



**HMIPS**

HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland  
INSPECTING AND MONITORING

**Independent Prison Monitoring Bulletin**  
**HMP Grampian**  
**October to December 2019**



**9 Independent  
Prison  
Monitors**



**16 Prison  
Monitoring  
Visits**



**24 Prisoner  
Requests**

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## Key Findings

- **Personal safety:** Staff have demonstrated a clear commitment to ensuring the safety of prisoners. IPMs witnessed a proactive approach to reducing the risk of aggression and violence while being professional, attentive and active to prisoners' requests.
- **Respect, autonomy and protection against mistreatment:** Some protection prisoners have complained to IPMs about their regime. IPMs had a look at this and concluded the regime seemed to be okay, and also learned that staff were responding by conducting a regime review.
- **Visits:** Some prisoners complained to IPMs about having visits restricted 'as punishment'. IPMs spoke with staff, who informed IPMs that this practice is used as a last resort in cases where individuals' conduct may compromise the safety of others. IPMs are satisfied this practice is fair. Staff confirmed they consider all factors before making such decisions.
- **Health and wellbeing:** Systems are in place to ensure that prison staff inform relevant services in the community about the needs of prisoners at risk of self-harm, who are about to be released.

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## Updates and Actions

- **Organisational effectiveness - Staffing:** Staff promotion and recruitment campaigns are underway. HMP Grampian expects to benefit from these, with additional staff arriving in the next few weeks.

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## IPM Focus in the Next Quarter

- **Staffing:** IPMs will continue to monitor staffing levels, and any potential subsequent impact upon the regimes.
- **Health and Wellbeing:** IPMs will continue to monitor NHS staffing levels and how it impacts access to healthcare services.