



HMIPS

HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland
INSPECTING AND MONITORING

Independent Prison Monitoring Bulletin
HMP Glenochil
January to March 2018



**7 Independent
Prison
Monitors**



**18 Prison
Monitoring
Visits**



**20 Prisoner
Requests**

Key Findings

- **Effective courteous and humane exercise of authority:** Monitors looked at the process for reintegrating prisoners back to the main halls from the Separation and Reintegration Unit (SRU) and found it to be well-planned and appropriate for the needs of prisoners. Once prisoners are stabilised in the SRU a reintegration plan is started, and developed with contributions from a range of staff (including Health). Prisoners are offered a number of visits to their hall prior to full return, in order to ensure they are ready.
- **Effective courteous and humane exercise of authority:** Monitors attended a number of Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) hearings during the reporting period and found the process to be conducted patiently and fairly. This included instances where ICC hearings overturned punishment decisions.
- **Prisoners' property:** Monitors found some evidence that paperwork required for the transfer of prisoners' property between prisons is not always marked clearly. While all property should be checked and confirmed by reception staff on arrival at the establishment, Monitors have heard about issues where prisoners have property that is not listed on their property card.
- **Equality dignity and respect:** Monitors found that the needs of prisoners from a range of religious backgrounds are considered, for example in the provision of faith-based meals and religious services.

Updates and Actions

- **Health and Wellbeing:** There remains concern about drug use in the prison, particularly drugs thought to be new psychoactive substances (NPS). Monitors have been told that prisoners are suffering severe adverse effects as a result of taking these substances, and that staff continue to work hard to deal with the issues that arise.
- **Staffing Levels:** Senior management have reported that sickness absence figures remain challenging, with a potential to impact on the efficient running of regimes. However long-term sick absence is reducing. The prison's annual delivery plan includes a focus on staff health and wellbeing.

IPM Focus in the Next Quarter

- Monitors will look at the plans that are in place for implementing the Scottish Prison Service's 'Smoke-Free Prisons' policy, which is to be implemented towards the end of this year.
- There will also be a focus on monitoring key areas of the prison using the revised Standards for Inspection and Monitoring.