



**Independent Prison Monitoring Bulletin**  
**HMP Shotts**  
**July to September 2019**



**9**  
**Independent  
Prison Monitors**



**17 Prison  
Monitoring  
Visits**



**25 Prisoner  
Requests**

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## Key Findings

**Purposeful Activity:** As part of the ongoing review, access to detail required to complete Open University Courses has been raised.

**Transport:** Matters have been raised with Monitors about the reliability of the current provider of transport services.

**Attendance at Healthcare Appointments:** Monitors have been told that there has been an increase in healthcare appointments being missed.

**Refreshments in Visits:** Visitors have told Monitors that they would like to see the return of the kiosk in the visits area, where they were able to get hot food and drinks.

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## Updates and Action

**Purposeful Activity:** Monitors have been told that part of the delay is due to a problem at the Open University, not HMP Shotts. To try and improve access, ways that documents can be downloaded onto a computer without people needing internet access is being explored. The Chief Inspector of Prisons is interested in the issue of technology in prison so the Monitoring team will raise this with her.

**Transport:** Evidence gathered by Monitors has highlighted this as a national matter. HMIPS will take this forward as such.

**Attendance at Healthcare Appointments:** Monitors have been told there is currently an approximate five-week wait to see a GP. The team agree this is a long time, but would encourage people who no longer need appointments to cancel them in advance. This may help to make waiting times shorter.

**Refreshments in Visits:** Evidence has been shared with Monitors that HMP Shotts are trying hard to resolve this. They continue to do so with current discussions taking place with a Third Sector Agency.

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## IPM Focus in the Next Quarter:

Transport is something that the Monitoring team in HMP Shotts and HMIPS Head Office will be looking into in more depth.