



HMIPS

HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland
INSPECTING AND MONITORING

Independent Prison Monitoring Bulletin
HMP Glenochil
October to December 2018



**8 Independent
Prison
Monitors**



**16 Prison
Monitoring
Visits**



**22 Prisoner
Requests**

Key Findings

- **Separation and Reintegration Unit (SRU):** During this period IPMs monitored the prison's SRU. Some staff reported to IPMs that a busy SRU posed a challenge for staff in terms of resourcing the rehabilitative support that is required, and this was of concern to IPMs. On the positive side, IPMs noted that prisoners in the SRU were afforded at least an hour of exercise per day, both in the fresh air and in the small gym.
- **Organisational effectiveness:** IPMs were made aware of an increase in population (both at HMP Glenochil and across the prison estate), and prisoners stated their displeasure at the prospect of having to share a cell. The increase in population is also a concern to IPMs in terms of access to purposeful activity opportunities, programmes, etc. and IPMs will monitor this closely over the coming months.
- **Respect, autonomy and protection against mistreatment:** IPMs were pleased to note Abercrombie and Harviestoun prisoners attending the Remembrance Service together. This was viewed as a great step forward for prisoner reintegration with mutual respect evident.

Updates and Actions

- **Smoke-free prisons:** IPMs monitored the recent implementation of the Smoke-free prisons policy and found that a range of support was available to prisoners. To date IPMs have not noted anything adverse arising from the policy's implementation.
- **Food quality:** Prisoners complained about the quality of the food available. However, IPMs sampled the food and found it to be of good quality, with a decent range of choice that catered for prisoners with faith-based diets. Some prisoners suggested that the quality of the food may diminish 'in transit' between the kitchen and the halls.

IPM Focus in the Next Quarter

- IPMs will continue to monitor the quality of food arriving at the halls to ensure its quality has not diminished in transit from the kitchen.
- IPMs will monitor the potential effects an increased prisoner population may be having on prisoners' access to work and programme opportunities.