

Annual Report of the Independent Monitoring Board at HMP Dovegate

For reporting year 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024

Published March 2025



Contents

Intr	oductory sections 1 – 3	Page
1.	Statutory role of the IMB	3
2.	Description of the establishment	4
3.	Key points	6
Evi	dence sections 4 – 7	
4.	Safety	8
5.	Fair and humane treatment	10
6.	Health and wellbeing	13
7.	Progression and resettlement	16
The	work of the IMB	
Boa	18	
Арр	18	

All IMB annual reports are published on www.imb.org.uk

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

HMP Dovegate is a privately run category B training prison (for those who do not require maximum security but still pose a significant risk) in Staffordshire, holding men aged 21 or over. It is managed by Serco.

The main prison consists of convicted prisoners, mainly serving determinate sentences (these have a fixed end date), a remand facility (that holds people awaiting trial, or those who have been found guilty but are waiting to be sentenced) and local prison places.

There is also a purpose-built therapeutic community (TC), which takes repeat and mainly violent offenders, who come from any prison in the country and volunteer to address their offending behaviour through group and individual therapy. All prisoners go through an assessment before being accepted as suitable for the challenges that come with the therapy on the TC.

The operational capacity (the maximum number of prisoners that can be held without serious risk to safety, security, good order and the proper running of the planned regime) of the main prison is 960¹ and that of the TC is 200, giving a combined total of 1160. The number of prisoners held in the main prison over the reporting year has been at, or close to, the 1160 operational capacity.

The main prison consists of three house blocks. The two original house blocks (1 and 2) each have five wings, built around a central 'bubble'. The number of prisoners held on each wing can vary, due to those with double cells or cells that can accommodate disabled men. A food-serving area and a laundry are on the ground floor. There are fixed tables and chairs, a pool table and exercise machines in the communal area, plus an outside exercise yard with outdoor gym equipment. Cells in these two house blocks were designed for single occupancy and have an in-cell washbasin and a toilet. A further 20 cells per wing are larger and can accommodate two prisoners. House blocks 1 and 2 have some bigger cells, which can accommodate two prisoners.

House block 3 has four wings built around a control 'bubble'. This block has a dedicated drugs-misuse treatment wing. The cells are larger, complying with European Prison Rules standards, and have integral showers. These wings have the same communal facilities as house blocks 1 and 2.

All cells have a phone installed and all calls are security monitored. During the reporting year, in-cell IT has been rolled out on all wings, including the TC.

The TC, which is separated from the main prison by an internal fence, consists of three house blocks, all having single occupancy cells with in-cell toilets and showers. The fourth block houses the education department and a small TC visits' hall, with a family room. It shares some of the main prison facilities, such as, for example, the healthcare centre and the gym.

4

¹ 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.

The care and separation unit (CSU), where men are segregated, is a separate block and has 18 cells and two special accommodation cells (where furniture, bedding and sanitation are removed in the interests of safety).

Automated teller machine (ATM) kiosks are installed in all the residential areas, allowing prisoners to check their accounts, order meals, make medical and dental appointments, access the prison complaints system and arrange social visits.

The prison has its own kitchen and laundry and the prison kitchen produces all meals in-house for prisoners, as well as for staff in a small bistro.

The healthcare centre has two waiting rooms and a range of treatment and consulting rooms for outpatient clinics. The inpatient facility has accommodation for 11 prisoners. Each room has a toilet and a washbasin. There is one bath/shower room in the unit.

The prison has a large education and training facility, Dovegate College, five workshops, a gym and a multi-faith centre. The library services are provided by Serco, in partnership with Staffordshire Library Services. The Shannon Trust charity is active in the prison as an additional support to prisoners with poor reading skills.

Practice Plus Group provides 24-hour healthcare services, while the Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust provides mental health services.

The prison has a contract with Serco Integrated Services for facilities management.

In the Board's view, the prison has well-maintained and attractive gardens, with productive vegetable and flower growing areas. The TC grounds also have ponds and ducks, which are cared for by prisoners.

The visits' hall is spacious and welcoming, in the Board's view, with both indoor and outdoor play areas for children.

3. Key points

3.1 Main findings

Safety

- There were three deaths in custody in the reporting year, one of which was, apparently, self-inflicted.
- The Board has observed the wings being generally calm and settled and prisoners relationships with staff appeared to be good. Generally, the wings, feel safe to walk around as a visitor.
- The use of body worn video cameras (BWVCs) is seen on all officers every time we visit the wings, with weekly reviews of footage of use of force incidents.
- There are more prisoners with complex issues, many of whom are from the northwest which, together with the national prison population pressure, is a factor that has changed the demographics prisoners held at HMP Dovegate.

Fair and humane treatment

- The state of the buildings is generally good, and maintenance work is continual.
- From the Board's conversations with prisoners, as well as data, prisoners have told us that they believe that HMP Dovegate is a good prison.

Health and wellbeing

- Waiting times for healthcare appointments are long, in the Board's view, which combined with appointment cancellations, for various reasons, ensures that prisoners believe it to be an issue.
- The increasing number of prisoners with serious and complex mental health issues creates a challenge for both the healthcare department and the CSU on where to locate prisoners and how to deal with their challenging and often violent behaviour.
- Prisoners with serious mental health issues have a lengthy wait for transfer to a secure mental health unit. During that time, their mental health continues to deteriorate and they continue to exhibit violent behaviour that impacts on other prisoners and staff.

Progression and resettlement

- The national debate on prison population pressure seems to be causing anxiety for prisoners, particularly in regard to how the changes could affect them and their future.
- For the staff, the task of reassessing every prisoner to see if they fitted the criteria for each policy was substantial and the risk of miscalculating stressful.
- The offender management unit (OMU) allocates a prison offender manager (POM) to remand and sentenced prisoners, although they are not budgeted to do so.

3.2 Main areas for development

TO THE MINISTER

- The number of secure mental health spaces available is not adequate for the number of seriously mentally ill prisoners. The length of time prisoners wait for a space in these units and the number of people they assault in this time is significant. When and how will the Minister address this urgent issue?
- There is not enough interest from companies to work with HMP Dovegate in relation to creating a clear path into paid employment on release, or purposeful activity while in prison. Will the Minister consider creating a corporate responsibility initiative/subsidy that encourages companies to work with prisons to create work and career opportunities?

TO THE PRISON SERVICE

- Property lost between prisoners is still an major issue. Will the Prison Service consider moving to digital property cards in all prisons and photographic records for all items?
- Is there a way for property that is authorised in possession in one prison to be recorded, to allow a prisoner to retain the item following transfer to another prison?
- Prison population pressures have not reduced in the last 12 months. Will the Prison Service consider remanding prisoners on tags rather than in prison.

TO THE DIRECTOR

- The Board requests the Director to continue to inspire new staff, with you and your senior management team being seen regularly on the wings.
- The Board observes the need for the Director maintain the stable environment in the CSU and credits the staff for their work in challenging situations.
- The Board recognises the improvements that have been made in education over the last 12 months and hopes this will continue, also improving the availability of meaningful work in the industrial units.

Evidence sections 4 – 7

4. Safety

4.1 Reception and induction

- Late arrivals have continued throughout the reporting period, with staff regularly leaving the establishment at around midnight.
- To ensure that there is healthcare coverage in reception there is a day and a night shift, night shift starts at 8pm and remains in reception till all arrivals have been processed.
- The number of arrivals and departures from HMP Dovegate in a month has peaked at over 500 a month over the past 12 months, almost half the overall population of the establishment changed in 30 days.
- The conversion of the manual tracking system of parcels and property received and despatched was computerised in February 2024, which has improved the process of finding lost property considerably.

4.2 Suicide and self-harm, deaths in custody

- The reporting year saw three deaths in custody.
- A total of 694 assessment, care in custody and teamwork (ACCTs) plans (used to support prisoners who are at risk of self-harm and suicide) were opened during the reporting period, up from 555 in the last reporting year. The Board believes this was due to the relaxation of Covid rules and prisoners mixing more freely, leading to negative interactions.
- During the reporting year, the national population pressures have led to more prisoners from out of the local area being located at HMP Dovegate.
- There were 814 instances of self-harm, by 197 individuals.

4.3 Violence and violence reduction, self-isolation

- Instances of violence are higher than in the previous reporting period.
 Management believes this is the result of a different prison population to a number of years ago, as well as an increase in violence in society as a whole. The Board agrees that population pressures mean that prisoners from very different backgrounds and offences can be mixing together, which can cause conflict and anxiety.
- The IMB has received no complaints relating to use of force incidents.
- There were very few instances of self-isolation at HMP Dovegate. Prisoners are monitored via a computer system, which collates information on the use of canteen, social visits, purposeful activity, gym attendance and education. It is checked by the Assistant Directors daily and if someone appears not to be engaging with the regime, their key worker is deployed to investigate.
- The CSIP process is used to challenge or mediate change in behaviours, including violence reduction, but also self-harm. During the reporting year, 172 CSIPs were opened, an increase of 39 on the previous year's total of 133.

4.4 Use of force

 PAVA incapacitant spray has been used more in this reporting year, as it is seen as a deterrent by staff or, in some situations, safer to use than drawing batons or using physical control to restrain prisoners.

- In the cases where PAVA has been deployed the Board believes that these instances were appropriate and reasonable.
- The BWVC footage is viewed at the weekly meeting with the Director, members of the Controller's team and the security team, with learning points highlighted and best practice commended. The use of force video footage that has been observed by the Board was appropriate.
- The Chair of the IMB observed some weekly meetings where BWCV footage was reviewed, and evidence of continuous improvement was observed.
- Planned uses of force briefings are recorded for training purposes. The IMB has observed some briefings and was impressed by the process undertaken.
- One serious incident resulted in the National Tactical Response Group, or NTRG (a team trained to intervene in dangerous, high-risk situations) attending. The IMB observed the command suite during the incident and the NTRG undertaking the planned removal of five prisoners to the CSU. In the Board's opinion, the situation was managed effectively and efficiently.

4.5 Preventing illicit items

- Drone activity has been intermittent during the reporting period. The illicit items that been found by prison staff had not been the result of any specific targeted areas or particular prisoners.
- As noted in our previous report, the body scanner in reception continues to highlight concealed items on new arrivals, who are then segregated and retested until they are clear.
- Searches of staff, visitors and their belongings have remained in place and are standard practice.
- There has been an increase in the number of illicit substances found in incoming mail, including legal correspondence, as well that passed during social visits, which are reported to the police.
- Although prison staff seem vigilant, there always appear to be ways in which illicit items find their way onto the wings.

5. Fair and humane treatment

5.1 Accommodation, clothing, food

- Many floors and showers have been refurbished, although some have deteriorated again. Certain wings have issues with rusting of lintels above the showers.
- The temporary repair to the trolley store area is adequate and no permanent repair has been scheduled.
- Serco has a schedule of major refurbishment work ongoing, as the contract for the running of the establishment is going out to tender shortly. Roofs, gutters and fire alarms are all part of the ongoing work.

5.2 Segregation

- There have been a lot of prisoners with complex issues in the CSU over the reporting year. From the Board's observations, staff and prisoner relationships are generally good, and staff have an increased awareness of managing prisoners with complex needs.
- Some prisoners requiring transfer to secure mental health units have waiting times more than 100 days. This does nothing to help improve their mental state and also causes issues with other prisoners, as well as staff who manage them for long periods of time.
- The staff and management of the CSU have changed a few times during the year. If the staff or managers struggle with the environment, the senior leadership team (SLT) has quickly changed the staff members to ensure that a stable environment is maintained.
- Since the increased population pressures, prisoners who chose a route into the CSU, with a view to it helping to get them transferred to another establishment, have found this is much harder to achieve. This has resulted in them remaining in the CSU for longer than had been the case a few years ago.

5.3 Staff and prisoner relationships, key workers

- Key work has continued to take place and appears to be well monitored and recorded.
- The Board sees good relationships between staff and prisoners on a regular basis, and very few complaints to the IMB relate to staff.
- Staffing levels have been tight over the year, which has resulted in regimes being cut back.
- There is a high number of new staff and a wide difference of levels of experience across the staff complement as a whole.

5.4 Equality and diversity

- The Board received few applications (prisoners' written representations)
 relating to equality. When investigated, they were found to be mistakes that
 could be interpreted from various perspectives rather than featuring any
 elements of discrimination.
- A total of 56 discrimination incident reporting forms (DIRFs) were received in the reporting year, a slight reduction on the 65 received in the previous reviewing period.

- In June, an updated process for DIRFS was introduced, with timescales for replies.
- An assortment of events covering themes such as International Migrants Day, Worlds AIDS Day, Human Rights Day and a menopause club have all taken place in the last 12 months.

5.5 Faith and pastoral support

- The multi-faith team has continued to be proactive in its delivery of support to all prisoners.
- They attend most of the Rule 45 reviews (which determine whether or not a prisoner should remain segregated) in the CSU and actively offer support to prisoners at that time, if appropriate.
- They also visit the CSU every day.
- There was an issue with Christmas morning service, where some or one prisoner(s) didn't hear the call for the service and the Deputy Director had to intervene to resolve the issue.
- At one point during the reporting year, all worship groups were represented, with the exception of Rastafarians, and the managing chaplain continues to recruit to fill vacancies when required.
- There are four chaplains to cover Christian Sunday worship and three Imams to cover Friday prayers. In addition, there are two chaplains to lead Roman Catholic worship and several priests to support them. Roman Catholics are the second-largest group of faith worshippers in the prison.
- The multi-faith team has good input into regime planning and purposeful activity.
- There are now two multi-faith orderlies (trusted prisoners who take on work to provide services that contribute to the running of the prison).

5.6 Incentives schemes

• Due to limited numbers of Board members, we have not monitored this area in the reporting year.

5.7 Complaints

- In the Board's view, the HMP Dovegate complaints system is efficiently run and, for the most part, timely. We have not observed any complaint that was unfairly handled, although the wait time for responses from other establishments is frustrating for all concerned.
- The IMB has seen a fall in the number of applications, from 178 last year to 132 this year. The Board believes this is because we have been more accessible to speak to prisoners while we are monitoring, and we have been able to report any concerns raised verbally by the men to the senior management team/Director, where appropriate.
- The HMP Dovegate complaints process has also seen a reduction, from 3518 in the previous year to 3217 this year.

5.8 Property

 In a repeat from our previous report, missing property, usually having had to be sent on after the prisoner has transferred from another establishment, continues to be a source of concern, with complaints being investigated by

- both the prison complaints team, and the IMB in some cases, and only being resolved when IMBs at both establishments work together.
- The introduction of a computer spreadsheet in February 2024 to record incoming parcels and tracking references has made some improvement in the tracing of items.
- Again, as in our last report, the Board understands that poor staff practice in
 effectively managing cell clearance has resulted in the loss of some property,
 but more often the inability to prove that the property was bagged and sealed
 effectively.

6. Health and wellbeing

6.1 Healthcare general

- Waiting times for the dentist have been lengthy for the most part of the year, but have improved slightly since the appointment of a new, full-time dentist at the end of the reporting period.
- Waiting times for appointments with the GP continue to be lengthy, with the healthcare team continuing to look for ways to improve this.
- Covid highlighted that the waiting rooms were a flashpoint and that 12 prisoners was the safe number to be held in the waiting room. This was reduced to six during the Covid outbreak. Prison custody officer (PCO) runners seem to work hard to try to ensure that patients meet their appointment times. There are ongoing plans to relocate the pharmacy to release another room to be used as a waiting room.
- The healthcare department has ongoing recruitment for clinical staff; a new deputy head of healthcare started in July, together with two clinical leads (one in September and another in October).
- The inpatient unit admitted 86 patients between September 2023 and August 2024, many for reasons to do with mental health. There is provision for a registered general nurse day and night but no mental health provision.
- A high number of patients have complex needs and most are referred to secure hospitals. The psychiatrist visits ward in the inpatient unit and the CSU every two weeks.
- All patients in the inpatient unit are discussed at the weekly multi-disciplinary complex case clinic (MPCCC) meeting, and the GP conducts an inpatient ward round at least weekly.
- Activities in the unit include a health champion drop-in service, a teaching assistant from the education department offering support to the inpatients, and yoga, with a breakfast club starting soon.
- Healthcare-specific complaint forms continue to be available on all house blocks and are handled by the patient engagement lead (PEL).
- Healthcare champions continue to be trained to the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) Level 2 Understanding Health Improvement and Mental Health First Aid course. The champions work on the wings, as well as in the healthcare department and reception. Bi-weekly meetings take place and there are patient forums every month. Key concerns include waiting times for internal and external appointments.
- The Board understands that the healthcare department recognises the invaluable support that champions provide in reception.

6.2 Physical healthcare

- Hospital escorts have been maintained at six a day. However, it continues to be reported to the Board that waiting times at the hospital and cancelled appointments remain a frustration for prisoners.
- Nursing staff offer 24-hour provision, as well as running daily clinics and outreach on the wings. A proportion of consultations continue to take place over the phone.
- Health champions continue to be available on each house block to offer wellbeing advice and support.

 Healthcare staff work with the kitchen staff to try to ensure that as many clinical dietary requirements as possible are covered. Plus, there is now a food pack for those with type 1 diabetes.

6.3 Mental health

- On arrival at HMP Dovegate, all prisoners have a physical and mental health screening assessment by a registered nurse, with a referral to the mental health team completed if any concerns arise. Any member of staff can complete a referral to the mental health team and prisoners can also refer themselves to the service.
- All referrals are seen within five working days, or two days if they are urgent.
- Staffing is a challenge, with recruitment ongoing and agency staff regularly needed
- The mental health team consists of a team leader, a clinical lead, mental health nurses (some of whom are agency staff), two healthcare assistants and a psychologist. In the reporting year, two mental health and wellbeing practitioners and a graduate mental health worker have started.
- There continue to be 4.5 visiting psychiatry sessions each week.
- The team continues to do outreach work with patients on the wings, in the healthcare department and in the CSU, where prisoners are offered self-help materials and distraction tools.
- There is weekly group work, which includes cognitive behavioural therapy and a strategy called 'Empower' for prisoners with anxiety issues.
- Work continues around the promotion of the mental health service, support available and the criteria patients have to meet to work with the mental health team and other areas where patients can go for support if they do not meet the clinical mental health criteria.

6.4 Social care

- Staffordshire County Council social care continues to provide the assessments for social care. The Board has observed where social care packages have been provided to prisoners following operations.
- The healthcare team manages and delivers the care packages to the patients.
- Social care staff include a social work and occupational therapists, who assesses patients' needs on an outreach basis.
- Patients have individual care and support plans and equipment is provided where necessary.
- Healthcare assistants are qualified to Level 2.
- From the Board's observations, agencies work together and discuss patients'
 needs at the 'Safer Dovegate' and MPCCC meetings. These meetings are
 where prison management (SERCO) and healthcare staff (Practice Plus, etc)
 discuss individual prisoners to ensure that everyone is aware of the symptoms
 or behaviours to ensure a coordinated care package for each individual.

6.5 Time out of cell, regime.

- Time out of cell is generally good, although staffing pressures, especially in holiday periods, have resulted in some restrictions on activities and exercise times.
- When the regime has to be restricted, it is done in a fair manner and is communicated to the men in a timely fashion, in the Board's view.

6.6 Drug and alcohol rehabilitation

- Substance misuse is managed by Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. The clinical team remains under Practice Plus.
- Any prisoners arriving in reception who are identified as needing detoxification or stabilisation are placed on the first night wing for regular monitoring.
- Patients are assessed by the substance misuse prescriber and appropriate medication is given.
- Psychosocial support is also offered and healthcare assistants attend the wing twice a day to check the residents' general health.
- Group sessions include acupuncture, Alcoholics Anonymous support and Smart Recovery.
- Prisoner can call a hotline number that specifically deals with substance misuse issues.
- There is a peer support scheme in place called 'recovery champions' to help others with addictions. The champions attend groups and offer one-to-one support.

6.7 Soft skills

- In-person yoga sessions started in February 2024 and run on the TC for main patients and inpatients. Concerns are that the evening session for main patients is too often cancelled.
- The health champions started a sleep hygiene initiative, and results so far have been positive, showing a marked improvement in sleep.
- Social prescribing has started, with a full case load, supporting patients with non-clinical interventions.
- Prisoners highlighted concerns about mental health and the lack of support. A
 Dovegate version of the Andy's Man Club, called Better Days, is being run in
 the Wellbeing Café, alongside the safer custody team and encouraging
 conversation and reducing the stigma of men's mental health.
- Health, wellbeing and recovery gyms are in place. They are aimed at patients with a GP referral, a high body mass index (BMI) and those lacking confidence, due to not attending the gym. Health champions and recovery champions support the sessions.
- Funding for health trackers to be printed has been secured and a happiness project is in the initial stages.
- Training health champions is restricted, due to the lack of suitable locations, especially on house block 3.

7. Progression and resettlement

7.1 Education, library

- After a low rating from Ofsted during the HM Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) inspection in October 2023, a new head of education, skills and work was recruited, who had proven experience in taking an underperforming secondary school from an Ofsted rating of 'poor' to 'good'.
- The new head took up post in January and carried out an extensive review of the education provision. By April, a new Improvement Plan was signed off.
- Monthly monitoring visits from the regional head or deputy head of education for HMPPS monitor the Ofsted action plan. Ofsted recognised the progress being made.
- More qualified staff have been employed, including a special educational needs coordinator and a neurodiversity support manager, more accurate assessments of needs being carried out.
- Prisoners have a choice of pathways, from entry level up to postgraduate learning, and attendance in education classes has increased from 46% to 83%.
- The number of prisoners refusing to engage in education has fallen from 66 to 35, supported by a more inclusive approach and the appointment of a pastoral manager.
- Waiting lists for course have been reduced, allowing for quicker engagement, and prisoners completing their courses on time and receiving their certificates.
- Pass raters for all courses are 83.8%. HMIP has assessed the vocational programme (a previous concern) as now 'good'.

7.2 Vocational training, work

- The welding workshop has been well received, although it can only accommodate a small number of prisoners.
- There are plenty of companies with packing and other uninspiring work available; however, fewer companies who could provide quality employment want to work with prisons.

7.3 Offender management, progression

• Changes in policies to reduce the population pressures has put additional workload on this area.

7.4 Family contact

- Staffing holidays around Christmas created a backlog in processing family
 phone numbers. This led to frustrations among new prisoners, which then
 resulted in some incidents on the induction wing. Although additional staff
 were deployed to process the phone numbers, the lack of understanding of
 the process with families and prisoners appears to make it more difficult.
- Security has been tightened up in social visits after a few finds of illicit items.

7.5 Resettlement planning

 Changes in policy, i.e. standard determinate sentences (SDS40s) and end of custody supervised licences (ECSLs), both brought in as a means to alleviate the population pressures, required re-analysis of all prisoners.

- At HMP Dovegate, SDS40 recalculation enabled 12 prisoners to be released on 10 September 2024.
- There are now 24 IPP (imprisoned for public protection) men at HMP Dovegate, a significant reduction from the 31 in the previous reporting period.

7.6 Therapeutic community (TC)

- The TC unit houses men who have been convicted of high-risk offences. Most have been screened onto the offender personality disorder pathway.
- Treatment in the TC involves a group therapy model that uses psychodynamic therapy, where a journey of joint meaning and understanding occurs between the therapeutic staff and the men.
- The men are encouraged to gain a sense of belonging to, and investment in, their communities, agreeing to maintain the principals of the community, and taking job roles themselves and voting on who takes which job, in a democratic manner.
- Education has returned to full provision on the TC unit in the reporting year, with maths, English, art, ceramics and business enterprise courses available.
- There are low instances of self-harm and violence on the TC unit, compared with the 'main' residency wings.
- Operational staff need TCAT (therapeutic community accredited training) for their role on the unit. The provision for this nationally has reduced, and although Serco has provided other suitable training, it would be beneficial to have more TCAT available for the staff.
- TC is accredited by the Community of Communities and has passed their audit to a high standard. The latest HMIP inspection reported positively on the TC.
- TC men do mix with the main prison men, when in healthcare.
- One wing had evolved to provide therapy for prisoners with learning disabilities, but this area did not pass an audit. Although Serco had a plan and was willing to make amendments based on the audit, the wing has been decommissioned and the men have been transferred to other units to continue their therapy.
- The TC wings and gardens are observed to be clean, tidy and calm environments.
- The worship room on TC is being utilised five days a week.

8. The work of the IMB

Board statistics

Recommended complement of Board	16
members	
Number of Board members at the start	5
of the reporting period	
Number of Board members at the end of	6
the reporting period	
Total number of visits to the	219
establishment	
Number of 45 GOoD (good order or	93
discipline) reviews observed	

Applications to the IMB

Code	Subject	Previous reporting year	Current reporting year
Α	Accommodation, including laundry, clothing, ablutions	12	3
В	Discipline, including adjudications, incentives scheme, sanctions	5	7
С	Equality	2	3
D	Purposeful activity, including education, work, training, time out of cell	5	27
E1	Letters, visits, telephones, public protection, restrictions	19	9
E2	Finance, including pay, private monies, spends	15	4
F	Food and kitchens	3	4
G	Health, including physical, mental, social care	34	23
H1	Property within the establishment	28	15
H2	Property during transfer or in another facility	21	13
H3	Canteen, facility list, catalogues	1	1
I	Sentence management, including HDC (home detention curfew), ROTL (release on temporary licence), parole, release dates, recategorisation	16	11
J	Staff/prisoner concerns, including bullying	14	7
K	Transfers	1	0
L	Miscellaneous	2	5
	Total number of applications	178	132



This publication is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0 except where otherwise stated. To view this licence, visit nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3

Where we have identified any third party copyright information you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

This publication is available at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at imb@justice.gov.uk