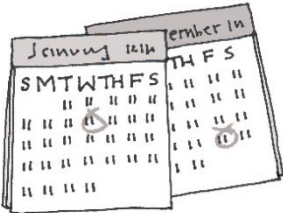
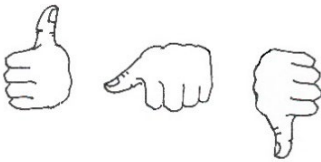




Inspection of HMP Stocken



Inspectors visited this prison in July 2026.



We wanted to find out if things were better, the same or worse for prisoners since we last visited in 2023.



We did this by:

- looking around the prison
- asking prisoners and staff to fill in a questionnaire
- speaking to prisoners
- speaking to staff and helpers
- reading documents.

What did we find?



Safety: 3 out of 4

- Prisoners did not get enough help to settle into the jail.
- Violence had got worse, but there was some good work to sort it out and keep prisoners safe.
- Too many drugs were getting into the prison.



Respect: 2 out of 4

- Staff were not very helpful to prisoners.
- Outside areas of the prison were not very well looked after. There were problems with the sewers and vermin.
- Prisoners with mental health problems did not always get good enough care.
- Prisoners with disabilities did not get enough help.



Things to do: 2 out of 4

- Prisoners could not always do maths and English classes at the right level.
- Not all prisoners could do work activities that would help them get jobs.



Getting ready to leave prison: 2 out of 4

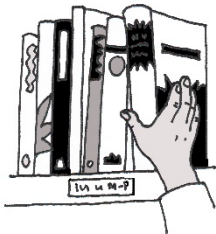
- Prisoners did not get enough help to make progress in the sentence.
- Visits were not well managed. They often started late.
- Prisoners waited a long time to be moved to open prisons.

What should the prison do?



We want the governor to read the report we wrote about HMP Stocken and make a plan.

The plan should tell us how they will fix the problems at Stocken and make things better for prisoners.



You can find the report we wrote in the prison library.

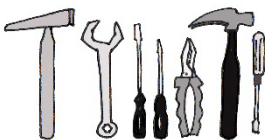
What do we want to happen?



We want prisoners to get more help and support from staff.



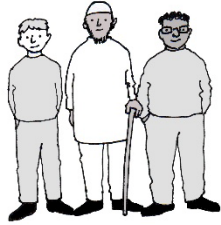
We want the prison to do more to stop drugs getting in.



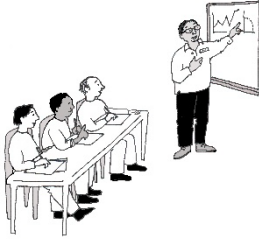
We want the prison to sort out the problems with sewage and vermin.



We want all health care to be safe.



We want prisoners with disabilities to get the help they need.



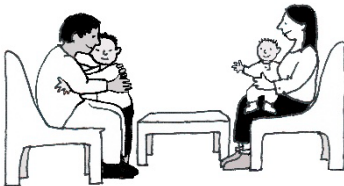
We want prisoners to go to maths and English lessons. We want them to do maths and English at the right level.



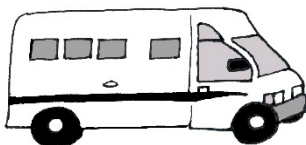
We want prisoners to learn things that will help them find jobs when they leave prison.



We want prisoners to see their offender manager more often. We want them to get more help to do well in their sentence.

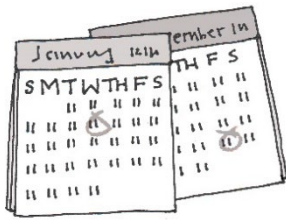


We want it to be easier for families and friends to visit prisoners. We want visits to begin when they are supposed to.



We want prisoners to be moved to open prisons more quickly.

What will we do?



We will come back in a few years to check how well the prison is doing. We will write a report to tell people what we find.



If you have any questions, please write to us:

HM Inspectorate of Prisons
3rd floor
10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU