

HMP Addiewell

ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ending

31 March 2014

Distribution:

Minister for Justice

Governor HMP Addiewell Prison

Scottish Prison Service Chief Executive

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons

Association of Prison Visiting Committees

Scottish Prison Complaints Commission

Chief Executive – North Lanarkshire Council

Chief Executive – South Lanarkshire Council

Chief Executive – West Lothian Council

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1. Statutory Role of the Visiting Committee

1.1. The statutory responsibilities of Visiting Committees and their members are set out in Part 17 of The Prisons and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Rules 2006 made under section 8(2) of the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989 (c.45). That states:

“Rules made under section 39 of this Act shall prescribe the functions of visiting committees, and shall among other things require the members to pay frequent visits to the prison and hear any complaints which may be made by the prisoners and report to [Scottish Ministers] any matter which they consider it expedient to report; any member of a visiting committee may at any time enter the prison and shall have free access to every part thereof and to every prisoner”.

1.2. **A Visiting Committee is specifically charged to:**

- co-operate with Scottish Ministers and the Governor in promoting the efficiency of the prison;
- inquire into and report to Scottish Ministers upon any matter into which they may ask them to inquire;
- immediately bring to the attention of the Governor any circumstances pertaining to the administration of the prison or the condition of a prisoner when they consider this necessary; if the Governor has not remedied matters within a reasonable period of time, they shall bring the matter to the notice of Scottish Ministers;
- from time to time, inquire into the state of the prison premises and inspect the food and drink provided to the prisoners and if at any time they find these unsatisfactory, record any deficiencies in their minute book and send a copy to Scottish Ministers and the Governor;
- hear and investigate any applications or complaints which prisoners may make to them and report their findings to the Governor and Scottish Ministers;
- visit the prison fortnightly by not fewer than two of its members;
- at its discretion inspect prison records other than personal records, prisoners' records and security manuals or other papers which have implications for security and make a note of their inspection in their minutes;

□ make an annual report for the period of 12 months ending on the 31st March each year to Scottish Ministers about the state of the establishment and its administration and include any advice and suggestions they consider appropriate.

2. Description of H.M.P. Addiewell

Full-time Faith Leader.

Part-time Catholic Chaplain. Visiting Muslim Chaplain.

Facilities for other faiths as required.

The Chaplaincy in Scottish Prisons

The key aims of the Sodexo Justice Services are the custody of prisoners, their good order, their care, and opportunities to equip them for life during their time in prison and after liberation. Chaplains contribute most obviously to the pastoral care of prisoners and, if prisoners respond positively to the care and opportunities offered, it follows that good order is likely and the experience of custody can lead to positive outcomes. Chaplains therefore contribute to the attainment of Sodexo Justice Services aims. Care is not limited to prisoners, but is also available to staff.

Prison chaplains are part of a care team with prison officers, doctors, psychologists, mental health nurses, social workers, prison managers, addiction nurses and other specialists. Chaplains are able to take a holistic approach towards prisoners and their relationships. They are also thoroughly ecumenical within the Christian faith and willing to work closely with prisoners and leaders of other faiths. In Residential and Industrial areas, Links Centres, Visit Rooms, Libraries, Visitors Centre, and Learning Centres Chaplains are welcome as a comforting and encouraging presence.

Much work is done to help prisoners find sound reasons for self respect and hope. A chaplain may spend a few minutes or several hours with a prisoner on remand or when newly convicted, when self-esteem is at its least and fear and risk of self-harm are at their peak. Time is also given when prisoners suffer bereavement or have difficulty coming to terms with the many losses associated with imprisonment. This seldom begins in a formal setting and often arises through relationships developed out of casual contacts in corridors, workshops, classrooms and halls.

Links are fostered with families and churches, if a prisoner agrees, to build a foundation of relationships and care during a sentence and beyond liberation. Many churches are willing to make unconditional offers of care - for example, gathering presents at Christmas to be distributed to prisoners' families. This helps reduce their feelings of isolation and rejection.

HEALTHCARE

HEALTHCARE SPECIALISTS

- Dentist Sessions - Weekly
- Optician Sessions - Weekly
- Physio Sessions - As required
- Podiatry Sessions - Fortnightly
- Stop Smoking Sessions
- CPN - As required
- InReach Sessions - As required

Prisoners also benefit from the input of Addictions, AA, NA, With a view to working with prisoners with gambling addictions.

Nearest Hospitals

St John's Hospital

Howden Road West, Livingston EH54 6PP

01506 523 000

7 km

St. Michael's Hospital

Edinburgh Road, Linlithgow EH49 6QS

01506 842 053

14.5 km

INDUCTION

On arrival prisoners undertake an induction period, during which time they meet with staff in the induction centre, and also a prison mentor to explain what they can expect during their time in prison, and also what is expected of them.

The prisoners meet with SACRO, which is a national community justice voluntary organisation, working across Scotland to make communities safer by working towards reducing reoffending. Prisoners will also be offered Health & Safety Training, which is required if a prisoner has plans to apply for a job, e.g. Passman or Cooks. There is also the opportunity to attend literacy classes with a view to identifying individual needs at an early stage, e.g. before timetables are drawn up. There is also an Assertiveness course which looks to lift the mood of participants and show them their ability to achieve. The prisoners also undertake Conflict & Anger course over two days, which deals with Anger and Emotional Issues.

The induction centre has proved valuable to prisoners, both new and returning, by empowering them with the choices of making changes to the way they think and behave at an early stage of their sentence.

EDUCATION

The following classes are normally available;

- Art
 - Basic Education
 - Computer Studies
 - Crafts
 - Creative Writing
 - English
 - Key Skills
 - Language
 - Life and Social Skills
 - Literacy
 - Maths
 - Music
 - Numeracy
 - Open University
-

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Employment and workshops include:

- Catering
- DIY Kitchen Building
- Gardening
- Horticulture
- Industrial Cleaning
- Laundry
- Plastering

Current Wages

Employed: £10.00 - £15.00

Education: £10.00 - £15.00

Retired: £10.00 - £15.00

Long term sick: £10.00 - £15.00

OFFENCE FOCUSED COURSES

- Alcohol Awareness
- SHROB
- Anti Sectarian
- CARE
- Constructs
- COVAID
- GOALS
- MMSU
- Conflict & Anger

RESETTLEMENT

Job Fairs

Families Outside

Employability Advisors

Release Day Programme (Integrating Families, Liberated Prisoners and Staff on day of release)

Family Centre

FAMILY DAYS

Family Days Available Yes

Guardian Has To Stay No

Own Children No

Grandchildren No

Age Limits - Up to 16 years

No of Visitors Permitted - No limit

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Staffing

The Committee has seen changes in staff in various ways. It has been really enjoyable watching staff, many of whom were young when the prison first opened and their employment commenced, becoming confident, professional and very well equipped with the information and procedures which makes the prison run well, and I think most members of the Visiting Committee will admit to often relying upon in a number of situations. The staff and management have been very accommodating of the Visiting Committee, which has a hand in making our role in the prison more effective.

The prison has gone through a number of changes this year, which has, at times, seen the number of requests rise for the VC rise at times, such as when the prisoners were informed that the VC were to be abolished, and a trend of high requests were received. It was definitely encouraging to see that there were an increase in requests from prisoners located at HMP Addiewell, who didn't want to be relocated HMP Shotts, which is quite transparent of how settled prisoners feel in Addiewell, which I feel reflects on the research and hard work of the prison staff.

Orderly Room/Breaches of Discipline

The orderly room is run on a daily basis (with the exception to Sunday). The orderly room is run by The Controller, within the Selkirk Unit, in the Central block of the prison. The Adjudicator is the Controller, appointed by the Scottish Prison Service, as HMP Addiewell is a Private Prison, the Governor/Director doesn't have that authority in Scotland, whereas in England, Private Prison's are afforded that authority.

Award	Number of Awards
Caution	359
Guilty	1412
Dismissed	242
Not Guilty	271

3. Work and Membership of the Visiting Committee

3.1. Membership during the reporting period :

South Lanarkshire Council Appointees:

Yvonne McCabe (Chair)

Catherine McClymont

Lynsey Hamilton

Maureen Devlin

Felix O'Hagan

North Lanarkshire Council Appointees:

Pat Moran

Rees Gallagher

West Lothian Council Appointees:

Georgina Placey (Vice Chair & Training Coordinator)

Lorna Skirving

Michelle Rodgers

Frank Toner

3.2. Visiting Committee Statistics

Recommended comp of VC members	15
No. of members at start of reporting period	11
No. of members at end of reporting period	10
No. new members in the reporting period	4
Number of members leaving within the reporting period	2
Number of committee meetings during reporting period	6
Average attendance at Committee meetings during reporting period	5
Number of applications received during reporting period	258
Total number of visits during the reporting period	57

Prisoner Applications by Category

Analysis of requests shows the following breakdown:

Accommodation 9

Diversity related	1
Education/training/work	12
Estate issues (conditions)	0
Family/visits	17
Food	0
Health related	63
Inter-establishment transfers	5
Personal property	7
Staff Prisoner Related	0
Progression	40
Miscellaneous	29
Total	181

Training

Visiting Committee Members undertake both mandatory training and non-mandatory training. Mandatory training consists of Personal Protection Training, Keys and Locks, ACT to Care, which are Core Competencies required to be successfully completed before picking up keys and undertaking a role within the prison. The non-mandatory, though strongly encouraged training programmes consist of Conditioning, Health & Safety and Diversity and Inclusion.

Concluding Statement

On behalf of our Committee, I would like recognise the difficult jobs the staff undertake, and to thank them, as they have always been helpful, accommodating, patient and professional towards VC members. All staff members, both new and old, have been consistent in their approachable attitudes, which have been gratefully received by all members.

As HMP Addiewell approaches its' sixth year, we have to say it has been impressive to see the 'forward thinking' manner which is adopted when changes are made, also, it has been impressive how quickly changes can be removed if they aren't working, which displays a modern and professional change to the old fashioned 'set in stone' attitudes of many prisons over the years.

As always, communication is key, and as time goes by, and both staff and VC members become more familiar with each other, our roles have the opportunity to be more productive, and prisoners issues be resolved without too much time lapsing, and frustrations building. There will always be occasions when old fashioned leg work has to be done, despite VC members being afforded technology at HMP Addiewell, sometimes sitting down with staff/prisoners is invaluable.

Acknowledgment

As Chair of HMP Addiewell Visiting Committee, and a VC member since the opening of the prison, I am delighted with the growth and changes which I have had the pleasure of witnessing. I have witnessed prisoners and staff singing together in the same choir, I have seen the compassion the staff show prisoners children on family fun days, celebrities attending the prison for comedy shows and simply to raise self esteem, though I have to say the change that has impressed and encouraged me is the new way in which Addiewell releases its prisoners. No longer are all the families stood in the car park in all weather, waiting for that cold gate to go up, but they are invited inside, met with compassionate prison staff who bring their loved one back to them in a more humane fashion, and share a cup of coffee with them, along with advice and any references required. I, as Chair, congratulate HMP Addiewell on these changes.

Unfortunately, this has been yet another year of uncertainty, I would like to thank all members for their commitment and hard work during our journey along a very bumpy road, with very dim light at the end so far. I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to all the members from North and South Lanarkshire, and West Lothian Councils, who have worked selflessly in their role of Visiting Committee members. The work you have undertaken has been selfless and very committed, and due to the uncertainty of your positions, very thankless, though very appreciated by the people who are at the heart of everything we strive to undertake, the prisoners! You have all worked very hard ensuring prisoners have your voice to speak on their behalf, which I feel diffuses many situations before they get the chance to ignite.

Addiewell Visiting Committee would also record its appreciation for the assistance and help afforded by Audrey Park, Director, Tony Simpson, (Acting Director) and Angela Halliday (Acting Deputy Director) in Audrey's absence.

On behalf of myself and the rest of the committee, I would like to send our thoughts to Audrey and hope she makes a fast recovery, the place simply isn't the same without her.

Yvonne McCabe

Chairperson