



Annual Report of the Independent Monitoring Board at HMP Haverigg

**For reporting year
01 December 2020 – 30 November 2021**

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Introductory sections 1 – 3

1. Statutory role of the IMB

The Prison Act 1952 requires every prison to be monitored by an independent board appointed by the Secretary of State from members of the community in which the prison is situated.

Under the National Monitoring Framework agreed with ministers, the Board is required to:

- satisfy itself as to the humane and just treatment of those held in custody within its prison and the range and adequacy of the programmes preparing them for release
- inform promptly the Secretary of State, or any official to whom authority has been delegated as it judges appropriate, any concern it has
- report annually to the Secretary of State on how well the prison has met the standards and requirements placed on it and what impact these have on those in its custody.

To enable the Board to carry out these duties effectively, its members have right of access to every prisoner and every part of the prison and also to the prison's records.

The Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT) is an international human rights treaty designed to strengthen protection for people deprived of their liberty. The protocol recognises that such people are particularly vulnerable and aims to prevent their ill-treatment through establishing a system of visits or inspections to all places of detention. OPCAT requires that states designate a National Preventive Mechanism to carry out visits to places of detention, to monitor the treatment of and conditions for detainees and to make recommendations for the prevention of ill-treatment. The IMB is part of the United Kingdom's National Preventive Mechanism.

2. Description of the establishment

Haverigg became a category D open prison in December 2019 and was designated as a national resource for men/prisoners convicted of a sexual offence (PCOSO).

Despite restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, considerable progress was made with physical changes and improvements across the prison resulting, at the time of writing, in an environment more closely resembling an open establishment.

Except for one residence, R4, closed last year following a fire safety inspection, all the other four residences remained open throughout the year. One residence (R5) continued to function as the reverse cohorting and isolation unit for most of the year and has only, in recent weeks, returned to normal use.

The operational capacity of the prison is planned to be 490. The current roll is 310 with the speed of transfer having slowed, in part due to the pandemic, but in particular because of staff shortages in key probation, offender management and psychology roles.

Plans to build a new accommodation block on the site of R4, currently being demolished, are at an early stage and it is understood that construction may be some years away. When open, the operational capacity of the prison will increase to 570.

The prison is remote from mainline rail services and major road networks. The M6 motorway is almost 50 miles away, with much of the journey on narrow country roads. The location has an impact on the maintenance of family ties, recruitment to specialist posts in the prison and to the IMB.

The prison is on an old military site dating back to World War 2 and has 80, mainly old, buildings within the 4.5-mile perimeter. The site is large and exposed, especially to strong sea winds.

The isolation and exposure of the prison to extreme weather conditions is illustrated on the next page.



The following agencies provide services to the prison:

- Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust – primary healthcare
- Gables Medical (Offender Health) Ltd – GP services
- Cumbria Health on Call (CHOC) – out-of-hours GP services
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust – mental health services
- Burgess and Hyder – dental services
- Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust – substance misuse service
- Cumbria County Council – adult social care
- Pen Optical – optician services, Rowlands Pharmacy
- Physiotherapy – commissioned by primary care provider
- Novus, the Manchester College – education and training
- Booker/DHL – prisoners' canteen
- GEOAmey – prisoner transport
- Department of Education– library funder
- The Samaritans – prisoners' Listener training and phoneline support
- Visitors and Children's Support Group (independent charity) – visitor centre
- Interventions Alliance, Recoop and Careers Connect– financial advice, accommodation, employment guidance

- Amey – facilities management
- Cancer Research UK – charity shop
- Fusion21 – vocational course provider

3. Executive summary

3.1 Background to the report

The Covid-19 pandemic led to the Board returning to remote monitoring from December 2020 to the beginning of March 2021. However, throughout this time, the Board had fortnightly teleconferences with groups of prisoners from each of the residences. Members of the Board also remotely attended morning meetings and in addition, the chair and acting governor re-established their weekly telephone call.

Evidence for this report, therefore, comes from remote monitoring, observations made on visits from March to the end of November and scrutiny of records and data.

Throughout the lockdowns the prisoners at Haverigg benefitted from having almost unlimited freedom of movement within their own billet or wing and access to grounds and gardens surrounding each residence; however, the impact of the pandemic was experienced in other ways. Of particular concern to prisoners was a lack of purposeful activity, suspension of release on temporary licence (ROTL), and inability to make progress and prepare for release.

3.2 Main judgements

How safe is the prison?

The Board is of the view that the management team give safety the priority it needs, as evidenced through direct observation, discussions with prisoners and attendances at meetings.

Prisoners in all areas consistently told the Board they felt that the Covid-19 pandemic had been managed well by the prison and that they felt safe. Very low levels of self-harm and incidences of violence ensured that the prison was settled throughout much of the year.

In the judgement of the Board, the prison is a safe environment.

How fairly and humanely are prisoners treated?

The Board's view is that prisoners are treated fairly and humanely, but it is aware of a perception amongst some prisoners that different groups are treated more favourably, particularly relating to ROTL and, more generally, to employment opportunities. The Board has seen no evidence of this and monthly statistics provided by the offender management unit (OMU) demonstrate that determinate and indeterminate sentenced prisoners are progressed equally.

Although there have been limited opportunities to observe adjudications and immediate suitability reviews (ISRs), those that have been attended by members of the Board were judged to be fair, proportionate and constructive. Decisions to return a prisoner to closed conditions were taken following detailed consideration of all the evidence presented.

The Board's view is that prisoners are treated fairly.

Although our judgement is that prisoners are treated humanely at Haverigg, it is regrettable that some experiences beyond the control of the Governor and his management team are less humane. Long waiting times for dental treatment, for example, left one prisoner waiting six weeks for dentures to be fitted and several accommodation billets became uninhabitable during unprecedented heavy rainfall and widespread flooding which occurred throughout Cumbria in early November, although alternative accommodation was offered and repairs to the roofs and building fabric were prioritised.

However, the Board considers that the continued imprisonment of imprisonment for public protection (IPP) prisoners, who make up approximately 30% of Haverigg's population, for many years, and in some cases over a decade, beyond their tariff, and their treatment by the wider criminal justice system, is inhumane.

How well are prisoners' health and wellbeing needs met?

As last year, prisoners have expressed their appreciation to the Board for the primary and mental healthcare provided at the prison.

With an ageing population, the focus throughout the year has been on chronic disease management and, in partnership with gym staff, the provision of health promotion activities.

The introduction of resident support assistants has provided a strong network of support for prisoners with disabilities. However, in the view of the Board, the social care processes of assessment and provision of aids to daily living lag services provided in the community. There is also a need for a clearly defined pathway for social care support on discharge.

Prisoner anxiety on transfer from a closed establishment to an open prison and prior to discharge is, as observed by the Board, managed sensitively by officers, healthcare and civilian staff.

It is evident to the Board that prisoners' health and wellbeing needs are met and that every effort is being made to improve the level of social care provision and to clarify arrangements for discharge.

How well are prisoners progressed towards successful resettlement?

For prisoners of working age, a wide range of employment opportunities are available in the prison. Increasingly, for those with ROTL clearance, paid work within local businesses and industry is becoming available.

The employment hub provides details of vacancies across the northwest and supports prisoners in making applications and preparation for interviews.

On release, the majority of prisoners will go, initially, to approved premises. The OMU begins planning release six months before known discharge dates. A member

of the Board observes the monthly release planning meetings and notes that for most prisoners accommodation is confirmed well in advance. However, the Board is aware that for two prisoners accommodation was only confirmed the day before release. This caused them considerable anxiety.

As a national resource for PCOSO, prisoners at Haverigg are from all over the UK. The Board is aware that offender managers have experienced difficulties in communicating with community managers and have faced delay in the receipt of reports from outside agencies for both release planning and preparation for Parole Board hearings.

There is a perception amongst IPP prisoners that they are treated less favourably than those serving determinate sentences and vice versa. Evidence seen by the Board does not bear this out. Monthly statistics from the OMU clearly show that in all aspects of progression and resettlement, both sentence groups are treated equitably and proportionate to their populations.

The Board's view is that, for prisoners of working age, there is a wide range of employment opportunities, many of which lead to vocational qualifications, placing them in a good position to secure employment on release. Prisoners of retirement age, some of whom have been in prison for several decades, are well prepared for when they are released.

Despite continuing difficulty in recruiting to key posts, the Board is satisfied that every effort is made to provide prisoners with the support, skills and experience for them to progress towards a successful resettlement.

3.3 Main areas for development

TO THE MINISTER

The plight of prisoners at Haverigg serving an IPP sentence continues to be a major concern of the Board and is neither fair nor humane. Although the Justice Select Committee's inquiry into IPP sentences is welcome and the Board awaits its recommendations with interest, for prisoners many years over tariff there is little, if any, confidence in a justice system which has kept them imprisoned long after the IPP sentence was abolished.

It is of concern that action proposed by a former chair of the Parole Board in 2016, in which he put forward the suggestion that the risk test for IPP-sentenced prisoners 'be reversed so that they would only remain in prison if there was evidence that they were a risk to the public, rather than evidence that they were not' has not been introduced.¹

A further concern of the Board is the high level of licence recalls, on occasions almost outnumbering releases.

Is the Minister able to provide assurance to the Board that he will consider legislation to commute the IPP sentence to a determinate one, to limit recall to a determinate

¹ Letter from Professor Nick Hardwick to Secretary of State for Justice, the Right Honourable Michael Gove MP

period and to increase the level of support, particularly probation, for these prisoners on release?

The Board welcomes the Prime Minister's commitment that employment opportunities will be made available for 1,000 prison leavers by the end of 2023 and asks whether this opportunity will be available to prisoners convicted of sexual offences.

TO THE PRISON SERVICE

Once again, the Board is concerned about the loss of property on transfer, with over 25% of IMB applications received this year related to property. Two members of the Board participated in the prison property framework (PPF) focus group and commented on the draft document, finding it disappointing that there is no evidence of any improvement in the management of prisoners' property.

At the time of writing, the Board has little confidence that the long-awaited implementation of the PPF will result in systemic improvements to prevent the distressing loss of prisoners' property, especially on transfer between establishments.

Unless or until responsibility and accountability for property are aligned with performance monitoring, it is our view that nothing will change.

Is HMPPS able to reassure the Board that priority will be given to resolving this long-standing issue?

TO THE GOVERNOR

Once again, the Board commends the Governor, his management team and staff on their efforts to effectively and sensitively manage Covid-19 and lead the prison progressively forward to the Stage 1 regime of increasing normality. A high rate of vaccination (93%) across the prison and the intensive testing programme for prisoners and staff has minimised the impact of the pandemic.

However, the Board is concerned about the impact of staff vacancies in key roles, especially the OMU, and the impact this has on prisoners' progression and resettlement. The Board is interested to learn about efforts to recruit probation officers and the measures taken to mitigate any delays in progression, particularly on arrangements for accommodation on release.

3.4 Progress since the last report

Environmental improvements continued throughout the year, including the removal or lowering of internal fencing, tree planting and the creation of boules courts and a bowling green.

The introduction of resident support assistant and residential information officer roles, together with orderlies supporting many of the prison's operational services, increased the involvement of prisoners in all aspects of prison life.

It was particularly pleasing to the Board that concerns raised by prisoners during lockdown teleconferences were progressively addressed, with improvements made in, for example, laundry facilities in all residences and increased privacy around wing telephones.

Staff and prisoner relationships continued to strengthen throughout the year, with members of the Board routinely observing constructive interactions. Prisoners have regularly made positive comments to the Board about staff, a much-improved position to those made last year ('stuck in a category C mentality').

Evidence sections 4 – 7

4. Safety

From December to the beginning of March, the Board undertook no direct monitoring but again was able to hold teleconferences with prisoner representatives from all residential areas. Issues raised were passed to the senior management team and the Board gave feedback at the next teleconference. At each session prisoners were asked about any safety concerns they had. Feedback received indicated that they felt safe at Haverigg and that the Covid pandemic was being managed well by the prison.

The prison received a full inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) in May. Safety was given a 4-star rating by the inspectors, who made favourable comments on how the prison was being managed.

4.1 Reception and induction

In the early months of the reporting year, all new arrivals were held for a 14-day period on the reverse cohorting unit (RCU) before being located on a wing. The process of ensuring all prisoners received induction information from the safety team during this time continued.

A pre-arrival letter and welcome booklet for prisoners transferring to Haverigg was developed. This is now forwarded to the sending establishment in advance, so prisoners know what to expect on arrival.

Towards the end of the reporting year, the prison moved to the Stage 1 regime, with prisoners arriving from 'green' sites with no Covid outbreaks able to move into the general population following their first night accommodation. Arrivals from 'amber' or 'red' sites continued to be quarantined in the RCU.

Throughout most of the reporting year, prisoners' property was held in reception for 72 hours after their arrival. This initially caused problems with lack of access to medication and vapes, for example. A request by Haverigg staff to sending establishments, that, on transfer, prisoners should bring a first night/24-hour bag with them was only partially successful. Nonetheless, prisoners have been complimentary about their reception at the prison.

The Board has been particularly impressed by the sensitive and supportive peer-led reception, first night and induction processes, and associated information and induction booklets.

Between 1 December 2020 and 30 November 2021, 238 prisoners were received on transfer, of whom a small number were foreign nationals.

4.2 Suicide and self-harm, deaths in custody

The number of assessment, care in custody and teamwork (ACCT) documents opened was again small, with only 31 in the reporting year. Of these, 21 were opened because of low mood. The safety team have identified this area as a priority for next year and plan to look in more depth at the issue to ensure the relevant support is offered to prisoners.

An overview of the reasons revealed that younger prisoners are more susceptible to being placed on an ACCT.

Daily safety bulletins ensure that all ACCTS are reviewed and paperwork completed within required timescales.

During the year there were five instances of deliberate self-harm recorded. A safety co-ordinator has been recruited to run focus groups around self-harm management and suicide prevention.

Suicide and self-harm (SASH) training for all staff re-commenced and attendance at external training for all case managers is planned.

A self-harm survey was undertaken by the mental health team to look at why people self-harm and how it can be prevented. The results have not yet been published.

There were no deaths in custody (DIC) during the year but, at the time of writing, the inquest into the DIC in November 2020, due to apparent natural causes, had not been held.

4.3 Violence and violence reduction, self-isolation

There were five incidents of violence reported, four of which were linked to gambling debt and the use of fermenting liquid. The prison took swift action to deal with these issues and there were no further instances reported this year.

Weekly meetings are held to review all prisoners going through the CSIP process, those on an ACCT, and those who otherwise need further support or for whom staff have concerns. These meetings are well attended by prison, healthcare and chaplaincy staff, with supportive action plans for prisoners agreed and tracked.

4.4 Use of force

The Board believes that use of force by HMP Haverigg staff is at very low levels, with no matters of concern brought to the members' attention during the reporting period.

4.5 Preventing illicit items

There does not appear to be any evidence of the use of psychoactive substances in Haverigg. Intelligence and the use of drug testing suggested low-level availability of “tradeable” prescription medication.

The risk of drug availability is considered manageable by the prison and the IMB has no reason to believe the overall impact on prisoners gives rise to undue concern.

However, brewing of fermenting liquid in October resulted in some isolated incidents, including a fight and links to gambling. There were some reports of drunkenness which had the potential to compromise the safety of the prison, with three prisoners subsequently returned to closed prisons. The disruption was dealt with promptly and effectively and the prison quickly returned to its settled state.

5. Fair and humane treatment

5.1 Accommodation, clothing, food

The programme of upgrading residential units continued throughout the year and, in the absence of concerns or comments being made to the IMB, the Board concluded that there was a high level of satisfaction with the refurbishment. This included, for example, the replacement of all metal beds with wooden ones with integral storage, shower replacement, new flooring in some areas, and additional washing machines.

The Cancer Research charity shop on site continued to offer a wide range of affordable clothing for prisoners, in addition to the opportunity for employment, sorting donations made to the charity's shops in the community.

Prisoners' opinions about food have varied throughout the year. Comments to the Board have ranged from very complimentary to complaints that meals are high in carbohydrate and lack protein. Prisoners who work outside the prison have stated that the food is insufficient to sustain them.

However, the catering manager is responsive to comments and suggestions and, as far as possible, adapts menu choices to meet individual or group needs. The Board continues to be impressed that with a daily food allowance of £2.30 per prisoner, special diets and all religious festivals are provided for.

Themed nights were held each month during the second half of the year, including Chinese, Italian and Mexican food.

It is unfortunate that limited use was made of the two dining rooms adjacent to the kitchen which had been refurbished last year, due in part to Covid restrictions and the preference of some prisoners to eat meals on the wings.

It is pleasing that investment was made during the year in improvements to the fabric of the kitchen building and that electrical breakdowns and equipment failure were finally addressed. All the work was carried out with minimal disruption.

5.2 Segregation

As an open prison, Haverigg does not have a segregation unit. There are two holding cells on R1, occupied by prisoners while their suitability for remaining at Haverigg is reviewed.

There were 66 immediate suitability reviews (ISRs) held during the reporting year, more than double the number held in the previous year. However, the prison population also increased and so the frequency of ISRs was not a major concern of the Board

Board members were routinely notified of ISRs in advance and invited to attend and listen to the evidence presented by a range of professional disciplines. The Board is of the view that prisoners are given every opportunity to succeed in open conditions, but the safety of staff and other prisoners is of primary concern in decision making.

There were 73 adjudications held over the year, a reduction of 23 on the previous year. Not all were notified to the Board in advance, which left little opportunity for observation of the adjudication process or the outcomes for prisoners.

5.3 Staff-prisoner relationships

Interactions between prisoners, officers and civilian staff have been observed throughout the year to be courteous and respectful. Opportunities for peer support have expanded with the introduction of resident support and resident information roles. Focus groups and an IPP sentence support group, facilitated by staff, are being encouraged to be increasingly peer-led.

However, comments by a small number of prisoners (<10) to the Board have highlighted a lack of consistency in routine information provided by different officers. Although this is not believed to be a widespread issue, the Board will be closely monitoring communication systems and processes next year.

5.4 Equality and diversity

The work of the diversity and inclusion team continued to grow in breadth and depth throughout the year, with meetings for all protected characteristic groups, some of which have been observed by members of the Board. The strength of the team's links across both management and operational functions is of particular note, and the Board has observed an increased focus on equality, diversity and inclusion throughout the prison.

Twelve complaints about discrimination were made in the last year. The majority were sent in error and could have been dealt with through the normal complaints system. Examination of six of the DIRFs by the Board confirmed that timely, thorough and sensitive responses had been made to the complainants.

Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) prisoners comprise 12% of the population although this varied throughout the year. There is no evidence of disproportionate use of force, or access to education, work and ROTL.

Two members of staff completed a self-guided learning course in sign language. Classroom-based sessions planned to start when Covid restrictions allow will enable more staff to become proficient in using sign language.

5.5 Faith and pastoral support

With 23 different religions within the prison, faith provision has been a challenge for the managing chaplain. However, it is to his credit and that of his team that they maintained a visible link and contact with prisoners in all the residences. Although services could not be held for much of the year, faith-specific material was distributed throughout the prison.

The Board has observed the efforts made to provide for the diverse range of faiths, especially those with smaller numbers of adherents.

5.6 Incentives schemes

No prisoners are on a basic regime and standard became the benchmark against which behaviour is monitored. SIP and CSIP interventions focus on modifying behaviour which has deteriorated.

5.7 Complaints

The number of applications to the Board increased from 18 last year to 43 this year, due in part to the 20% increase in the prison population since the last annual report.

The content of applications mirrored those of previous years; however there were significant increases in those concerning health, property on transfer (see below) and sentence management. Each was unsurprising given the impact of Covid restrictions on mental health, the maintenance of family ties, opportunities for ROTL and delays in parole hearings.

The prison received 572 complaints during the IMB's reporting year, with timely responses made to 75% of complainants. The majority of the remaining 25% for which responses were delayed concerned property in possession, mostly relating to Xboxes. This highlighted an issue raised by the IMB open prisons chairs' group of differences between prisons in, for example, authorised and unauthorised items of property and pay rates. A thematic review across the open estate is planned to take place in early 2022.

5.8 Property

It is disappointing that after the reduction last year in the number of applications about missing property, complaints, particularly about the loss of personal papers on transfer to Haverigg, have accelerated this year.

It is of regret that, despite the considerable efforts of the prison's complaints clerk, there is rarely a timely, if any, response from the other prisons or a satisfactory outcome for the complainant.

6. Health and wellbeing

6.1 Healthcare general

Covid, the management of long-term conditions, and the health and wellbeing needs of an ageing population continued to be of high priority.

Prisoners continued to comment favourably to the Board about their healthcare. Of the prisoners surveyed during an inspection by HMIP and the Care Quality Commission, 88% stated that healthcare provided high quality primary health services.

Inspectors noted, in particular, 'excellent partnership working across health services and with the prison'.

Re-tendering of primary care services began in the second half of the year, the outcome of which is expected in early 2022.

6.2 Physical healthcare

During the year, eight prisoners tested Covid positive and also 71 members of staff. Community transmission remained high throughout, and an outbreak of infection among prisoners was prevented by a highly effective track and trace system, together with vaccination rates of prisoners at 98% and staff at 80%. From September, prisoners began doing their own lateral flow tests twice weekly.

The physical healthcare needs of the prison population have continued to focus on the management of chronic diseases. The level of diabetes, respiratory problems and heart disease increased in the older prison population during the year, and with 50% of prisoners across all age groups having obesity, demands on healthcare continued to grow. An increasing number of the very elderly population (over-70s) were diagnosed as having dementia.

However, waiting times for attendance at the GP surgery, nurse-led clinics and urgent dental care continued to be at least as good as in the community.

In preparation for the re-commissioning of health services, projections of need for when the operational capacity of the prison is reached (570) indicated that additional resources would be required. More optician time will be needed to meet the demand for annual eye tests for prisoners over 70 and those with diabetes or glaucoma. Demands are expected to increase for other primary care services.

6.3 Mental health

As with physical health care services, mental health providers had to adapt their service model to meet the needs of the new population when the prison was recategorised at the end of 2019.

The provision of support to prisoners to enable them to manage the stresses involved during their transition from closed prisons to the open estate and those prior to release into the community continued to be of high priority.

Access to 'talking therapies' has been commended by prisoners, one of whom informed a member of the Board that this provision had helped him more than decades of mental healthcare in other prisons.

Of particular concern to the Board, as noted in section 3, are the mental health needs of IPP prisoners. Having attended IPP events, members of the Board have witnessed the despair of prisoners, many years over tariff and with limited prospect of timely release.

6.4 Social care

Social care issues have increased over the reporting year as the age profile of the prison population includes 46% over 50, of which 8% are over 70.

Mobility problems have been highlighted when prisoners have been assessed on arrival at Haverigg, but their access to a variety of aids to daily living has been limited. Some of these items are essential for mobility around the site to visit healthcare, the Village Hall, the Hive and the dining room.

With few prisoners able to afford to buy aids or appliances, the prison's proposal to produce a catalogue of approved items available for purchase in instalments is a welcome initiative.

There has been an increase in social care referrals for capacity issues and dementia, with bespoke packages of care developed for individual cases. A cognitive stimulation group is to start next year.

There is a need for greater clarity about the responsibility for social care assessments prior to discharge, as many prisoners are released to another local authority area in England or Wales.

Although there have been improvements in access to residential areas and buildings, the Board is of the view that further work is needed to prevent accidents. Uneven paths present a slip or trip risk for those with mobility issues or sight impairment. An improvement in signage around the prison would help the prisoners whose cognitive awareness is failing. Awareness sessions on dementia, autism and depression have been well attended by staff and observed by members of the Board.

6.5 Exercise, regime

The gym staff have adapted well to the change in emphasis in the exercise regime from that delivered to younger category C prisoners to the predominantly older category D population, many of whom have been in prison for decades and have a low level of fitness.

Following assessment, individual mobility and fitness programmes are developed. Members of the Board have observed the encouragement given by the staff and the

Board commends the joint working between the gym, healthcare and the catering department in the promotion of healthy living, essential as, noted above, 50% of the prison population are considered obese.

6.6 Drug and alcohol rehabilitation

Treatment and support services are provided by a drug and alcohol recovery team (DART), who engage with and remain available to prisoners from 'entry to exit'. This is particularly important for those with a declared drug or alcohol issue, either ongoing or in the past before their arrival at Haverigg.

Arrangements have been made with pharmacies for prisoners to obtain their prescription medication when on ROTL.

The team has also established links with community-based services, enabling continuity of treatment and support on discharge

DART has had a consistent caseload of approximately 15% of prisoners throughout the year.

6.7 Soft skills

The Village Hall, a venue mainly for prisoners of retirement age, was well used throughout the year. Members of the Board were frequent visitors and observed many of the activities, health promotion events, music, and arts.

Monthly coffee mornings have started for IPP prisoners and have been well attended by prison, health, and social care staff as well as prisoners themselves. A feedback interview with individuals is held monthly to identify any issues prisoners may be having.

It is unfortunate that an avian flu outbreak led to the hens and ducks, cared for by prisoners on each residence, being isolated on the prison farm.

Beekeeping in the wildlife park continued. Several prisoners were given budgerigars to care for.

Opportunities became available during the year for prisoners to take part in various crafts, including card making and woodworking.

The Hive opened in stages during the year, with accommodation provided for information, advice and support services. The Cancer Research clothing charity shop, a farm shop, bakery and mini café also opened.

A room allocated to the IMB in the Hive is being brought in to use as a 'drop in' or 'by appointment' resource. It is hoped that this will provide a different opportunity for IMB members to be readily available to prisoners in what will become a hive of activity in

the prison.



Tree planting as part of the Queen's Green Canopy in celebration of HM Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

7. Progression and resettlement

7.1 Library, education

After having been closed for much of the year, the library opened to prisoners by appointment on 1 August and was fully open from 19 September. Since then, prisoners have made over 400 visits a week. Extended opening times enable those who work to access the library.

The Board commends the library staff for their initiatives, particularly in the provision of books, DVDs, boxed sets, and talking books as requested by prisoners. The anticipated arrival of a computer next year, for use by prisoners for job searches, for example, will be watched with interest by the Board.

It has been encouraging to observe the growing links between education, vocational training and employment with purposeful activity as their prime focus.

Educational courses cover a wide range of ability, from entry level 1 in maths and English to Open University degrees (10 prisoners).

Plans are well advanced for the introduction of both study skills course and a City & Guilds level 2 catering course in early 2022.

A member of the Board observed entry and higher-level courses and noted the enthusiasm and engagement of prisoners in their education.

The development of digital skills is a key priority for prisoners to prepare them for release. The biggest challenge, as described to a Board member, is that information technology within the education department does not reflect the digital world in the community. The use of simulations, in the view of the Board, may only bring partial success.

7.2 Vocational training, work

All prisoners under 65 are in education or employment, either via ROTL, internal industries or supporting prison services. Prisoners over retirement age are able to continue in employment, although adjustments in the type of work may be needed.

The establishment of an outreach department enabled the development of links with community leaders, local employers and industries, which resulted in employment opportunities for community working parties, increased contracts for laundry services and individual vocational work.

The provision of laundry services for four prisons in the northwest, together with a range of commercial contracts, required the laundry to work six and a half days a week. However, investment in equipment may be needed in order to sustain the heavy workload and to maintain the department's reputation for high standards.

Three vocational courses provided by Fusion21 leading to industry-recognised qualifications proved popular with prisoners. Diploma-level courses in plastering and interior fitting and the City & Guilds course in floor and wall tiling were expanded to include skills-based project work around the prison.

Action plans developed in preparation for release on completion of a course enabled prisoners to be in a good position to secure employment. Through the support from outside probation, Fusion21 rehabilitation teams identify any potential funding need, for example, for tools, safety tickets or work clothes.



A community working party upgraded the path by the shore at Silecroft to make it wheelchair accessible and safe for pushchairs.

7.3 Offender management, progression

Although there were staff vacancies and a high level of Covid-related absence during the year, the OMU was praised by HMIP, who noted that difficult and risky behaviours were managed well.

Additional management arrangements were put in place 11 times during the last quarter to enable prisoners subject to ISR to remain at Haverigg.

Although the number of applications to the Board about sentence management almost trebled compared to last year (11:4), the majority concerned access to ROTL.

In the final quarter of the year, 144 prisoners had been approved for ROTL; 88 of these are parole-eligible prisoners and 56 are serving determinate sentences.

The Board has no evidence to suggest that there have been delays in access to ROTL and the completion of testing plans but acknowledges that that is the perception of some prisoners.

Board members have attended ROTL application meetings and observed the depth of evidence presented in reaching a decision as to whether an applicant prisoner will be approved for ROTL access. It is the view of the Board that decisions reached are proportionate and appropriate.

The Board commends the comprehensive reporting by the OMU to the prisoner council meeting, which details ROTL application data, ROTL usage, ISRs and receptions and discharges.

7.4 Family contact

The maintenance of family contact was difficult for many prisoners during the year. The geographical isolation of the prison, together with Covid restrictions, made prison visiting very difficult.

Free social video calls (Purple Visits) continued, but technological problems following upgrades at times reduced the availability of the service. However, for regular users of Purple Visits it enabled prisoners, especially those from the midlands and south of the country, to remain in touch with their families.

Having been re-tendered, it is not yet known how much of the cost of this service will be passed on to prisoners.

An increase in the number of prisoners able to be released for the day or for overnight stays with family provided opportunities to strengthen family ties prior to discharge.

Plans for lifer and IPP days were delayed by Covid restrictions, but extended visiting hours were able to go ahead.

7.5 Resettlement planning

Observation of monthly release management planning (RMP) meetings was a high priority for the Board, enabling the monitoring of arrangements made for accommodation for prisoners on release.

Detailed planning for the discharge of prisoners subject to multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) commenced six months prior to release, with multi-disciplinary involvement in the assessment².

It was evident to the Board that prison offender managers (POMs) had detailed knowledge of the 60+ prisoners due for release in six months and maintained regular communication on progress with housing, approved premises, and individual needs.

However, it is of concern that communication with community offender managers is sometimes difficult, resulting in delays in confirmation of arrangements for release.

Interventions Alliance, the new provider of accommodation services in the northwest, was appointed during the year to provide advice to prisoners 16 weeks before release.

Having also been awarded the contracts in Sussex, Kent and East Anglia, Interventions Alliance should be well placed to support prisoners being discharged beyond the northwest.

Advice on finance and debt management and supporting prisoners to become 'employment ready' is provided by Careers Connect.

Both Interventions Alliance and Careers Connect services are readily accessible, with full-time staff based in the prison.

The recent involvement of Recoop in the provision of bespoke resettlement programmes for prisoners over 50 with a year or less to serve has been a welcome initiative.

² POMs, probation, reducing reoffending, security, public protection, education, healthcare, mental health.

The work of the IMB

The number of visits made by the Board increased by 36% this year compared to last year. Covid restrictions for three months at the beginning of the reporting year led, once again, to remote monitoring. However, direct contact was made with prisoners via fortnightly teleconferences.

The profile of the Board has continued to be raised throughout the prison. Our presence in the Hive during the next year, as described in section 6.7, will further increase both our visibility and availability to prisoners working on site and in the community and those on ROTL day and home release.

Recruitment continued to present challenges. Having successfully recruited three new members, one left because of changed family circumstances and one remains on sabbatical due to ill health. Although the remaining new member made rapid progress throughout his induction year, we were saddened when an experienced member and former vice chair decided to resign following a lengthy period of Covid-19 shielding.

In July the Board held a highly productive away day off site to assess progress and identify development needs and monitoring priorities for the following year.

It was agreed that the venue for a similar event next year would be within the prison.

Members continue to have a keen interest in the wider IMB, both regionally and nationally. Several have attended Board support events and joined the chair at regional meetings and the IMB open estates chairs' group meetings.

The Board has participated in a consultation on mental health in prisons and contributed to the IMB's response to the Justice Select Committee's call for evidence on the impact of the IPP sentence on prisoners' mental health.

The chair of the board is a member of the IMB management board and is also the chair of the open estates chairs' group.

The IMB at Haverigg has benefitted from the sharing of information and promotion of best practice.

Board statistics

Recommended complement of Board members	12
Number of Board members at the start of the reporting period	9
Number of Board members at the end of the reporting period	7
Total number of visits to the establishment	128
Total number of shifts on the 0800 telephone line*	N/A
Total number of Immediate Suitability Reviews attended	6

Applications to the IMB

Code	Subject	Previous reporting year	Current reporting year
A	Accommodation, including laundry, clothing, ablutions	0	0
B	Discipline, including adjudications, IEP, sanctions	5	2
C	Equality	0	0
D	Purposeful activity, including education, work, training, library, regime, time out of cell	0	3
E1	Letters, visits, telephones, public protection restrictions	2	1
E2	Finance, including pay, private monies, spends	1	1
F	Food and kitchens	0	0
G	Health, including physical, mental, social care	1	6
H1	Property within this establishment	0	3
H2	Property during transfer or in another establishment or location	2	11
H3	Canteen, facility list, catalogue(s)	0	0
I	Sentence management, including HDC, release on temporary licence, parole, release dates, recategorization	4	11
J	Staff/prisoner concerns, including bullying	0	1
K	Transfers	0	1
L	Miscellaneous, including complaints system	3	3
	Total number of applications	18	43

Appendix

Community Working Party



Haverigg Cricket Ground



Outreach Work
HMP1 HAVERIGG
Preventing Victims by Changing Lives

Outreach work involves
Bus stop renovation,
Gardening at a local
hospice, path clearing,
cricket ground
maintenance &
constructing temporary
buildings.

**SOUTHERN
LAKES
LOCATIONS**



**Bus-stop
Renovation,
Millom**



MacMillan Hospice, Barrow



The work is done around
Cumbria by groups of
residents. There has been
much positive feedback
about the work that has
been in done.

Thorny Nook



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