

## IMB RESPONSES

### SECTION 5: ISSUES FOR THE GOVERNOR – GOVERNOR’S RESPONSES

- **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. The Board also supports efforts to improve the quality of CCTV in other areas of the Prison.**

This has been approved in this year’s CCTV upgrade.

- **The Board appreciates the need to have comprehensive Induction Compacts but still feels 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.**

Pre COVID-19 we had planned to use a prisoner to deliver the majority of the induction modules to all new prisoners. We hope to move forward with this plan once we can utilise F Wing to its full capacity again. We would like to think that a prisoner delivering these modules would be of more benefit to an inductee than an Officer delivering it as they have experienced the process first hand and are aware of which modules are most difficult to digest.

We are also in the process of producing an induction booklet that will lay out the expectations of the new prisoners and will also highlight what the prison has to offer them. This will then allow them to focus more on the induction process.

- **The Board hopes that the role of the Custody Support Officers will be further developed, with particular emphasis on increasing interaction with detainees held in the CSU. 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?**

The Custody Support Policy is currently being re-written and near completion. The new policy aims to focus Officers attention more on those prisoners who need it most, i.e. those in the Close Supervision Unit, those at risk of self-harm, new prisoners, and those under 24 years of age. The focus will be less on trusted prisoners who are on Resettlement Day Release, super enhanced, and those who are working well on their Sentence Plans.

- **The Board would urge the Governor to continue to support the Education Manager’s efforts to obtain funding to enable full use of the Prison Workshops for vocational training. Should this initial bid be successful, the Board hopes that the Minister and the Governor will be able to identify and allocate sufficient funds to sustain such a vital initiative.**

The initial application to the Lottery Trust was successful but unfortunately due to COVID-19 the Lottery Trust is currently only taking applications related to COVID-19 so this has been placed on hold. We will continue to seek funds for this.

- **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 now that the female prison population has increased.**

A total of 1002 days were worked by Resettlement Day Release prisoners during the year.

Two female prisoners have experienced both Resettlement Day Release and Resettlement Overnight Release during the year.

Based on a rough average of a twelve female prisoner occupation throughout the year, this is a higher number than their male counterparts by relative comparison.

A high percentage of female prisoners are on remand or have received Exclusion Orders and these are not eligible for Resettlement Day Release.

- **The Board would also support the continued use of Resettlement Overnight Release (ROR) wherever possible. The desire to achieve both RDR and ROR is very evident and the detainees who have reached this level of trust have shown great enthusiasm and application.**

We recognise what an important incentive this is and how it helps re-establish family ties.

A total of 77 days Resettlement Overnight Release were completed by the male offenders with 22 days completed by female offenders – significantly more than at any other time.

- **The Board continues to encourage the SMT to bring changes and concerns that impinge on the routine and safety of detainees, to the Jurby Advocates for early notification and discussion. The Board also applauds the efforts of the SMT to encourage increased detainee engagement in suggested changes and new initiatives.**

Prior to the outbreak of the pandemic, weekly meetings were held to discuss important matters such as regime changes, new initiatives being implemented etc. These communication channels have now been increased to at least twice weekly to brief the 'Jurby Advocates' on important or significant matters or changes that will be taking place and to invite their views and suggestions.

We have also now included an under 24 years of age representative.

In addition, a forum dedicated to the under 24 year old offenders has been established.

- **The Board would continue to urge 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.**

There have been staff shortages in the Probation Team but this is now easing. We expect an improved attendance.

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

There were twenty-five Bullying Information Reports (BIRs) opened during the reporting year. There were none opened at the end of the month, the last one having closed 10 February and the next one was opened 28 April.

Bearing in mind during that period our numbers were at their highest and although there was an increase of five over the year I would suggest we have improved in recognising potential conflicts and have been opening and closing, when appropriate, BIRs quicker than in previous years.

1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 = 20 BIRs

1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 = 25 BIRs

- **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.**

There were thirty-eight Folder 5's opened and one still opened at the end of March. Again, this was during the period of high numbers.

Some prisoners found the lock down difficult. For one particular prisoner it has been judged for them to remain on Folder 5 long term and has had a Folder 5 opened multiple times. While there was an increase, it can be confirmed that a single D Wing prisoner had five Folder 5's opened over the most recent reporting period (all for minor self-harming), but she did not appear on the results over the previous period as she was not in custody.

It can be confirmed that the individual is now receiving regular input from Probation and Healthcare to help her better manage her Mental Health.

1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March = 34

1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 – 31<sup>st</sup> March = 38

- **The Board would hope to see continued support and encouragement for the Officers involved in the Assessor Training project.**

A meeting was held on Monday, 29 June, and each Officer who will become an Assessor was presented with an A4 binder and the documentation that they will need to complete their award.

There will be regular meetings between the Education Manager and Training and Development Manager.

This will lead to qualifications in Catering, Cleaning, Gymnasium, and Horticulture.

- **As mentioned in previous Annual Reports, the Board would encourage further thought being given to promote greater use of the Library.**

The Education Manager is looking to re-establish the Hospice Pop-up Shop and sell DVDs to encourage attendance.

- **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. The completion of Rule 40 paperwork should make it absolutely clear to the detainee why they are being held in the CSU. The results and requirements following reviews should also be communicated clearly.**

The Good Order and Discipline of the prison must be maintained. Only when it is essential are offenders segregated. Reviews take place on a weekly basis by the full Senior Management Team. The key consideration is the behaviour of the offender and the control and order of the rest of the prison. The outcome is explained to the prisoner.

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

There has been an increase in the cost of drug testing and we have had to prioritise the intelligence led tests. We would like to carry out Voluntary Drug Testings but we just cannot afford it.

- **There remains a need for a more suitable area for private discussions with detainees held on the Close Supervision Unit (CSU).**

We recognise the accommodation in the Close Supervision Unit is limited but I have asked the Head of Works and Deputy Governor Residential to look at this again.

- **The Board would like to see all Key Performance Indicator data included in the Prison and Probation Service (PAPS) reports on a quarterly basis following their publication in the Programme for Government.**

A new suite of KPI's is in draft form awaiting ratification at a Senior Management Team meeting.

- **The Board would continue to encourage the Governor to ensure Interventions Officers are given protected times so they are able to achieve both timely and high quality interventions with detainees.**

A full re-profiling exercise is about to commence. The prison faces a budget deficit and while we value the work in interventions, at this stage, we cannot guarantee any position.

- **The Board would urge the Governor to ensure that technology improvements are prioritised to enable detainees to gain maximum benefit from rehabilitation opportunities whilst they are in Prison.**

The Intervention Hub has proved a big success and the funding is in place for this to continue. Virtual Meeting Rooms and mobile phones have been sourced to help maintain family contact.

- **The Board welcomes the increased use of the “Live Link” to the Courts and would urge the Governor to continue to press for the facility to be used more frequently to reduce the need for detainee escorts to Court.**

During the COVID-19 emergency, greater use of the Live Link has taken place. Within the provisions of the Justice Reform Bill there will be greater scope to use this facility which we would welcome.

- **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.**

It is good to note the improvements in the conditions in the Court Custody Suite. The Deputy Governor, Management Services, has led this work and deserves much credit.

10 July 2020