

HUMBERSIDE INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING SCHEME MONITORING REPORT

INTRODUCTION

1. This report presents a monitoring account of the Humberside Independent Custody Visiting Scheme between 1 September 2005 and 10 November 2005.

BACKGROUND

2. The Humberside Independent Custody Visiting Scheme continues to operate with 38 visitors working across the four Divisions of the Force, under the administration of four Panel Reps, one for each Division. The Humberside Police Authority Scheme Administrator is the Consultation and Partnership Officer and there is a nominated Lead Member.
3. Incidents of concern highlighted by visitors, relating to the welfare and treatment of detainees and conditions within custody suites, are reported by the Scheme Administrator to the Administration of Justice Unit. The Administration of Justice Unit conducts an investigation into the issues raised by Custody Visitors and responds directly to the Scheme Administrator. Details are provided in Appendix A of the Report.

MONITORING REPORTS

4. An analysis of the number of detainees visited by Custody Visitors during the period 1 September 2005 to 10 November 2005 is also shown at Appendix A. Copies of the original reports are available for inspection in the office of the Chief Executive to the Police Authority. This appendix also includes comments on issues raised by, and directed to, the Administration of Justice Unit.
5. Appendix B shows the number of scheduled visits to custody suites and the actual visits made by Custody Visitors.

RESIGNATIONS

6. There have been no resignations from the Scheme during this monitoring period.

REFURBISHMENT/SITE WORKS

7. During October both Queens Gardens and Priory Road custody suites were closed for four days each in order to carry out a full industrial clean on the premises. This was the cause of a number of missed visits in D Division. Those visits have been re-arranged and will show on the next monitoring report.

MISSED VISITS

8. As described above the closure of cells in D Division contributed to a number of missed visits.
9. The matrix at Appendix B is also showing missed visits in B and C Division. These can be attributed to the shortness of the monitoring period of this report, nearer two months than the usual three, contributing to this report being written before the completed 577 forms for visits have been received.
10. B Division panel is still awaiting new recruits (a full report is to follow this report)

ISSUES FROM 577'S AND CORRESPONDENCE FROM ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE UNIT (AJU)

11. One issue from this period has been referred to the Administration of Justice Unit. A detainee complained of rough treatment by the police while being escorted to an alternative cell.
12. The issues have all been addressed following investigations by the Administration of Justice Unit and full details are contained in Appendix A of this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

13. It is recommended that the Committee:
 - i. Discusses the information contained in this report with particular attention paid to the content of Appendix A and B.
 - ii. Direct any queries regarding the report, or the scheme in general, to the Consultation and Partnership Officer

SHAHIN ISMAIL

Chief Executive to the Police Authority

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Background Documents: ICV File 6.5.2
ICV Rosters File 6.5.9