

HMIPS HM Inspectorate of Prisons for Scotland INSPECTING AND MONITORING

HMIPS SERVICE DELIVERY PERFORMANCE				
Number of IPM visits (calls):	11	Statutory requirement met?	No	
Volunteer hours committed:	n/a	% of prisoner requests handled:	100	

Comments: Volunteer hours not recorded for phone calls (visits only). Amber rating for statutory requirement is due to visits not taking place during lockdown, with remote calls replacing visits. Amber rating for number of calls reflects the fact that remote monitoring commenced midway through the quarter.

MONITORING FINDINGS			
MAIN AREAS MONITORED	FINDINGS		
Personal safety	Prison management confirmed that they had followed the Scottish Government's guidance with regards to physical distancing etc. IPMs had spoken with some prisoners who said that physical distancing was not always observed on the halls, by prisoners and staff. This was confirmed by prison management, who continued to stress to prisoners and staff the importance of following the guidance. Two metre markings had been marked on the floors to assist with this.		
Regime	Both prison management and prisoner reps confirmed that prisoners were accepting of the new regime, and were coping well with the changes. PIAC meetings continued to be held and were giving prisoners the opportunity to help shape these changes.		
Decency	Prisoners were getting daily showers, time in fresh air, and exercise. IPMs welcome this, and were pleased to note that the allocated time for these had been increased recently as lockdown restrictions were eased.		
Healthcare	No issues had been reported regarding the delivery of healthcare. The number of prisoners on Talk to Me – The SPS Suicide Strategy were down. Mental Health consultations continued to happen also, by phone or in the closed visits facility. IPMs welcome this as mental health could be affected being in cell for so long each day. COVID-19 testing was happening efficiently.		
Family contact	Prisoners expressed frustration at the apparent lack of process in implementing virtual visits and in-cell phones. While it took some time to get virtual visits up and running, it is understood the delay was caused by the need for legislation to be passed. It was now up and running and proving popular with prisoners. In-cell phone implementation will be welcomed also.		
Purposeful activity	Prisoner work had understandably decreased, with only essential work parties still operating under strict safety requirements. IPMs were pleased to note that the Textiles Workshop had been making facemasks and scrubs for NHS Tayside. The prisoners reported taking pride in their work.		

AREAS TO BE MONITORED NEXT

IPMs will continue to focus on how prisoners are coping during lockdown, particularly where restrictions are eventually eased. It is hoped on-site monitoring will resume in the week beginning 27th July.

IPMs will also monitor how the prison reintroduces elements of the regime when safe to do so, for example education classes, further work sheds, additional time out of cell, etc.