



HM Prison &
Probation Service

HMP Bure

A response to the HMIP inspection: 8 June to 18 June 2026

HMIP Bure report published: 14 September 2026

Submitted: 28 September 2026



Introduction

HM Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) and HM Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) for England and Wales are independent inspectorates which provide scrutiny of the conditions for, and treatment of prisoners and offenders.

They report their findings for prisons, young offender institutions, and effectiveness of the work of probation, and youth offending services across England and Wales to Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS).

In response to the report HMPPS / MoJ are required to draft a robust and timely action plan to address the priority and key concerns.

Action plans provide specific steps and actions to address these concerns, that are clear, outcome focussed, measurable, achievable, with clear accountability and appropriate timescales for completion.

Action plans are sent to the respective HMIP and published on the GOV.UK website. Progress will be monitored regularly through local, regional, and national governance structures.

Priority concerns and actions

No.	Concerns	Response: Action taken / Planned	Responsible owner	Target date
1	Leaders did not provide sufficient activity spaces for the population to take part in full-time education and/or work.	HMP Bure will expand the existing horticulture provision to create additional purposeful activity places for prisoners. This will increase opportunities for meaningful work, skills development and accredited learning, while also providing suitable activity for prisoners who may be less able to engage in traditional workshop environments.	Governor	April 2027
	As above	A 3-year plan to expand activity places at HMP Bure will be produced. This plan will incorporate bids for additional funding for infrastructure and staffing to increase capacity and will be in conjunction with locally funded initiatives. The prison will review how available space can be reconfigured or repurposed to increase activity places and ensure space is used effectively to support prisoner engagement and progression.	Governor	January 2027
	As above	Quarterly reviews of activity provision will be introduced to assess capacity, utilisation, waiting lists and population need. This will enable the establishment to identify gaps in provision, respond to changes in demand and ensure activity places are allocated effectively. Performance data will be used to support decision-making and prioritise future investment in purposeful activity spaces.	Governor	April 2027

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2	Leaders did not offer an ambitious enough curriculum, with enough suitable training and qualifications at level 2 and above, to improve progression opportunities for prisoners during their time in the prison and on release.	The prison will initiate a full curriculum review, aligned with prisoner aspirations, labour market information and known destination data for people convicted of sexual offences, to inform the overall direction and commissioning activities.	Governor	November 2026
	As above	Following the curriculum review, the prison will commission a curriculum from the contracted education provider, that increases learning opportunities at both Level 2 and Level 3 by at least 2 units or courses per level.	Governor	April 2027
	As above	Twenty new paid part-time places will be created specifically to support further and higher-level study through distance learning partnerships.	Governor	April 2027
	As above	All workshop training, and qualification offers will be reviewed to ensure progression opportunities are maximised in the prison and on release.	Governor	April 2027
	As above	Following the review, Band 4 instructors will be upskilled to enable them to deliver additional units or courses.	Governor	January 2028
3	Leaders had not built effective enough links with	An employer engagement strategy will be developed to strengthen relationships with local, regional and national employers operating	Governor	April 2027

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	employers to provide sufficient work opportunities for prisoners on release.	within sectors experiencing labour shortages. The strategy will identify priority employment sectors, establish partnership opportunities and create clear pathways from custody into sustainable employment on release. Progress and outcomes will be monitored through the reducing reoffending governance framework.		
	As above	The number of employer-led events, presentations and recruitment sessions will be increased to four per year. These activities will improve prisoners' understanding of employment opportunities, increase direct engagement with potential employers and support progression into employment, apprenticeships and further training on release.	Governor	September 2027
4	Prisoners had insufficient contact with prison offender managers.	The frequency of POM contact for prisoners will be increased to a minimum of one meaningful contact every 3 months. This will be monitored through existing assurance processes.	Governor	April 2027
	As above	Key workers will contribute and support POM contact by periodically conducting semi-structured sessions, commissioned by POMs. This will complement direct POM contact by communicating key information regarding sentence progression.	Governor	April 2027
	As above	To increase probation POM contact levels with prisoners a review of POM caseload allocation will be undertaken with a view to increasing the proportion of Tier A and Tier B prisoners managed by prison-based POMs.	Governor	April 2027

No.	Concerns	Response: Action taken / Planned	Responsible owner	Target date
	As above	Prisoner understanding of POM contact expectations and the journey through a significant sentence will be improved through the implementation of an Understanding Long-Term Sentences initiative.	Governor	April 2027

Key concerns and actions

No.	Concerns	Response: action taken / planned	Responsible owner	Target date
5	Leaders had not communicated key information effectively, leaving many prisoners frustrated and unclear about developments. This included access to offending behaviour programmes, consultation outcomes and actions arising from concerns about fair treatment.	The prison will complete an engagement exercise that includes a prisoner survey to assess the effectiveness of the communication strategy. This will be used to review and revise our communication methods and strategy. A further, regular review process will also be introduced to ensure that information shared with prisoners is being received and understood.	Governor	April 2027

No.	Concerns	Response: action taken / planned	Responsible owner	Target date
	As above	The prison will utilise residential information screens more effectively, as well as adding an additional screen in the library, to improve communication with prisoners. These will be used to publish key information, including individual residential unit news updates, planned actions and outcomes from prisoner consultation. This will also include updates and information on areas of prisoner concern including access to offending behaviour programmes, regime availability updates and updates on actions arising from concerns about fair treatment.	Governor	April 2027
	As above	Prisoner communications will be enhanced through the regular publication of relevant information, prison developments, consultation feedback and service updates within the local prisoner magazine.	Governor	April 2027
6	There was inadequate oversight of prisoners on residential units. There was no CCTV, compounded by insufficient staff supervision on some wings.	The prison will continue to progress the business case and engagement with HMPPS and Ministry of Justice stakeholders to secure funding for the installation of CCTV across residential units.	Governor	March 2027
	As above	The prison will strengthen residential supervision by ensuring Custodial Managers spend more time based within their designated residential areas, providing increased visibility, support and oversight.	Governor	December 2026

No.	Concerns	Response: action taken / planned	Responsible owner	Target date
	As above	The prison will clearly define supervision expectations, to ensure all staff are aware of their responsibilities in this area. These expectations will be published and communicated to staff through staff briefings and via the daily briefing sheet.	Governor	December 2026
	As above	Staff supervision of prisoners will be monitored through a programme of routine residential assurance activity, including management checks, to verify that staff are conducting regular patrols and proactively engaging with prisoners as per the set expectations.	Governor	March 2027
7	Self-catering options for prisoners remained too limited for a training prison holding many with long sentences. Most wings only had microwaves and toasters and prisoners could not buy fresh ingredients to cook with.	The prison will review the cooking arrangements currently available and seek to learn from arrangements provided at comparable prisons in order to develop a local model to increase self-catering opportunities for prisoners, within infrastructure constraints.	Governor	March 2027
	As above	As part of the review, the prison will work with DHL and other approved suppliers to identify opportunities to expand the range of products available to prisoners through existing supply arrangements, to meet the needs of the locally devised model.	Governor	March 2027

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8	The prison was not designed to meet the needs of those with mobility concerns.	All funding requests from the establishment will be considered, noting that demands for maintenance are much greater than the available funding. Therefore, once a bid for a project is received, HMPPS has to prioritise works very carefully to make best use of that funding, focusing on risk to life and risk to capacity and decency.	HMPPS National Estates	Ongoing
	As above	The Governor will seek funding to renovate accessible shower facilities across residential units, ensuring that accommodation better meets the needs of prisoners with mobility impairments.	Governor	March 2027
	As above	The prison will seek funding for the acquisition of a wheelchair-accessible vehicle to improve the safe and dignified transport of prisoners attending external appointments.	Governor	March 2027