HMIPS
HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland
INSPECTING AND MONITORING

Independent Prison Monitoring Bulletin
HMP Inverness
July to September 2019

7 Independent Prison IPMs (IPMs)

13 Prison Monitoring Visits

3 Prisoner Requests

Key Findings

- **Decency:** IPMs reported that the prison does well to deliver various elements of the regime despite the ageing fabric of the building.
- **Prisoner participation:** A few new changes had been added to the menu following a recent food survey, and IPMs were therefore satisfied that staff involved prisoners in the development of the menu, which IPMs welcomed.
- **Personal safety:** Differing prisoner populations were seen to be kept separate, including during times when prisoners were being moved around the prison (e.g. for lunch / access to the outdoor areas).
- **Effective, courteous and humane exercise of authority:** IPMs were pleased to note that, despite the prison being on lock-down following an incident, staff ensured that prisoners were still offered time outside in the fresh air.
  Respect, autonomy and protection against mistreatment: IPMs observed staff providing guidance to prisoners on how to make use of the SPS complaints system, which was welcomed.

Updates and Actions

- **Effective, courteous and humane exercise of authority:** IPMs recently raised some concern over the in-cell arrangements for prisoners requiring additional support, in particularly the positioning of the intercom and lack of emergency alarm cord. Senior management have responded to say that prisoners with additional support needs benefit from increased staff supervision and other forms of support. Where additional needs cannot be met by arrangements at the prison, the prisoner would usually be located at another prison.

Focus in the Next Quarter

- Arrangements for throughcare now that the Throughcare Support Officer (TSO) role has been suspended.
- Assessment of the regime for remand prisoners.
- Mental Healthcare provision (demand/supply/staffing/waiting times).
- Observation of the Risk Management Team (RMT) meeting process.
- Further look at the suitability of disabled cells / adapted cells.
- Arrangements for provision of the Prison Listeners Scheme.