

**Independent Prison Monitoring Bulletin
HMP Open Estate
October to December 2019****8 Independent
Prison
Monitors****14 Prison
Monitoring
Visits****4 Prisoner
Requests****Key Findings**

- **Prisoner Induction:** IPMs spoke with several prisoners who had newly arrived, and were able to conclude that all prisoners had received the appropriate induction to the prison.
- **Purposeful Activity:** IPMs were delighted to learn of one former prisoner who was now running his own business, using the training and skills he picked up during his time at the prison (in relation to gym training and the dementia dog project). IPMs believe that this would serve as a good motivational example to other prisoners to engage with the training provided at the establishment.
- **Equality:** The prison has a dedicated Equalities and Diversities (E&D) Manager, and the E&D Strategy seems well-embedded into prison practice. Staff are aware of the need to respect protected characteristics. IPMs observed several posters about E&D and respect, and the prison participated in Pride this year by flying the rainbow flag.
- **Healthcare:** There is a defined process for prisoners to inform staff they feel unwell (including if unable to get to work). This includes NHS staff triaging the prisoner, and organising any appropriate healthcare.

Updates and Actions

- **Substance Misuse:** Substance misuse reportedly continues to be a problem at the establishment. IPMs did however see evidence of the efforts made by both NHS and SPS staff to mitigate the problem, including the 'new admissions' wing for those more vulnerable to substance misuse.

IPM Focus in the Next Quarter

- IPMs will continue to monitor the impact of an increasing population upon prisoners' access to work, community placements, hostel accommodation, etc.
- IPMs will monitor the visits process.