

HUMBERSIDE INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING SCHEME RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING UPDATE

INTRODUCTION

1. Members will recall that there was a recommendation on report number 14 of Audit and Strategy Committee 13.09.05 to receive a full update on recruitment of new Visitors for B Division and training of new and existing Visitors across the area.

RECRUITMENT

2. Following the resignation of a number of Visitors in B Division it was decided that another four or five visitors were required to bring the panel back up to full strength.
3. Advertisements for new visitors were put in the free North Lincolnshire Council magazine 'Direct' and an article was placed in the Scunthorpe Evening Telegraph appealing for interest and new recruits. The cost of this to the Authority was nil.
4. Initial interest in the position was promising and close to twenty application forms were sent out. The result of this was four new visitors for B Division (one more for D Division was also recruited) and a comprehensive list of expressions of interest to fill future vacancies should they occur.

NEW STAFF TRAINING

5. The new Visitors received training 'in house' using the recently devised training pack designed by the Authority in conjunction with the Administration of Justice Unit and it is hoped that they will commence full visits in the new year.
6. Between now and the end of the year they will carry out visits with their Panel Reps and more experienced visitors. A review of their performance will be carried out following two visits, by the Consultation and Partnership Officer, their respective Panel Rep and the lead member; they will then be put on the main rosters if all parties are satisfied.

EXISTING STAFF TRAINING AND REVIEW OF TENURE

7. The new training packs have been sent to every visitor with less than three years service on the scheme.
8. In order to comply with ICVA guidelines all visitors who have been in the scheme for over three years, or are aged over 70, will shortly receive a letter as a review of their tenure before receiving the new training pack. The letter will request comments on the scheme, the administration and running of the scheme, and identify any training needs or refresher information required by those visitors with longer service.

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. It is recommended that Members:
 - i. Comment on the contents of this report
 - ii. Direct any questions on its content to the Consultation and Partnership Officer
 - iii. Receive an update on new visitors and training as part of the regular monitoring report for the scheme at the next Audit and Strategy Committee

SHAHIN ISMAIL

Chief Executive to the Police Authority

Contact Officer: Victoria Wise Telephone: (01482) 307234

Background Documents: None