



Annual Report
of the
Independent Monitoring Board
at

HMP/YOI Peterborough (Women)

for reporting Year
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Monitoring fairness and respect for people in custody

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A Sections 1 – 3

1 STATUTORY ROLE OF THE IMB

The Prison Act 1952 requires every prison to be monitored by an independent Board, appointed by the Secretary of State from members of the community in which the prison or centre is situated.

The Board is specifically charged to:

- (1) satisfy itself as to the humane and just treatment of those held in custody within its prison, and the range and adequacy of the programmes preparing them for release.
- (2) inform promptly the Secretary of State, or any official to whom he has delegated authority as it judges appropriate, any concern it has.
- (3) **report annually to the Secretary of State on how well the prison has met the standards and requirements placed on it and what impact these have on those in its custody.**

To enable the Board to carry out these duties effectively, its members have right of access to every prisoner and every part of the prison, and also to the prison's records.

The COVID-19 outbreak has had a significant impact on the Board's ability to gather information and discuss the contents of this annual report. The Board has therefore tried to cover as much ground as it can in these difficult circumstances, but inevitably there is less detail and supporting evidence than usual. Ministers are aware of these constraints. Regular information is being collected specifically on the prison's response to the pandemic, and that is being collated nationally.

Main judgements

Are prisoners treated fairly?

The Board believes that, overall, prisoners are treated fairly and with respect.

The Board is concerned that the prison holds a large number of women with complex needs (see paragraph 4.6). The complex needs group carefully considers their needs, but there are often limited opportunities for rehabilitation. The Board is pleased that all efforts are made to limit prisoners' time in the separation and care unit (SCU) (see paragraph 6.2).

Most prison complaints are handled within time limits (see paragraph 5.7). The Board notes that the management of prisoners' property has improved (see paragraph 7.7).

The OMiC programme was successfully introduced, and early feedback from prisoners is positive (see paragraph 7.14).

The prison regime is good, and time out of cell was more than 11 hours (see paragraph 7.15).

Are prisoners treated humanely?

The Board believes that, overall, prisoners are treated humanely and with decency.

The increased focus on safety has had some positive results, but the Board remains concerned at the number of prolific self-harmers (see paragraph 4.2).

The standard of accommodation is good, but it is a concern that in-cell toilets are not screened for privacy (see paragraph 7.4) and that there are insufficient facilities for prisoners with disabilities (see paragraph 7.3).

Are prisoners prepared well for their release?

Preparation for release is important in the prison, evidenced by the good learning and skills provision (see sections 9 and 10), the focus on maintaining family ties (see paragraph 5.5), and the Outside Links service (see paragraph 11.8). Short sentences, however, make it difficult to deliver effective interventions (see paragraph 11.5). Accommodation (see paragraph 11.3) and employment (see paragraph 10.4) on release remain significant issues.

Main areas for development

TO THE MINISTER

The Board remains concerned about the lack of suitable accommodation for women on release (see paragraph 11.3), as proper resourcing of accommodation could be cost-effective in reducing reoffending.

TO THE PRISON SERVICE

The Board remains concerned that some women with complex needs have been segregated for long periods with a limited regime (see paragraph 6.2). The prison does not have provision for appropriate interventions for some of these cases, and the Board considers that the national complex needs team should be more proactive in considering transfers to other secure establishments with suitable programmes.

TO THE DIRECTOR

The Board asks the Director to consider implementing small improvements which would benefit the quality of life for prisoners – for example, improved bedding (see paragraph 7.13), better sourcing of products for the canteen (see paragraph 7.9), and improved in-cell facilities for women with disabilities (see paragraph 7.3).

Improvements

The Board notes the improvements to the governance and delivery of healthcare.

There are promising developments in improving support for new arrivals through the reception, first night and induction processes (see paragraph 4.5).

3 DESCRIPTION OF THE ESTABLISHMENT

Her Majesty's Prison (HMP) and Young Offenders Institution (YOI) Peterborough is a private prison on a brownfield site in the city centre, made up of two separate establishments, one for women and one for men, which share the same staff and management. It opened in March 2005 and is run by Sodexo Justice Services under contract to the Ministry of Justice. There is a performance delivery unit, headed by a manager reporting to the Director, which tracks the contractor's adherence to the terms of the contract and also the actions arising from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons inspections, Prisons and Probation Ombudsman investigations, audits and reviews. There is also a controller team on site, employed by Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS), which monitors the contractor's performance on behalf of the Ministry of Justice.

HMP/YOI Peterborough women's prison serves the East Midlands, East of England and Essex. The operating capacity is 372, including 12 additional prisoner places. There are two modern house blocks containing 10 wings, including a young offenders and young adults unit for women aged 18–25, a life and long sentence unit, and a foreign national unit for prisoners awaiting deportation. There is also a 12-bed, 13-cot mother and baby unit (MBU). Facilities include classrooms, workshops, a gym and associated dance studio, a chapel, a library and gardens. The prison holds a small number of 'restricted status' women.

Each wing has an electronic kiosk, on which prisoners may, for example, order their meals, book visits and appointments, communicate with prison departments and review their finances.

The prison manages its staff recruitment and training needs locally. The Offender Management in Custody (OMiC) or key worker scheme programme was implemented from April 2019, with rollout complete by December 2019. In common with other establishments, this was suspended at the start of the 'national serious incident' declaration in March 2020.

Key services are provided as follows:

- Physical healthcare is provided by Sodexo Justice Services, with the GP service contracted to Cimarron UK.
- Primary and secondary mental healthcare services are provided by Cambridge and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust.
- Learning and skills provision is delivered by Sodexo Justice Services.

The prison also works closely with the community rehabilitation companies (CRCs) for Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Rutland (DNLR); Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire (BeNCH); and Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex.

Additionally, the following are the principal organisations providing services to the prison:

- Mind (mental health support)

- St Giles Trust (core resettlement to BeNCH; Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex; and Unlock Banking)
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Jobcentre Plus
- Bail, Accommodation and Support Service (supported housing for those on home detention curfew (HDC) or bail)
- Shaw Trust (skills and employability support)

There are also a number of third-sector organisations providing specific services locally.

B Evidence sections 4 – 11

4 SAFETY

- 4.1 In last year's Board annual report, it was noted that the prison had invested resources to address key safety issues. As a result, a manager with sole responsibility for safety in the women's prison was appointed, processes were improved and new systems were put in place. The Board is pleased to see that the significant increase in resources over the last two years has had a positive effect on safety across the prison.
- 4.2 There has been a significant increase in incidents of self-harm (1,697 this year, compared to 939 last year), mainly due to a few prolific self-harmers, with 73% of instances attributable to a small number of prisoners (fewer than 10, on average). Improvements to the assessment, care in custody and teamwork (ACCT) system, used to manage prisoners identified as being at risk of suicide or self-harm, were introduced. These included an emphasis on good conversations with prisoners, positive management by officers and the involvement of specialists. The prison does not hesitate to put the most prolific self-harmers on constant watch. When anti-ligature clothing is used, it is for the minimum time required to manage the risk.
- 4.3 There continues to be a zero tolerance approach to violence, and the challenge, support and intervention plan process is used effectively to challenge and address the cause of poor behaviour.
- 4.4 Substance misuse and availability remains an issue (as evidenced by the mandatory drug testing result, which was 7.1%, compared to 6.3% last year). There is an integrated strategy which aims to decrease both the supply of and demand for illicit substances. The number of dog handlers was increased from one to three. All Rule 39 incoming post was checked using an itemiser and dogs, and security was increased at visits. There is a robust procedure for the authorisation of full searching, and the number of these searches is low.
- 4.5 Improvements are being made to the induction process, including the provision of written material, locating an experienced prisoner on the reception wing to assist new arrivals, and improving the appearance of the reception wing. Loss of property, both within the prison and on transfer, remains an issue (the Board received 41 property applications, compared to 47 last year).
- 4.6 Between 5% and 8% of prisoners were managed under complex needs protocols. These prisoners tend to be prolific self-harmers, the most violent and refractory, or those with serious mental or physical health issues.
- 4.7 The weekly complex needs meeting is attended by a range of disciplines from across the prison, including healthcare, mental health, offender management and segregation officers. The meeting is chaired by a senior manager, and a wide range

of opinions and challenges are welcomed. For example, the prison's art therapist has contributed to the meeting. The Board notes that more regular attendance by the clinical health team resulted in clinical issues being better managed.

- 4.8 Care plans are created, but actions are not always chased up and reported. The Board has found that wing officers are not always aware of plans for prisoners on their wing.
- 4.9 The prison works hard to address poor behaviour of women with complex needs, and good practice can be found; for example: SCU staff provided outreach to keep an individual from being sent to the unit; segregated women are able to earn minor rewards for good ~~proper~~ behaviour; and staff counselling resulted in an individual, who had spent hundreds of days segregated on her last sentence, being helped to spend most of the current sentence on normal location.
- 4.10 The Board is, however, concerned that the prison lacks some resources to fully address the causes of the behaviour of women with complex needs. The prison is established to provide only a narrow range of programmes – fewer than at most female prisons. It does not have an on-site forensic psychologist, and the Board has seen no cases in the year where the HMPPS psychology team has provided support. Little success has been had in getting prisoners transferred to prisons with a psychologically informed planned environment (PIPE) unit; indeed, there have been several times where prisoners have been transferred to a prison with a PIPE unit only to bounce back immediately.
- 4.11 There was one death in custody during the reporting year. The Board considers that the prison provided appropriate support to the next of kin and any affected prisoners and staff.

5. EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS

- 5.1 A consistent pattern of monthly diversity and inclusion action team meetings has been established. Attendance includes the Director, senior manager leads for each protected characteristic, and a prisoner representative. An action plan is maintained (which focuses on each protected characteristic), but the Board notes that there are some delays in addressing action points.
- 5.2 The Board is pleased that some progress has been made in identifying and reducing disadvantages, where possible, for protected groups. A hoist has been ordered for prisoners with disabilities. Links were established with Age Concern to support mature prisoners. There has been an increased focus on addressing the needs of young prisoners, and a maturity screening tool was introduced. Reasonable efforts were made to ensure that information is accessible to all prisoners (for example, peers and staff who speak different languages are identified; computer translation technology is used; material in the library is available in different languages; and images are used to illustrate products on the canteen). A lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) telephone number was added to PIN telephones, in recognition of the fact that prisoners may not feel

confident to disclose their sexuality. Foreign national prisoners are seen by the foreign nationals officer within three days of arrival, and are well supported thereafter. They are given extra PIN telephone credit in lieu of visits.

- 5.3 The Board is concerned that there has been limited progress in some areas. Library sessions continued to be cancelled, meaning, for example, that weekly over-50s clubs did not always take place. Lifts and ramps are available to those with mobility issues, but wing cells allocated to prisoners with disabilities lack aids such as grab rails and raised toilet seats. A robust learning disability pathway has not been established. The Board received complaints that products for Black, Asian and minority ethnic prisoners (such as hair treatments) were difficult to obtain from the canteen.
- 5.4 The Board commends the multi-faith chaplaincy team for the support they give to prisoners. Access to the chaplaincy is good, evidenced by their presence at mass movement and regular wing rounds. They have continued to visit prisoners on the wings after the COVID-19 lockdown.
- 5.5 The prison has good family provision. The family matters team talks to every new prisoner shortly after arrival, and dealt with more than 1,000 requests from prisoners during the reporting year. Prisoners in the MBU have good opportunities for family contact; as well as family days (five last year) and contact in the visits hall, visits are also held on the unit. At a meeting attended by the Board, performance was checked against the Farmer Review (2019), and it was identified that telephone contact with families is good (all prisoners have telephones in their cells), and the 'restorative families' initiative has had positive results. The Board notes that foreign national prisoners may not have the same family contact opportunities as other prisoners, but security and resource issues impede the use of video links.
- 5.6 Over 6,000 visits were booked during the reporting year, and 4,400 were completed (some were cancelled, and there were 1,300 non-attendances). Improvements have been made to the visits hall, including redecoration and the purchase of more toys.
- 5.7 The Board is satisfied that prisoners are informed of how to complain (including how to submit confidential healthcare complaints) and how to escalate complaints. Ninety-five per cent of complaints were answered within timescales (compared to 91% last year). The Board received five applications regarding equality and fairness.
- 5.8 There is a standardised approach to discrimination information report form (DIRF) investigations but there has been no independent scrutiny. Towards the end of the year, however, the prison made links with the diversity manager at a local hospital, with a view to undertaking this. During 2019, 76 DIRFs were submitted. The Board is concerned that more than half (46) related to racial discrimination. The Board notes that equality and diversity in the prison is reviewed against the Lammy Review (2017) at monthly meetings, and will monitor the impact of this focus in the coming year.

- 5.9 A new incentives policy, with an increased focus on rewarding and recognising positive behaviours, was introduced in January. The Board has not yet had a chance to review its impact.
- 5.10 The Board was pleased to recruit two younger members, and hopes the flexible rota approach will suit their commitments.

6 SEGREGATION/CARE AND SEPARATION UNIT

- 6.1 The SCU contains 14 cells, now reduced to a maximum occupancy of eight, and maintains good levels of cleanliness, maintenance and tidiness. The Board is pleased that the prison aims, where possible, to keep prisoners on normal location rather than in the SCU.
- 6.2 The unit has operated at varying levels of capacity, from one to six prisoners, during the year. There were four prisoners held in the unit for more than 42 days during the year. The prison does not have provision for appropriate interventions for some of these cases, and the Board considers that the national complex needs team should be more proactive in considering transfers to other secure establishments with suitable programmes. The Board has observed staff talking to prisoners at length to identify concerns and reasons for their behaviour patterns, with a view to their return to normal location, and is aware that unit staff continue, in some cases, to work with women when they return to normal residence.
- 6.3 Prisoners usually received an appropriate regime on the unit, including access to exercise yards and showers. A care plan is set up upon entering the unit, with education, work and other activities, such as library attendance, allowed if considered appropriate. Prisoners were not regularly able to attend gym sessions at weekends because it was closed.
- 6.4 The unit is visited by the chaplaincy and nursing teams daily, with visits from the doctor three times a week. Senior managers visit the unit regularly.
- 6.5 Members of the Board visit the unit at least once every week and speak to all prisoners, accompanied by staff but in an unlocked condition, provided that this is safe. Prisoners may also be seen on the exercise yard or in the holding room under staff observation, should they wish to speak in confidence to a Board member.
- 6.6 In general, the Board observes staff dealing appropriately with often demanding prisoners. There were 22 separate 'dirty protests' during the year. There was no use of special accommodation cells during the year.
- 6.7 The Board is usually informed of any new arrivals in the SCU by email or telephone, and aims to speak to them within 72 hours of segregation.
- 6.8 The Board aims to attend all Rule 45 or 49 reviews. Documents are reviewed afterwards for reviews not attended by the Board. During the year, there were 171 Rule 45 reviews. The Board does not have access to its attendance records at present.
- 6.9 There were 42 occasions when prisoners on ACCT documentation were held in the unit. The Board continues to closely monitor this situation. ACCT reviews for these prisoners are included within Rule 45 reviews, and when they are held at separate times the Board sometimes attends.
- 6.10 The Board does not have access to its records at present, but believes that there was no occasion on which a member felt unable to confirm that proper review procedures were followed. Board members were also given full opportunity during reviews to question prisoners and medical staff present, as well as being informed by the review manager of all the relevant prisoner details prior to the review start. Reviews were normally followed by a full discussion on any

behavioural and/or mental health issues of prisoners, and how quickly they could be returned to normal location.

- 6.11 All documentation, including daily log, segregation history sheets, initial segregation health screens, authority to segregate forms and ACCT forms, were, in the main, properly completed and up to date.
- 6.12 There was a death in custody in the unit early in the year.

7 ACCOMMODATION (INCLUDING COMMUNICATION)

- 7.1 Accommodation is clean, tidy, and well maintained. Comfortable seating, and tables and chairs for meals are available in communal wing areas, which facilitate association. The wings have recently been redecorated in light pastels, which enhances their appearance. The MBU is well decorated and equipped, with good facilities, including a nursery area for staff to look after babies while their mothers work; a garden to enjoy; and a baby food preparation area.
- 7.2 Meals are served on time, and are hot and fit for consumption; there are minimal complaints to the Board about the food. Meal supervision is observed to be good, with well-managed queue control. Vegan requests are increasing, with a system in place for identifying eligibility. The kitchen manager tries to ensure that vegan choices are available for all meals. Portion control is generally appropriate; the serveries are kept clean; and servery orderlies are correctly equipped and attired for serving food.
- 7.3 The Board remains concerned that there are not always enough suitable cells available to meet the needs of disabled prisoners.
- 7.4 There are decent showers, all of which had flooring replaced during the reporting year. They are cleaned by the wing orderlies. There has been no improvement in screening in-cell toilets, which remains of concern, particularly in shared cells.
- 7.5 Most cells have telephones, and during the reporting year the Board supported the request from prisoners that the call cut-off time should be increased from 10 minutes to 20 minutes to facilitate communication.
- 7.6 There was a significant increase in applications regarding visits and post, attributable to a small number of women who were subject to more stringent intelligence-led security, such as closed or banned visits and photocopied rather than original post.
- 7.7 The management of prisoners' property has improved. The supply of courtesy keys increased and cell clearance procedures were followed. There were only two successful claims for lost or stolen property during the year (18 payments were made last year).
- 7.8 The Board dealt with 32 applications about property issues within the establishment, which is broadly unchanged since last year.

- 7.9 Women can order from the canteen and from some mail order catalogues (for example, Avon, Argos and music catalogues) using the kiosk. The Board has received applications about the availability of some products (for example, African Pride shampoo and very small size pyjamas), where sourcing products has been problematic. Prisoners can suggest new products via consultation meetings, which the stores manager attends. The Pea Bees clothing initiative is much appreciated by the prisoners, whereby clothes from a national retail outlet are bulk bought every season in multiple sizes and sold in the Link. There is an up-to-date facilities list available on the kiosk, which identifies which items may be provided by family or friends.
- 7.10 The system for ordering and receiving newspapers and magazines was streamlined, and this has resulted in fewer complaints and frustrations in the latter part of the reporting year.
- 7.11 The Board receives some applications about living conditions being, at various times, either too cold or too hot. Fans are supplied if authorised by healthcare staff for medical reasons. Fans were available to purchase for others during the hot weather, but the lag time to supply was 10 days, negating their usefulness in changeable weather.
- 7.12 Wing monitoring suggests that relationships between staff and prisoners are generally good. Regular 'quality of life' consultation meetings between prisoners and staff representatives are held, with follow-up and feedback.
- 7.13 The Board received a number of complaints about the poor quality of mattresses and the fact that replacements are difficult to obtain. This was discussed at the quality of life meeting in February.
- 7.14 The Board observes that most wing officers give good support to prisoners. The OMiC initiative was introduced from September 2019, with 78% of targeted interactions achieved by the end of the reporting year. The Board initiated a survey of prisoners' opinions of the scheme but was unable to complete it. Initial findings were positive and prisoners listed a number of ways that interactions had been of help.
- 7.15 Time out of cell averaged 11.9 hours, which is almost 20% above target. The Board recognises that prisoners have a good amount of time out of their cells.
- 7.16 Legal rights are respected. Free legal advice from a local solicitor's firm is available in the Link. Free weekly wing letters are issued, and the quantity was increased over Christmas.
- 7.17 Clear, frequent written information is provided via the kiosk, and on paper to each prisoner for particularly important communications. When lockdown started at the end of March, daily bulletins were issued to prisoners.

8 HEALTHCARE (INCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE)

- 8.1 A new head of healthcare, with a hospital clinical background, started at the prison early in the reporting year. She has overseen a number of improvements, including recruiting permanent staff to replace agency workers and rigorous supervision of standards. Further innovations are noted below.
- 8.2 Healthcare applications to the Board decreased slightly (53, compared to 61 last year). The majority related to delayed or perceived incorrect treatment, and to medication issues.
- 8.3 All prisoners are screened on arrival. A new health induction clinic has been introduced, conducted by the chronic disease nurse, and including secondary screening, blood tests and an electrocardiogram. A personalised care plan is drawn up for prisoners who have long-term conditions.
- 8.6 Prisoners in the SCU are seen daily by healthcare staff, and officers are alerted to conditions of which they need to be aware. ACCT review attendance by nurses is good. Healthcare staff examine prisoners after all use of force incidents.
- 8.7 Complaints about healthcare average approximately 25 per month and, in general, are answered within the required timeframe.
- 8.8 There are well-maintained noticeboards on the wings, in hubs and on 'main street', displaying healthcare information. The health and wellbeing group reconvened late in the year.
- 8.9 Controlled medication procedures have been reviewed, and there continues to be progress on increasing the proportion of in-possession medication.
- 8.10 Appointments can be booked and cancelled using the electronic kiosk. Waiting lists for GP appointments averaged 4.7 days. Waiting times for dentistry and ophthalmology clinics were four weeks and two weeks, respectively.
- 8.11 The weekly nurse-led well-woman clinic is praised by prisoners. Services include cervical cancer screening and sexual health advice. An outreach programme for mammogram screening has been introduced. Bowel cancer screening is available. There is no physiotherapy provision in the prison.
- 8.12 Occupancy of the 12-bed healthcare unit is variable. A number of prisoners are referred by the mental health team, and some may require extended stays while waiting for assessment or transfer to approved facilities. The unit is manned by officers with no healthcare expertise, but clinicians visit the unit daily. The Board is concerned about the number of women with complex needs held in the unit (with a limited regime), and the lack of therapeutic activities there.
- 8.12 Typically, more than 40% of women prisoners are working with the recovery team. HMPPS Ten Prisons Project representatives visited in the final quarter and made suggestions as to updated approaches to recovery work.
- 8.13 The mental health team has lacked an on-site psychologist for most of the year, although some part-time cover was arranged, and there have been some vacant

positions in the team. Did-not-attend rates remain high for first appointments (alert clinics). Mental health clinicians visit the inpatient unit daily, and attend ACCT reviews, and segregation reviews when relevant.

- 8.14 Following the findings of a recent inquest, there is an increased emphasis on careful coordination regarding medication between mental and physical healthcare teams.
- 8.15 Social care assessment is conducted by two staff (1.5 full-time equivalent) from Peterborough City Council. There was a decrease in referrals for assessment during the year, which may have been because staff are no longer based in the prison. The Board has also found several instances of staff being unaware that they can refer, or how to do so. There have also been instances of delays in vetting care staff.

9 EDUCATION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 9.1 Provision is reviewed at quarterly quality improvement group meetings, where information and statistics (such as achievement, attendance and feedback from prisoner learning and skills champions) are presented and evaluated. At the July meeting, it was noted that prisoners found education positive and welcoming, and were proud of their achievements.
- 9.2 Literacy and numeracy skills are assessed at induction, and prisoners with skills below level 1 are allocated to classes. One-to-one skills development is also available. Skills for Life achievements were above target again.
- 9.3 The education provision runs throughout the year, and few classes are cancelled. There have been some difficulties in recruiting teachers.
- 9.4 Trained tutors support prisoners who have special educational needs, such as dyslexia.
- 9.5 Distance learning opportunities (up to level 4 and Open University) are good but it is noted that numbers have decreased because of the withdrawal of some funding. The prison supports WayOut TV non-accredited courses, including painting and decorating, and business studies.
- 9.6 Average attendance for the year was 85.8%, which was above target. The prison is looking at ways of improving attendance at the education induction.
- 9.7 The Board is pleased there is an increased focus on reducing library closures (in the final quarter of the year, around 71% of sessions were delivered). At the beginning of the year, extra staff were in post. The mobile library provides prisoners with increased access to books, and continued to visit wings post-lockdown at the end of March.
- 9.8 Gym closures – again, as a result of staff cross-deployment – have continued, although there has been some improvement since the last reporting year

10 WORK, VOCATIONAL TRAINING and EMPLOYMENT

- 10.1 A range of vocational training programmes is offered in the prison, including: hospitality and catering in the Vita Nova café; customer service in the call centre;

and hair and beauty in the Sanctuary salon. The gardens are well maintained by prisoners, but training is not accredited. The Board is pleased that domestic cookery reopened in the wellbeing centre at the end of the year. The centre also offers healthy lifestyle, body image and healthy eating classes.

10.2 The prison is now setting up a new training programme aimed at employment in the hotel industry. A mock-up of a hotel bedroom, complete with en-suite facilities, has been constructed. The intention is to give training in all aspects of room preparation. The facility was not yet running at the time of lockdown. In addition, plans are being made to offer fork-lift truck training; just prior to lockdown, four prisoners had completed the course.

10.4 The prison continues to make links with local employers, with a view to increasing employment opportunities, including release of temporary licence (ROTL) placements. The percentage of prisoners finding employment on release is 4.7%, against a target of 10.5%. The Board considers that the number of prisoners on short sentences restricts the impact of interventions.

11 RESETTLEMENT PREPARATION

11.1 The resettlement team works cooperatively with two CRCs which provide 'through-the-gate' support at the prison. There are also numerous external agencies working on-site which are contracted to provide specialist services in support of the resettlement agenda. CRC through-the-gate staff were withdrawn from the prison when COVID-19 management restrictions were introduced.

11.2 St Giles Trust, housed in the Female Link area, provides advice about finance, debt management, identification and benefits. Peterborough City Council funds an additional St Giles Trust post which supports homeless prisoners on release locally. The St Giles team also liaises directly with St Mungo's, which provides similar support on finance, accommodation and benefits in the Northampton area.

11.3 The Board is concerned that securing sustainable accommodation on release remains challenging. Reasons include the lack of suitable accommodation, and the fact that short sentences give staff little time to secure it. In 2019, 30% of the population had a stay of less than one month. Over the reporting year, 36% of women did not have settled accommodation on release, which is the same figure as last year.

11.4 The Board is pleased that, locally, a housing scheme, funded jointly by BeNCH CRC, Nacro, Sodexo and the Police and Crime Commissioner, provides flats (15 in total, of which six are for women) for prolific repeat offenders. Occupancy retention exceeds 90% after 30 weeks within the community.

11.5 Accredited programs, such as the Thinking Skills Program and COVAID (control of violence for angry and impulsive drinkers) are available. Transferring prisoners to other prisons to complete additional programs can create challenges for the observation, classification and allocation team. The Board notes that it can be

challenging for the prison to deliver effective interventions to prisoners who are serving short sentences.

- 11.6 There are also many non-accredited programmes, which are organised and run on-site. These include Road to Success, which focuses on reintegration back into society, and New Futures, a programme which helps sex workers from the Leicester area. The Hibiscus Initiatives charity continues to provide specialised support for foreign national women. Other national organisations, such as Gamblers Anonymous, also work with the prisoners.
- 11.7 The family matters team supports prisoners and their families, both on arrival and while at Peterborough. Family days are a regular and popular feature. In-cell telephones and the email-a-prisoner scheme encourage family contact.
- 11.8 Outside Links, a city-centre facility provided by the prison, continues to give welcome support to women on release in the local community. A range of support, including hot food, wellbeing health checks, free clothing, showers, haircuts and CRC contact, is routinely available. In addition, advice and mentoring is readily offered. The Board acknowledges the dedication and commitment of all the staff in this facility.
- 11.9 Two prisoners, the same number as in the previous year, were serving indeterminate sentences for public protection, and both were beyond tariff.

C The work of the IMB

One Board monitors both the men's and women's prisons. Two or more members are on rota each week. They respond to Board applications, monitor segregation and healthcare units, and monitor a wing and other areas of the prison. They prepare a weekly rota report, which is circulated to senior managers.

The Director attends the Board's monthly meetings, to discuss issues from rota reports and respond to questions from members.

Board members present information about the IMB to new officers during their initial training.

BOARD STATISTICS	
Recommended complement of Board members	20
Number of Board members at the start of the reporting period	12
Number of Board members at the end of the reporting period	12
Total number of visits to the establishment *	Not available
Total number of segregation reviews attended	Not available

*Visits covers both men's and women's establishments

D Section – Applications to the IMB

Code	Subject	Current reporting year	Previous reporting year
A	Accommodation, including laundry, clothing, ablutions	23	17
B	Discipline, including adjudications, IEP, sanctions	4	3
C	Equality	5	3
D	Purposeful activity, including education, work, training, library, regime, time out of cell	25	22
E 1	Letters, visits, telephones, public protection restrictions	57	17
E 2	Finance, including pay, private monies, spends	15	19
F	Food and kitchens	4	15
G	Health, including physical, mental, social care	53	61
H 1	Property within this establishment	32	31
H 2	Property during transfer or in another establishment or location	9	16
H 3	Canteen, facility list, catalogue(s)	11	23
I	Sentence management including HDC, ROTL, parole, release dates, recategorisation	23	17
J	Staff/prisoner concerns, including bullying	65	85
K	Transfers	9	3
	Total number of IMB applications	360*	332

*Total includes 25 confidential access applications not classified at lockdown. Three women submitted multiple applications on the same subject which have not all been included.