

**Independent Prison Monitoring Bulletin**
HMP Edinburgh
October to December 2018**11**
Independent
Prison
Monitors**27 Prison**
Monitoring
Visits**29 Prisoner**
Requests

Key Findings

Smoke Free Prisons: Monitors saw evidence of effective communication in the months leading up to the implementation of smoke free prisons. The establishment continues to monitor the situation closely and the IPM team has not received any requests or notes of concern about this matter.

Aids and Adaptations: Some people talked to Monitors about matters relating to adaptations, with some feeling that they do not have the equipment they need in their cell. This has been passed on to NHS and SPS Management.

Complaint Handling: A member of the monitoring team observed the ICC process, and felt it was working well. People had ready access to the appropriate complaint forms, and Monitors looked at the batch of completed forms from the previous week's ICC, which had been dealt with within the required time limits.

Staffing Levels: Monitors are aware that this is an ongoing issue for HMP Edinburgh. They will continue to raise this with the Governor in charge and monitor the impact it is having on daily regimes.

Updates and Actions

Smoke Free Prisons: The monitoring team concluded that this has been managed well so far by the establishment.

Aids and Adaptations: Monitors think that the area created in Hermiston 2, for people with additional social care needs, is a positive development. They are keen that anyone requiring aids and adaptations has access to them and will continue to monitor this area. A referral to health is the first step for anyone feeling they may need aids or adaptations.

Complaint Handling: Monitors followed up with some people whose ICC's they had attended. Those the monitor spoke to said they were content with the way their case had been dealt with.

Staffing: The Governor in Charge told us there were challenges in making sure staffing levels were at the level required to make sure the regime ran smoothly. Everyone agreed this was a priority.

IPM Focus in the Next Quarter

- Monitors are receiving a high number of requests to speak to a monitor, so trying to respond in reasonable timescales will be their priority.
- IPMs will continue to monitor the aids and adaptations issues.
- IPMs will continue to monitor the impact of population pressures.