

HMIPS HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland INSPECTING AND MONITORING

HMIPS SERVICE DELIVERY PERFORMANCE				
Number of IPM visits (calls):	11	Statutory requirement met?	Yes	
Volunteer hours committed:	n/a	% of prisoner requests handled:	100	

Comments: Volunteer hours not recorded for phone calls (visits only). Amber rating for statutory requirement is due to visits not taking place during lockdown, with remote calls replacing visits. Amber rating for number of calls reflects the fact that remote monitoring commenced midway through the quarter.

MONITORING FINDINGS	
MAIN AREAS MONITORED	FINDINGS
Personal safety	Prison management confirmed that they had followed the Scottish Government's guidance with regards to physical distancing etc. Violent incidents had significantly reduced during the reporting period.
Regime	Prison management advised that generally the prisoners were accepting of the new regime, and were coping well with the changes. PIAC meetings continued to be held throughout the establishment.
Decency	Prisoners were receiving daily showers, time in fresh air, and exercise. IPMs welcomed this, and were pleased to note that the allocated time for these and a variety of activities had been increased where possible. Physically distanced, communal prayer was introduced midway through the reporting period.
Healthcare	IPMs noted the prison had handled COVID-19 very well after the challenges of ensuring all appropriate arrangements were in place in the first weeks of lockdown. A wellbeing pack was developed and circulated to all prisoners and new admissions, covering coping with change and anxiety relief strategies. There was a subsequent increase in mental health referrals which the Health Team had been managing.
Family contact	IPMs were pleased to note that virtual visits and in cell telephony were swiftly and fully implemented at HMP Kilmarnock although the take up of virtual visits was lower than expected. It is anticipated that virtual visits will continue alongside the re-introduction of face to face visits.
Purposeful activity	Prisoner work had understandably decreased during the reporting period, with only essential work parties still operating under strict safety requirements. IPMs noted that as restrictions were gradually eased, HMP Kilmarnock moved quickly to re-open some work sheds. IPMs were pleased to note that preparations were in place for restarting education in early August.

AREAS TO BE MONITORED NEXT

IPMs will continue to focus on how prisoners are coping during lockdown, particularly where restrictions are eventually eased. It is hoped on-site monitoring will resume in the week beginning 27th July.