

PRISON REVIEW OVERSIGHT GROUP
JUSTICE COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT
MAY 2013

The purpose of this summary report is to provide the Committee with an update following the fifth meeting of the Prison Review Oversight Group (the Group), which took place on 13 March 2013.

2. The meeting was chaired by the Minister of Justice and was attended by Group members:

- Nick Perry (Permanent Secretary, DOJ);
- Andrew McCormick (Permanent Secretary, DHSSPS);
- Patricia Gordon (Independent Member);
- Duncan McCausland (Independent Member); and
- Brendan McGuigan (Independent Member, CJINI)

3. Department of Justice officials Brian Grzymek (Safer Communities), Max Murray (NIPS Director of Offender Services), Mark Adam (Strategic Change Manager) and Gareth Johnston (Access to Justice) attended to give supporting evidence to the group. CJINI inspectors Dr Ian Cameron and Tom McGonigle were also in attendance. Professor Monica McWilliams (Independent Member) sent her apologies.

Progress Update

4. Mark Adam provided an update on progress across the Reform Programme since the Group last met in December, highlighting:

- Much focus on Estates aspects, including the role of Magilligan, future step down facilities, women prisoners and the secure college concept;
- The approval of the business case extending the Voluntary Early Retirement scheme;

- The draft code of ethics and values being considered by trade union partners;
- The ending of the Newry Supervised Activity Order pilot, with the Lisburn pilot due to end shortly;
- Work to develop business cases to support the roll out of the Inspire model across Northern Ireland and the pilot scheme based on Inspire for young adult males; and
- That recommendation 20 (substance misuse clinical audit) had been reviewed by DHSSPS and the recommendation would be implemented without being revised, but further work was being undertaken to determine how exactly the recommendation would be implemented

5. There was some discussion around the accreditation of staff training (recommendation 26), with the independent members keen to ensure the professionalisation of the Prison Service was underpinned by independently accredited training. The independent members were also keen to see the caseload key worker (recommendation 16) in Hydebank Wood tailor primary and mental healthcare services to accommodate the young offenders and female prisoners. On the Supervised Activity Order pilots (recommendation one), it was reported to the Group that the second pilot in Lisburn was due to come to an end in April and a report on the two pilot schemes would be provided to the Oversight Group in May.

Approved recommendations

6. The Oversight Group agreed that the outputs for the following recommendation had been completed:

- PRT Recommendation 11 – Service provision and support for foreign nationals

7. This recommendation was, therefore, passed to Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland (CJINI) for monitoring of the recommendation outcomes. When the outcomes have been monitored to a sufficient level to allow the Inspectorate to make an assessment, CJINI will provide a report to

the Oversight Group detailing its independent assessment on whether or not it considers the recommendations to be complete.

CJINI Report on approved recommendations

8. CJINI reported in detail on the four recommendations that were passed for assessment at the December Oversight Group meeting - recommendations 4, 22, 23 and 38 - and concluded that, in the opinion of the inspectorate, all four recommendations could be deemed complete. The Oversight Group agreed with this assessment and officially signed off the four recommendations as complete.

Programme key messages

9. The Programme Team has established a key messages document and this was shared with the Group. The Oversight Group heard that the aim of the document was to articulate to staff what the Service was trying to achieve through the reforms. While recognised that there was work to be done to ensure the messages were transferred into action on the ground, the document was welcomed by the Oversight Group.

Independent members' update

10. The independent members continue to engage proactively with key stakeholders related to the reform programme to gain an understanding of the impact the programme is having on the ground and in the community. The members informed the Group of a range of meetings they had held during the previous quarter with stakeholders, including: meetings with the PRT Programme Team; a meeting with PBNI and a visit to the Inspire project; two visits to Hydebank Wood, where the independent members had the opportunity to speak with prisoner groups; a series of meetings with CJINI; and attendance at a number of strategic workshops. The independent members reported that they hoped to meet with the Prison Officers' Association and the Prison Governors' Association before the next Oversight Group meeting.

Priorities for the next quarter

11. Programme priorities for the next quarter (April to June 2013), grouped under the driving themes of the Programme, are detailed below:

Governance

- Development of the draft joint healthcare/ prisons strategy; and
- Completion of benefit profiling for all workstreams.

Strategy

- Decision to be made, following analysis of Youth Engagement pilot, on whether the scheme should be adopted.

Enabling Change

- Interview & selection of Director of Rehabilitation;
- Completion and approval of Business Case to extend the VER scheme;
- Completion of evaluation of Target Operating Model;
- New Code of Conduct / Code of Ethics introduced and Professional Standards Unit fully operational in April 2013.
- Instruction to Governors with regard to SPAR documentation to be issued and implemented in establishments;
- Agree costs to refurbish existing Working Out Unit facility on the Crumlin Road site and specify the regime and staffing requirements;
- Approval of business case and commencement of scoping study for High Security Facility at Maghaberry; and
- Completion of the SOC and costed options resulting in a decision on the future direction of Magilligan.

Partner Provision

- Tailoring of role of caseload key worker in Hydebank Wood to accommodate young offenders and female prisoners;
- New primary care and mental health GPs to take up post;
- RQIA and CJINI to agree measurement of outcomes in relation recommendation 16 and RQIA to determine how best to measure successful delivery of recommendation 19; and

➤ Clarification provided on recommendation 20.

12. Progress against these priorities will be explored, challenged and scrutinised at the next meeting of the Oversight Group.

Next Meeting

13. The Oversight Group will meet again on 22 May 2013. The Group is meeting slightly earlier than normally expected to accommodate the Minister's commitments around the G8 summit.

**PRT OVERSIGHT GROUP
MAY 2012**

What we are here to achieve

Safe Custody

Which means

- A safe, decent and secure environment for staff, prisoners and visitors
- A structured regime that supports prisoners to progress through custody
- Keeping the community safe by reducing the risk of reoffending

Which looks like

- Secure accommodation which is fit for purpose and appropriate for all categories of prisoners
- A safe environment for staff and prisoners, which addresses bullying, intimidation and addiction
- Strong and meaningful relationships between staff and prisoners
- A consistent regime that supports the needs of prisoners

Which is measured by

- Time out of cell
- Number of escapes
- Level of doubling within accommodation
- Safety of staff and prisoners

Professional Service

- A professional and motivated workforce, that is effectively led and managed
- An efficient and effective service that supports delivery and builds a sustainable service
- An open and transparent Service which treats everyone fairly and with respect

- Significant investment in learning and development for staff
- Performance management system that rewards the right behaviours and addresses under performance
- Opportunities for career progression at all levels
- The right number of people, in the right place, at the right time
- A clear understanding of roles, responsibilities and accountability
- A commitment to continuous improvement

- Absence levels
- Cost per prisoner place
- Number of erroneous releases
- Level of training
- Equality and Diversity monitoring

Offender Focused

- Prisoners supported to develop to reduce their risk of reoffending
- Providing opportunities and interventions to address offending behaviour and support rehabilitation
- Coordinated services to support the offender through custody and back into the community

- Joined up sentence planning tailored to the specific strengths, needs and risks of each prisoner
- Developing effective partnerships with statutory and voluntary organisations to support rehabilitation
- Practical resettlement help and support
- Involvement of families and the wider community

- Level of fine defaulters in custody
- Purposeful activity levels
- Resettlement outcomes
- Time on remand
- Education and attainment

