

**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMBERSIDE
DECISION RECORD**

Decision Record Number: **44/2015**

Title: **ICV Update**

Executive Summary:

Update on the Independent Custody Visiting Scheme provided to the Commissioner.

Decision:

(a) That the report, including Appendix A, be noted; (b) that the changes to the local scheme administration as set out in the 'Scheme Developments' and 'Financial Information', including the discretionary payments for Panel Administrators be agreed, and (c) that update reports be received on a 6 monthly basis (November and May).

Background Report: Open

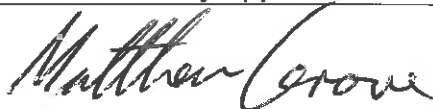
Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside

I confirm I have considered whether or not I have any personal or prejudicial interest in this matter and take the proposed decision in compliance with my code of conduct.

Any such interests are recorded below.

The above decision has my approval.

Signature



Date 04.11.15

**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
FOR HUMBERSIDE**

SUBMISSION FOR: BRIEFING

OPEN

Title: Independent Custody Visiting Scheme

Date: 04 November 2015

1. Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to update the Police and Crime Commissioner on activity carried out by Independent Custody Visitors acting on his behalf as part of the Humberside Independent Custody Visiting Scheme.

2. Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that the Police and Crime Commissioner:

- i. Notes the content of this report, with specific focus on the information contained within Appendix A, and
- ii. Agrees changes to the local scheme administration as set out in the 'Scheme Developments' and 'Financial Information' section, particularly the discretionary payments for Panel Administrators, and
- iii. Agrees to receive similar update reports (suggested 6-monthly in November and May going forwards)

3. Background

Independent Custody Visiting Schemes are an audit and assurance function whereby independent volunteers visit those detained in police custody in order to ensure that their welfare, rights and entitlements under PACE (Code C) are being met.

The Schemes became the statutory responsibility of Police Authorities in the Police Reform Act 2002, these responsibilities transferred over to Police and Crime Commissioners in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Custody Visitors are entirely voluntary and work to a national Code of Practice agreed and administered by the national Independent Custody Visiting Associated (ICVA), the Code is regularly updated to reflect policy and landscape changes, and ICVA provide local training session for new volunteers and refresher training as and when required.

4. Local Scheme

The Humberside Scheme continues to operate with 21 volunteers across the area, currently still divided into the old policing 'divisions' (or local authority areas) for ease of administration. There are currently four designated custody suites to be visited, Grimsby, Scunthorpe, Clough Road and Bridlington.

Attached at Appendix A is a breakdown summary of the visits carried out in 2015, this breakdown shows the number of detainees in each custody suite and the number consenting to a visit. It also shows the Visitors general comments on the physical conditions of the custody environment and whether the detainees had any issues they wanted to raise along with any matters that were raised with the custody staff or Sgt for immediate action.

5. Scheme Developments

The information in Appendix A shows a marked difference in the volume of visits carried out across different areas, visit rosters are produced and distributed to Visitors by the OPCC on a six-monthly basis. The disparity in numbers of visits can be attributed in some way to the Scheme losing a number of Visitors from both the Hull and Scunthorpe area over the year, and, sadly, one visitor passing away. These issues were compounded by the limited administration support for the Scheme within the OPCC, resulting in rosters and panel details not being updated and circulated in a timely manner for the areas.

Administration support for the scheme has recently increased, and there are plans to arrange two networking events with the Visitors before Christmas. The aim of these events will be to explore the option of merging the Grimsby and Scunthorpe Visitors and the Hull and East Riding Visitors into a Northbank and a Southbank panel. Plans for this have been previously floated with the Visitors, and most were receptive and positive about the proposed changes. These proposals will also include a 'Panel Administrator' role for one of the volunteers in each of the areas to take on extra duties and provide extra support to the OPCC with updating contact details, chasing up missed visits, rosters, etc.

Networking events will be re-introduced on a six-monthly basis in the first instance, with a view to increasing in frequency if the Visitors deem it necessary. The interest of the Commissioner and the Scheme continue to be represented at a strategic level through the Force Custody Board, and there are now plans for the day-to-day support of the ICV Scheme to link in with the Custody User Group where force custody leads, custody sergeants and detention officers meet to discuss delivery of daily custody business, raise queries and concerns, share good practice, react to policy and practice changes, etc.

6. Financial Implications

The plans to merge the Visitors into two panels, from the existing four, will result in a small increase in mileage claims for the Visitors who will be visiting custody suites slightly further away from their home addresses. The re-introduction of 'Panel Administrators' will also incur some incidental expense costs, such as postage, telephone calls, printing, etc. and it is suggested that the Panel Administrators be given a quarterly discretionary payment for out of pocket expenses of £25, this should cover all costs associated with being the Volunteer Panel Administrator.

- 7. Legal Implications**
None other than those already highlighted in the Background section of this report.
- 8. Equalities Implications**
None
- 9. Consultation**
Consultation with the ICVs will commence in December where the planned changes will be discussed. Humberside Police CJU have already been consulted on the proposed changes, and they are happy to support in any way.
- 10. Media information**
None
- 11. Background documents**
None further to the information contained within the Appendix attached.

INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITS RECORD SHEETS SUMMARY

APPENDIX A

Date	Station	Detainees	General Comments	Matters for Officer
5 Jan 2015	Grimsby	5	M1 - requires Methadone? Resolved. M2 - still drunk in pain. M4 - No OK. M14 - No problem. F4 - with solicitor.	No problems. Well received.
10 Jan 2015	Grimsby	5	All 4 detainees seen have no problems. Well received by custody staff.	
15 Jan 2015	Bridlington	1	Admitted promptly, one detainee but asleep. All areas clean and tidy but MU5 has tea/coffee stains on the ceiling. Toilets and lights good. Food stocks in date. Hygiene supplies good. Med room tidy. All in order.	
16 Jan 2015	Clough Road	8	Well received. Clean tidy. Staff OK. Medical nurse sent to Bridlington.	
17 Jan 2015	Grimsby	10	M14 - awaiting immigration - says he has been in custody for 2 nights and wants to make a phone call to his mother in Albania. After speaking to sergeant was informed M14 had been evasive who he wanted to call and only gave him information regarding his mother this morning.	M14 - see above.
29 Jan 2015	Grimsby	6	J1 - requested to see the duty solicitor - actioned.	
3 Feb 2015	Grimsby	2	Very quiet - everywhere clean and tidy. No 577 forms available - on order.	
10 Feb 2015	Grimsby	0	Very quiet. Still no 577 forma available.	
12 Feb 2015	Bridlington	2	Custody area and cells all very clean and in good order. Kitchen and food all fine. No issues from the detainees. Custody staff very obliging. We were well received. Lighting reported on the 14 December - still no action taken.	
17 Feb 2015	Grimsby	5	Busy at front desk (in charge room) so had to wait to start the visits. F6 - ne problems	
20 Feb 2015	Clough Road	14	No problems.	
1 Mar 2015	Scunthorpe	6	Staff excellent as usual. No problems.	None
2 Mar 2015	Grimsby	5	No problem with M1. Well received as always by Custody Staff.	Toilet seat in M2 needs attention - badly scored.
6 Mar 2015	Grimsby	8	M2 - Romanian No. M3 - would like phone call and shower OK. M4 - OK. M8 - would like phone call. M12 - No. Well received as usual. No problems.	Five cells out of order. 1 x paint problems. 1 x toilet blocked.
11 Mar 2015	Bridlington	0	All cells very clean and tidy. All meals in date. Staff very helpful. Custody area very clean and tidy.	
12 Mar 2015	Grimsby	5	J3 - interview. F1 and M14 - no. M2 and M13 OK.	No problems. Well received as usual.
16 Mar 2015	Scunthorpe	1	2 illegal immigrants being held awaiting immigration. M11 asked for his mother to be informed about detention, enquiring about his daughter. Custody staff - DP not asked but this will be dealt with after evidence secured.	

22 Mar 2015	Bridlington	1	1	One person detained. No complaints. Has a concern for his disabled mother as he lives in Leeds. All custody areas checked and presented clean and tidy. Custody staff supported.	
23 Mar 2015	Grimsby	5	3	Attended to straight away. Everywhere clean and tidy. F1 – requested a plaster for ankle. M7 and M11 – no problems. M8 – on telephone.	
31 Mar 2015	Grimsby	2	0	Everywhere clean and tidy. No problems.	
2 Apr 2015	Grimsby	9	2	M3 No problems M13 Complained about pressing buzzer for 20 minutes and no one came, he had to rip up his t-shirt to go to toilet. Torn t-shirt on floor of cell.	Resolved by Sgt. And gave timeline of this incident which is incorrect
7 Apr 2015	Bridlington	1	0	One violent person in custody. The risk was too high to contemplate opening the cell door. All cells and the medical room were clean. All meals in date. Advised that since 1 April 2015 when the NHS took over that the medical room was a sterile room and should not be accessed by anyone other than medical staff. Custody visitors have not been informed of any changes to visiting procedures. This means that custody staff are not allowed to use this toilet and must leave the custody suite to avail themselves of facilities.	
10 Apr 2015	Clough Road	11	6	No problems. Well received by custody staff	
10 Apr 2015	Grimsby	7	0	It was noticed how much improvement regarding cleanliness of cells and corridors due to change of cleaners. Well received by custody staff as always.	
15 Apr 2015	Bridlington	0	0	Admitted quite promptly. No detainees. Inspected cells. MU5 had small felt tip graffiti on window frame. Unusual. All clean apart from dusty high windowsills. Hygiene supplies good. Food packs in date. Microwave spotless. Note new arrangements for medical room.	Dusty windowsills
21 Apr 2015	Grimsby	6	1	F1 – requests a solicitor and wants a telephone call to mother. Allergic to yeast and is discussing food options with staff. M14 – interview M13 – interview M5 – asleep M2 - hospital	F1 resolved
27 Apr 2015	Scunthorpe	3	2	M6 – visit no issues raised F4 – Juvenile (no appropriate adult to commence visit) M3 - declined	
28 Apr 2015	Grimsby	7	2	Very busy, difficult persons to deal with.	

					<p>M4 ID procedure M6 no M11 would like phone call and doctor M12 no M7 interview DIC asleep F6 food, nurse, phone call required (bad boy) D3 no</p>			
9 June 2015	Grimsby	6	3	3	<p>Our visit coincided with change over 7pm thus 2 sgts M14 complained about marks on wrists from arrest – spoke to sgt and were informed detainee had been struggling with his handcuffs in van. Wants phone call - this being checked. J1 request phone call to his Dad - this being looked in to in case of block on calls. F3 complained of being claustrophobic, anxious, depressed, an emotional wreck and may self-harm (thinking things). Sgt aware.</p>			Sgt informed of F3 feelings and going to speak to her
14 June 2015	Bridlington	3	2	2	<p>1 person in interview M3 light faulty. Possible tube (cell not in use) MU3 Happy with treatment. Being interviewed (age 17) M4 Awaiting court – Doctor visited re checks. Happy with treatment</p>			
16 June 2015	Grimsby	5	4	4	<p>F1 requested phone call – in hand F2 requested cup of tea and phone call. Toilet did not flush -- issue is in hand M14 requested phone call – a block is on calls at the moment. M4 ok polish no English but appears ok</p>			
18 June 2015	Bridlington	2	0	0	<p>Two males detained. One refused to be seen, his Solicitor arrived as we did. One male sleeping didn't wake him due to his aggressive behaviour when awake. Checked him through cell window, appeared to be sleeping comfortably and soundly. All custody areas checked and presented clean and tidy. All food with good dates and rotated. Custody staff supportive.</p>			
19 June 2015	Grimsby	10			<p>D1 no F1 not seen – mental health F2 no F6 asleep M1 would like a phone call M3 would like medication and shower</p>			All resolved with staff

				M14 would like shower and another blanket M9 asleep M4 no M11 no				
24 June 2015	Grimsby	1	0	M8 no Well received as usual. Always helpful				No problems
29 June 2015	Scunthorpe	3	0	No concerns raised				
Date	Station	Detainees		General Comments	Matters for Officer			
6 July 2015	Grimsby	7	1	No concerns. All custody suite very clean and tidy.				
8 July 2015	Scunthorpe	4	2	Two consenting to visits and custody records. One in cell M1 advised not to see due to been aggressive. One in interview. The Detainees seen both wanted showers. Cells clean, staff helpful. F2 has previous heart condition and is claustrophobic and is under constant observation. M11 has high blood pressure. Custody staff aware of medical issues.				
14 July 2015	Central	13	4	No visits cell 29, 10 advised against No problems clean and tidy				Cell 34 remedication
12 July 2015	Bridlington	0	0	Cells all generally good some sand remaining in juvenile cell. Note that magnetic door catch near MU4/MU5 not catching properly needs adjustment. Kitchen and microwave clean. Meals in date order after inspection. Exercise yard tidy atmosphere fresh and cool.				
14 July 2015	Grimsby	10	3	Well received on arrival by Sgt. who explained that custody suite was very busy. No problems with detainees seen.				M13 requested a phone call be made to his sister re his whereabouts
21 July 2015	Grimsby	8	4	M12 – declined M5 – no English M2 – volatile and advised not to visit F1 – complained that she wouldn't eat microwave food. Sgt informed M1 – requested his mother be informed and needed to know if his solicitor had been contacted – actioned. Has been assessed by the forensic mental health teams as he was suicidal when arrested. He told us he would be better off dead – Sgt is now aware of these facts. M4 – complained he has not had food offered – we checked custody record to find he had declined food when offered.				M1 – Sgt informed of detainees state of mind

27 July 2015	Grimsby	5	2	M13 – requested mother to be informed – actioned. Everywhere clean and tidy. M2 – no problems M13 – no problems	
28 July 2015	Bridlington	3	0	One person not offered a visit due to his violent nature. All cells clean and tidy. Kitchen clean, all the meals were in date.	
3 Aug 2015	Grimsby	7	4	D1 would like cup of tea D3 OK F2 No M1 No M3 Inform mother please M4 No M10 OK	
4 Aug 2015	Bridlington	1		All areas clean and tidy. Lights, alarms, toilets etc checked. 1 person not seen as sleeping. Staff helpful as usual.	None
10 Aug 2015	Grimsby	7		D3 Complained about rough physical treatment on arrest and transport F2 No F4 OK no problems F6 Would like to see nurse M2 Would like some food M7 No M8 No	D3 recorded on custody record
14 Aug 2015	Central	7		No problems. Nurse on duty.	
14 Aug 2015	Grimsby	5	1	No problems with detainee seen. Clean tidy custody suite and cells. Well received as always.	
18 Aug 2015	Grimsby	7	4	All detainees seen OK. No problems. Well received as always by custody staff	
18 Aug 2015	Bridlington	0		Custody area and cells all clean and tidy and in good order. Kitchen and food all good. Well received by custody staff.	
22 Aug 2015	Bridlington	0	0	No detainees. All areas checked and presented clean and tidy. Food in date. Custody staff supportive.	
2 Sept 2015	Grimsby	12	4	Delayed at reception. Busy in custody suite. M2 advised not to	No problems. Well received.

						<p>M1 Polish – poor English awaiting translator</p> <p>M6 OK</p> <p>M7 Hospital</p> <p>M8 OK</p> <p>M9 Interview</p> <p>M11 Interview</p> <p>M13 No</p> <p>F1 Asleep</p> <p>F2 OK</p> <p>F4 Interview</p> <p>F6 No</p>	
7 Sept 2015	Grimsby	6	3		<p>M1 OK</p> <p>M2 OK</p> <p>M9 problem on advice to leave him</p> <p>M4 interview released</p> <p>M13 interview released</p> <p>M14 OK</p>		
14 Sept 2015	Grimsby	6	2		<p>1 – F4 cell watch – health concerns</p> <p>1 discharged during visit</p> <p>1 declined</p> <p>M2 wanted food, blankets, drink – these are in hand</p> <p>Delay getting to custody suite due to busy in temporary reception office</p>		
24 Sept 2015	Grimsby	7	3		<p>M2 and M4 requested to see nurse, Sgt has this in hand</p> <p>M13 said not been offered lunch. Sgt informed us he had come in 11.15 and immediately underwent tests. He returned to cell and slept from 1.15 - 3.30pm when he went to interview. Food being given now.</p>	Above and being satisfactorily dealt with	
29 Sept 2015	Grimsby	4	1		<p>1 going to hospital, ambulance here</p> <p>1 getting charged</p> <p>1 declined as ok</p> <p>F4 requested a phone call this being sorted well received as always</p>		
14 Oct 2015	Grimsby	10	6		<p>F1- advised not to visit as very aggressive</p> <p>M11 – just leaving as we arrived at his cell</p> <p>M12 – declined a visit</p> <p>We had to wait in the outer reception area for over an hour as the custody suite was</p>		

				<p>very busy.</p> <p>J1 – wanted to phone his father</p> <p>F2 – wanted another tablet out of his van if still here at 10pm – sgt informed – has left the station and gone home now.</p> <p>M1 – wants mother informing and would like a phone call to her</p> <p>M2 – wants glasses to read code of conduct sheets – declined by Sgt as suicide risk</p> <p>M10 – no problems</p> <p>M8 – wanted a solicitor – me has been informed</p> <p>Waiting 40 minutes due to the custody area being very busy and there was no one available to bring us from the porta cabin.</p> <p>F1 – No problems phone call request was refused by Sgt.</p> <p>M1 – No problems</p> <p>M9 – wanted a solicitor and a phone call to father – both actioned</p> <p>M12 – no problems</p>	
20 Oct 2015	Grimsby	11	4	<p>Due to misunderstanding visit was delayed but no concerns re procedure or familiarity with code. Only interviewee expressed satisfaction with arrest process. Cells clean and atmosphere fresh. Kitchen and meals all in order. Hygiene supplies ok. Exercise area tidy. No other matters of concern.</p>	Visit delay
20 Oct 2015	Bridlington	3	1	<p>Detainee interviewed had no complaints and was positive re his detention and care. No issues with other cell conditions all clean and fresh. The kitchen supplies all in date order (tuna pasta nearing end of shelf life). Hygiene supplies good.</p>	None