



Independent Prison Monitoring Bulletin
HMP YOI Polmont
January to March 2018



9
Independent
Prison Monitors



16 Prison
Monitoring
Visits



4 Prisoner
Requests

Key Findings

- **Purposeful Activity:** This is something people talked to Monitors about again this quarter, and Monitors have been asking about how many people are attending some sort of workshop or activity.
- **Time Outside:** Some of the people in Polmont are still not getting full access to time outside.
- **Case Conferences (Dunedin):** Some members of the monitoring team have gone to case conferences that discuss plans to move people from Dunedin back to the halls.
- **Visits:** Last quarter people told Monitors they did not think they always got their full time in visits as often they could start late but always finished on time.

Updates and Action

- **Purposeful Activity:** Monitors raised this in a meeting with Senior Management and were given the latest figures, which showed an increase in the amount of time both populations were involved in purposeful activity. Monitors were told that work was on-going to increase this further and the women's media group should be back up and running by May 7th 18. Monitors were pleased there had been an increase and would carry on monitoring this area.
- **Time Outside:** In talking to Senior Management it seems part of the issue is about the time access to the open air is offered. Monitors understand it can sometimes be offered very early in the morning. This was being looked at as well as ways people can access suitable time outside.
- **Case Conferences (Dunedin):** Monitors thought the meetings were well run and that each person was considered as an individual.
- **Visits:** Following feedback from the IPM Team the start/finish times of visits was monitored in Polmont between April 9th to 15th 2018. The results were that the longest visit session was 53 mins and the shortest 43. Visits are 45 mins so there was no evidence of a problem that week. It was agreed the issue may have been a short lived one or just had not occurred during the week of monitoring, but the IPM Team felt it was good the exercise had been completed and will look at again in the future.

IPM Focus in the Next Quarter:

- **Tobacco in Prisons:** Smoking will no longer be allowed in prisons in Scotland from November 30th 2018. Monitors are interested in work being done to support people to stop before then.