



HMIPS

HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland
INSPECTING AND MONITORING

Independent Prison Monitoring Bulletin
HMP Glenochil
April to September 2018



**8 Independent
Prison
Monitors**



**32 Prison
Monitoring
Visits**



**41 Prisoner
Requests**

Key Findings

- **Healthcare:** Over the reporting period some prisoners complained about healthcare, particularly in relation to medication being changed or seeking information relating to appointments. However, Independent Prison Monitors (IPMs) did not find any issues with the delivery of healthcare.
- **Organisational effectiveness:** IPMs heard that significant staff sickness absence levels had increased the risk of certain elements of the regime not being delivered in full. However, the Governor had recently reported to IPMs that sickness absence levels were falling, staff retention was good, and that no element of the regime had been diminished due to levels of sick absence.
- **Food quality:** Prisoners complained about the quality of the food available; however IPMs sampled the food and found it to be of good quality, with a decent range of choice that catered for prisoners with faith-based diets. Some prisoners suggested that the quality of the food may diminish 'in transit' between the kitchen and the halls.
- **Staff engaging with prisoners:** IPMs remain concerned about the practice of staff 'shouting down the halls', which affects prisoner confidentiality. Senior management have agreed that this practice should not continue.
- **Prison mail process:** IPMs found that the prison mail process could be improved, and that staff could better advise prisoners on the correct procedures for sending different items.

Updates and Actions

- **Smoke-free prisons:** IPMs have been assured that the prison is on track to implement the new smoke-free prisons policy, and that a range of support mechanisms will be made available to prisoners who smoke, including 'vaping' devices, and support to stop smoking.

IPM Focus in the Next Quarter

- IPMs will monitor the implementation of the SPS 'Smoke-free prisons' policy.
- IPMs will monitor the quality of food arriving at the halls to ensure its quality has not diminished in transit from the kitchen.
- IPMs will continue to monitor staff engagement with prisoners.