

## **SECTION 5: ISSUES FOR THE GOVERNOR**

- As highlighted in several previous Annual Reports, the Board would still like to see consideration given to the introduction of CCTV cameras in the Kitchen.

**Response:** This will be considered during the CCTV refresh. There has still not been a recorded incident in the Kitchen.

- The Board appreciates the need to have comprehensive Induction Compacts but does feel that some detainees struggle to fully understand them. The Board would suggest that the language used in the compacts could be simpler to aid understanding.

**Response:** We will review the Induction Compacts.

- The Board was concerned that staffing issues led to the closure of the Induction Wing to new receptions for a period of over two months. Whilst appreciating the reasons why this happened and the fact that the situation was reviewed weekly, the Board hopes that it will not prove necessary to do this again.

**Response:** We have experienced staff shortages but we will always endeavour to deliver a full regime. The move to the new profiles and honouring pre-booked annual leave has had an impact but this will improve.

- The Board hopes that the role of the Custody Support Officers will be further developed, with particular emphasis on increasing interaction with detainees held on the Segregation Wing. Whilst such interactions should be part of all discussions with detainees, perhaps consideration could be given for a protected time slot for Officers to achieve this?

**Response:** The input of CSO's with E Wing offenders is improving. There is sufficient time in the existing Staff Profiles and the Senior Officers are expected to ensure that entries are detailed and timely.

- The Board would ask the Governor to review the situation relating to the funding of a 'Flu Vaccination Programme' for detainees.

**Response:** This has been referred via the Healthcare Partnership Board to the CEO DHSC and the Director of Public Health. We are expecting a favourable outcome.

- The Board would urge the Governor to push for the recruitment of a Trades Officer and the full use of the Prison Vocational Workshops at an early date.

**Response:** This has been discussed with the Principal of UCM and a Job Specification has been prepared. We will commence a recruitment exercise once we have agreed the role.

- The Board continues to encourage the Senior Management Team (SMT) to look at increasing options for work and possible Resettlement Day Release (RDR) opportunities for all detainees but for female detainees in particular.

**Response:** The Resettlement Team continue to seek opportunities for work. We have just engaged with the Social Security Division with regard to paid work placements. We do expect offenders to take a leading role in obtaining employment. We have a female working out currently and it would have been two if she had not misbehaved.

- The Board continues to encourage the SMT to bring changes and concerns that impinge on the daily routine and safety of detainees, to the Prisoners' Council for early notification and discussion.

**Response:** The Prisoners Council (now 'Jurby Advocates') has an increasing say in new developments. For example, they will receive a presentation from a bank in respect of bank accounts. We are currently discussing spending limits with them.

- The Board would encourage the SMT to assist Prisoners' Council members to ensure better dissemination of information following meetings and also to further develop the sub-committee system to facilitate the early resolution of concerns and issues.

**Response:** The Deputy Governor, Residential, will discuss this with the 'Jurby Advocates'.

- The Board would ask the Governor to encourage the attendance of a Community Probation Officer at the monthly Safer Custody Meeting to assist with continuity for detainees following their release.

**Response:** The Probation Team have significant shortages but when the team is up to full strength I will encourage their attendance at the Safer Custody Meetings.

- The Board is concerned about the large increase in the number of cases of bullying being reported.

**Response:** There were a total of 20 BIR's opened in the year. With the increased population I would expect an increase and I am happy that offenders and staff have the confidence to report this.

- The Board is also concerned about the increase in the number of Folder 5 files being opened and what the reasons behind this might be.

**Response:** There has been a total of 34 Folder 5's in the period. Offenders can often be vulnerable and I see the identification of risk and staff managing the vulnerable as a positive thing.

- The Board would encourage the SMT to continue to improve communication and co-operation with University College Isle of Man and to ensure that any future changes to the education staffing structure do not impact on education provision or detainee attendance.

**Response:** I meet regularly with the UCM Managers and a new Education Co-ordinator has been appointed. Communication with the College has never been better.

- The Board continues to urge the Governor to support the options available to increase the number of tutors available to conduct Vocational Training. It would be of great benefit if members of staff were qualified to teach and assess detainees in areas such as Catering, Horticulture, Cleaning, and Physical Education.

**Response:** This training has been scheduled and will commence in September.

- The Board feels that education is an integral part of the resettlement process and would encourage even closer co-operation and integration between Education and Resettlement staff.

**Response:** I recognise the importance of education and the newly formed Resettlement Team have established strong links.

- As mentioned in previous reports, there remains scope for greater use of the Library, particularly as a possible research facility for detainees undertaking Distance Learning Courses.

**Response:** Introducing a pop-up-shop in the Library which will encourage prisoners to spend more time in the Library and allow longer and more frequent visits.

Also, looking into the possibility of the Library being accessible during the hours/days when education is running.

- The Board is very concerned by the increased use of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) by detainees during the reporting year. The increase in unauthorised articles has also been an issue. The Board supports the actions of the SMT to try to prevent this.

**Response:** We have been successful in a bid for a full Body Scanner, a Mobile Scanner, and a NPS Testing facility.

Following a difficult period, there have been few instances of intoxication in the last three months.

- Whilst supporting the policy to deal robustly and consistently with breaches of the Custody Rules, the Board is concerned by the increase in the number of detainees being held under Rule 40 Conditions without adjudication or charge.

**Response:** Rule 40 is only used when it is necessary and proportionate. I do not need an adjudication to justify this. The cases are reviewed by the SMT on a weekly basis and this helps to keep the prison safe and secure. I take a personal interest in this.

- The Board remains of the opinion that the introduction of Voluntary Drug Testing would be beneficial.

**Response:** We are reviewing our Drug Testing Programme. There is a cost limitation and I favour Targeted Drug Tests.

- There remains a need for a more suitable area for private discussions with detainees held on E Wing.

**Response:** The limitations of the wing are recognised. I will ask the Head of Works to see if the Adjudication Room can be improved.

- The Board welcomes the appointment of the expanded Resettlement Team and would urge the Governor to continue to develop this, ensuring that the staff delivering interventions receive ongoing training to enable them to achieve high quality interactions with detainees.

**Response:** Resettlement has been a priority since I took up post. The team will develop in line with our strategic direction.

- The Board continues to encourage the efforts to resolve the outstanding issues delaying the full use of "Tromode House" and hopes that this vital facility will be fully operational in the near future.

**Response:** We have given notice in respect of the existing contract and expect the new facility to be operational before the end of the year.

- The Board welcomes the improvements to the technology for the "live link" to the Courts and would urge the Governor to continue to press for the facility to be used regularly to reduce the need for detainee escorts to Court.

**Response:** The technology at the Court has been improved.

I have discussed with DHA a desire to expand the legislation regarding video links. Ultimately, it is the Courts who decide on usage.

- The Board thanks the Governor and his staff for their support and hard work to bring about a change in the deplorable conditions in the Court Custody Suite. The Board is encouraged by the improved communication between all the parties involved and hopes that this will continue and develop in the coming months.

**Response:** My staff have worked hard to improve the conditions at the Court Custody Suite. I am grateful this has been recognised.