

COVID-19 PANDEMIC EMERGENCY

LIAISON VISITS FRAMEWORK – PRISONS AND COURT CUSTODY UNITS

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Name	Job Role	Dates approved
Wendy Sinclair-Gieben	HMCIPS	May 2020, June 2020, January 2021
Stephen Sandham	Deputy Chief Inspector of Prisons	May 2020, June 2020, January 2021

<https://www.prisoninspectorscotland.gov.uk/>

DO NO HARM - STAY SAFE - TAKE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Introduction

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland (HMCIPS) is required to inspect the 15 prisons across Scotland in order to establish the treatment of and the conditions for prisoners, and to report publicly on the findings.

The Public Services Reform (Inspection and Monitoring of Prisons) (Scotland) Order 2015 came into force on 31 August 2015 and from this date HMCIPS assumed overall responsibility for the monitoring of prisons, which is carried out on a day-to-day basis by Independent Prison Monitors (IPMs). HMCIPS also has responsibility for the inspection of Court Custody Units (CCUs) and the treatment of and conditions for prisoners under escort.

As one of the 21 bodies that comprise the UK's National Preventive Mechanism (NPM), Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland (HMIPS) has a duty to regularly monitor the treatment of detainees and the conditions in which they are held. However, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Wendy Sinclair-Gieben, HMCIPS, took the difficult decision on 24 March 2020 to inform the Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Humza Yousaf MSP, that she was suspending the weekly monitoring of prisons by IPMs, forthcoming inspections of prisons, and inspections of Court Custody Units (CCUs) and transport arrangements for prisoners. Recognising the importance of continued scrutiny, HMIPS promptly developed a remote monitoring framework (RMF) and an adapted methodology for shorter scrutiny visits known as the liaison visit framework (LVF) and this was implemented in May 2020.

In these challenging times, during the COVID-19 pandemic, HMCIPS acknowledges that there will be a need for changes in the daily routines and regimes in Scotland's prisons in order to keep people safe. Although the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) keep HMCIPS informed of the continuing changing picture and challenges they are faced with by their National Coronavirus Response Team daily update, HMCIPS has made it clear that "protective measures must never result in inhuman or degrading treatment of persons deprived of their liberty" and that she will report to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice on the treatment and conditions in which prisoners live in line with HMIPS' [Standards for Inspecting and Monitoring Prisons in Scotland](#).

Process

Communication

To ensure human rights are upheld, it is our intention for HMCIPS, the Deputy Chief Inspector, and the Inspector of Prisons to visit all prisons during this pandemic. HMCIPS also intends to keep in regular contact with the prison Governors-in-Charge (GICs), prison Directors, or representative, for example the COVID-19 single point of contact (COVID-19 SPOC).

HMCIPS, and the HMIPS inspection team, will make regular contact with the SPS Chief Executive and her team. This includes the Deputy HMCIP who will continue to work closely with the Divisional Head of Operational Support, and the Inspector of Prisons will make continued contact with the SPS Head of Health and Justice. Regular contact will also be maintained with Scottish Courts and Tribunal Services (SCTS) and GEOAmev, the prisoner transport provider.

HMIPS recognises that other communications to the SPS regarding COVID-19 will be made by contacting the SPS at HQCoronavirus@sps.pnn.gov.uk or at SPSCoVID19@sps.pnn.gov.uk.

Regular contact will also be maintained with SCTS and GEOAmev.

Risk Algorithm

HMIPS have developed a risk algorithm based on data analysis and information received to inform the visit schedule and the scrutiny focus for any concerns in addition to the COVID response.

The selection criteria to determine the prison to be visited, includes information and intelligence received from HMIPS Monitoring team, the SPS and partner agencies. The information is added to our liaison data algorithm (see Annex A) that will determine a risk score according to new data inputted weekly and subsequently suggest the next prison to be visited.

Scheduling

HMCIPS will undertake a Liaison Visit to 17 CCUs during the pandemic and may undertake further announced and unannounced visits once we have completed the initial visits schedule.

Liaison Visits to prisons and CCUs will take place where HMIPS believe the urgency to visit outweighs our precautions related to COVID-19. When appropriate, HMIPS will invite our inspection partners Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS), Education Scotland (ES), the Care inspectorate (CI) and the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC). on the Liaison Visits to prisons. Where children are located in prison, the Children's and Young People's Commissioner, Scotland (CYPCS) will also be invited to send a representative.

Liaison Visits to prisons and CCUs, as well as support telephone calls, will have the following functions:

- To ensure prisons, prisoner transport and CCU scrutiny continues and are grounded in human rights, looking at the treatment and conditions of those held in prisons, prisoner transport and CCUs.
- To offer support to the prison and CCU management and staff.
- To provide assurance to the Cabinet Secretary for Justice on the SPS, NHS, GEOAmev and the SCTS response to the COVID-19 pandemic for those in custody.
- To garner intelligence and information to make an informed decision on future HMIPS priorities.
- To identify good practice that can be shared.

Prisons

Where it is deemed appropriate HMIPS, will arrange two day Liaison Visits with a small team of inspectors from HMIPS and partner agencies initially to prisons identified by the risk algorithm. Prisons not identified by the risk algorithm will still be subject to a Liaison Visit.

HMIPS will make arrangements in advance with the SPS to enable a safe entry into each prison, allow time for the GIC and NHS, or their representatives, to meet with the inspection team, arrange an overview of the prison, and co-ordinate access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), keys and alarms. Any PPE protocols for the prison will be adhered to by the visiting team members. There may be occasions where inspection partners will not accompany HMIPS on the Liaison Visit.

It is the intention of the visit to, where possible, gain a detailed understanding of how the prison is functioning during the COVID-19 pandemic through discussion and observation, utilising relevant quality indicators in our inspection [Standards for Inspecting and Monitoring Prisons in Scotland](#). Areas of identified concern will also be explored during the Liaison Visit.

Action points arising from the liaison visit will be monitored and information on progress sought from the establishment (Annex C).

In looking at the 15 quality indicators below we will take account of the following PANEL principles.

Participation: Prisoners should be meaningfully involved in decisions that affect their lives.

Accountability: There should be monitoring of how prisoners' rights are being affected as well as remedies when things go wrong.

Non-discrimination and equality: All forms of discrimination must be prohibited, prevented and eliminated. The needs of prisoners who face the biggest barriers to realising their rights should be prioritised.

Empowerment: Everyone should understand their rights, and be fully supported to take part in developing policy and practices which affect their lives.

Legality: Approaches should be grounded in the legal rights that are set out in domestic and international laws.

1. COVID-19 updates: To understand any issues surrounding staffing and prisoners from the GIC or SPOC that includes numbers of prisoners being isolated and SPS staff absent numbers and their impact (some of this information will be supplied by SPS HQ on a daily basis). We will look to establish if staff understand their roles and what is expected of them. Are staff updated on any changes and knowledgeable of the present position of the establishment. How is the prison managing COVID-19 restraints (including physical distancing and the impact of the increase in prisoner contact and how groups e.g. households or bubbles are managed. We will look at preventative measures being enacted, such as screening on admission, quarantine and liberation. How are the prison managing their recovery plan.

We will look at the communications/information that is in place regarding any changes to the regime, or other functions within the prison, for all relevant parties including prisoners, their families and other relevant agencies regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring that all communications/information is in a format/language people can understand. **(Standard 8 – Organisational Effectiveness)**

2. Basic living requirements: We will check if meals are of good quality, whether there is an appropriate choice, and that food hygiene standards and dietary needs of prisoners are adhered to. Confirm that supplies of clothing, bedding, facility maintenance and food is continuing. **(Standard 2 – Decency)**.

3. Regimes: We will check the detail of the daily regimes and the progress made against the SPS recovery plan. We will continue to look at the human right standards for every prisoner including those in isolation: access to showers where there is no in-cell shower facilities, access to time in the fresh air and access to communal phones. We will also monitor the

amount of hours out of cell particularly for vulnerable populations and check that there are sufficient accessible cell spaces for the population. **(Standard 2 – decency)**

4. Violence Reduction: We will check that there is an appropriate and ongoing process in place for people subject to Talk to Me and those that self-harm. We will look at the trends and impact since COVID -19. We will also check that there is appropriate and ongoing process in place for those subject to the Think Twice policy (anti-bullying). **(Standard 3 – Personal Safety)**

5. Rule 41 paperwork and those on rule 40a: We will check that the revised process for people being detained under Rule 41 and Rule 40a due to COVID-19 are being adhered to. Looking at processes in place to ensure people are receiving the appropriate human rights entitlements, and that there is in-cell distraction activity available, such as a television, reading material, fitness advice and other support mechanisms. **(Standard 3 – Personal Safety)**

6. Rule 95 paperwork: We will look to visit the Separation and Reintegration Unit (SRU) as the place most likely to hold those managed under rule 95. We will check that those under this rule are treated lawfully and with humanity, and there is a sufficient regime in place and procedural processes and human rights entitlements are adhered to. **(Standard 4 - Effective, Courteous and Humane Exercise of Authority)**

7. Access to families contact: We will look at the SPS recovery planning and confirm the access prisoners have to keep in contact with friends and family. Monitoring the implementation and impact of agreed actions such as the availability and take up of virtual and face to face visits, the provision of access to and use of in cell telephony, and incoming and outgoing mail including email. We will also monitor attitudes and progress towards the introduction of tablets or in cell technology **(Standard 5 - Respect, Autonomy and Protection Against Mistreatment)**

8. Access to recreation: We will check what type of social interaction takes place, that recreation is being run within the current regime, the amount of time and access by different cohorts and those with protected characteristics **(Standard 5 - Respect, Autonomy and Protection Against Mistreatment)**

9. Access to legal entitlement: We will check that agents and other statutory visits are being facilitated and that copies of the prison rules are readily available throughout the prison. **(Standard 5 - Respect, Autonomy and Protection Against Mistreatment)**

10. Access to information: We will look at the access to books and CDs and other information, for example the complaints system, access to IPMs and the free phone and SPSO. We will also check the PANEL principle of participation and empowerment and confirm that PIACS are regularly taking place and demonstrate progress. **(Standard 5 - Respect, Autonomy and Protection Against Mistreatment)**

11. Education, Employment and Physical Education (PE): We will check the progress of the SPS recovery plan for this element including the availability of purposeful activity for all cohorts in the prison. We will understand the impact of the COVID restrictions on purposeful activity and check the percentage of prisoners receiving purposeful activity. We will check access to the gym, if the gymnasiums are available, including satellite gymnasiums and /or information sheets for prisoners to keep fit and healthy - We will also check access to outside PE facilities **An advanced data request by the Education Inspectorate will be used to collate figures prior to the liaison visit. (Standard 6 - Purposeful Activity)**

12. Access to religious services: We will look at any initiatives involving religious services including remote linked services, information loops on in house media, or religious information pamphlets. **(Standard 6 - Purposeful Activity)**

13. Progression: We will look at the progress SPS has made through the recovery plan on progression. This will include looking at sentence planning, Risk Management Team (RMT), Integrated Case Management (ICM), National Top End (NTE) and transfers. We will check the access to offending behaviour programmes and the waiting lists and concerns. We will check that all processes are in place to ensure progression is being managed and understand the inhibitors and shortfalls. ***Some information will be sought remotely and prior to the liaison visit.*** **(Standard 7 Transitions from Custody into the Community)**

14. Prisoners on release: We will consider through care arrangements, including links between prison based and community based social work services. We will look at reintegration plans developed with those leaving custody regarding access to housing services and how many prisoners are released to no fixed abode. What health and social care support they will receive, contact with family support and welfare services pre-release, and opportunities to utilise their time constructively. ***Some information will be sought remotely and prior to the liaison visit. The care inspectorate representative will be supported by a colleague undertaking telephone and video interviews both prior to and during the liaison visit.*** **(Standard 7 – Transitions from custody to life in the community).**

15. Healthcare issues: We will check that there is a daily assessment on wellbeing in a way that maintains the health and safety of all parties, and that there are measures in place to ensure healthcare continues to be managed under the principle of equivalence. Checking processes are in place to support people with pre-existing health conditions and that access to vital healthcare is available to all cohorts. We will gain an understanding of the mental health challenges **(Standard 9 - Health and Wellbeing)**

Reporting for Prison Liaison Visits

The intention is to publish a report on our findings within three months of the Liaison Visit (see Annex B). Reports will be sent to the SPS and NHS for confirmation of the factual accuracy and subsequently sent for information/action to:

1. Cabinet Secretary for Justice
2. Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport
3. Director, Justice Directorate, Scottish Government
4. Chief Executive, SPS
5. HMIPS' Partner Agencies, and Key Stakeholders

All relevant parties will be kept informed, corrective action identified, and progress checked by HMIPS. A record of these actions will be logged in the Liaison Visits Framework and Support Telephone Calls Action Log (see Annex C).

CCUs

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of Scottish courts operating has been reduced. Where it is deemed appropriate, HMIPS will arrange a one day visit with a small team of inspectors. The selection criteria to determine the CCU to be visited includes information and intelligence received from GEOAmev, the SPS and partner agencies. The information is added to our liaison data algorithm (see Annex A), that will determine a risk score according to new data inputted weekly and suggest the next CCU to be visited.

Any PPE protocols for the CCU will be adhered to by the visiting team members.

HMIPS will contact each of the GEOAmeY Court Managers on a weekly basis to confirm numbers of custodies attending, with a focus on understanding infection control protocols including cell sharing. A spreadsheet will be completed (see Annex D) and stored in our Electronic Records Document Management (eRDM) filing system (see Annex B) which includes the courts that are in operation.

HMIPS may also choose to attend any of these courts unannounced. However, HMIPS are committed, where possible, to undertake these visits only where we believe the urgency to visit outweighs our precautions related to COVID-19. These visits will be undertaken in most cases by the Inspector of Prisons and the Operations Manager who normally undertake CCU inspections, but could be accompanied by other members of staff from HMIPS.

These visits will be aligned to HMIPS' [Standards for Inspecting Court Custody Provision in Scotland](#).

Findings from any CCU Liaison Visits, or remote monitoring, will be sent to :

1. Cabinet Secretary for Justice
2. Courts and Tribunals Division, Scottish Government
3. Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service
4. GEOAmeY
5. Police Scotland
6. Scottish Prison Service
7. Director, Justice Directorate, Scottish Government

This is to ensure all relevant parties are kept informed, and any actions identified and resolved. A record of these actions will be logged in a CCU Liaison Action Log and monitored for progress (see Annex C).

This protocol will be kept under continual review and as soon as it is safe and reasonable to do so full prison and CCU inspections will re-commence.



COVID-19 - Algorithm for Prison Liaison Visits

	Factor	% of Risk Score	Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4	Band 5
1	Population	5%	0-200 inmates	201-400 inmates	401-600 inmates	601-850 inmates	851+ inmates
2	Monitoring in the last 4 weeks	10%	4+ visits	3 visits	2 visits	1 visit	0 visits
3	Other visits from HMIPS in 2020	5%	4+ visits	3 visits	2 visits	1 visit	0 visits
4	Intelligence	10%	Very good	Good	Satisfactory	Concern	Serious concern
5	Months since last full HMIPS inspection	20%	0-12 months	13-24 months	25-36 months	37-48 months	49+ months
6	No. of significant incidents in the last 4 weeks	10%	0 incidents	1 incidents	2 incidents	3 incidents	4+ incidents
7	No. of suspected cases of COVID-19	20%	0-4 cases	5-9 cases	10-14 cases	15-19 cases	20+ cases
8	SPS Staff Absence Rate	20%	0-10% absent	10-20% absent	20-30% absent	30-40% absent	40%+ absent
9	NHS Staff Absence Rate (currently unavailable)	0%	0-10% absent	10-20% absent	20-30% absent	30-40% absent	40%+ absent
Total		100%					

Risk Score (with example provided)

	Prison/YOI	Population	Monitoring	Other visits	Inspection	Intelligence	Incidents	Covid-19 cases	SPS Staff	NHS Staff	Risk Score
Example	Prison X	3	4	2	1	3	2	1	4	N/A	51%
Region 1	Perth										
	Inverness										
	Castle Huntly										
	Grampian										
Region 2	Shotts										
	Polmont										
	Glenochil										
	Cornton Vale										
Region 3	Kilmarnock										
	Greenock										
	Low Moss										
	Dumfries										
Region 4	Barlinnie										
	Edinburgh										
	Addiewell										
Min	Min score	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20%
Max	Max score	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	100%

COVID-19 – Algorithm – Court Custody Units (CCUs)

HMIPS Liaison Visits Framework and Support Telephone Calls – Findings

This report is part of a programme of Liaison Visits of prisons to be carried out by HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland (HMIPS) during the COVID-19 pandemic. These visits will contribute to the UK's response to its international obligations under the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT). OPCAT requires that all places of detention are visited regularly by independent bodies, known as the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM), which monitor the treatment of and conditions for detention. HMIPS is one of several bodies making up the NPM in the UK.

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland (HMCIPS) assess the treatment and care of prisoners across the Scottish Prison Service (SPS) estate against a pre-defined set of Standards. These Standards are set out in the document [Standards for Inspecting and Monitoring Prisons in Scotland](#), published in May 2018.

As these are two day visits, parts of the standards will be reflected in the COVID-19 commentary and are designed to provide information to prisoners, prison staff and the wider community on the areas that are examined during the course of a Liaison Visit. They also provide assurance to Ministers and the public that scrutiny of the treatment of prisoners has been continued.

The findings of these Liaison Visits will be reported to the appropriate bodies for information and action, referred to in the HMIPS Liaison Visits Framework and support telephone calls document, and an Action Log will be completed.

Prison:

Panel Principles: In looking at the 15 quality indicators below we will take account of the following PANEL principles.

In terms of the PANEL principles:

Participation: Prisoners should be meaningfully involved in decisions that affect their lives.

Accountability: There should be monitoring of how prisoners' rights are being affected as well as remedies when things go wrong.

Non-discrimination and equality: All forms of discrimination must be prohibited, prevented and eliminated. The needs of prisoners who face the biggest barriers to realising their rights should be prioritised.

Empowerment: Everyone should understand their rights, and be fully supported to take part in developing policy and practices which affect their lives.

Legality: Approaches should be grounded in the legal rights that are set out in domestic and international laws.

1. COVID-19 commentary: We will look to understand any issues surrounding staffing and prisoners from the GIC or single point of contact (SPOC) that includes numbers of prisoners being isolated and SPS staff absent numbers and their impact

(some of this information will be supplied by SPS HQ on a daily basis). We will look to establish if staff understand their roles and what is expected of them. Are staff updated on any changes and knowledgeable of the present position of the establishment. How is the prison managing COVID-19 restraints (including physical distancing and the impact of the increase in prisoner contact and how groups e.g. households or bubbles are managed. We will look at preventative measures being enacted, such as screening on admission, quarantine and liberation. How are the prison managing their recovery plan.

We will look at the communications/information that is in place regarding any changes to the regime, or other functions within the prison, for all relevant parties including prisoners, their families and other relevant agencies regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring that all communications/information is in a format/language people can understand. **HMIPS Standard 8 – Organisational Effectiveness**

Visit findings

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HMIPS Standard 2

Decency

The prison supplies the basic requirements of decent life to the prisoners.

The prison provides to all prisoners the basic physical requirements for a decent life. All buildings, rooms, outdoor spaces and activity areas are of adequate size, well maintained, appropriately furnished, clean and hygienic. Each prisoner has a bed, bedding and suitable clothing, has good access to toilets and washing facilities, is provided with necessary toiletries and cleaning materials and is properly fed. These needs are met in ways that promote each prisoner's sense of personal and cultural identity and self-respect.

COVID-19 commentary

2. Basic living requirements: We will check if meals are of good quality, whether there is an appropriate choice, and that food hygiene standards and dietary needs of prisoners are adhered to. Confirm that supplies of clothing, bedding, facility maintenance and food is continuing.

3. Regimes: We will look to obtain detail of the daily regimes and the progress made against the SPS recovery plan. We will continue to look at the human right standards for every prisoner including those in isolation: access to showers where there is no in-cell shower facilities, access to time in the fresh air and access to communal phones. We will also monitor the amount of hours out of cell particularly for vulnerable populations. We will also check that there are sufficient accessible cell spaces for the population.

Visit findings

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HMIPS Standard 3

Personal Safety

The prison takes all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of all prisoners.

All appropriate steps are taken to minimise the levels of harm to which prisoners are exposed. Appropriate steps are taken to protect prisoners from harm from others or themselves. Where violence or accidents do occur, the circumstances are thoroughly investigated and appropriate management action taken.

COVID-19 commentary

4. Violence Reduction: We will check that there is an appropriate and ongoing process in place for people subject to Talk to Me and those that self-harm. We will look at the trends and impact since COVID -19. We will also check that there is appropriate and ongoing process in place for those subject to the Think Twice policy (anti-bullying)

5. Rule 41 paperwork and those on rule 40a: We will check that the revised process for people being detained under Rule 41 and Rule 40a due to COVID-19 are being adhered to. Looking at processes in place to ensure people are receiving the appropriate human rights entitlements, and that there is in-cell distraction activity available, such as a television, reading material, fitness advice and other support mechanisms.

Visit findings

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HMIPS Standard 4

Effective, Courteous and Humane Exercise of Authority

The prison performs the duties both to protect the public by detaining prisoners in custody and to respect the individual circumstances of each prisoner by maintaining order effectively, with courtesy and humanity

The prison ensures that the thorough implementation of security and supervisory duties is balanced by courteous and humane treatment of prisoners and visitors to the prison. Procedures relating to perimeter, entry and exit security, and the personal safety, searching, supervision and escorting of prisoners are implemented effectively. The level of security and supervision is not excessive.

COVID-19 commentary

6. Rule 95 paperwork: We will look to visit the Separation and Reintegration Unit (SRU) as the place most likely to hold those managed under rule 95. We will check that those under this rule are treated lawfully and with humanity, and there is a sufficient regime in place and procedural processes and human rights entitlements are adhered to.

Visit findings

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HMIPS Standard 5

Respect, Autonomy and Protection Against Mistreatment

A climate of mutual respect exists between staff and prisoners. Prisoners are encouraged to take responsibility for themselves and their future. Their rights to statutory protections and complaints processes are respected.

Throughout the prison, staff and prisoners have a mutual understanding and respect for each other and their responsibilities. They engage with each other positively and constructively. Prisoners are kept well informed about matters which affect them and are treated humanely and with understanding. If they have problems or feel threatened they are offered effective support. Prisoners are encouraged to participate in decision making about their own lives. The prison co-operates positively with agencies which exercise statutory powers of complaints, investigation or supervision.

COVID-19 commentary

7. Access to families contact: We will look at the SPS recovery planning and confirm the access prisoners have to keep in contact with friends and family. Monitoring the implementation and impact of agreed actions such as the availability and take up of virtual and face to face visits, the provision of access to and use of in cell telephony, and incoming and outgoing mail including email. We will also monitor attitudes and progress towards the introduction of tablets or in cell technology.

8. We will check what type of social interaction takes place, that recreation is being run within the current regime, the amount of time and access by different cohorts and those with protected characteristics.

9. Access to legal entitlement: We will check that agents and other statutory visits are being facilitated and that copies of the prison rules is readily available throughout the prison.

10. Access to information: We will look at the access to books and CDs and other information, for example the complaints system, access to IPMs and the free phone and SPSO. We will also check the PANEL principle of participation and empowerment and confirm that PIACS are regularly taking place and demonstrate progress.

Visit findings

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HMIPS Standard 6

Purposeful Activity

All prisoners are encouraged to use their time in prison constructively. Positive family and community relationships are maintained. Prisoners are consulted in planning the activities offered.

The prison assists prisoners to use their time purposefully and constructively and provides a broad range of activities, opportunities and services based on the profile of needs of the prisoner population. Prisoners are supported to maintain positive relationships with family and friends in the community. Prisoners have the opportunity to participate in recreational, sporting, religious and cultural activities. Prisoners' sentences are managed appropriately to prepare them for returning to their community.

COVID-19 commentary

11. Education, Employment and Physical Education (PE): We will check the progress of the SPS recovery plan for this element including the availability of purposeful activity for all cohorts in the prison. We will understand the impact of the COVID restrictions on purposeful activity and check the percentage of prisoners receiving purposeful activity. We will check access to the gym, if the gymnasiums are available, including satellite gymnasiums and /or information sheets for prisoners to keep fit and healthy - We will also check access to outside PE facilities.

An advanced data request by the Education Inspectorate will be used to collate figures prior to the liaison visit.

12. Access to religious services: We will look at any initiatives involving religious services including pastoral visits, remote linked services, information loops on in-house media, or religious information pamphlets.

Visit findings

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HMIPS Standard 7

Transitions from Custody to life in the Community

Prisoners are prepared for their successful return to the community.

The prison is active in supporting prisoners for returning to their community at the conclusion of their sentence. The prison works with agencies in the community to ensure that resettlement plans are prepared, including specific plans for employment, training, education, healthcare, housing and financial management.

COVID-19 commentary

13. Progression: We will look at the progress SPS has made through the recovery plan on progression. This will include looking at sentence planning, Risk Management Team (RMT), Integrated Case Management (ICM), National Top End (NTE) and transfers. We will check the access to offending behaviour programmes and the waiting lists and concerns. We will check that all processes are in place to ensure progression is being managed and understand the inhibitors and shortfalls. ***Some information will be sought remotely and prior to the liaison visit.***

14. Prisoners on release: We will look at the plans developed with those leaving custody regarding access to services such as housing and how many prisoners are released to no fixed abode. What healthcare support they will receive, contact with welfare services, and opportunities to utilise their time constructively. ***An advanced data request by the Care Inspectorate maybe be used to collate figures prior to the liaison visit. The care inspector will be supported by a colleague who will be carrying out by telephone calls and video meetings both prior to and during the liaison visit.***

Visit findings

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HMIPS Standard 9

The prison takes all reasonable steps to ensure the health and wellbeing of all prisoners

All prisoners receive care and treatment which takes account of all relevant NHS standards, guidelines and evidence-based treatments. Healthcare professionals play an effective role in preventing harm associated with prison life and in promoting the health and wellbeing of all prisoners.

COVID-19 commentary

15. Healthcare issues: We will check that there is a daily assessment on wellbeing in a way that maintains the health and safety of all parties, and that there are measures in place to ensure healthcare continues to be managed under the principle of equivalence. Checking processes are in place to support people with pre-existing health conditions and that access to vital healthcare is available to all cohorts. We will gain an understanding of the mental health challenges

Visit findings



(Example of weekly statistics for court appearances during COVID-19)

CCU Weekly Telephone Log

	Cells	Cells in use	Adult Male	Adult Female	u 21 Male	u 21 Female	u 18 Male	u 18 Female	New admin	Total attendees	S/ Nurse within 1 hr	PPE	Hand sanitiser	Comments
Glasgow - CM	66	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Sufficient	Sufficient	
Edinburgh - GN	25	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Sufficient	Sufficient	
Falkirk - CM	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Sufficient	Sufficient	
Dundee - GN	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Sufficient	Sufficient	
Paisley - CM	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Sufficient	Sufficient	
Kilmarnock - GN	16	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Sufficient	Sufficient	
Hamilton - CM	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Sufficient	Sufficient	
Dumfries - GN	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Sufficient	Sufficient	
Inverness - CM	6	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Sufficient	Sufficient	
Aberdeen - GN	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Sufficient	Sufficient	
Total	158	158	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		Sufficient	Sufficient	

Glasgow**Edinburgh** (all courts in Lothian and Borders)**Falkirk** (Stirling, Alloa, Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy)**Dundee** (Forfar, Perth)**Paisley** (Greenock, Dumbarton)**Kilmarnock** (Dunoon, Oban, Campbeltown)**Hamilton** (Airdrie, Lanark, Ayr)**Dumfries** (Stranraer)**Inverness** (Elgin, Tain, Wick). Island court custodies will be dealt with locally if possible, exact position to be agreed as situation arises.**Denotes who telephoned - Weekly on Monday** (unless Bank holiday)**CM** - Calum McCarthy**GN** - Graeme Neil**KL** - Kerry love (will phone when CM or GN are off)**PPE** - Gloves, Masks, Apron, Goggles, and White Suits