



# **Annual Report of the Independent Monitoring Board at HMP North Sea Camp**

**For reporting year  
1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024**

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# Contents

<b>Introductory sections 1 – 3</b>	<b>Page</b>
1. Statutory role of the IMB	3
2. Description of the establishment	4
3. Key Points	5
 <b>Evidence sections 4 – 7</b>	
4. Safety	12
5. Fair and humane treatment	15
6. Health and wellbeing	21
7. Progression and resettlement	25
 <b>The work of the IMB</b>	
Board statistics	31
Applications to the IMB	31
 <b>Annex A</b>	
Service providers	32
 <b>Annex B</b>	
Glossary of terms	33

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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 monitoring board (IMB) 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 IMB 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 IMB 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**

HMP North Sea Camp is a category D open resettlement prison for men, with a certified normal accommodation (CNA), which is the number of prisoners a prison can hold without being crowded, of 300<sup>1</sup> (224 on roll at the end of February 2024). Some of the double-occupancy accommodation only has one occupant, to accommodate prisoners with medical needs. HMP North Sea Camp opened in 1935 as a Borstal (a youth detention centre) and became a prison for adult men in 1988. HMP North Sea Camp is six miles east of Boston and borders the North Sea.

HMP North Sea Camp holds a highly complex group of prisoners, a good number of whom are subject to multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA). It carefully manages the risks associated with prisoners convicted of sexual and violent crimes who are being held in an open prison, with comprehensive risk assessment being a core part of management.

The accommodation comprises four residential units (North, South 1, South 2 and Jubilee 1) in the main prison and several self-catering rehabilitation houses offering 76 places, most of which are a quarter of a mile outside the main prison (the Jubilee project). Within HMP North Sea Camp, there is a kitchen and dining room, modern healthcare unit, well-equipped gymnasium, chapel, multifaith room, library and visitors' centre, plus a large working farm with livestock and horticulture (including capacity for 59 polytunnels.) and several workshops. The large playing field is used by prisoners for football and outdoor sporting activities and can be accessed by them during association periods in the summer months (up to 8pm)

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<sup>1</sup> Figures included in this report are local management information. They reflect the prison's position at the time of reporting, but may be subject to change following further validation and therefore may not always tally with Official Statistics later published by the Ministry of Justice.

### **3. Key points**

#### **3.1 Main findings**

##### **Safety**

- The IMB is, once again, satisfied that HMP North Sea Camp generally provides a safe environment for prisoners.

##### **Fair and humane treatment**

- As in the Board's last report, we are satisfied that HMP North Sea Camp usually provides prisoners with humane and just treatment.
- Overall, it is the opinion of the Board that prisoners at North Sea Camp are treated fairly and with respect.
- Moreover, in the view of the Board, the establishment has a positive emphasis on the humane treatment of the prisoners in its care. This is evidenced by the continuing efforts to improve the cleanliness and appearance of the establishment.
- The size of the double rooms in all the main accommodation units is not adequate, in that it is often impossible to fit a chair or a table, let alone two of each, into a room. The cramped accommodation means that the accommodation listed does not comply with prison service instructions (PSIs) when used by two prisoners.

##### **Health and wellbeing**

- HMP North Sea Camp still has, at the time of reporting, an ageing population. Inevitably, many of them suffer from a range of medical conditions, some of which are very serious. There is no facility within HMP North Sea Camp where prisoners can be suitably cared for during an end-of-life period, as there are no on-site residential healthcare facilities. This means that prisoners who have chronic and other serious health issues stay on the units within the prison, surrounded by other prisoners and the usual activities of everyday prison life.

##### **Progression and resettlement**

- The IMB at HMP North Sea Camp continues to be satisfied that the prison usually provides a wide-ranging and adequate level of programmes to prepare men for release.
- In a repeat from our last report, the IMB is still concerned that the offender management unit (OMU) is still encountering problems in getting information from community offender managers (COMs). Prisoners should arrive at North Sea Camp with information to allow the establishment to complete an offender assessment (OASys), which is used to measure the risks and needs of prisoners. This does not always happen and, in some cases, delays the process.
- Education offers a variety of courses to prepare prisoners for release and to give them relevant qualifications to aid employment.
- Paid outside work opportunities continue, enabling prisoners to gain valuable experience of the workplace and demonstrate to prospective employers that they can be trusted in a community working environment.

- Prisoners who use wheelchairs can experience difficulties travelling to, and getting, overnight accommodation at approved premises (APs) when going on resettlement overnight release (ROR). This can delay their release on temporary licence (ROTL) programme and have a significant delaying effect on their sentence plan and parole board hearings.
- Attitudes among staff in the OMU seem to have improved since the previous two reports, when prisoners felt the OMU was slow to respond to requests. Whilst not always the case, a lot of delays are caused by outside agencies, which are outside the OMU's area of responsibility.
- The situation with Amey (which manages the prison's facilities) this year has seen an improvement, with the bathrooms in Jubilee house being refurbished via Amey Projects. The kitchen refurbishment of Jubilee house has started, with the Amey on-site team repairing damaged and worn-out units and flooring. There is a plan to upgrade and repair other part of the prison to improve the standards, as funds allow. Funding has been made available for remedial work on the car park and pothole repairs around the site.

### **3.2 Main areas for development**

#### ***TO THE MINISTER***

- Whilst this was addressed after last year's annual report, there are still some apparent delays with community offender managers often taking a long time to update their part of the offender assessment system (OASys) risk assessment paperwork to enable prisoners to sit release on temporary transfer (ROTL) boards. What will the Minister do to address this issue?
- Whilst there has been a lot of publicity and dialogue around IPP prisoners, no tangible progress has seen to be made. Since the abolition of IPP on 1 May 2012, prisoners still remain subject to an IPP sentence. When will the Minister rectify this anomaly?

#### ***TO THE PRISON SERVICE***

- To maintain family ties, consideration should be given to providing in-cell telephony. Prisoners often arrive from previous establishments where this is readily available, sometimes alongside restricted PC access.

Notwithstanding the comments in last year's annual report, the Board remains concerned about the following areas.

- The quality of some of the accommodation is poor and the space allocated to prisoners sharing rooms is not ideal. It was good to see the decommissioning of the two-storey ageing accommodation units. However, the Board is concerned that, as yet, there appears to be no plan to replace them.
- Budget needs to be allocated to convert the dormitories (which house four to six prisoners) to smaller rooms so that, when HMP North Sea Camp is at full capacity, no prisoners will have to share with more than one other person.
- There continues to be a problem with a prisoner's property not always arriving in its entirety on the completion of transfer. Prisoners face a long wait for their property to come and often it does not arrive at all.

## TO THE GOVERNOR

- The Board recommends that the Governor continues to work with, and support, the IPP community at North Sea Camp.
- The Board recommends that the Governor facilitates working with temporary presumptive re-categorisation scheme (TPRS) prisoners and minimising the potential detrimental effects on the regime.

### 3.3 Progress since the last report

Issue raised	Response given	Progress
<b>To the Minister</b>  1. Community offender managers often take a long time to update their part of OASys and complete the paperwork to enable prisoners to sit ROTL boards. This can mean prisoners having to postpone parole board hearings, as they have not done the required ROTLs, so prisoners may spend more time in prison than strictly necessary. Timescales for the return of paperwork would be helpful.  The situation surrounding IPP prisoners, whilst well handled by the establishment, must be resolved to end the insecurity of this category of prisoner.	<a href="#">For brevity, please click on this link to the IMB website to see the Minister's response (second and third paragraphs).</a>  <a href="#">For brevity, please click on this link to the IMB website to see the Minister's response (fourth and fifth paragraphs).</a>	There was no noticeable progress to report.
<b>To the Prison Service</b>  The quality of some of the accommodation is poor and the space allocated to prisoners sharing rooms is not ideal. It was good to see the two-storey ageing accommodation units decommissioned. However, the Board is concerned that, as yet there is no plan to replace them. Budget needs to be allocated to convert the dormitories to smaller rooms	<u>Prisoner accommodation:</u> HMPPS recognises that the rooms are not large enough for two tables. However, prisoners are not constrained to their rooms and the regime is structured so that comparatively little time is spent there. Occupancy rates at HMP North Sea Camp have increased significantly since March 2023, but the prison's	There was no noticeable progress to report.

<p>so that, when HMP North Sea Camp is at full capacity, no prisoners will have to share with more than one other person.</p>	<p>capacity remains equal to the Certified Normal Accommodation (CNA) level originally certified by the Prison Group Director (PGD). CNA, or uncrowded capacity, is HMPPS' own measure of accommodation. It represents the good, decent standard of accommodation that HMPPS aspires to provide all prisoners.</p> <p>Cells are only shared where a PGD (prison group director) has assessed them to be decent and of an adequate size and condition.</p> <p>In open prisons, there is a clear expectation that prisoners will spend significant amounts of time unlocked from their cell, either occupying communal areas or working outside of the prison. This should further mitigate any issues concerning decency that are linked to cell size specifically.</p> <p>At HMP North Sea Camp, prisoners are only expected to be in their rooms between 11pm and 5am, which allows minimal time in their rooms. A significant number of prisoners at the prison (86%) are in full-time employment, that is, normal prison work and shift work in the community. Of the remaining 14%, 4% are new receptions engaged in the induction process and 10% are retired, who are encouraged to participate in numerous purposeful activities throughout the day to keep them occupied and</p>	
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<p>The IMB is concerned by the time taken to complete routine maintenance jobs, and the issues around the transfer of prisoners' property. These are services provided by contracted-out services and the Board is concerned that contract failures do not result in penalties to encourage compliance.</p>	<p>out of the rooms. Work activities encourage people to make the most of the 300 acres of this resettlement establishment.</p> <p><u>Accommodation investment</u> At this time, there is no budget allocated to converting the dormitories to smaller rooms. A Small-Scale Investments team is commissioning a feasibility study on the options available to refurbish various buildings. This includes erecting partition walls in three dormitory rooms located in South Units 1 and 2 to create seven double-occupancy rooms.</p> <p><u>Maintenance contract management</u> HMPPS acknowledges that the performance of facilities management (FM) has sometimes fallen below expectations. Performance is measured through Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), tracking results periodically and applying financial penalties where necessary. The Ministry of Justice Property Directorate will continue to work with the FM provider to improve reactive maintenance. KPIs are being met in terms of routine maintenance, but we acknowledge that some of the more complex work can take longer to complete. This is often down to logistics rather than the desire to complete the work. The Area Property Operations Manager</p>	
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<p>There continues to be a problem with a prisoner's property not always arriving in its entirety on completion of transfer. Prisoners face a long wait for their property to arrive and often it does not arrive at all.</p>	<p>(APOM) has met with the IMB chair to discuss some of the more complex detail around FM delivery. The APOM is available to discuss any further issues with the IMB should they arise.</p> <p><u>Prisoners' property</u> HMPPS notes the Board's concerns about the transfer of prisoners' property, despite implementation of the new Prisoners' Property Policy Framework on 5 September 2022. The Framework introduced a new requirement that prisons must transfer excess property within four weeks, unless there are exceptional circumstances that make this impossible. To avoid the problem of delays altogether, the framework places an emphasis on ensuring compliance with volumetric control limits, since anything within these limits will be transferred with the prisoner. HMPPS will monitor the impact of the framework going forward and will continue to look at what further improvements can be made. The introduction of the digitally recorded Prisoner Escort Records (PER) by Prison Escorting and Custody Services (PECS) includes a property section that accurately records the number and type of sealed property 'owned' by and transferred with the prisoner and an accurate record of property handover between</p>	
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	different stakeholders. This is now embedded as business as usual. The digital process has assisted with investigations for property that is lost in transit with PECS suppliers. PECS also applies commercial levers to hold the supplier to account when it is contractually required in line with the contract.	
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## **Evidence sections 4 – 7**

### **4. Safety**

#### **4.1 Safety**

The IMB continues to be satisfied that HMP North Sea Camp generally provides a safe and decent environment for prisoners.

HMP North Sea Camp has a very proactive and busy safer community team, consisting of both staff and prisoners, led by a Governor, who are constantly looking for new ways to enhance and develop the delivery of prisoner and staff safety. The establishment stages regular events, which serve to improve prisoner and staff safety and to promote the wellbeing of prisoners.

The work areas are responsible for giving prisoners all the necessary information about health and safety (endorsed by the health and safety department).

As part of our monitoring visits, we usually inspect any open assessment, care in custody and teamwork (ACCT) documents. We periodically observe adjudications (disciplinary hearings when a prisoner is alleged to have broken prison rules) and have found them to be conducted fairly and in accordance with procedure.

#### **4.2 Reception and induction**

The Board has observed that, generally, the reception and induction process continues to work well. Over the reporting year, much consideration has been given by the team to improve prisoner reception and induction, ensuring a smooth integration into the open estate. The team recognises the difficulties many prisoners face in coping with the change between open and closed conditions and it has adapted procedures accordingly. The induction process now takes five days and daily welfare checks are made by safety officers.

- Prisoners arrive in small numbers, and this enables the establishment to concentrate their efforts on getting the reception process correct and to give individual attention to those who need it. New arrivals are interviewed on a one-to-one basis, enabling them to express openly any fears they may have to reception staff. The waiting time in reception has been reduced by improving efficiency within the process.
- The reception waiting room has a pleasant and calming décor, with seating and a flat-screen television, and allows arrivals to de-stress after the journey and to be prepared for assessments.
- The reception team now has an additional staff officer to ensure that attention is being given to prisoners whilst others are being assessed or given information.
- New arrivals are now allocated first night induction cells on a specific landing and experienced officers are nearby to offer support when needed.
- Different agencies from across the prison take part in assessments. These include We are With You, which assesses the need for intervention for alcohol and substance abuse and the education team, which assesses educational needs and neurodiversity, all with the intention of improving the prisoner's successful integration into the prison.

- The team recognises the importance of experienced and knowledgeable orderlies (trusted prisoners who take on work to provide services that contribute to the running of the prison) in the process, as they have seen prisoners respond better to their peers at this stressful time. A newly refurbished portacabin is used as a base for the induction process and is located near the South 1 accommodation block. The orderlies on duty organise tours of the prison for the new arrivals, provide information and guidance on the prison rules, assist with assessments and give out packs, including essential items, such as clothing and utensils. There is also access to a tuck shop, where supplies can be bought on arrival.
- The support of the orderlies continues long after initial reception.
- A safety intervention meeting is held every Wednesday, which considers the new transfers coming in a 14-day period, so any issues can be looked at before the prisoners arrive.
- The team has recognised that there is still work to be done on moving new prisoners forward from induction into purposeful activities.
- From March 2023 to February 2024, a total of 341 prisoners were transferred to the prison. Some of these transfers were part of a national strategy to help reduce capacity within the category B for those who cannot be trusted in an open prison but whose escape risk is high) and category C (for those who cannot be trusted in an open prison but are unlikely to escape) estates. This led to some tensions in the prison population, as it was felt that the many short-term prisoners transferred in did not understand the ethos or benefits of the prison and were not prepared to engage with rehabilitation.
- The total number of prisoners discharged in the reporting year was 182. There were 59 security transfers. New receptions were 325, temporary release failures were 26 and there were 2 absconds.

### **4.3 Suicide and self-harm, deaths in custody**

There have been no deaths in custody during the review period. In the 12-month period, there were two instances of self-harm, both of which were judged as minor.

The Listeners continued their valuable work and responded to requests for support during the reporting year. There are 10 trained active Listeners; the number of inactive Listeners waiting for clearance was unknown at the time of reporting. Listeners have demonstrated their effectiveness throughout the year, and this can be evidenced by IMB members when concerns have been raised directly to them, allowing problems to be resolved swiftly. The Samaritans continued to organise meetings and review all the necessary training needs for the Listeners.

As part of our monitoring visits, IMB members normally inspect any open ACCT documents. There were eight ACCTs opened in the reporting year. The ACCT documents inspected were found to be correctly completed, with staff engaging with prisoners at the required intervals, as detailed in the care plans.

### **4.4 Violence and violence reduction, self-isolation**

The safety of staff and prisoners is helped by using the challenge, support, and intervention plan (CSIP) approach. This has been further developed during the reporting year with a change of emphasis onto the identification of behaviours before they escalate into a serious incident. It has resulted in an increase of CSIPs,

whereby prisoners who display challenging, aggressive, bullying and/or other unacceptable behaviours are managed and supported on a plan, with individualised targets and regular reviews. In 2023-2024, 90 CSIP referrals were made, involving a total of 133 prisoners. The prison does face challenges in this area, as prisoners convicted of sexual offences (PCoSOs) are not segregated. Any member of staff can make a referral for a CSIP if they feel that a prisoner needs intervention and there is evidence of good support plans. HMP North Sea Camp was signed off by the national safety team in December 2022, as previously reported, with regard to the delivery of CSIP principles. It has continued to build and develop strategies to uphold the high level of safety required.

There were 90 CSIP referrals during the reporting year and 90 investigations were completed. The following actions were taken from the 90 referrals:

- CSIP open plans: 14
- No further action: 55
- Support given outside of CSIP: 21

HMP North Sea Camp continues to use the CSIP process to support those who are vulnerable and to challenge any violence.

The IMB receives daily briefing reports from the prison and has noted that, whilst there have been several minor scuffles between prisoners, there have been no serious assaults. Incidents are investigated through the adjudication process and appropriate action is taken.

#### **4.5 Use of force**

There was no use of force in 2023-2024 period. Staff are trained in de-escalation techniques. Normal procedures for monitoring the use of force remain in place and the Board will continue to monitor this area.

The training needs of staff are constantly being reviewed. A total of 98% of staff are trained in the use of force and over 95% are trained in the spontaneous protection enabling accelerated response (SPEAR), as well as how to use the incapacitant spray, PAVA. A close-contact programme is being developed for staff training. Suicide and self-harm training was delivered to over 90% of directly employed staff.

As in last year's report, the new security building opened in January 2023. It has a team comprising of a head of security, two custody managers, collators and a prison intelligence officer. Neither batons nor ratchet handcuffs were used in the reporting year. Normal procedures for monitoring the use of force remain in place and the Board will continue to monitor this area. The building includes two cells that are used for mandatory drug tests (MDT); they are available to accommodate a prisoner if needed, although there were not used for this purpose in the reporting year.

#### **4.6 Preventing illicit items**

During normal operating conditions, testing does reveal some drug and alcohol use at the prison. Some prisoners who test positive are returned to closed conditions, but others may be allowed to stay in open conditions after an adjudication and work with We Are With You to help stop the use of alcohol or drugs.

## **5. Fair and humane treatment**

### **5.1 Accommodation, clothing, food**

Prisoners are accommodated in three one-storey units: North, South 1 and 2. There are a further two multi-occupancy houses, Jubilee, plus self-catering accommodation, which is situated a short walk from the main gate of the prison: Jubilee 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

All accommodation units have access to two microwaves, one of which is designated for halal-only food and the other for general use. This gives the prisoners the facility to warm up soup and snacks. Amey has responsibility for maintaining and checking this equipment. However, if the microwaves become obsolete or are condemned, the cost of replacement is borne by the prison.

Prisoners are expected to be engaged in meaningful activities during the day, which comprises paid work. The equality hub and library provide a range of activities that can be undertaken by retired prisoners. Newly arrived prisoners are provided with a range of activities at induction, which can be done in their cells.

Prison-issued clothing, bedding and kitchen laundry (such as workwear, tea towels, etc) are sent to HMP Whatton, via the stores, where they are cleaned and returned on a weekly basis. Personal clothing that is non-prison issue and special washes for medical purposes can be undertaken in the on-site laundry.

Staff and stores orderlies work together to ensure there is a good stock of clean items and that there are adequate supplies of bedding, towels and appropriate clothing, including workwear, for every prisoner.

The charity HIS Church still rebrands new clothes given to the charity by firms, but there are also donated items. It provides a service to prisoners who can visit the shop to view and select products. Regular weekday sales are organised in the designated portacabin. A prison orderly has been appointed to oversee the items, sales and regular stock checks. This remains a popular service.

The dining hall continues with both a takeaway service, which some prisoners choose to eat in the dining hall, while others choose to collect their meals three times a day. The meals include a cooked breakfast, as some of the prisoners are engaged in outside manual work.

The catering facilities at HMP North Sea Camp continue to be of a high standard and the catering audit remains at 'green'. The kitchen holds a 5-star food hygiene rating from the Food Standards Agency. The food is sampled daily by the Governor or a member of the senior management team. Special food is prepared for religious festivals and events, as agreed with the managing chaplain.

There is a tuck shop available to new arrivals so that they can buy items to tide them over until they receive their canteen sheet. This is also available to the rest of the prison, although it is primarily used by new arrivals. This facility aims to reduce the risk of new arrivals getting into debt.

### **5.2 Segregation**

HMP North Sea Camp is a category D open prison and, as such, there is no segregation unit.

The IMB periodically observes adjudications and has found them to be conducted fairly and in accordance with procedure. The number of adjudication charges laid in the reporting year were:

- In the first quarter of the reporting period, there were 53 adjudications.
- In the second quarter of the reporting period, there were 53 adjudications.
- In the third quarter of the reporting period, there were 32 adjudications.
- In the fourth quarter of the reporting period, there were 44 adjudications.

A total of 182 charges were heard, 156 of which were heard at HMP North Sea Camp; the remaining 26 charges were heard at other prisons after the prisoners had been returned to closed conditions.

The number of adjudications adjourned were as follows:

- In the first quarter of the reporting period, 21 hearings were adjourned.
- In the second quarter of the reporting period, 29 hearings were adjourned.
- In the third quarter of the reporting period, 9 hearings were adjourned.
- In the fourth quarter of the reporting period, 12 hearings were adjourned.

The charges dismissed, not proceeded with or proven were as follows:

- In the first quarter of the reporting period, 18 charges that were dismissed, 5 were not proceeded with, and 22 were proven, with a further 8 heard at a closed prison.
- In the second quarter of the reporting period, 16 charges were dismissed, 6 were not proceeded with, and 24 were proven, with a further 7 heard at a closed prison.
- In the third quarter of the reporting period, 16 charges were dismissed, none was proceeded with, and 14 were proven, with a further 2 heard at a closed prison.
- In the fourth quarter of the reporting period, 9 charges were dismissed, 4 were not proceeded with, and 22 were proven, with a further 9 heard at a closed prison.

During the reporting period, there were 6 police referrals, which resulted in one prosecution.

There are no safer custody trends within the adjudication data. There are no trends of disproportionate treatment from protected characteristic groups, which include race, religion, sex, age, disability, gender reassignment and sexual orientation, where discrimination on the basis of these characteristics is illegal.

### **5.3 Staff and prisoner relationships**

The Board has observed that relationships between staff and prisoners continue to be generally positive and supportive. On arrival, and as part of the induction process, prisoners are allocated a personal officer, a prison offender manager (POM) and a case administrator. Prisoners can also speak to, and obtain information on their legal rights from, unit officers, staff members, the allocated personal officer and their POM. Orderlies operate in the prisoner advice centre, the equality hub and the veterans' cabin, where information can be obtained, alongside those who work in education and the library. Information can also be sought from the application process.



## 5.4 Equality and diversity

From its observations, the Board continues to be satisfied that prisoners are treated equally and that any differences resulting from protected characteristics are addressed appropriately.

The IMB is satisfied that most of the prisoners at HMP North Sea Camp are able to access regimes and facilities equally, although those who use bariatric wheelchairs (which are designed to accommodate the increased size of a user) and large mobility scooters may have trouble accessing all locations in the prison. There are continuing efforts to meet prisoners' special needs, including the internal bus service around the prison and the purchase and installation of additional mobility aids such as grab rails. A number of mobility scooters have also been purchased for those with determined mobility issues. A full-time neurodiversity support manager (NSM) has been employed and specific activities for this group of prisoners have been implemented.

Prisoners usually have access to information they require on equality and diversity issues via displays on notice boards, the equality hub, which is staffed by two orderlies, and the relevant prison service instructions (PSIs). Prisoners who struggle to read or write can get help from the library, the equality hub or the prisoner advice centre (PAC).

Prisoners are advised how to submit discrimination incident reporting forms (DIRFs) during the induction process, if the situation warrants it.

HMP North Sea Camp has a prisoner-run equality hub. There are two full-time equality orderlies, and one full-time safer custody orderly based there. The equality opportunities officer holds regular equality action team meetings. The equality hub is included as part of the induction process for all prisoners arriving at HMP North Sea Camp.

The equality hub organises a range of activities throughout the year for prisoners who are retired, such as quizzes, scrabble, and nature walks.

Special events for the year include Black Lives Matter, Holocaust Memorial Day and other relevant events. The department acknowledged several events, including Black History Month in October, as an opportunity for prisoners and staff alike to continue the journey in breaking down stereotypes and to build an increased sense of unity and inclusion.

### Ethnicity

The prison has a diverse ethnic population. As of February 2024, the breakdown was as follows:

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>
Asian/Asian British (any other background)	6
Asian/Asian British: Bangladeshi	1
Asian/Asian British: Indian	5
Asian/Asian British: Pakistani	10
Black/Black British: African	4
Black/Black British (any other background)	3
Black/Black British: Caribbean	19
Mixed: White and Black African	1

Mixed: White and Black Caribbean	4
Other: Arab	1
White: Irish	1
White (any other background)	6
White: Eng/Welsh/Scot/N.Irish/British	223
White: Gypsy, Roma and Traveller	6
Other	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>297</b>

## Sexual orientation

In terms of sexual orientation declared, the prison has the following:

<b>Sexual orientation</b>	<b>Number</b>
Bisexual	11
Gay/lesbian	2
Heterosexual/straight	254
Not disclosed	12
No information	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>297</b>

## Disability

Of a total of 297 prisoners, 105 have a declared disability and 192 do not have a declared disability.

## Age

The age profile of prisoners is as follows:

<b>Age range</b>	<b>Number</b>
20 - 29 years	23
30 - 39 years	70
40 - 49 years	75
50 - 59 years	67
60 - 69 years	36
70 - 79 years	20
80 - 89 years	6
90+	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>297</b>

## 5.5 Faith and pastoral support

The chaplaincy department at HMP North Sea Camp still provides pastoral care and support to all prisoners and staff, whether they are of faith or have none. There are two chaplains, a visiting roman catholic priest and a visiting Imam. There is one full-time orderly, he and other orderlies help the chaplains to organise the worship

services and religious studies for those that are exploring or have an existing faith. The chaplaincy department is also responsible for operating the veterans' cabin and supervising a range of visiting groups. The chaplaincy help to facilitate meetings such as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA).

The chaplaincy department work with prisoners in the form of pastoral visits and support, they provide immediate support as soon as it is known if a relative or close friend is seriously ill or has died. If ROTL is not possible for funerals a memorial service can be arranged in the chapel.

There are 19 recognised faiths or denominations represented in the prison. Ten prisoners' class themselves as atheists or agnostics, with 65 prisoners declaring no faith or religion. There are two large groups of prisoners who profess a religion: 62 class themselves as Church of England, and 50 class themselves as Roman Catholic.

<b>Religion or denomination</b>	<b>Number of prisoners</b>	<b>% of total prison population</b>
Agnostic	4	1.36
Atheist	5	1.69
Baptist	1	0.34
Buddhist	11	3.73
Christian	27	9.15
Church of England (Anglican)	67	22.71
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	4	1.36
Hindu	2	0.68
Jehovah's Witnesses	3	1.02
Jewish	1	0.34
Methodist	1	0.34
Muslim	29	9.83
No religion	65	22.03
Pagan	5	1.69
Pentecostal	1	0.34
Quaker	4	1.36
Rastafarian	6	2.03
Roman Catholic	54	18.31
Sikh	4	1.36
Spiritualist	1	0.34
<b>Total</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>100</b>

## 5.6 Incentives schemes

The incentives scheme involves warnings being issued for negative behaviours. Too many warnings trigger a review, which might result in the loss of privileges and downgrading to a lower incentives level. The majority of prisoners were on the enhanced level of incentives at the end of this reporting period.

On arrival at HMP North Sea Camp, prisoners are placed on enhanced status. Most

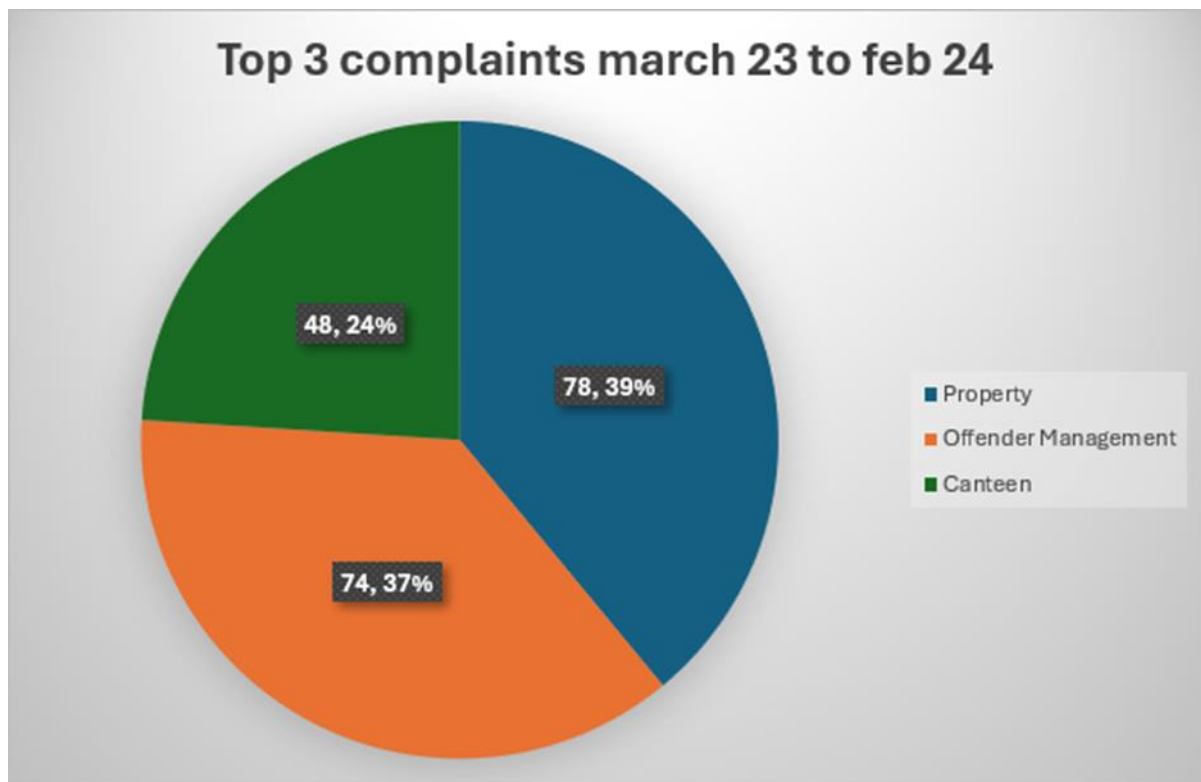
prisoners at HMP North Sea Camp remain on enhanced status. Those who have had their level downgraded are helped to work towards a return to enhanced status.

## 5.7 Complaints

Prisoners are advised on the procedure and forms to use to complain about prison matters during the induction process. These include comp 1, comp 1A and comp 2 and Governor complaint forms. Information on how to complain via the IMB is included in the induction and there are three IMB boxes, with forms available, in each of the accommodation units and the library.

During the reporting year, the prison handled a total of 430 complaints, with 135 in the first quarter of the reporting period, 108 in the second quarter, 103 in the third quarter, and 84 in the fourth quarter.

The chart, below, shows the top three reasons for complaints handled during the reporting period.



## 5.8 Property

Staff at reception undertake a thorough property check when prisoners arrive at HMP North Sea Camp. Property cards are rewritten if the itemisation is unclear and the information is added to a spreadsheet, with the new and old cards retained for cross-referencing, as required. Prisoners can arrive with a large number of property items, particularly if they have been in prison for several years, which may have been in store alongside the items they have had in their rooms (in-possession property). Some prisoners transferring from other establishments can only bring three bags, plus legal papers and one oversized bag. On arrival, prisoners with a great deal of property are given time to select the items they most need, with the remainder stored either in the prison or at the storage facility at Branston.

## **6. Health and wellbeing**

### **6.1 Healthcare general**

Healthcare at HMP North Sea Camp is provided by Nottinghamshire NHS Foundation Trust. Healthcare forums occur every two months. These are attended by healthcare staff and by up to 30 prisoners and are extremely useful in ongoing health management at the prison.

Staffing levels are fairly good, with three vacancies waiting to be filled. During the reporting year there was a total complement of 19, made up of four administrators, two pharmacists, three mental health nurses and 10 other nurses.

Most prisoners are complimentary about the healthcare services at HMP North Sea Camp. There was an unannounced visit by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) from 22 May to 2 June 2023, which concluded that there were no breaches of the relevant regulations. A survey carried out by the CQC showed that 88% of prisoners described the healthcare services as good or very good.

There were 27 complaints, including seven from one prisoner, mostly concerning the non-availability of prescribed medicines. Most complaints are dealt with on a 'face to face' basis and complainants receive a written reply to their concerns. There were no long-term complaints or issues and all complaints were dealt with by healthcare centre staff, with all reaching a satisfactory conclusion.

There is no in-patient healthcare provision at HMP North Sea Camp. Prisoners who require 24-hour nursing care or operations would be admitted to whichever NHS hospital is best suited to deal with their medical problems.

### **6.2 Physical healthcare**

Most medical issues are resolved at HMP North Sea Camp, with all prescribed medicines issued on site. Those who need more complex treatment are treated at local hospitals and dental surgeries. The GP visits HMP North Sea Camp twice a week and conducts an online surgery on a weekly basis.

Initially, there were problems of unserviceability of the visiting, fully equipped, dental van, but these have now been resolved with the van permanently in situ. The van operates four days a week and dental issues are now dealt with much quicker than before. More complex procedures are carried out off site in Boston; if urgent dental care is needed out of hours, there is an established system for accessing local dentists.

The number of prisoners who did not attend (DNA) appointments continues to average around the 9% mark. This is mostly related to recently arrived prisoners who do not want to engage, despite being encouraged to do so.

The enhanced in-house system for testing for bowel cancer, which commenced three years ago, continues to operate at HMP North Sea Camp and has been deemed successful in early diagnosis of the illness.

The Board has not been concerned about the length of time prisoners wait to see a hospital consultant in the community. This is mostly due to the pro-active stance taken by the health centre staff to ensure prisoners get their appointments in a timely manner.

The site is not easy to negotiate for those with disabilities and it is often necessary for another prisoner to be willing and then trained to assist. Over the period of this report the number of prisoners requiring a personal emergency evacuation plan (PEEP), whereby another prisoner is detailed to assist them to reach safety if any emergency arises, has averaged about 15 prisoners needing this service.

Previously, there were concerns about the increasing age of the prison population. However, in the reporting year, the percentage of prisoners over 50 years of age has reduced from 50% to 43% due to the influx of younger prisoners over the last year.

- In February 2022, it was 51%
- In February 2023, it was 50%
- In February 2024, it was 43%

*Source: HMP North Sea Camp health centre*

The number of prisoners at HMP North Sea Camp who suffer from serious health conditions show a similarity to previous years, although those with COPD has doubled.

	<b>Cancer</b>	<b>COPD</b>	<b>Diabetes</b>	<b>Stroke</b>	<b>Reg. disabled</b>
<b>End 02/2022</b>	5	15	39	8	6
<b>End 02/2023</b>	5	11	34	10	9
<b>End 02/2024</b>	5	22	30	7	11

*Source: NHS healthcare manager at HMP North Sea Camp*

The number of prisoners with moderate disabilities is as shown below:

	2022	2023	2024
Hearing impairment	43	36	5
Reduced mobility	29	17	29
Learning difficulties	40	35	18
Mental illness	39	31	61
Visual impairment	34	62	78

*Source: NHS healthcare manager, HMP North Sea Camp*

The large reduction in those with hearing impairment is due to a change of criteria in reporting hearing impairment. The increase in mental illness is commensurate with the younger prisoners arriving at NSC.

There is no dedicated palliative care unit at HMP North Sea Camp. However, if prisoners have a terminal diagnosis, they are cared for by the prison healthcare team. Where such a prisoner is sharing a double room, he will be transferred to a single room. If a prisoner were to require 24-hour healthcare and/or complex pain relief he would be found a bed in a local hospital or hospice.

### **6.3 Mental healthcare**

The mental health team is staffed by three full-time nurses, with one vacancy yet to be filled. This vacancy has been there for over a year and has proved difficult to fill due to a national shortage of nurses of the right calibre and qualification. However, the vacancy does not seem to have had a detrimental impact on the service provided. Mental health care is available at the health centre five days a week. The well-motivated mental health team have adjusted their working hours to fit in with those in employment or on ROTL. Referrals are triaged daily, with a good range of interventions available, including psychological therapy, trauma-informed support and group work, plus individual counselling. Prisoners were very positive about the care they received and the Board confirms that the prisoners were well cared for in a compassionate way.

### **6.4 Social care**

Social care is overseen by Lincoln and Boston Councils, which visit on a fortnightly basis, or on demand if necessary, to conduct mobility assessments and then provide any necessary special equipment. Prisoners are screened when they arrive at the prison to see what social care needs they might have, as well as assess the ability to self-refer. They also liaise with probation regarding those being released from prison. The Board is satisfied with the provision of social care, which works well within the constraints of prison life. Because of the age of some prisoners at HMP North Sea Camp, the establishment works closely with Lincolnshire County Council and Boston Borough Council. Their staff attend and complete assessments on individuals who may require additional items in rooms to support them, such as pull-up rails, a hospital bed and, if required, any equipment that is deemed necessary.

### **6.5 Time out of cell, regime.**

The gymnasium is a popular venue for many prisoners who wish to remain fit. The Gymnasium is well equipped and well-liked by the prisoners, with enthusiastic staff members who are dedicated to the task in hand. The staff are always available and are pro-active in having various exercise regimes to suit the abilities and health of the prisoners. During good weather, the playing fields are well used by prisoners taking exercise or just sitting taking in the sun. Being an open prison, there are plenty of opportunities just to walk about the estate and converse and meet other prisoners and staff. Organised sport and exercise are carried out on the playing fields and it is often very busy, especially on nice sunny days.

### **6.6 Drug and alcohol rehabilitation**

We Are With You (formerly Addaction) provides a service five days a week for those with substance misuse issues (drugs or alcohol), or any prisoner who has substance-related concerns. The professional team, consisting of qualified nurses and peer workers, provide clinical treatment, group work and one-to-one psycho-social support. The team works closely with all prison agencies to tackle any substance misuse and provides a good rehabilitation programme to help affected prisoners resolve any issues. The department's objectives are to provide clinical support and reduce the risks of substance related harm whilst in custody and upon release, and support in avoiding problematic drug use and to increase awareness of substance related issues. On release, prisoners are referred into the community so they can continue with their engagement. The Board is satisfied that the facilities

available from We are with You, and the health centre are providing a good service to prisoners with addiction problems.

## **6.7 Soft skills**

Prisoners were kept informed about what was happening and what facilities were available in the prison via newsletters, notices and prison officers. The noticeboards are plentiful and kept up to date with all that is happening at HMP North Sea Camp. The equality and safer custody team organised in-room quizzes and puzzles for the prisoners. All the support groups are up and running and are fully functional, with much of their work conducted by the prisoners themselves. There are frequent volunteer groups such as St Barnabas visiting who involve the prisoners in art projects etc which results in colourful murals being placed around the site to enhance its appearance.



## **7. Progression and resettlement**

### **7.1 Education, library**

The education department has a complement of 15 staff, who all report to the prison's head of education, skills and work. The incumbent chairs a rigorous monthly quality improvement group (QIG). It monitors and evaluates performance and take up of educational opportunities against the pre-determined departmental key performance indicators, including HM Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) and Ofsted recommendations. These have enabled the development of any robust monitoring of a quality improvement plan (QIP).

The aim of the education service is to prepare prisoners for the world outside and enable them to reintegrate into society, to achieve successful paid ROTL employment and employment on release whilst still remaining at North Sea Camp. Employability skills workbooks have been rolled out across all work areas. These will not only identify transferable employment skills for prisoners but also raise staff and prisoner awareness of the skills that are being developed in each of the work areas. The workbooks contain 10 employability skills, which aim to assist prisoners to progress to outside work. As the workbooks evidence skills, qualifications and work experience in preparation for their release, they follow the prisoner from job to job and serve as a record of achievement that they will take with them on release.

Multiple courses are run by Boston College in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council during the day and on Thursday evenings. The courses run for six weeks and are incentivised with a £20 gift voucher on completion. The courses focus on Math's, English, 'Dad's Math's' and basic budgeting and build a prisoner's confidence to complete a functional skills qualification.

Successful adaptation of the functional skills' (FS) delivery model has seen a move to roll-on, roll-off model, with significantly more now achieving FS English and Math's. English has seen a 50% increase and Math's a 16% increase in those starting the course. Additionally, achievement/success rates have increased by 17% in English and 30% in Math's (both above a category D prison average), whilst Level 2 qualifications make up the largest percentage of starts at 60% and 55% respectively. This addresses the intent of North Sea Camp to ensure more prisoners are ready to engage in employment.

A total of 50 Coracle laptops have been acquired to enable prisoners to continue their learning whilst in their pads (also known as cells). They also help them develop and improve their digital skills and complete online exams, particularly in functional skills English and Math's. In addition, they are used by those prisoners completing Open University and distance learning courses.

During the reporting year, additional training was procured using the prison education dynamic purchasing system (DPS) budget. This additional training included traffic management, scaffolding and forklift truck conversion courses, all of which support prisoner goals identified in the recent needs analysis.

Learners who are neurodiverse are able to progress at the same rate as their neurotypical peers, as learning has been adapted to support neurodiverse learners with one-to-one small groups or outreach support to aid their learning.

Literacy skills are known to be an essential requirement for those seeking employment. As such, the education department has embedded functional skills and reading skills across the wider establishment, so that all workshop areas, for example, now have a dedicated reading area. Workshop supervisors have engaged with the inclusion support co-ordinator to identify where support for low-level readers is needed. Reading support is available across the whole of the site. The prison reading strategy has been reviewed and rewritten to ensure that all points of referral for reading support are clearly identified. The development and implementation of the rewritten strategy has led to 100% of prisoners being assessed for reading support and the identification of an intervention strategy has promoted cross-prison engagement and collaboration with Industries, the library and the Shannon Trust.

The understanding of the benefit and the promotion of reading resulted in an uptake of prisoners actively engaged in reading. Reading support will be further developed and there are plans in place to recruit a reading specialist, who will be the key point of contact throughout. The inclusion support co-ordinator conducts reader screens to identify the reading support level required. Progress of learners receiving additional reading support is monitored by a reading support spreadsheet. Any additional reading needs are also identified in the employability skills workbook. The workbooks are issued to all prisoners during their education induction.

People Plus provides the offenders' learning and skills service (PEF/prisoners' education framework) education provision. Their funding is from within the prison's agreed annual delivery plan. The prison population has been stable at around 300 and all class size allocations have been regularly achieved.

Evening, weekend and Saturday classes are on offer to allow those in full-time employment the opportunity to further develop and to engage in learning. The education department continues to offer a wide range of courses, which are all designed to develop employability, functional skills, digital skills and personal and social skills in preparation for life outside the gate. All courses are listed in the department's prospectus, which is freely available. All courses on offer are matched to the individual prisoner's needs analysis and support prisoners in their education, training and employment pathways.

The relevant pathway is discussed at education induction with each prisoner during the Information, advice and guidance (IAG) session. From here, every prisoner is allocated to an education, training and employment pathway, which is agreed with the prisoner's offender manager. This ensures that all education, training and employment opportunities are sequenced to support the prisoner to obtain meaningful employment on release.

Every prisoner has a personalised digital learning plan, which is reviewed at 12-week intervals to monitor and support progress towards specified goals.

Library timetables are displayed in all education and workshop areas to raise awareness and to further promote opportunities to engage in reading.

From the Board's observations, the library appears to be well run and the library staff's support is well received by prisoners.

The library offers a range of services, including a reading group and Storybook Dads, where prisoners record a story that they send to their children, thus

reaffirming the importance of maintaining family ties. It boasts a wide range of fictional and non-fictional books, 24 foreign national titles, a collection of quick-read books, as well as newspapers, magazines and jigsaws. A community jigsaw is regularly in place to allow prisoners to add to it whilst they are in the library.

The multiply champion grant has donated £3000 to fund learning resources and, consequently, Scrabble, dominoes and Lego clubs have been introduced.

Down-time sessions run every Saturday morning and offer a quiet, relaxed time for those prisoners who choose to just sit and enjoy a book.

The library has a reference section that is available for research and information and include dictionaries and prison reference materials. It also has an employability skills' section and enables access to Shannon Trust mentors who support prisoners in learning read and improving their reading skills.

The library lends out CDs, DVDs and jigsaws to prisoners on short-term loans. It has a number of computers and prisoners are able to undertake theory driving tests online.

The library now holds more than 9000 books. Donated books and DVDs are checked for suitability, with any deemed inappropriate being taken to high street charity shops.

A comprehensive stock take of all library items was undertaken in February 2024.

On average, the monthly footfall through the library numbers 2,300. The biggest uptake is obviously in the borrowing of books, but significant numbers of DVDs (around 700 per month) are also loaned. A total of 24,000 items were loaned during the reporting period.

## **7.2 Vocational training and work**

During the reporting year, an increased number of prisoners worked for various external employers. Prisoners worked as cleaners, in the kitchen, in the staff mess, in recycling, making lobster pots and badges, woodworking, car washing and in land-based activities. Vegetables continued to be grown and supplied to the kitchens and farm shop, which is open for Jubilee prisoners and staff. Prisoners have also participated in the Queen's Canopy Project. This has seen North Sea Camp's ambitious tree growing project aligned with the Government's plan to significantly reduce the country's carbon footprint. The prison has been a major contributor to the national reforestation efforts, with 30,000 silver birch trees grown on site and tended by the prisoners.

NVQs and food safety courses have been delivered for those prisoners working in the kitchens. Other prisoners have earned diplomas in bricklaying, painting and decorating, certificates in warehousing and storage, and forklift truck operations. Additionally, there is the opportunity for prisoners to achieve their CSCS Card, which helps them gain employment on construction sites on release, as well as a Health and Safety in the Workplace Level 2 qualification.

As outlined in our last report, the Prison continues to operate an employment hub. There is still a good process in identifying a prisoner's skill set, which informs finding the appropriate education workplace for an individual prisoner. The hub personnel work closely with the IAG provider, with the prison employment lead and with the

Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Evening drop-in sessions are available to facilitate time for prisoners to be able to raise early queries as and when they arrive at North Sea Camp. The hub has access to the national careers service lists, which itemises all jobs and the key skills required for prospective postholders.

The Employment Hub processes also support in sequencing and allocating prisoners to the correct learning pathways.

### **7.3 Offender management and progression**

Prior to transfer from closed conditions, an OASys is completed to inform a prisoner's recategorisation decision. Within 8 weeks of their arrival at HMP North Sea Camp, prisoners are required to have a completed updated offender assessment (OASys) report, which assesses their risk of reoffending and the level of risk posed to the public. As at the end of February, four assessments were outstanding. The OASys assessments are comprehensive and run to 60-70 pages per prisoner.

The OASys is updated by HMP North Sea Camp, with input from outside agencies, such as community offender managers (COMs), and is reviewed at regular intervals. This enables HMP North Sea Camp staff and the Probation Service (via the prison offender manager (POMs) to assess how a prisoner is progressing with regards to their risk of reoffending.

The population has remained stable at around 300 prisoners. The service has a full complement of staff. The job roles include a head of offender management services (HOMS) and a head of offender management delivery (HOMD), supported by a team of seven probation officers, four POMs and administration staff. Recruitment for a 0.5 WTE (whole time equivalent) senior officer is underway. There is a flexible working arrangement in place to facilitate both home and on-site work, but uptake of home working is minimal.

The OMU benefits from strong leadership at senior level and an experienced team of officers. The Board has observed probation staff to be approachable, client focused and aiming to offer support and signposting wherever possible. The head of OMU attends 'newsnight', a prisoners' open forum, and is open to any questions relevant to the service and its functionality.

The offender management in custody (OMiC) model is in place. Since its introduction, all prisoners must have a completed OASys assessment prior to transfer from the sending establishment. This ensures that the associated risk-management plan reflects the risks that an individual can pose when residing in open conditions. The HOMD and PP manager will screen the OASys on transfer to consider and confirm the risk-of-serious-harm assessment. The level of risk will determine whether the prisoner can be managed as a restricted or standard ROTL and in an attempt to avoid any delay or incorrect identifications of standard or restricted ROTLs.

The number of prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for public protection (IPP) and who are serving indeterminate sentences is usually around 24% of the prison population. A total of 26.17% of prisoners at HMP North Sea Camp are serving a life sentence and 61.4% are sex offenders. This provides a challenge to the support services provided by the prison. However, all these prisoners are able to access the

full range of activities offered at HMP North Sea Camp. Some prisoners may find it difficult to obtain work in the community (voluntary or paid) because of the nature of their index offences.

The OMU assists those prisoners who do work in the community to open bank accounts by providing the relevant bank with letters of introduction and prisoner identification. The OMU holds daily one-hour, non-bookable drop-in sessions to allow those prisoners engaged in outside employment to access the service. Three case administration manager meetings are held each week and these are bookable appointments via the prisoner advice centre.

Additionally, the head of OMU holds a monthly surgery, where prisoners can attend to escalate their concerns if these have not been resolved by the case administration manager. The previous 'Lifer' and IPP forums have been re-introduced and are peer led by two IPP prisoners. However, and in conjunction with the psychology service, those over their IPP tariff are subject to a RAG-rated progression system to facilitate the creation of an action plan to assist the prisoner to progress. IPP progression panels jointly led by a senior psychologist in conjunction with the OMU seeks to identify any barriers to progression.

ROTL is a big part of a prisoner's progress towards release and delays of any sort, either actual or perceived, are always a cause of concern to prisoners. There is no minimum time frame in place for a ROTL application defined under the ROTL policy. Prisoners are made aware of the ROTL process at induction and support is also offered by the POM, who meets each prisoner within 14 days of their arrival at North Sea Camp. An up-to-date OASys is necessary before prisoners can be considered for ROTL. Once an application for ROTL has been made, the information is sent to the COM or the duty COM. A response should be received within a four-week period.

However, ROTL boards may be delayed if responses from either the prisoner himself, the COM or external agencies, such as the police, are outstanding or if an area of the OASys is incomplete. Prisoners with sentences of imprisonment for public protection (IPP), who form a significant percentage of the prison's population, get particularly anxious about delays in their ROTL process, as many are years over tariff. OMU staff have been issued with guidance documents to ensure that all staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in relation to a determination to suspend a ROTL. A digital tracking system has been introduced, which enables staff to quickly identify an application's progress. As at the end of February 2024, there were a total of nine outstanding applications. The Board is satisfied that the reasons for delay were valid and justified.

End of custody supervised licence (ECSL) releases were introduced at North Sea Camp in February 2024, whereby prisoners who are eligible are able to be released on supervised licence 70 days prior to the end of their sentence.

The total number of periods of ROTL, from March 2023 to February 2024, was 16,906. This includes all periods of ROTL for those out at work every day, as well as any special-purpose licence ROTLs for shopping and independent living and ROR.

Releases under home detention curfew (HDC) continue to be completed in a timely manner.

During the reporting period, there has been a total of 29 temporary release failures, of which 26 were in breach of the prisoner's licence conditions. As a consequence, three of the failed release prisoners were returned to the closed estate.

There have only been two absconds during the reporting year.

OMU managers chair the fortnightly interdepartmental risk management meetings. Attendance includes POMs, security and psychology. COMs are also invited. All new receptions assessed as high risk and pre-release, i.e. eight months prior-to-the-release-date prisoners, are discussed to ensure that all information is shared and any concerns are identified at an early stage. An action plan may be drawn up to manage a new risk or a decision made to return to closed conditions should the level of risk be deemed to be unmanageable in open conditions.

#### **7.4 Family contact**

Social visits take place in the visits' hall. Lincolnshire Action Trust (LAT) continues to facilitate family days at the prison, which offer an improved environment for children and for the family as a whole. LAT has caseworkers who are in place to facilitate a prisoner receiving additional information about his family and his children. The caseworker will work and liaise with the relevant POM.

#### **7.5 Resettlement planning**

All prisoners at HMP North Sea Camp eventually go out on release on temporary licence (ROTL), resettlement day release (RDR) and resettlement overnight release (ROR) in preparation for release back into the community.

Following the Government's decision, in February 2023, to reject the proposal to undertake a resentencing exercise for anyone serving an IPP sentence, the prison continues to speak, and offer support, to all IPP prisoners. Prisoners continue to present to OMU as disheartened, disappointed, frustrated, worried and anxious, with all of them experiencing loss of hope for future release. Work at the prison is ongoing to support those directly affected.

The head of offender management delivery (HOMD) has developed a training package, which has been rolled out to all operational support grades and prison officers in relation to public protection matters. It aims to upskill them in their duties of monitoring relating to safeguarding and domestic abuse and to be able to utilise the skills in supporting prisoners towards release and ongoing life once through the gate.

## The work of the IMB

### Board Statistics

Recommended compliment of board members	10
Number of board members at the start of the reporting members	5
Number of board members at the end of the reporting members	7
Total visits to the establishment	204

### Applications to IMB

The IMB handled 25 Applications as follows:

Category	Number of applications
A - Accommodation	1
B - Adjudications	0
C – Equality and diversity including religion	0
D – Education, employment, training including incentive schemes	1
E1 – Family visits	2
E2 – Finance and pay	2
F – Food and kitchen related	0
G – Health related	1
H1 – Property with establishment	0
H2 – Property during transfer/in another establishment	5
H3 – Canteen facilities, catalogue shopping	2
I – Sentence related including HDC, ROTL, Parole, release dates, recategorisation	8
J – Staff/prisoner concerns including bullying	0
K - Transfers	2
L – Miscellaneous	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>

Of these nine, the outcome was relayed to the prisoner verbally, 13 by letter and one in a face-to-face meeting.

## **Annex A**

### **Service providers**

HMP North Sea Camp has the following contractors/agencies delivering services:

- Healthcare is provided by Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust.
- Education and training are provided by People Plus.
- Family services are provided by Lincolnshire Action Trust (LAT).
- Drug and alcohol support and counselling are provided by We Are With You
- Resettlement services are provided by the Probation Service.
- The library service is provided by Greenwich Leisure Ltd on behalf of Lincolnshire County Council.
- Facilities management is provided by Amey (delivering maintenance and stores facilities)
- Voluntary organisations providing assistance to prisoners include Community Links, Samaritans, the Royal British Legion, Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA), Alcoholics Anonymous, local church groups, Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, St Barnabas Hospice and Early Prevention of Cancer (EPOC), Just Lincolnshire (working with the prison on equalities).



## Annex B

### Glossary of terms

- ACCT: assessment, care in custody and teamwork
- AP: approved premises
- CSIP: challenge, support and intervention plan
- CAN: certified normal accommodation (the total of all rooms in a prison that can be routinely used to house long-stay prisoners)
- COM: community offender manager
- COPD: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Covid-19: the disease caused by SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus that emerged in December 2019
- CRC: community rehabilitation company
- CSCS: construction skills certification scheme
- CVP: cloud video platform
- DIRF: discrimination incident reporting form
- EPOC: early prevention of cancer
- HDC: home detention curfew
- HMP: His Majesty's Prison
- HOMS: head of offender management services
- HOMD: head of offender management delivery
- IMB: Independent Monitoring Board
- IPP: indeterminate sentence for public protection
- LAT: Lincolnshire Action Trust
- MAPPA: multi-agency public protection arrangements
- MDT: mandatory drug testing
- OASys: offender assessment system (identifies a prisoner's likelihood of reoffending and their risk of harm to others)
- OLASS: offenders' learning and skills service.
- OMiC: offender management in custody
- OMU: offender management unit
- OS: offender supervisor
- OU: Open University
- PAC: prisoner advice centre
- PCoSO: prisoners convicted of sexual offences.
- PEEP: personal emergency evacuation plan.
- PIN phone: personal identification phone (phone allowing calls to be made to agreed phone numbers once a code has been inputted\_
- PO: personal officer
- POM: prison offender manager
- PSI: prison service instructions
- RDR: resettlement day release
- ROR: resettlement overnight release
- ROTL: release on temporary licence
- SPL: special purpose licence to leave the prison for an appointment, or an event.

- SSAFA: Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association
- TTG: through the gate



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