



HMIPS

HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland
INSPECTING AND MONITORING

NEWS RELEASE
INSPECTION OF HMP ADDIEWELL – 6-17 August 2018

It was pleasing to note that despite staff recruitment and retention issues, overall prisoners and staff reported that they felt safe, and inspectors saw evidence of positive and respectful relationships.

Inspectors welcomed the positive and innovative work with Police Scotland in tackling the impact of Novel Psychoactive Substances and the work with local authority partners in funding a full-time housing officer. Inspectors also appreciated the number of observed good practices, which included prisoners acting as peer mentors, the comprehensive prisoner induction process, innovative practices in healthcare, an engaging business course focused on self-employment and strategies to reduce self-harm.

The prison's robust engagement with a range of partners in the community was noted and appreciated. There were good links with third sector organisations and local authorities, particularly in West Lothian and Lanarkshire.

Disappointingly, access to the opportunities was so restricted for some prisoners on one hall that it was immediately escalated to the Director. A return visit has since confirmed that significant work was undertaken to address this and we hope the establishment will continue the good progress.

HMP Addiewell was commissioned to be a "learning prison" with an emphasis on education and training. With no allocated space for workshops the range of employment and training opportunities available, particularly for long-term prisoners, was too narrow and overall attendance was observed as below 50% capacity.

The provision of healthcare was satisfactory, with a well-motivated and caring workforce who demonstrated a clear knowledge and understanding of treatment options. There were good examples of innovative practice, however, some patients with complex healthcare needs were not appropriately assessed and supported to meet their daily living activities. It was also disappointing to note the number of missed appointments, lengthy delays in bringing prisoners to healthcare appointments and the perception by healthcare staff that they were unsupported by Sodexo staff.

The case management of long-term prisoners' sentences was effective. This was not the case for short-term prisoners, and there were delays in accessing offender related programmes as well as the production of post programme reports.

HMP Addiewell is well poised for its next era. Sodexo and the SPS have worked well to lay solid foundations for a positive future, foundations that must now be built on. Overall, the prison is on the cusp of a positive future if the momentum is maintained and the matters identified in this report are addressed.

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland, Wendy Sinclair-Gieben was appointed in July 2018.
2. This report identifies what we found during our inspection from 6-17 August 2018.
3. On publication the report can be found at www.prisonssinspectoratescotland.gov.uk
4. For further information please contact Kerry Love, Business Manager, at Kerry.Love@gov.scot or on 0131 244 8484.

END