

INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING PANEL MEETING - 25 JANUARY 2010

**INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITS TO POLICE STATIONS
 REPORT BY THE SCHEME ADMINISTRATOR**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Panel on the results of the Independent Custody Visits made to Police Stations in Dorset during the period 1 October 2009 to 31 December 2009.

BREAKDOWN OF ALL VISITS	MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL
	ADULTS	JUVENILES	ADULTS	JUVENILES	
<i>Total Number of Detained Persons Held During Visits</i>	181	12	26	1	220
<i>Total Number of Detained Persons Offered a Visit</i>	107	9	19	1	136
<i>Total Number of Detained Persons Visited</i>	99	9	18	1	127

	NO OF DETAINEES	%
<i>Detained Persons Offered a Visit</i>	136	62%
<i>Of which Detained Persons Visited</i>	127	93%

VISITS REFUSED OR NOT MADE	NO OF DETAINEES	%
<i>Refused a visit</i>	10	11%
<i>Not Visited due to Time Constraints</i>	2	2%
<i>Not Recorded</i>	1	1%
<i>Denied for Visitor Safety</i>	9	10%
<i>Mental Health Issues</i>	1	1%
<i>Communication Issues</i>	1	1%
<i>Detainee Asleep</i>	20	22%
<i>Detainee at Interview</i>	37	40%
<i>Detainee Released</i>	3	3%
<i>Detainee being Processed</i>	6	6%
<i>Detainee Washing</i>	3	3%

ETHNICITY		NO OF DETAINEES		
		Held	Offered	Visited
Self - Classification	<i>White British</i>	146	94	88
	<i>White Other Background</i>	6	3	3
	<i>Mixed</i>	7	4	4
	<i>Asian & Asian British</i>	7	5	5
	<i>Black & Black British</i>	14	6	4
	<i>Chinese & Other</i>	2	2	2
Officer Perception	<i>White European</i>	19	15	14
	<i>Dark European</i>	0	0	0
	<i>African Caribbean</i>	1	1	1
	<i>Asian</i>	3	0	0
	<i>Arab</i>	4	1	1
	<i>Other</i>	2	0	0
<i>Ethnicity Not Recorded</i>		9	6	5

DAYS OF THE WEEK	NO OF VISITS	%
<i>Monday</i>	8	17%
<i>Tuesday</i>	10	22%
<i>Wednesday</i>	6	13%
<i>Thursday</i>	8	17%
<i>Friday</i>	10	22%
<i>Saturday</i>	4	9%
<i>Sunday</i>	0	0%
TOTAL	46	

TIMES OF VISITS	Bournemouth	Poole	Weymouth	TOTAL	%
<i>From 1am to 7am</i>	0	2	0	2	5%
<i>From 7am to 10am</i>	1	1	0	2	5%
<i>From 10am to 1pm</i>	5	3	8	16	43%
<i>From 1pm to 4pm</i>	3	1	0	4	11%
<i>From 4pm to 7pm</i>	0	4	1	5	14%
<i>From 7pm to 10pm</i>	2	2	3	7	19%
<i>From 10pm to 1am</i>	1	0	0	1	3%

OTHER STATIONS TIMES OF VISITS	NO OF VISITS	%
<i>From 8am to 10am</i>	1	11%
<i>From 10am to 1pm</i>	3	33%
<i>From 1pm to 4pm</i>	3	33%
<i>From 4pm to 6pm</i>	2	22%

WAITING TIMES	NO OF VISITS	%
<i>Entry within 5 minutes</i>	40	87%
<i>Entry within 5 - 10 minutes</i>	3	7%
<i>Entry within 10 - 15 minutes</i>	2	4%
<i>Entry after 15 minutes</i>	1	2%

LENGTH OF VISIT	NO OF VISITS	%
<i>Under 1/2 hour</i>	22	48%
<i>1/2 to 1 hour</i>	15	33%
<i>1 to 1 1/2 hour</i>	8	17%
<i>1 1/2 to 2 hours</i>	0	0%
<i>2 to 2 1/2 hours</i>	1	2%
<i>2 1/2 to 3 hours</i>	0	0%
<i>Over 3 hours</i>	0	0%

CATEGORY OF DETAINEE	NO OF DETAINEES	%
<i>PACE</i>	195	89%
<i>Home Office Prisoners</i>	2	1%
<i>Immigration</i>	3	1%
<i>Non-PACE</i>	18	8%
<i>Op Safeguard</i>	0	0%
<i>Not Recorded</i>	2	1%

The following visits recorded some issues for discussion

BOURNEMOUTH

Date	Report No	Visit Commenced	Custody Visitors			
10 November 2009	00672	1203 hrs	Richard Shore & John Drayson			
	Total	Breakdown of Total Numbers				
		Male	Male Juvenile	Female	Female Juvenile	
Detainees Held	6	6	0	0	0	
Available for Visit	2	2	0	0	0	
Offered a Visit	2	2	0	0	0	
Visited	2	2	0	0	0	
Matters Raised to the Custody Officer			Action Taken by the Custody Officer			
31032	No record of wash or exercise offered on log.		Wash facility and yard to be offered.			
31010	No record on log that has been told that mother informed. But mother has been in contact with station. No record of exercise offered.		Detainee has now spoken to mother. Exercise yard to be offered.			
Custody Manager's Update						
Log examined. 31032 – This detainee was released within 2 hours of ICV Visit. System being amended to bring in Inspector's 'delegated actions' and MANDATORY checks during reviews to cover food/drink/washes.						

Date	Report No	Visit Commenced	Custody Visitors			
17 November 2009	00673	2051 hrs	Vivienne Grier & Ian Smith			
	Total	Breakdown of Total Numbers				
		Male	Male Juvenile	Female	Female Juvenile	
Detainees Held	12	8	2	2	0	
Available for Visit	9	5	2	2	0	
Offered a Visit	7	3	2	2	0	
Visited	7	3	2	2	0	
Matters Raised to the Custody Officer			Action Taken by the Custody Officer			
031733	Wished to make phone call. Was told he could be was still waiting to do so.		Will look into request.			
031736	Stated he had not been offered any food or drink. No record in log of food or drink being offered.		Detainee was being interviewed at meal time. Will be given food and drink now. 2200 hrs.			
031743	Asked to have someone informed. Appeared very 'spaced out'. Spoke with nurse was aware of his status/condition.		Will check with nurse. Detainee has already seen the nurse at 1925 hrs. Also let the section 56 be carried out.			
031752	Water on floor of cell, pointed out to officer. Complained of toothache, very bad back pain, spoke with nurse was aware.		Detainee saw nurse at 2000 hrs. Will check to see if she needs any medication. Floor to be mopped.			
031754	Stated to us that he was a 'self harmer'. Risk assessment record showed epilepsy and asthma but nurse not seen?		Aware of self harm issues. Detainee is in a CCTV cell. Nurse to be contacted regarding Epilepsy.			
General Issues Raised			Police Response at the Time of Visit			
Generally over half those visited said they were hungry and/or wanted a blanket.			Blankets and food to be issued to requests.			
Custody Manager's Update						
The one detainee who mentioned (on form) no food or drink offered, was offered food shortly after the visit and declined it. Insp Du Lieu is satisfied with level of care. The relevant logs will be available if required for discussion at Panel meeting and the custody officer has responded on the report form to each comment made.						
Reminder sent to all custody officers regarding PACE Code C 9.12 requirement for advice of Health Care Professional to be obtained for certain ailments including Epilepsy.						

Date	Report No	Visit Commenced	Custody Visitors			
19 December 2009	00677	1306 hrs	Phil Crabtree & Tony Holland			
	Total	Breakdown of Total Numbers				
		Male	Male Juvenile	Female	Female Juvenile	
Detainees Held	9	7	0	2	0	
Available for Visit	9	7	0	2	0	
Offered a Visit	7	5	0	2	0	
Visited	7	5	0	2	0	
General Issues Raised			Police Response at the Time of Visit			
There seems to be an issue with F block heating.						
Custody Manager's Update						
This is a seasonal issue with heating constraints in the old build. When temperatures too low the cells are not used.						
The problem is the F block itself heats OK but in the cold weather as soon as the doors are closed the temperatures drop drastically in the cell. This is only an issue in the cold weather. Temperatures will be monitored by staff and acted upon accordingly.						

NEW POOLE

Date	Report No	Visit Commenced	Custody Visitors			
18 December 2009	00723	1110 hrs	Keith Gooding & Phil Crabtree			
	Total	Breakdown of Total Numbers				
		Male	Male Juvenile	Female	Female Juvenile	
Detainees Held	8	5	0	3	0	
Available for Visit	8	5	0	3	0	
Offered a Visit	8	5	0	3	0	
Visited	7	4	0	3	0	
Matters Raised to the Custody Officer			Action Taken by the Custody Officer			
34478	Detainee complained that she had a sick child on medication. Medication was locked in her car and keys were in her property. Log not clear whether partner was advised about access to medication or that there was a sick child (teenager).		Medication in care not divulged to custody staff or would have been dealt with.			
34490	Detainee had asked for Code of Practice on our visit he reminded us that he had not received it.		Detention Officer immediately gave him a copy.			
34491	Detainee complained of injury to head he claimed was caused at arrest stage. Not mentioned in log apart from 'cuts to left eyebrow'.		Detainee was seen by Health Care Professional within 1 hour of entry into custody. Decision was he was fit to detain. Not disclosed to custody staff.			
General Issues Raised			Police Response at the Time of Visit			
1. We had concerns about shower facilities for female detainees. 2. We were advised of problems with solicitors speaking to detainees in their cells. The detention officer was very helpful in a new cell block showing teething problems.						
Custody Manager's Update						
Inspector La Bouchardiere will respond. 2. This relates to a firm of solicitors concerned regarding privacy. Cordless phone is available for detainee, on request, if this is highlighted as an issue.						

WEYMOUTH

Date	Report No	Visit Commenced	Custody Visitors			
6 November 2009	00767	1027 hrs	Kathie Emery & Gordon Brown			
	Total	Breakdown of Total Numbers				
		Male	Male Juvenile	Female	Female Juvenile	
Detainees Held	8	3	5	0	0	
Available for Visit	8	3	5	0	0	
Offered a Visit	8	3	5	0	0	
Visited	8	3	5	0	0	
Matters Raised to the Custody Officer			Action Taken by the Custody Officer			
30721	We were advised detainee may have mental health issues and we found him very uncommunicative. Despite being held for approximately 12 hours we can find no record of food or drink being offered.		Has definitely been offered at breakfast time. Detention officer knows he had cereal and a cereal bar but declined hot drink.			
30728	Detainee had declined breakfast at 0714 hrs but is now hungry and would like food and a drink.		Has been given tea and biscuits.			
Custody Manager's Update						
No record as to whether ICVs asked detainee if he had eaten. He arrived at station at 2300 hrs (overnight stay) and was seen by the ICVs less than 12 hours after his arrival. It is accepted that the log makes no reference to meal being offered, but staff say he was in fact fed. Log omission acknowledged.						

Date	Report No	Visit Commenced	Custody Visitors			
14 December 2009	00773	1003 hrs	John Baylem & John Drayson			
	Total	Breakdown of Total Numbers				
		Male	Male Juvenile	Female	Female Juvenile	
Detainees Held	3	3	0	0	0	
Available for Visit	3	3	0	0	0	
Offered a Visit	3	3	0	0	0	
Visited	3	3	0	0	0	
General Issues Raised			Police Response at the Time of Visit			
Potential ligature point (toilet). Photo of blanket as ligature taken by custody officer.			Photograph of potential ligature point forwarded to Inspector.			
Some cells dirty but cleaning in process			Confirm cleaning still being carried out.			
Custody Manager's Update						
The toilets are Home Office approved design. This issue will be covered by Custody Manager at next Panel meeting.						

BLANDFORD

Date	Report No	Visit Commenced	Custody Visitors			
10 December 2009	00159	0941 hrs	Christine Bishop & Gordon Brown			
	Total	Breakdown of Total Numbers				
		Male	Male Juvenile	Female	Female Juvenile	
Detainees Held	0					
Available for Visit	0					
Offered a Visit	0					
Visited	0					
General Issues Raised			Police Response at the Time of Visit			
No detainees present. Custody suite in general, very shabby and tatty, e.g. graffiti, notices on walls and doors fallen due to sellotape coming unstuck. Hand basin at the rear of suite is dispensing yellow rusty water (infrequently used). Shown around by Inspector Whitley. Rest of building including former bar room which had half the ceiling missing. All similar to general state of custody suite.						
Custody Manager's Update						
<p>Response from Inspector Whitley – I discussed the ‘shabby’ custody suite with the ICVs. In order to put it in perspective I showed them the rest of the station where our staff have to work. The custody suite is in better shape than the rest of the station, as the whole station is ‘tired’ and could do with a makeover. There is very little graffiti on the cell doors and it obviously does not make any financial sense to paint every time it is marked.</p> <p>A couple of small signs have been replaced with sellotape. As was mentioned by the ICVs, not much can be done about the water from the old Victorian pipes if the tap is not used regularly.</p>						

SHERBORNE

Date	Report No	Visit Commenced	Custody Visitors			
19 December 2009	00506	1042 hrs	Kathie Emery & Christine Bueno			
	Total	Breakdown of Total Numbers				
		Male	Male Juvenile	Female	Female Juvenile	
Detainees Held	0					
Available for Visit	0					
Offered a Visit	0					
Visited	0					
General Issues Raised			Police Response at the Time of Visit			
Toilet flushes in 1 and 2 so stiff we found them inoperable. Is toilet outside cell 3 every used by detainees? If so several potential ligature points and door opens wrong way. Are there any plans to replace grills below bunks to conform with latest Home Office guidance?						
Custody Manager's Update						
<p>Flushes tested on 11 December by CJD team and functioning correctly. This type of mechanism can be stiff. If there are difficulties, the toilets are flushable from outside the cell. Sergeant is always to hand (within a few feet of the cells).</p> <p>Cells are maintained so as to be as ligature-free as practicable, but non-cell rooms are risk managed.</p> <p>The guidelines for cell grilles (aperture sizes) relates to new builds. In this type of closely supervised non-24 hour facility, these issues are to be risk managed by the custody officer.</p>						

The following visits had no issues for discussion

Location	Date	Report no	Custody visitors
Poole	6 October 2009	00711	Mark Payne & Richard Shore
Weymouth	6 October 2009	00762	Ian Smith & Chris Slee
Bournemouth	7 October 2009	00667	Eric Holloway & Cara Freestone
Bournemouth	9 October 2009	00668	John Baylem & Anita Cray
Christchurch	9 October 2009	00060	Gordon Brown & Phil Crabtree
Weymouth	12 October 2009	00764	Sara Porter & Sharon Merritt
Poole	12 October 2009	00712	Kate Wright & David Sandever
Swanage	13 October 2009	00406	John Drayson & Ian Smith
Weymouth	16 October 2009	00765	Keith Gooding & David Sandever
Bournemouth	19 October 2009	00669	Christine Bishop & Phil Crabtree
Wareham	19 October 2009	00455	Geraldine Gregg-Smith & John Baylem
Poole	22 October 2009	00713	Gordon Brown & Christine Bueno
Weymouth	24 October 2009	00766	Vivienne Grier & Geraldine Gregg-Smith
Bournemouth	29 October 2009	00670	Kathie Emery & Harry Masters
Poole	30 October 2009	00714	Keith Gooding & Russell Kerr
Bournemouth	2 November 2009	00671	Mark Payne & Russell Kerr
Poole	5 November 2009	00715	Keith Gooding & Sara Porter
Verwood	10 November 2009	00556	Anita Cray & Harry Masters
Shaftesbury	12 November 2009	00356	Cara Freestone & John Drayson
Poole	13 November 2009	00716	Sharon Merritt & David Sandever
Weymouth	13 November 2009	00768	Phil Crabtree & Kate Wright
Poole	16 November 2009	00717	Christine Bishop & John Baylem
Bridport	17 November 2009	00108	Eric Holloway & Geraldine Gregg-Smith
Weymouth	18 November 2009	00769	Harry Masters & David Sandever
Poole	25 November 2009	00718	Cara Freestone & Chris Slee
Bournemouth	25 November 2009	00674	Anita Cray & Christine Bueno
Weymouth	26 November 2009	00770	Christine Bishop & Eric Holloway
Weymouth	2 December 2009	00772	Richard Shore & David Sandever
Poole	7 December 2009	00719	Cara Freestone & Harry Masters
Poole	9 December 2009	00720	Russell Kerr & Vivienne Grier
Bournemouth	10 December 2009	00675	Ian Smith & Keith Gooding
Christchurch	15 December 2009	00061	Richard Shore & Chris Slee
Weymouth	18 December 2009	00771	Sharon Merritt & Eric Holloway
Weymouth	24 December 2009	00774	Mark Payne & Geraldine Gregg-Smith
Poole (New)	29 December 2009	00722	Christine Bishop & John Baylem
Bournemouth	29 December 2009	00678	Kate Wright & Richard Shore
Poole (Old)	31 December 2009	00001	David Sandever & Chris Slee

One Visit Not Completed

Location	Week Commencing	Custody Visitors
Bournemouth	1 December	Christine Bueno & Anne McAlpine

One Visit Cancelled – Custody Suite Closed

Location	Week Commencing	Custody Visitors
Poole (Old)	16 December	Anita Cray & Anne McAlpine