



Scottish Executive Justice Department

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland

Report for 2002-2003



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

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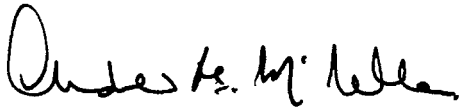
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To the Scottish Ministers

I have the honour to submit my first Annual Report to the Scottish Parliament.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Andrew R. C. McLellan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

ANDREW R. C. McLELLAN

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland
25 September 2003

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1. Overview

Independence



Scotland should be proud of the independence of the Prisons Inspectorate. Many other countries have no system of prison inspection: of those that do, inspection is often an internal process carried out by prison people. In other jurisdictions, inspections are carried out by judges. The United Nations document "Body of Principles for the protection of all persons under any form of detention or imprisonment" states that *places of detention shall be visited regularly by qualified and experienced persons appointed by and responsible to a competent authority distinct from the authority directly in charge of the administration of the place of detention or imprisonment.*

The Council of Europe Committee for the Prevention of Torture visited Scotland in 2003 and asked to meet the Chief Inspector: they have said how valuable is the independent inspection system Scotland has.

"Scotland should be proud of the independence of the Prisons Inspectorate."

There are a number of Inspectors of public services appointed by Royal Warrant in Scotland; but only the Chief Inspector of Prisons has no professional background in the service inspected (it has been pleasant for a minister of religion in his new role to find himself continually referred to as a "layman"!). This practice suggests that there is at least a perception that prisons are a world especially closed: and that only an independent inspector could reassure the public that there was no suspicion of collusion or secrecy in inspection reports. In the preparation of this report, and indeed in the course of my regular inspection of prisons, no-one from the Scottish Prison Service or from the Scottish Executive has sought to compromise my independence in any way.

Overcrowding

It would be surprising if the independent Chief Inspector of Prisons were to agree with the Chief Executive of the Scottish Prison Service about everything in Scottish prisons. He and I do agree, however, about the single issue which causes most damage in Scottish prisons, and that is overcrowding. Overcrowding determines so much of what happens in individual prisons; and so much of the central management of the Scottish Prison Service is driven by the need to accommodate ever-growing numbers of prisoners.

The last ten years have seen prison numbers rise: and the last two years, after a slight flattening of the graph, have shown considerable increase. In May 2002 Scotland's prisoner population was at an all-time high of 6723: the total available accommodation in all prisons is 6055 places. By comparison, ten years ago the total number of prisoners in Scotland was 5395, and the available accommodation was 5731 places; fifty years ago the total number was 1548, and the available accommodation was 2975.

It is impossible to read these statistics and not wonder about the reasons for the rise in prisoner numbers and the overcrowding it brings with it. Are more crimes being committed? Are detection performances improving? Is society getting worse? I do believe that there is a relationship between the kind of society we have and the number of prisoners we have, and I shall reflect on that later in this report. There are, however, at least two clearly observable factors which directly influence prison numbers: people are being sent to prison for longer sentences and more untried people are being remanded to prison.

There may be good reasons why the average length of long sentences is increasing. There may be good reasons why it has not been easy to put into more widespread practice the Scottish Executive's determination to find alternatives to custody. These

matters lie outside my remit. But what does lie within my remit is the effect that these aspects of sentencing policy have on prisoner numbers; and the effects of the resultant overcrowding on the conditions in which prisoners live and the treatment prisoners receive.

I was shocked to discover that more than 500 prisoners in Barlinnie Prison are on remand: that is nearly half of the total population of that prison. Nobody to whom I have spoken since, except people with expertise in the subject, had any more idea than I had that only about half of the people in Scotland's biggest prison were there because they had been convicted of a crime. The statistics are very sobering. Only two years ago the total number of people arriving in prison in Scotland on remand was 14117: last year it was 19390. This means an increase of 37% in the number of remand prisoners over two years. In the previous three years the figures had remained very stable. In 2002–2003 49% of all receptions into Scottish prisons were on remand.

Barlinnie is one example among several of the difficulties for prison management of the mixture of convicted and untried prisoners in a hall, a mixture which the large number of remand prisoners made inevitable. On visiting there I have been struck by the impossibility of providing decent conditions within Barlinnie for many of these people who are detained in prison for whatever reason but are not convicted of a crime; and to the frustration of having taken bold steps to provide good conditions for remand prisoners only to find them quite inadequate because of the high numbers. People are remanded to prison for different reasons although all have been charged with a crime: some are remanded because they may be a threat to others either by continuing with violent crime, repeating their offending or threatening witnesses. It may also be that prison is a safer option for some people, in particular because of involvement with drugs. But it cannot be the best option that a modern nation can provide for keeping people away from harm.

Overcrowding “puts immense strain on prison staff; often prevents them from fulfilling the desire which so many have, to make prisons more humane places.”

While there may be debate and disagreement about the reasons for overcrowding in Scotland's prisons, the effects of overcrowding are beyond debate: they are stark,

bleak and unhappy. These effects dominate much of the thinking of the Scottish Prison Service. Finding short-term solutions to immediate problems of overcrowding takes up a great deal of time and energy. This puts immense strains on prison staff; and often prevents them from fulfilling the desire which so many prison staff have to make prisons more humane places. But the people who suffer most from overcrowding are prisoners. And that is my main concern.

In my report on Peterhead I drew attention to the conditions of prisoners sharing cells with no integral sanitation in a very cramped space. Peterhead is by no means unique. Some progress has been made towards ending “slopping out” in Scottish prisons and more than three quarters of prisoner places have access to night sanitation. Nevertheless, hundreds of prisoners are living in profoundly unsatisfactory conditions. In particular, the combination of toilet arrangements and eating arrangements in shared cells for far too many prisoners in Scottish prisons is a disgrace, and a cause for shame. Enormous steps towards the restoration of dignity of everyone would be taken if the number of prisoners did not exceed the amount of available accommodation.

Conditions are made worse by overcrowding, but so too is safety. Two illustrations make the point. One Governor told me that the aspect of overcrowding which gives him most concern is the difficulty it presents to him when his prison is attempting to assess prisoners on admission. He knows, and his staff know, that vulnerable prisoners are most at risk of self-harm or suicide attempts in their first days in prison. So it is very important indeed that the best assessment possible of the mental and emotional conditions of prisoners is made as soon as they are

admitted. Prisons do what they can: but the very high numbers simply prevent the careful attention which they would want to give at this point.

Any assault in prison is bad: in this past year the number of assaults is high. The Scottish Prison Service's Annual Report says: *We did not meet our target in relation to assaults ... the increased number of assaults is worrying.* I am sure that increased tension in our most overcrowded prisons is a key factor in the number of assaults: and I have felt for myself the tension that overcrowding brings with it. Unhappily, an understandable reaction is sometimes to seek to prevent the opportunity for violence by locking prisoners in their cells for long periods. In the long term however, this is not humane treatment. Nor is it a way of serving prison sentences which will engage prisoners in serious attempts to address their offending behaviour.

This last aspect of prison life, addressing offending behaviour, is perhaps the greatest casualty of prison overcrowding. Many prisoners do not have access to the work, education and programmes which are the chief strategy of the SPS for preventing re-offending: and they do not have the access they need because there are so many other prisoners who also need places. Prisons are struggling with half-day timetables, so that more prisoners will at least have access to half a day's work: but even this does not provide work places for nearly all of the numbers required. When I inspected Greenock prison the Governor told me that he had the resources to meet the needs of the number of prisoners his prison is meant to hold: but because in one part overcrowding was often one hundred per cent, there was no possibility of offering good facilities to the whole population. This is repeated at other prisons. Perhaps even more important is the restriction which overcrowding places on the personal interaction between individual prisoners and individual prison staff. I have often observed highly committed prison staff well trained to engage in positive and supportive relationships with prisoners yet completely prevented from doing so by the numbers of prisoners with whom they

have to deal. The practical necessities of managing the daily business of meals and exercise and work placements and movements to and from court and throughout the prison consume the energy of so many, especially in local prisons.

I am required to report on the conditions in which prisoners live and the treatment prisoners receive. I see no prospect of any significant improvement in either of

these until the problem of overcrowding is dealt with. It was very good to be present at the opening of splendid new houseblocks at Polmont and Edinburgh. These new buildings represent very considerable capital investment and they provide accommodation for prisoners which is very good indeed. The difference that they make is very much to be welcomed. Plans are underway for more new accommodation in other places; but much of this accommodation is to replace old and unsuitable accommodation.

New prisons are to be built: but by themselves they will not solve the problem. Part of the new accommodation will be taken up by the numbers now in Low Moss prison, a prison which has been

considered unsatisfactory for years, but which simply cannot be closed because of the high numbers. Part of the new accommodation may be taken up by the likely rise in numbers between now and the opening of the new prisons. So even the new prisons will not bring much relief from all the problems that overcrowding produces: until the climb to higher and higher prison numbers is stopped.

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales, Anne Owers, wrote this in her Annual Report for 2001-2002: *One of the Prison Service's greatest strengths, but also its Achilles' heel, is its ability to cope: to manage crises and to soak up problems. It is important that it is recognised for that, but also that it is protected from it.* She was writing about overcrowding, and she might have been writing about Scotland. Some circumstances may be quite similar on both sides of the border. I have certainly been

“These new buildings represent very considerable capital investment and they provide accommodation for prisoners which is very good indeed.”

reflecting often in my first few months on a proposal of an English judge. When Lord Woolf reviewed the causes of prison troubles in England and Wales in 1991 his key proposal was that no prison should have overcrowding of more than three per cent. His proposal has never been taken seriously. It would transform the conditions and treatment of prisoners in Scotland as well as in England if it were.

While overcrowding blights so much of Scottish prison life it must not be allowed to become an excuse for avoiding other challenges. My first reports have raised other issues: and it is to the credit of the Scottish Prison Service and of individual prisons that they have not hidden from these under the cover of blaming overcrowding. I want to draw attention to three matters which have received attention in inspections in 2002-2003: drug addiction, time spent in cells, and throughcare.

Drug addiction

Drug addiction dominates much of prison life and activity, and examining its implications takes up a good deal of space in the reports of the Inspectorate. On inspections of large prisons, there are regularly specialist inspectors as part of the team: and nearly always these will include a drug addictions worker. The impact of addiction in a prison is in several areas.

Violence. Much prisoner on prisoner violence could be related to feuds outside the prison, feuds which often grow out of drug debts.

Health. In many prisons the primary activity of health care seems to be dealing with drug addiction. This means both the bad general health of addicts who are admitted to prison: and in particular the prescribing of medication for those who are detoxifying or undergoing a substitute maintenance or reduction programme.

Testing. Both mandatory and voluntary drug testing take place in most prisons. Results of these tests can help prisoners to progress through the system to greater privileges, and can cause prisoners to move back and lose privileges. The amount of time spent by trained prison staff in drug testing is very high. In Perth, for example, four officers work on this full-time, and throughout the prison service there may be as many as forty officers doing the same. This represents a very considerable proportion of the money which is spent on anti-drug measures. Whether or not this investment in drug testing is the most useful way of dealing with addiction problems is, at least, a question worth considering.

Assessing. Prisoners who are addicted to drugs have an opportunity to be assessed: and then to be referred to an appropriate agency either within the prison or outside. Provision of services, however, varies considerably.

Security. Keeping drugs out is a high priority in prisons. In particular the arrangements for visits are often very much influenced by it.

Two of these headings will be commented on. The scale of the drugs problem for health provision is illustrated by the inspection report on Barlinnie (this report was published after the year 2002–2003 was completed). *On the first day of inspection 171 individuals were in receipt of methadone. This is extremely high – much higher than any large methadone clinic in the community. The process of escorting individuals from the halls to the addictions centre and back is also extremely time consuming for the addictions officers involved and for uniformed staff within the Halls. The whole process can at times take a full day, impacting on other aspects of the regime. Again prescribed detoxification is available to all prisoners on admission should they present with a drug or alcohol problem. All should be subject to urinalysis, conducted by the addictions officers. However, due to other commitments these tests are not always carried out. The exception to this are the young remands who are always tested prior to prescribing of medication. The detoxification takes place over an 18-day period and consists of reducing doses of dihydrocodeine and*

diazepam. The administration of this medication is supervised and dispensed within the residential Halls. On the first day of inspection 95 individuals were in receipt of a prescribed detoxification. These individuals require medication to be administered twice a day, which means that there were 190 detoxification medications being administered on that day. This is extremely time consuming for the nurses and for uniformed staff.

Even these figures scarcely convey how much drug work dominates health care in Scotland's largest prison. So it is worth noting that the report on Barlinnie went on to say *All staff approach their work in a positive manner and the prison is to be commended on its handling of the drugs issue.*

Security with regard to drugs is also very time consuming:

preventing drugs from getting into prison. Most people who have never been in a prison are quite baffled by this: they think it

should be easy to keep prisons drug-free. The problem has two

parts. One is the resourcefulness of prisoners: a vast amount of imagination and

ingenuity goes in to smuggling drugs through the gate. Perhaps ingenuity is not the

right word: often intimidation is the right word, for regularly I have been told of

prisoners and prisoners' families trying to conceal drugs in order that they can be

brought for a prisoner of whom they have reason to be afraid. The other is the

balance between security and humaneness. The more restrictive the procedures for

visits the more difficult it will be for drugs to be brought in: but the less humane will

be the visit experience itself. Visits form an immensely important part of the life of

most prisoners: and the atmosphere in the visit room is often a good indicator of

the morale of prisoners. The more inhibited visits become, the more disturbed

prisoners become: and the effects of increased tension may be very high.

Different prisons with different histories achieve the balance between security and

humaneness differently. A prisoner in one prison may be strip searched after every

visit; and in another never strip searched. It is difficult to carry out the practice of

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strip searching in a way which is not demeaning; but it is in the interests of prisoners that drugs should be kept out of prisons. Since it is also in the interests of prisoners that visits should be well provided for, it is good to record good experiences of visits in different prisons. This year's report on Polmont, for example, said *The availability of visits and the visits facility itself were good. Visitors said that they were treated well at all stages of the process from booking a visit to leaving the establishment once their visit was completed. There has clearly been significant work carried out to make the visits as pleasant and straightforward as possible and that good work is to be commended.*

Time spent in cells

Time spent in cells has been a concern of inspectorate reports before, and has regularly featured in the past year. Prisoners often speak of the pressures which build up inside those who spend long periods alone and locked up; and it is clear that there can be different, but equally significant, pressures on those who are locked up for long periods with someone else. This is not in this case a concern about those who are detained alone for specified times as a result of some disciplinary procedure. I am satisfied that the strict regulations which apply to those prisoners are followed carefully, although it is troubling to learn that in this last year some prisoners have been held in these conditions for more than six months. It is about prisoners in the mainstream of imprisonment who, for reasons which are not to do with their own behaviour, find themselves locked up in their cells for most of the morning, or for most of the day, or – especially – for most of the weekend.

There can be different reasons for prisoners spending excessive amounts of time in cells. Occasionally there will be local disturbances which justify it. But over and over again the same combination of circumstances is the explanation: the combination of

overcrowding and staff shortages. For safety reasons, it is right to ensure that there is a sufficient number of officers on duty in a hall if prisoners are free to move about within the hall: when the number of officers on duty falls well below the number required prisoners are locked up. In different prisons there will be different explanations for the staff shortages in overcrowded conditions: but I have been very much aware of the pressures put upon staff numbers by the requirements of escort duty. When prisoners have to be taken to court, or to hospital, the demand on staff time can be great. (Repeatedly, escort demand outstrips the staffing provision for escort duties, particularly at local prisons.) Inspections this year found clear examples of the effects of the demands of escorts on staff almost everywhere. In this year's reports it can be found that *The issue of provision of escorts is particularly acute in Polmont as the establishment accounts for 30% of all SPS escorts, but only 6% of the population.* Barlinnie's high numbers receiving medication in connection with drug addiction has already been mentioned. In Peterhead the high average age of the population and the distance from hospitals means that hospital escorts can take up a great deal of staff time. In Inverness the huge area in which the prison has to provide escorts for courts is equally demanding.

The effect on prisoners in overcrowded prisons of staff shortages caused by escorts is that they are often locked up alone, or with another prisoner who has rarely been chosen for company. In extreme circumstances amounting to solitary confinement this could be very damaging. The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture pays particular attention to solitary confinement: *all forms of solitary confinement should be as short as possible* (CPT 2nd General Report para 56). The Inspectorate continues to observe that the practice is only used when there is no alternative and only under strict regulation; and, as stated above, there has been no occasion when the matter has required to be raised in this past year. However, regular imprisonment alone or with one other even for short periods frequently repeated may have a cumulative effect which is bad for prisoners. It is this concern

for mental well-being, as well as the lack of access to useful ways of spending time, which lies behind the reflection on the matter of time in cell in several reports. "It does your head in", is the way prisoners comment on the experience.

"Underlying issues of staff numbers and overcrowding still compel too many prisoners to spend too much time in very enclosed spaces and with little or no human contact."

It has been good to be able to refer in some reports, as in the reports on Inverness and Aberdeen, on the determination of prison management and staff to minimise the amount of time prisoners spend locked up. But even in the prisons where the most conscious efforts are made, underlying issues of staff numbers and overcrowding still compel too many prisoners to spend too much time in very enclosed spaces and with little or no human contact. It is at weekends that the situation is at its worst; and it is at those times that imaginative solutions are most needed.

In many establishments prison staff hope that proposed changes in the escort system will give them more time to perform the functions for which there is almost no time at the moment. It is very much to be hoped that this does happen when new escort

arrangements are introduced. The possibility of using new arrangements as an opportunity merely to make savings would not help prisoners or prison staff.

Throughcare

Throughcare is the word used in the Scottish Prison Service to describe *assistance with re-integration back into mainstream society*. In the material produced in 2002 entitled "Making a Difference" the SPS drew attention to the importance of partnerships with "outside" organisations as a key element in throughcare: it will *only*

be achieved where appropriate partners are aware of the needs of the individual on release. That publication highlighted the Edinburgh Throughcare Centre, as did HMCIP report of 2002. Recent inspections have encountered several other examples.

The word “throughcare” can be used in many ways: so it can refer to any part of a whole process beginning when a prisoner is first sentenced; and continuing to the end of a period of supervision after liberation. In all its varieties of use it points to an understanding that imprisonment is more than detaining. “Public opinion” often fails to realise that the more prisons promote ways of preventing prisoners from committing further crimes on release, the more they will have done to make Scotland safer.

The pressures of overcrowding which form the principal theme of this report inhibit proper throughcare in many cases. When prisoners do not have proper access to facilities and when staff have demands on their time which cannot be met, and when the daily routine of prison life has to be carried out, it is often difficult to maintain a vision of a prison which properly prepares people for release. Several reports in this past year have stressed this difficulty. But reports have also welcomed encouraging developments in throughcare. In Low Moss there is *an imaginative ‘Low Moss Prison Partnership Forum’ which brings together the agencies and providers who work in and with the prison. Eighteen external agencies are represented which is impressive. Low Moss has a Throughcare Chaplain, the first such post in the SPS. Some 13 different services are advertised to prisoners via a Throughcare Centre leaflet. Both the Addictions Nurse and Cranstoun (Drug Services) refer prisoners to partner agencies and there is a potential here for overlap.*

“the more prisons promote ways of preventing prisoners from committing further crimes on release, the more they will have done to make Scotland safer.”

Most people expect prisons to do two things: to keep prisoners in custody and to make them less likely to offend again when they are released from prison. The first of these is done well in Scotland. The figures for escapes from Scottish prisons show that those who are sent to prison in Scotland are kept in prison. Not a single high security prisoner escaped from a Scottish prison in the course of the year: the total number of escapes was one. This is an unglamorous aspect of what the Scottish Prison Service does: but it is absolutely central; and it is necessary for public confidence in the prison system that it should be done well. I am pleased to recognise that it is done well. The second is more problematic: and the current situation in Scotland's overcrowded prisons does not make it easy to prepare prisoners properly for release. Throughcare is, at least in theory, a sign of the importance which is attached to this second expectation: it is already a regular concern for inspections, and it will continue to be.

A broader context

Even the best throughcare, however, will not solve all the problems. At a lecture in Edinburgh in 2003 Dr Jim McManus, the chairman of the Parole Board, argued that it is damaging to have unrealistically high expectations of what "the criminal justice system" can do. It is important not to expect our prisons to solve the problems of Scotland. They will not do that and they should not be blamed for failing to do that. To use the example discussed above, many prisoners are addicted to heroin. It is completely unrealistic to expect the deprivation of liberty to eliminate the causes of their addiction.

In 2000 I had the opportunity to visit all Scottish prisons when I was Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. At that time I wrote *Over and over again I have seen that the problems of Scotland's prisons are the problems of Scotland; and only when Scotland is more decent and more gentle and more at ease with itself; only*

when Scotland is more just and more compassionate will Scotland's prisons be more empty and less sadYou do not need a degree in social science to observe that we lock up a disproportionate amount of Scotland's poor people.

Since then I have seen the same every time I have been in a prison. Prisoners are overwhelmingly young, overwhelmingly male and overwhelmingly poor. Statistics issued in 2002 by the Office of the Prime Minister show how depressingly predictable is the population of our prisons (the figures are for England and Wales but no-one to whom I have shown them has argued that they would be different in Scotland).

Compared with the population as a whole, prisoners are fourteen times more likely to have

been taken into care as a child, six times more likely to be single

teenage parents, five times more likely to have no educational

qualification, twelve times more likely to have experienced long-term

unemployment, fifty times more likely to suffer from three or more mental disorders, thirty times more likely to be homeless. Specifically in

Scotland, research among young offenders published for the

Scottish Prison Service in 2000 showed the same picture. 76% had

a history of regular school truancy, 28% had families with a history of drug abuse, 57% had

never been in stable employment. Of course we must have better prisons. But it is mere

scape-goating to blame prisons when they are not able to solve the problems of

society. The only way to have permanently better prisons is to have a better Scotland.

“Prisoners are overwhelmingly young, overwhelmingly male and overwhelmingly poor.”

The Inspectorate

The function of the Chief Inspector of Prisons is set out in a memorandum of 1981.

Apart from the production of this report the principal duty is the inspection of

prisons: and the 1981 memorandum calls the regular inspection of individual

establishments the Chief Inspector's main concern. Inspecting individual prisons takes

up most of the time and is seen by the small inspectorate team as the priority.

During much of 2003 considerable attention has been paid to the methodology of inspection.

There are fifteen prisons in Scotland. A timetable has been devised which provides for five full inspections each year: inspecting each prison every three years. These inspections examine every aspect of the establishments, and last for one or two weeks, excluding the considerable amount of time spent in preparation, gathering information etc; and in forming conclusions and writing the reports. The 1981 terms of reference are followed on all occasions: to report ... *in particular on conditions in these establishments; the treatment of prisoners and other inmates, and the facilities available to them.*

All prisons which are not receiving a full inspection will receive a follow up visit each year, which lasts for two or three days. Such a visit concentrates on points raised during the previous inspection, major new factors in the life of the prison, and matters raised in the prisons' own assessment of itself completed for the Inspectorate.

Reports of all full inspections and of follow-up visits will be published and made available on the inspectorate website.

Such a programme would not be possible without considerable co-operation from the Scottish Prison Service and its Establishments. It is good to be able to record that I have encountered nothing but helpfulness from every prison and from every other part of the Scottish Prison Service in the process of carrying out these inspections.

In the course of inspections it is important that what is done is seen to be fair, transparent and consistent. With that in mind, a considerable amount of time is

being spent by the staff of the inspectorate in doing two things. One is to draw up "templates" of questions to be asked of different groups and individuals; and of matters to be investigated in different parts of the prison. The other is to progress towards the production of "standards" by which inspections are carried out. This second piece of work will take some time, but already some models are proving useful: the "Expectations" document of HM Inspectorate of Prisons in England and Wales, and much of the thinking of HM Chief Inspector of Education in Scotland are examples.

To continue to ensure transparency and consistency, and to draw on the experience of other bodies, the Inspectorate has begun negotiations on joint working with Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and with the Chief Medical Officer's department. Additionally, we have also begun to recruit a number of Associate Inspectors from within SPS to assist in our work. Contacts have been made with the Commission for Racial Equality, one of whose Inspectors accompanied us on part of the inspection of HMP Barlinnie in order to observe the inspection process and to offer us advice for future inspections.

The intention is that the process itself will be open and transparent: and I look forward to engaging with the Scottish Prison Service in the course of it. I hope that it will become possible for prisons to be aware both of exactly what is being inspected and of how the inspection is being carried out.

In addition to this work, an important exercise in the course of the year has been to work with the Scottish Prison Service towards proposals for a memorandum which will bring up to date the guidelines of the memorandum of 1981.

This programme of work would be impossible without the commitment and energy of the small team who work in this department. The inspecting of prisons in

Scotland is extremely well served by those who provide the technical and administrative support which are absolutely central to our work. It is possible that the volume of work expected may rise very considerably, if and when new responsibilities fall to me to inspect the operation of private escort systems. We look forward to that challenge.

Clive Fairweather CBE

For nearly half of the year to which this report refers the Chief Inspector of Prisons for Scotland was Clive Fairweather. His kindness and helpfulness to me when I took up office have meant a good deal to me. Much more importantly, however, I have inherited from him a tradition of fearless plain speaking which has been admired by many. In the course of his holding of this office his contribution to the public life of

“A tradition of fearless plain speaking which has been admired by many.”

Scotland became very well known. It matters even more, however, that among prisoners he is remembered as one who listened to them and understood them and did not shirk his duty.

An “unfailing test”

Recently a man asked me what I do for a living. “I inspect prisons”. “What do you mean?” “I examine and report on the conditions in which prisoners live and the way prisoners are treated.” He looked at me with surprise and said “Why?”

I tried to answer in my own words: but I ended up quoting just a little of Winston Churchill. It is one of the passages referred to over and over again among those

who think about prisons; and even although the words are over a century old, and I have heard them and used them more times than I can count, I am always moved by them. This is what Churchill said in the House of Commons in 1910 when he was Home Secretary:

The mood and temper of the public in regard to the treatment of crime and criminals is one of the most unfailing tests of the civilisation of any country. A calm and dispassionate recognition of the rights of the accused against the state, and even of convicted criminals against the state, a constant heart-searching by all charged with the duty of punishment, a desire and eagerness to rehabilitate in the world of industry all those who have paid their dues in the hard coinage of punishment, tireless efforts towards the discovery of curative and regenerating processes, and an unfaltering faith that there is a treasure, if only you can find it, in the heart of every person – these are the symbols which in the treatment of crime and criminals mark and measure the stored up strength of a nation, and are the sign and proof of the living virtue in it.

If Churchill is right, then a report on the conditions and treatment of prisoners is a mark and measure of the stored up strength of a nation: how much it is a sign and proof of living virtue will be judged by those who consider carefully the evidence it contains.

“The mood and temper of the public in regard to the treatment of crime and criminals is one of the most unfailing tests of the civilisation of any country.”

2. Summary of Inspections Undertaken

Those Inspections undertaken before December 2002 were conducted by Mr Fairweather.

HMP Aberdeen

Follow up inspection as at 1-2 July 2002 (previous full inspection November 1997)

General

The increased use of drugs in the Grampian region continues to create major problems for the prison, particularly high levels of heroin and cocaine misuse amongst admissions. Whilst mandatory random samples continue to reflect high levels of illegal drug misuse within the prison, the systems employed to tackle this are largely reactive.

The security and intelligence systems in place are also ineffective, random and reactive. There is no audit or investigation process to identify the effectiveness or otherwise of contingencies and systems.¹

Staffing has gradually become a problem over the last few years. It now seems to be difficult to recruit and retain staff because of the high cost of living and alternative employment opportunities available in the local area. Following success in reducing sick absence levels in 1997 the variable² was reduced to 6.5; although the actual sick absence last year was 20.6 days per person for the year.

Safety

In the last year Aberdeen, one of the smaller establishments, has had more serious prisoner-on-prisoner assaults than Barlinnie, whose population is five and sometimes six times bigger. There have been three serious assaults so far in 2002.

As previously reported, healthcare centre facilities are not adequate to provide either the care needed for prisoners or a satisfactory working environment for staff. More recently, emergency health care equipment had not been checked and staff had not yet been trained in the use of essential life saving equipment.

¹We were informed that an Audit and Compliance Manager had been appointed in June 2002.

²The sick absence variable can be used to calculate how many staff are required to cover sick absence.

Decency

Both residential halls, especially 'B' Hall were filthy, and in urgent need of deep cleaning and redecoration. Cell furniture was also found to be unfit for purpose.

Whilst the prison enjoys full integral sanitation in cells, the positive effects of this are currently outweighed by overcrowding and the consequent sharing of cells and WCs. Conditions for remands in particular were unpleasant - in addition to which there was very little by way of regimes for these individuals.

Facilities for visits are extremely cramped for present and projected population figures.

The quantity of food is good but the quality at point of delivery leaves a lot to be desired.

There is an urgent need for more telephones for both remand and convicted prisoners.

Crime Prevention

There was little or no induction and little by way of risk and needs assessment. Sentence management, pre-release courses and throughcare were amongst the worst we have seen.

The co-ordination of drug policies and the efforts to maintain a drug free area were inadequate and ineffective. There are no incentives to remain drug free and there is constant pressure on the more compliant prisoners from others intent on abusing drugs and using violence to influence them.

Generally, the regime is reactive with escorts constantly taking priority; consequently work opportunities are limited, sporadic and ad hoc. This also means that prisoners are locked in their cells for unacceptably long periods. Similarly PT is often limited, and not available at weekends.

The only positive features we could identify – albeit in the course of a relatively brief inspection were the delivery of cognitive skills programmes and provision of education. Both were at least meeting their targets.

Overall

The prison appears to offer very little service other than to keep its prisoners in secure custody. It has greatly deteriorated since the formal inspection of Autumn 1997, and currently, in our opinion, is an idle, unsafe and failing prison.

The Governor and Deputy were briefed immediately on our findings and draft recommendations. They agreed with these and arranged to brief staff accordingly.

HMP Inverness

Follow up inspection as at 5-6 August 2002 (previous full inspection March 1999)

Safety

There were no serious staff or prisoner assaults last year and generally the prison appears to provide a safe environment for all its staff and prisoners. Standards of health care were also found to be satisfactory.

Decency

Despite being 23% overcrowded, the prison was found to be very clean at the time of inspection, whilst catering arrangements were thought to be above average.

Crime Prevention

At the start of the visit we were presented with various proposals by management, covering regime activities,

offending behaviour programmes, and group-work to supplement the one-to-one counselling funded by outside agencies. At the time of inspection, however, we found that for a variety of reasons (including, we were told, a lack of trained staff), very little was actually being delivered. The education wing appeared to be doing well.

Staffing is a growing problem, with the complement having been reduced following the staffing attendance review. Subsequent requirements for escorts have resulted in shortages throughout the prison and long-term sickness is also causing problems; for example, whilst only 3 years ago some 84% of convicted prisoners had access to work, this has since fallen to 37% at the time of inspection. In addition, we found that female prisoners were constantly being disadvantaged (when 'C' Hall male prisoners are given access to telephones or when there is an admission to the unit, they are locked in their cells). These and other problems could be solved, we believe, by the installation of additional telephones and various agreed contingencies.

There was some useful recognition of the growing levels of drug misuse in the Highlands, with an innovative and potentially effective drug team having been formed to help combat this. Nevertheless, the prison's positive random MDT sample of 20% in the last year is higher than is found at Barlinnie, Glenochil or Greenock prisons. It should be noted that there is no voluntary or frequent testing taking place, whilst random tests are completed within a few days every month – with the attendant danger that prisoners may be able to predict them in advance. We suggest that a drugs policy is also written as a matter of some urgency.

HMP & YOI Cornton Vale

Follow up inspection as at 9-10 September 2002 (previous full inspection May 2001)

Safety

Cornton Vale continues to impress as an environment where considerable progress has been made in improving the overall safety of prisoners, more especially in the upgraded Health Centre.

While the Governor and staff continue to give the highest priority to the identification, assessment and

management of those at risk of self-harm, tragically there have been two suicides since our last inspection.³

Over the past four years the overall number of assaults and incidents of fighting have increased year on year (see Annex 3 for details); high prisoner numbers have been impacting on all aspects of the establishment's work, and may well be a contributory factor.

Decency

Most areas were found to be clean and we assess that a generally decent environment is being provided for most prisoners. Nevertheless, exceptionally high numbers and the need to share rooms has meant that electronic access to toilets can at times, be switched off, particularly in Younger House. As a result, women are required to request the presence of a member of staff before the room door is unlocked to allow toilet access. This can mean women having to wait up to an hour or more. As a result, reliable evidence from a variety of sources leads us to conclude that the sinks in some cells are being used as toilets, which is wholly unacceptable.

Crime Prevention

The current Governor has altered the management structure of the establishment to provide a more coherent response to the Correctional Excellence agenda, which seems to be both logical and appropriate.

At present, however, the prison does not have a co-ordinated and sustained Drugs Strategy. This needs urgently to be addressed, otherwise work in this area will continue to lack direction and continuity. In turn this is likely to have considerable residual effects across the prison regime generally and on the ability of individuals to cope when liberated back into the community.

Although arrangements for Sentence Management had advanced since the last inspection, we still detect a lack of continuity in this area. Extensive individual assessments are carried out on most prisoners, but it is not always clear how, or if, these assessments are subsequently used. In this context, we are aware that the Governor has current plans to create an Induction/Throughcare area and to create a further Independent Living

³With a further death confirmed on 29 September 2002 (cause subject to FAI). In addition, although the total number of cases of self harm have reduced significantly since 1999, it is still the highest (by a considerable margin) in the SPS.

Unit (as well as developing a further Unit adjacent to Perth prison).

Generally, staff-prisoner relationships were described as good, although high numbers combined with staff shortages have had an impact on a variety of areas including basic communication, contact between the two, and access to and quality of regime. The current high level of staff sickness⁴ is a matter of serious and mounting concern.

In an attempt to address the issue of record high numbers, SPS have proposed the transfer of up to 55 prisoners to Darroch Hall in HMP Greenock.⁵ However, in order to properly cope, additional medical staff will have to be recruited and this process is now underway. In our opinion, this process must be completed before any transfers actually take place.

Summary

Our impression is that growing prisoner numbers have now 'stalled' the prison in a variety of areas. The regime on offer is, as a result, comparatively limited. In addition, staff sickness and shortages have been leading to the regular curtailment of activities, which means that currently, prisoner needs are not being met in any sustained way. The need to more properly address drugs issues in a co-ordinated fashion is also long overdue, whilst proper access to night sanitation for some prisoners urgently needs to be restored. However, of all these issues, reducing the number of petty offenders who are brought into custody, in the first place is the most urgent and fundamental issue to be addressed.

Comment

The 1998 joint thematic review "Women Offenders – A Safer Way" had recommended that "the number of women offenders who are sent to prison could and should be reduced". The 2001 inspection of Cornton Vale restated this and it was suggested then that "Restriction of Liberty Orders might be a useful alternative for some petty offenders, who might otherwise be sent to Cornton Vale – especially at a time when numbers were reaching record levels". Record levels continue to be sustained, staff are having difficulty coping and in order to

⁴Currently described as being the highest in the SPS.

⁵We also suggest that when a contract for the new remand prison is being considered, provision for female prisoners should be included, (this was not the case when the Contract for HMP Kilmarnock was finalised).

relieve pressure, in an unprecedented move, women are now to be transferred from Cornton Vale to HMP Greenock in large numbers. We recommend, therefore, in order further to reduce and sustain such pressures that consideration is given to mechanisms for the early release of selected prisoners on electronic monitoring.

HMP Edinburgh

Follow up inspection as at 23-24 September 2002 (previous full inspection September 2000)

Safety

Despite the high levels of prisoner on prisoner assaults which were recorded last year, the prison looked and felt relatively safe, which also was confirmed throughout the inspection by both prisoners and staff. Equally, there had already been eight serious prisoner on prisoner assaults this year (which is close to the annual KPI target of ten, with a further six months to go).

We found that the ACT Strategy was being implemented effectively. It is, however, important that this is monitored closely to ensure that standards do not slip, particularly given such high prisoner numbers; nor was the Listener Scheme found to be operating with quite the sharp focus found previously (although we are aware that Certificates had just been awarded to four new Listeners).

The Health Centre was operating effectively and the team was enthusiastic, dedicated, and well led: similarly, we were pleased with the drug detoxification programme. Equally, while the health centre was delivering a good service it was doing so under considerable pressure. In particular, therefore, some extra resources in the form of nursing auxiliaries, a part-time addictions nurse and a community liaison nurse, would help considerably to ease their burden. In due course, as we have stated before some thought should also be given to relocating the Health Centre.

Decency

The prison was clean and tidy for the most part, though some cells were in need of redecoration (with a programme underway to address this). However, the prison cannot be said to be anywhere near providing uniformly decent conditions, so long as slopping out continues in so many of its residential halls. Nevertheless, with the construction of a further new block – and potentially another likely, it is possible to see an end, in the not too distant future to this degrading practice (provided, of course, that prisoner numbers remain manageable).

The laundry was doing a good job, although it appeared there were some problems with changing kit at the weekend. Prisoners also complained that the food was cold when it arrived in the Halls, and while this is not a new problem, it is one which needs further examination.

The visits room and its facilities were good, although some prisoners felt that supervision was overly excessive and oppressive (perhaps a better balance between security and quality visits needs to be struck). It also appeared that those visitors who arrived a few minutes late could often be refused visits; this seems, to us, to be somewhat inflexible.

Crime Prevention

A variety of sound programmes were in place with further plans being considered. In addition, the way the drugs (and alcohol) strategy was being handled across the prison, together with interfaces with the community, was amongst the best we have found anywhere (though more needs to be done in providing individual care plans after detoxification). We thought that the arrangements for sentence management and throughcare were first class and plans to develop the employability scheme were encouraging. An evaluation of the Throughcare Centre (which had recently earned a Butler Trust award) was also underway.

We are aware of the efforts being made by the prison to monitor and deal with the impact of the “Convention Rights (Compliance) (Scotland) Act 2001” in terms of the setting of tariffs for life sentence prisoners.

HMP & YOI Dumfries

Follow up inspection as at 22-23 October 2002 (previous full inspection May 1999)

Safety

Dumfries impressed as generally being a safe environment. In reporting year 2001-2002 there were three prisoner on prisoner assaults against a target of two; in 2002-2003 to date, there was one assault against a target of two. In the same period there were no prisoner on staff assaults. No prisoners or staff raised personal safety as an issue, and this is also reflected in the SPS Prison Survey where 75% of staff said that they got on with prisoners "Quite Well" or "Very Well". The atmosphere in the prison was rated as "Fairly Relaxed" or "Very Relaxed" by 57-76% of staff depending on the area of the prison.

There was however evidence that the ACT process was not being fully implemented at Dumfries. The mandatory audit had not been carried out nor had the ACT Group met during the current year. Training had not been carried out, although protocols had been followed and case conferences held.

Decency

Overall the prison was extremely clean and showed evidence of being well maintained. The considerable investment in accommodation at Dumfries has resulted in a prison where, generally, accommodation is of a high standard and considerable effort is made to maintain that. However, the accommodation in 'D' Hall for prisoners on admission and remand prisoners is far from ideal, there being larger rooms for multiple occupancy (two to four prisoners per room). Despite this, cells and communal areas are maintained to an impressively high standard.

Local management are to be congratulated on the marked improvement both in the accommodation and regime for female prisoners. The female unit has been transformed and is now a bright and welcoming environment. Relationships between staff and prisoners are good and the access which female prisoners have to PE and education is commendable. Access to education however has been at the expense of the recently established

work party. A balance must be found between access to education and the opportunity to work, particularly as numbers are again rising.

While the quality or quantity of food was not a focus of complaint, the serving times at the weekend were causing concern. Prisoners indicated that the evening meal could be served as early as 3.30 pm on a Saturday with Sunday brunch not being available until 10.30 am - an unacceptably long time. Management indicated that 4.15 pm was a more likely time for the evening meal at the weekends. This however still gives an unacceptable gap between meals.

A major issue for all staff groups was a shortage of staff, resulting in regimes and other activities being curtailed. Prisoners and the Visiting Committee also reported that unacceptably long periods were being spent in cells, often due to staff shortage. The staff attendance system at Dumfries is again being reviewed (for the second time), and as a matter of urgency, this requires to be completed so that restrictions to regime and the amount of time spent in cell are properly addressed.

The current attendance system, means that staff meal break was followed by the prisoners' lunch with the consequence that the period 12 noon until 2.00 pm (and often 2.30 pm) is essentially lost time when no other activities can take place. This is particularly wasteful where services are being paid for and not delivered e.g. education, Cranstoun, or visiting medical specialists.

Exercise has caused problems at Dumfries. Despite being both a mandatory and well established requirement, its provision appears to take an inordinate amount of effort and seems to cut across other aspects of the regime. For example, at the time of inspection it was indicated that four separate exercise periods were required to manage differing groups of prisoners. While this may be a transitional issue it was difficult to understand why the provision of such a basic requirement appeared to be so difficult. The location and design of the exercise yard, which has no physical barrier between it and the gate, may contribute to it, but as a matter of urgency local management should resolve this issue.

Crime Prevention

The transition from a young offender to an adult population will provide a number of challenges in the area of crime prevention. Dumfries currently has a number of programmes including Relationships, Sensible Drinking, Drug Awareness, Cognitive Skills and Anger Management.

While courses are both underway and planned, there are few completions and this is far from being a satisfactory situation. Local management have indicated that targeted staff training has been affected by staff shortages and that uptake on programmes has been markedly lower from local prisoners, than was the case with long term YOs who linked participation in programmes with progression. It may well be that for Dumfries an issue will be negotiating a change in programmes to suit the needs of a changing population. It was however extremely encouraging to see that the small female population has had access to programmes with the 21 hour drug awareness programme being delivered to the female population.

The demands of the changing population of Dumfries are also likely to have a considerable impact on the prison's drug strategy which will need to be carefully monitored. Care will also be required to ensure that the various elements of the drug strategy link up. In this context, there is some concern that the assessment work carried out by Cranstoun does not necessarily reflect in referrals to the SPS programmes. Additionally, work is being done locally to develop further and more appropriate responses to addiction needs. This work within the programmes unit requires to be taken ahead with some urgency.

The prisoner population now fall outwith the SPS Sentence Management Scheme, although it is encouraging to see that the sentence management scheme which was used for the long term young offender population has been adapted and is being used as the basis of sentence management for the short term prisoners. Although at an early stage, this work is to be commended.

Summary

The change in population will undoubtedly provide a significant number of challenges for Dumfries, particularly

during the period of transition. Some staff may have been comfortable with the more structured management of young offenders and, might require support in changing their role. The challenge of meeting the needs of a short term prisoner population will also need to be addressed, and it is likely that the response to drugs and the development of throughcare links to the community will be areas where considerable work will be required. A greater challenge may be to energise staff, as there was a disappointing atmosphere of negativity around making provision for even some of the most basic requirements of the establishment.

The Open Estate

Follow up inspection as at 10-12 December 2002 (previous full inspection Castle Huntly 20-23 November 2001, Noranside 29 September – 1 October 1998)

A decision was taken to integrate Castle Huntly and Noranside into one 'Open Estate' in October 2001. This presents a number of important challenges for the two establishments. This was the first inspection since that decision and the main focus of the inspection was to examine the treatment of prisoners and the conditions in which they were held; how the new integrated estate was operating; and how the establishments were helping prisoners to prepare for release. The main findings are outlined below.

- Both Castle Huntly and Noranside looked and felt safe environments.
- Both establishments provided decent conditions for prisoners. This included the food, accommodation, visiting arrangements, healthcare and education.
- Work placements and Home Leaves are a vital part of preparing prisoners for release and these were working well. Staff were dedicated and enthusiastic. However, there is concern about a lack of preparation for Home Leaves and questions were raised about access to work placements.
- There was a lack of programmes and other strategies designed to prepare prisoners for release.

- Very little was being done for short-term prisoners.
- The Open Estate did not provide a drug free environment and relatively little was being done to help prisoners with addiction problems.

Overall, there appeared to be a lack of a commonly understood purpose for open prisons, particularly in relation to preparation for release. Efforts were being made to address this.

HMP Peterhead

Full inspection 27-31 January 2003

- The prison was clean and tidy.
- Prisoners and staff felt safe and levels of assaults, incidents of self harm, and levels of drug misuse were low.
- Relationships between staff and prisoners were excellent and were built on respect and trust.
- Following the transfer of long term sex offenders from Glenochil, conditions in some cells in 'B' Hall and 'B Annex', where two men were "doubling up" were unacceptable.
- The prison was suffering from under investment which was having an impact on the conditions in which prisoners lived and staff worked.
- Despite much public concern the prison has no integral sanitation and prisoners were still using porta potties (sometimes one potty shared between two men).
- Sex offenders appeared to be treated unfairly because they were unlikely to cause trouble. They had limited access to "Top End" facilities, were forced to double up and had no access to community placements.

- The prison does not run sufficient programmes to meet the identified needs of its population.
- Continued uncertainty about the long term future of the prison had led to low staff morale, although sickness levels were still amongst the lowest in the SPS.

Overall, Peterhead was a safe and secure prison but chronic under investment had led to some unacceptable conditions. The STOP programme was operating effectively but not all prisoners who wanted to were able to participate.

HMYOI Polmont

Follow up inspection as at 11-12 February 2003 (previous full inspection May 1998)

- Staff/prisoner relationships were very good.
- The opening of new houseblock, Iona, had been well managed and prisoners and staff were enthusiastic about it.
- Visits were well managed in decent conditions.
- The youth worker and chaplains were making a significant contribution to the work of the establishment.
- Throughcare generally was being delivered in a very positive way.
- Staff were positive about the opportunities provided by a single site for young offenders.
- There was an absence of open air exercise.
- The provision of purposeful activity was still a problem, although it was being seriously addressed and the situation had improved markedly from the last inspection.

- The lack of proper sanitation arrangements is unacceptable.

The standard of accommodation in some parts of Polmont was very poor, although the new houseblock is an excellent facility. There was much more going on by way of purposeful activity than before and expectations were high about a proposed new timetabling system to ensure parity of access to activities.

HMP Greenock

Follow up inspection as at 25-26 February 2003 (previous full inspection February 2002)

- Staff/prisoner relationships continue to be excellent.
- The prison felt safe and bullying was not a feature.
- Food was of a high standard.
- Visits were good, although the time for some sessions was reduced due to staffing deployment.
- Accommodation for long term prisoners was good.
- Levels of overcrowding in Ailsa Hall were far too high.
- Overcrowding, combined with the mix of prisoners in Ailsa Hall, was causing problems in developing a proper regime and parity of access to facilities for all prisoners located there.
- There was little by way of preparation for release for long term prisoners.
- The transfer of female prisoners from Cornton Vale and their management in Darroch Hall had been handled effectively.

- The Programmes Unit was well supported by Management and was attempting more innovative work.
- Accommodation in Darroch Hall for female prisoners was satisfactory but there was a lack of structured regime.
- There was no evidence that either the male prisoners or the female prisoners were being treated unfairly following the arrival of the females.

Greenock continues to present as a very complex establishment: three distinct prisons and regimes in one. Conditions in Chrisswell were very good and the process of transferring the female prisoners from Cornton Vale and managing them at Darroch had been handled effectively. On the whole, conditions for them were good. All of the overcrowding in Greenock occurs in Ailsa Hall and given the prisoner mix and sheer turnover of remand and short term prisoners, the Hall was in surprisingly good repair. Staff are to be commended for continuing to deliver some kind of regime for Ailsa prisoners in what might otherwise appear to be an impossible situation.

HMP Low Moss

Follow up inspection as at 11-12 March 2003 (previous full inspection February 1998)

- Although there is a history of disturbance, there have been no major incidents in recent months.
- The number of prisoner on prisoner assaults was very high, and far exceeded targets; while the anti-bullying strategy did not appear to be working and needs to be re-visited.
- The quality and quantity of food was good.
- The accommodation in general is dated, unclean and not conducive to good order and discipline: the buildings show how little investment there has been.

- The refurbishment of dormitory 5 is impressive, and shows what can be done with imagination and at relatively little cost.
- Relationships between staff and prisoners have become much better in recent years. But, the prison has some out of date, regimented, practices which impact on the personal conditions under which individuals are held, such as individuals not having access to their own clothes or personal property.
- Prisoners do not have access to clean clothes and the laundry arrangements are disorganised and inhibit the effective distribution of clean clothes.
- There needs to be greater focus on the issue of drug misuse within the prison.
- Little takes place by way of induction.
- The gymnasium does not offer the levels of access to exercise required by a relatively young prisoner population.
- A review of staff supervision within the main visit room would enhance the visits environment.
- All prisoners are given the opportunity to work, and some of this work produces products of a high standard. There are opportunities to enhance the prospect of employment on liberation.
- Education is both popular and constructive.

Low Moss caters for short term, medium to low supervision prisoners. The estate has lacked investment and most of the buildings are in poor repair. A refurbishment of one of the dormitories shows what can be done with imagination and at relatively little cost. Drugs are a problem and even some basics such as clean and personal clothing are not provided.

3. Review of the Prison Inspectorate's year 2002-2003

Inspections and Other Reports

Inspections for the year were completed as follows.

Aberdeen	1-2 July 2002
Inverness	5-6 August 2002
Cornton Vale	9-10 September 2002
Edinburgh	23-24 September 2002
Dumfries	22-23 October 2002
The Open Estate	10-12 December 2002
Peterhead	27-31 January 2003
Polmont	11-12 February 2003
Greenock	25-26 February 2003
Low Moss	11-12 March 2003

Staff

Andrew McLellan succeeded Clive Fairweather as HMCIP on 28 October 2002, when the post also became full time. Rod MacCowan (formerly Governor of HMP Edinburgh) was appointed HMDCCIP in August 2002. Malcolm McLennan (Inspector) left to become Acting Deputy Governor HMYOI Polmont in September 2002. A list of staffing is provided on page 38.

(P/T = Part time)

(F/T = Full time)

	March 2003		March 2002	
HM Chief Inspector	Andrew McLellan	(F/T)	Clive Fairweather, CBE	(P/T)
HM Deputy Chief Inspector	Rod MacCowan	(F/T)	Vacant	(F/T)
HM Assistant Chief Inspector	Dr David McAllister	(F/T)	Dr David McAllister	(F/T)
HM Inspector	Michael Crossan (to February 2003)	(F/T)	Malcolm McLennan (to September 2002)	(F/T)
Administrative Support	Janet Reid	(F/T)	Janet Reid	(F/T)
Medical Adviser	Dr Mike Ryan	(P/T)	Dr Mike Ryan	(P/T)
Education Adviser	John Oates	(P/T)	John Oates	(P/T)
Nursing Adviser	Margaret Reed	(P/T)	Margaret Reed	(P/T)
Addictions Adviser*	Jane Thomson	(P/T)	Jane Thomson	(P/T)

*By kind permission of South West Addiction Team

Guest Inspectors

July 2002 (HMP Aberdeen)	Sharon Aitken	SPS
September 2002 (HMP Edinburgh)	Teresa Medhurst	SPS
January 2003 (HMP Peterhead)	Dr Louise Falshaw	Head of Research and Development, HM Inspectorate of Prisons for England and Wales.
March 2003 (HMP Low Moss)	Jim Dustan	SPS

Observers

July 2002 (HMP Aberdeen)	Sian Thornthwaite	(Lay Magistrate Derby and South Derbyshire
September 2002 (HMP & YOI Cornton Vale)	Nicola Barry	Journalist
	Dr Nancy Loucks	Researcher
September 2002 (HMP Edinburgh)	Mr Justice Dermot Kinlen	Inspector General of Prisons and Places of Detention, Ireland
	Martin McCarthy	Inspector, Prisons and Places of Detention, Ireland

Finance

The Inspectorate's budget for 2002-2003 is shown below:-

• Staff costs for four full-time staff	£255,000
• Consultancy, training, travel and subsistence and other running costs	£60,000
Total	£315,000

The 2003-2004 budget is: £315,000

Communications

Recent formal and thematic reports can be found on the Internet (www.scotland.gov.uk/hmip). Email: andrew.mclellan@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Submissions to the Scottish Parliament's Justice Committee

The 2001-2002 Annual Report was laid before the Scottish Parliament on 4 September 2002, with oral evidence given to the Justice Committee on 17 September 2002.

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