

Details of what we have done

Since the Panorama programme aired in September 2017, we have made a number of changes to our monitoring practice, training and guidance across the immigration detention estate and, where relevant, we have shared this learning with members who monitor the prison estate.

This includes:

- Human rights training and guidance for members
- An updated reporting abuse policy
- New report templates and guidance that focus on thematic rather than place-based monitoring to ensure the focus remains on rights-based themes such as safety, and fair and humane treatment
- The production of toolkits on topics such as monitoring clinical safeguard processes in detention and guidance on defining the use of force
- Training and guidance on monitoring and following up concerns relating to healthcare
- Training on identifying vulnerabilities
- Training on the ACDT process (for supporting those at risk of suicide or self-harm)
- Comprehensive information on when use of force is legal and the different types of use of force
- Workshops on the experiences of detained people
- Engagement and regular meetings with third-sector organisations to share concerns and findings

- The introduction of translated application forms for all Boards
- The use of translated 'ice-breaker' cards

Soon to be launched:

- In-person training on the monitoring of use of force and good practice
- Posters in the nine most commonly spoken languages in the immigration detention estate, highlighting the role of the IMB
- National guidance on how to monitor staff culture and behaviour for possible indicators of abuse – this will incorporate findings from the Brook House Inquiry
- Dedicated pocketbooks for those monitoring prisons and immigration detention facilities, providing useful on the ground advice.

Notes for Editors:

Independent Monitoring Boards (IMBs) monitor fairness and respect for people in custody to confirm it is fair, just and humane. IMBs are made up of unpaid independent public appointees and operate in every prison and immigration detention facility. Members have unrestricted access to their local prison or immigration detention centre at any time and can talk to any prisoner or detained person they wish to, out of sight and hearing of members of staff if necessary. For more information about IMBs visit: imb.org.uk