



HMIPS
HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland
INSPECTING AND MONITORING

NEWS RELEASE
INSPECTION OF COURT CUSTODY PROVISION, GLASGOW SHERIFF COURT
ON 24 FEBRUARY 2020

Glasgow Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court was formally opened on 29 July 1986. The building houses 23 courts.

The CCU was a well-run facility, with staff that were clearly well motivated, well led and working well as a team. It was clean and ordered, and the good state of the Unit was only let down by the extensive graffiti.

Despite the Unit being busy and noisy, it was clear that staff maintained good levels of supervision and were highly visible and approachable. Staff were observed undertaking appropriate levels of supervision whilst taking account of the varied needs of those for whom they were responsible. Whilst it was clear that CCU staff took their responsibilities seriously, local management should review the consistency of the staff approach to identifying risk.

The Inspectorate welcomed the use of translation services and the evidence that every member of staff could access this for speakers of languages other than English.

A number of areas of good practice emerged during the inspection and GEOAmev are to be commended for their secure approach to entry to the CCU, as well as the relationships between the Scottish Legal Aid office and Scot Nurse. Having a Scot Nurse on site and the presence of the Scottish Legal Aid office, whilst a practical arrangement for one of the busiest courts in Europe, is nonetheless considered good practice and should be replicated in other busy courts.

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland, Wendy Sinclair-Gieben, was appointed in July 2018.
2. This report identifies what was found during the inspection on 24 February 2020.
3. On publication the report can be found at www.prisoninspectorscotland.gov.uk
4. For further information please contact Kerry Love, Business Manager, at Kerry.Love@gov.scot or on 07939 980452.