

HMP Addiewell



ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ending

31 March 2011

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

HMP Addiewell, Scotland's first new prison for almost 11 years, opened on 12 December 2008. It has places for 700 prisoners and will be the most modern prison accommodation in Scotland. The Prison is situated near the village of Addiewell in West Lothian, four miles west of the town of Livingston. From Monday 02 February 2009, it became the local prison for the North and South Lanarkshire Courts. It will accept Adult Male convicted and untried prisoner admissions (including under 21-year old remands) from these courts.

The prison is being provided and operated under contract to the SPS by Sodexo Justice Services, a private company, which is currently running a number of prisons in England on behalf of HMPS.

Facilities:

Own clothes
 Own bedding
 PlayStation
 Television (£1 per week with Freeview & Sky Sports)

UNLOCKING TIMES

Monday: 07:30 - 17:15 & 18:00 - 21:00
 Tuesday: 07:30 - 17:15 & 18:00 - 21:00
 Wednesday: 07:30 - 17:15 & 18:00 - 21:00
 Thursday: 07:30 - 17:15 & 18:00 - 21:00
 Friday: 07:30 - 17:15 & 18:00 - 21:00
 Saturday: 07:30 - 13:00, 13:00 - 17:30 & 18:00 - 20:30
 Sunday: 07:30 - 13:00, 13:00 - 17:30 & 18:00 - 20:30

ASSOCIATION

Monday: 18:45 - 21:00
 Tuesday: 18:45 - 21:00
 Wednesday: 18:45 - 21:00
 Thursday: 18:45 - 21:00
 Friday: 18:45 - 21:00
 Saturday: 09:45 - 12:30, 14:30 - 17:30 & 19:00 - 20:30
 Sunday: 09:45 - 12:30, 14:30 - 17:30 & 19:00 - 20:30

HEALTH & SPORTS

The following sports are normally available:

Badminton
 Basketball
 Circuit Training
 Light Circuit Training
 Over 40s
 Soft Tennis
 Sports Field
 Volleyball
 Weight Loss Programme / Wellbeing

LIBRARY

On request

FAITH

Full-time Faith Leader

Part-time Catholic Chaplain. Visiting Imam

Facilities for other faiths as required.

3. The Chaplaincy in Scottish Prisons

The key aims of the Scottish Prison Service are the custody of prisoners, their good order, their care, and opportunities to equip them for life 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 SPS 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 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 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 - Daily
CPN - As required
InReach Sessions - As required

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

Catering

DIY Kitchen Building
Gardening
Horticulture
Industrial Cleaning
Laundry
Plastering

CURRENT WAGES

Employed - £10.00 - £15.00

Retired / long term sick - £10.00 - £15.00

Education - £10.00 - £15.00

OFFENCE FOCUSED COURSES

COVAID (Control of Violence and Aggression In Drinkers)

CONSTRUCTS (Problem Solving)

MMSU (Managing My Substance Use)

CARE (Control of Anger & Reactive Emotions)

GOALS (Motivation, Change Outcomes, Thought Process and Culture)

RESETTLEMENT

Job Club

Housing Officer

Circle Group

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

Staffing

The committee has seen staff changes during the early period of HMP Addiewell, though now we see staff really coming into their own, their whole appearance and behaviour is that of experienced, professional officers. We are pleased to say we have seen massive changes over the last year, which in all fairness, were beginning to show themselves the previous year, this has contributed greatly to the calm feeling within the prison now.

As like any other prison, Addiewell will never be without its' problems, though it is the way it faces them head on, that has a positive impact on the running of the prison. Such as the high levels of drug detection, the highest levels of security regarding both visitors to the prison and all staff alike, which tackles the feeling of vulnerability we would all feel entering the prison without these measures

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 Addiewell Staff, within the Selkirk Unit, in the main block of the prison. The Adjudicator is the Controller, appointed by the Scottish Prison Service, as HMP Addiewell is a private prison, they don't have that authority in Scotland, whereas in England, Private Prison's are given that authority.

Award	Number of Awards
Caution	311
Cellular Confinement	145
Loss of Convicted Priveleges	2
Loss of Television	1098
No Access To PPC	997

Please note that there may be several awards for the same offence and that the total should not be read as the total number of Orderly Room adjudications

3. Work and Membership of the Visiting Committee

3.1. Membership during the reporting period with individual attendances:

North Lanarkshire Council Appointees:

	Prison Visits	VC Meetings
Charlie Hebenton	14	5
Pat Moran	15	5
Patrick Rolink	1	1
Andy Jordan	1	1
Ian Ferrie	1	1

South Lanarkshire Council Appointees:

Councillor Andy Carmichael (Chair)	22	6
Councillor Patrick Ross-Taylor (Vice Chair)	18	4
Yvonne McCabe (Local Training Coordinator)	35	6
Felix O'Hagan	7	4
Councillor Bobby Lawson	5	4

West Lothian Council Appointees:

Councillor John Muir	7	5
Councillor Willie Boyle	4	0
Dawn Colquhoun	9	4
Gina Placey	6	3
Loma Skirving	5	3
Michelle Rodgers	4	2

3.2. Visiting Committee Statistics

Recommended complement of VC members	15
Number of members at start of reporting period	13
Number of members at end of reporting period	14
Number of new members joining in the reporting period	5
Number of members leaving within the reporting period	4
Number of committee meetings during reporting period	3
Average attendance at Committee meetings during reporting period	8
Number of applications received during reporting period	264
Total number of visits during the reporting period	154

Prisoner Applications by Category

Analysis of requests shows the following breakdown:

Accommodation	0
Diversity related	4
Education/training/work	23
Estate issues (conditions)	1
Family/visits	53
Food	1
Health related	93
Inter-establishment transfers	10
Personal property	26
Staff/prisoner related	11
Progression	42
Total	264

Member Changes

This term seen the resignation of Councillor William Boyle, John Sim, Councillor Bobby Lawson and Councillor Ian Ferrie.

The Committee welcomed several new members, Gina Placey, Dawn Colquhoun, Lorna Skirving, Michelle Rodgers, Andy Jordan and Patrick Rolink.

Training

Visiting Committee Members undertake both mandatory training and non-mandatory training. Mandatory training consists of Personal Protection Training & Keys and Locks Training, both have to be completed before a member will be issued with keys. Health and Safety is also offered to VC Members, and Act 2 Care, is strongly advised to all members as a course we would prefer they underwent.

Concluding Statement

The Committee has seen staff changes during the opening years at HMP Addiewell, throughout the workforce, new staff brought new dynamics to the team, and staff moving departments taking with them their expert knowledge, whilst consistently gaining more skills. HMP Addiewell has without a doubt, well and truly found its feet now, and is running extremely well, whilst still a relatively new establishment.

The daily business of committee members has been aided by staff through time being more aware of who we are, and of our role in the prison. I am pleased to be able to note that we are all working together effectively, which greatly contributes to the prisoners and the harmony of the prison. It has been a pleasure to watch the staff grow into their positions and gain promotions and carry out their

roles professionally and with confidence, confidence they may have struggled to display in the early days. All in all, the transition has been both educational and enjoyable to be a part of.

Acknowledgment

I would like to express sincere thanks and gratitude to every member, from South Lanarkshire, West Lothian and North Lanarkshire, who complete the full Addiewell Visiting Committee, for their dedication in carrying out their Rota Visits, and attendances at meetings. My thanks also go to the Clerk of the Committee, Julie Whitelaw, of West Lothian Council, for the support during the year.

Addiewell Visiting Committee would also record its appreciation for the assistance and help afforded by Audrey Park, Director, Tony Simpson, Deputy Director, and all the prison staff for the manner in which they conducted business.

Councillor Andy Carmichael.
Chairman