costs and the demand for additional food to some houseblocks and prisoner events. The staff report that delays in maintenance of equipment and structural improvements create problems in providing the ongoing high standard of service and range of dietary requirements and religious meals.
- 7.12 Meals are served on time and all cleaning officers maintain food temperature records to ensure hot meals are provided. Portion control is checked daily by houseblock cleaning officers and the catering manager maintains records and provides regular management checks on compliance. Cleaning officers maintain cleaning schedules to ensure serving areas are cleaned after every meal.
- 7.13 The Board frequently checks at meal times that the servery workers are correctly attired. Unfortunately, this is not always the case and although things have improved over the last 12 months there are still incidents where the wearing of correct clothing and footwear is not maintained. As well as the above checks, cleaning officers should also be checking that correct attire is maintained during the serving of meals.

### Property

- 7.14 Many complaints received by the IMB concern property – see Appendix 2. The Board is particularly concerned about the length of time it takes for other prisons to respond to complaints by prisoners who have relocated to HMP Ranby, although the majority of complaints are regarding issues within HMP Ranby. There is also an issue with the prison taking too long to call prisoners up to reception to collect property forwarded from other prisons.
- 7.15 The Board is aware of an ongoing issue with the cell clearance procedures not always being carried out correctly, resulting in a prisoner's property not being collected and stored as it should be. This is particularly noticeable where a prisoner is taken from a shared cell without notice and the prisoner cannot pack his own belongings.
- 7.16 In the reporting year approximately £1500 was spent on compensating prisoners for lost property.

## 8 HEALTHCARE (including mental health and social care)

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- 8.1 Healthcare at HMP Ranby continues to be provided under contract by Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and includes integrated mental health, physical healthcare, the substance misuse service (SMS) and a dedicated pharmacy team. The Board commends the staff for their continuing hard work and commitment to prisoners' wellbeing.
- 8.2 All prisoners are seen by healthcare at the point of reception and are subject to a full comprehensive national healthcare screen which will identify any health needs. It covers physical, mental and substance misuse needs; relevant referrals are actioned at this point. Prisoners' health records are received promptly via email, and medications are received at the time of prisoner transfer.
- 8.3 In addition to the normal GP clinic service, healthcare also provides dentistry, optometry, podiatry, physiotherapy and pharmacy services. Waiting times are closely monitored to ensure compliance with key performance indicator (KPIs) which are reviewed at contract review meetings. Pharmacy services have separate KPIs and all prescriptions are ordered via an external pharmacy including both urgent and routine. Review data is shared with HMP Ranby's performance team and are seen as being equivalent to or better than comparable external services.
- 8.4 The healthcare centre provides fully functional clinic rooms offering privacy and dignity for all consultations.
- 8.5 There is a mental health matron supported by an experienced mental health team who provide care for relevant individuals within a reasonable time frame. Long waiting times in excess of 28 days are still being experienced for required transfers. During this reporting year six prisoners were sectioned. Transfer data is passed to NHS England in relation to waiting times.
- 8.6 Physical and mental health of prisoners is addressed through a monthly 'Time for You' session which is an educational forum that has a specific theme. Patients are invited to attend and feedback is requested from attendees. The mental awareness peer support (MAPS) programme continues with navigators who work closely with the mental health team and two dedicated healthcare representatives (prisoners) who provide feedback from patients on the houseblocks. The dedicated involvement team shares ideas with other prisons and the wider trust. A healthcare forum meets once a month where dedicated prisoner representatives bring issues from the houseblocks for discussion. An IMB member regularly attends and considers this to be extremely worthwhile meeting where problems are actively addressed and where all members of the group are provided with an overview of prison health issues.
- 8.7 The relationship between the prison, health providers and NHS commissioners is supportive and effective, with regular and constructive contract reviews.
- 8.8 Missed appointments run on average at 20% over the year and efforts to improve communication between the prisoner, prison staff and healthcare should be considered to reduce this high figure although these figures are already reported daily at the morning meetings.

## **9 EDUCATION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES**

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- 9.1 As of April 2019, a new provider was appointed to provide education services at HMP Ranby; a report will be included in next year's Board report.

## **10 WORK, VOCATIONAL TRAINING and EMPLOYMENT**

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- 10.1 The Board commends the work of the activities department in providing activities on a daily basis for up to 800 prisoners (excluding Education and houseblock workers). The basis for the team's work is that if you are happy in your work you do a good job and you will do your 'time' in peace and quiet.
- 10.2 New procedures have been put in place to track and report non-attendance at work. Workshops contact the houseblock when a prisoner is missing from work; without a valid reason the man can face an incentives and earned privileges (IEP) warning. If there are three warnings, his IEP status could be reduced. This information is also passed to the head of activities and records are kept. Repeated absence can be traced and investigated – there may be a problem in the workshop.
- 10.3 The increasing population with only a short time left to serve is providing additional work for activities. There was a time in HMP Ranby when prisoners had to wait up to eight weeks to get gainful employment once they had arrived in Ranby. The Board is pleased to report that prisoners are getting in to work within two weeks of their arrival. The prisoners may not always get the pathway or job they want but they are placed on a waiting list and will get the job they want as soon as a space becomes available. Some stay in the job that they were initially placed in.
- 10.4 HMP Ranby is accepting outside work, but with a fluctuating untrained workforce this is proving problematic as the internal work must take priority so committing to external work must take second place.
- 10.5 Activities admit that there has been a problem recently providing approved qualifications through the workshops. This has been due to an unprecedented number of instructors off work with long-term illnesses. This has now passed and though there are two vacancies for instructors at the moment, agency instructors are filling the void. The Board is hoping that qualifications will be back on track soon.



## 11 RESETTLEMENT PREPARATION

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### Resettlement

- 11.1 Resettlement services are provided by Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire & Rutland Community Rehabilitation Company (DLNR CRC). Resettlement of prisoners is hampered by the lack of suitable accommodation – as many as 35% of prisoners are released to no fixed abode. At the date of this report there were around 60 prisoners remaining in the establishment at considerable cost, who could have been released through home detention curfew (HDC).
- 11.2 There are six staff in the resettlement office and their workload is hampered because of having to see those prisoners on HDC.
- 11.3 Prisoners are called up within the last 12 weeks of their sentence. However, there is a problem because HMP Ranby is often sent prisoners from HMP Nottingham with very short time left to serve. Prisoners are offered employment and training support from CRC on a weekly basis, for example CV writing, which starts in the prison and is completed in the community.
- 11.4 The prison continues to receive a great many prisoners without sentence plans. An overtime scheme has helped the prison reduce the numbers but there was still a backlog of 70-100 as of the end of March 2019. The churn is about 50 per week.
- 11.6 The offender management unit (OMU) works very well with outside agencies including those involved with multi agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) for high-risk prisoners and with probation. As of March 2019 no prisoners at HMP Ranby were on ROTL. The OMU now has more probation staff as well as prison staff.
- 11.7 Once HDC is granted, the OMU checks that the prisoner is not under investigation by police or has outstanding adjudications before he is released.
- 11.8 If the prisoner has no address to go to on release, then he may be allocated a bed by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (NACRO) This is a scheme whereby the prisoner can have an address at one of their hostels. However, the prison still has about 60 prisoners who have been granted their HDC but are waiting for a place at one of these hostels.
- 11.9 The Board acknowledges the hard work done by observation classification and allocation (OCA) in facilitating transfers in and out of HMP Ranby. The difficulties faced by this department continue to be around:
- a) Getting the more disruptive prisoners moved, particularly those far from home
  - b) Transfer requests to be moved south and therefore closer to home; with HMP Woodhill being recategorized to a category B prison, the problem will only get worse.
  - c) The limit of one escort van a week from GeoAmey, creating a waiting list for prisoners accepted for a move. Maintaining family ties is disrupted when prisoners are far from home and cannot achieve a move south to be near family. Population management staff are still cancelling single prisoners transfer requests due to vehicle availability. Only being allowed one single move a week is making transferring men out a very slow process. Occasionally more moves are available.
  - d) Prisoners granted category D status not being transferred in a timely manner. Category D men who have been accepted at Spring Hill, Standford Hill, North Sea Camp, and Ford are waiting

months for spaces to become available due to the demand, Spaces are also limited at HMP Sudbury and Hatfield.

Section 12 – Work of Board

<b>BOARD STATISTICS</b>	
Recommended Complement of Board Members	15
Number of Board members at the start of the reporting period	9
Number of Board members at the end of the reporting period	9
Total number of visits to the Establishment	421
Total number of segregation reviews attended	111

## Section 13 - Applications

<b>Code</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Current reporting year</b>	<b>Previous reporting year</b>
A	Accommodation including laundry, clothing, ablutions	24	7
B	Discipline including adjudications, IEP, sanctions	18	5
C	Equality	18	10
D	Purposeful Activity including education, work, training, library, regime, time out of cell	22	22
E 1	Letters, visits, phones, public protection restrictions	24	2
E 2	Finance including pay, private monies, spends	26	2
F	Food and kitchens	2	2
G	Health including physical, mental, social care	55	42
H 1	Property within this establishment	55	75
H 2	Property during transfer or in another establishment or location	58	25
H 3	Canteen, facility list, catalogue(s)	16	17
I	Sentence management including HDC, ROTL, parole, release dates, re-categorisation	59	54
J	Staff/prisoner concerns including bullying	25	6
K	Transfers	29	27
	<b>Total number of IMB applications</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>291</b>