

**VISITING COMMITTEE FOR LEGALISED POLICE CELLS  
AT KIRKWALL POLICE STATION**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Membership of the Visiting Committee during the reporting period comprised Councillors Andrew Drever, Steven B Heddle and Jack Moodie.
- 1.2 Clerk to the Visiting Committee is E Elaine Grieve, Assistant Chief Executive, assisted by Committee Services.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 There are six Legalised Police Cells, four for male prisoners and two for female prisoners, all with toilets and fittings for hand washing. Two of the cells for male prisoners and one of the cells for female prisoners are equipped with CCTV. In addition there are two detention cells.
- 2.2 The legalised police cells are visited on a quarterly basis by the Visiting Committee and monthly by individual Visiting Committee members.
- 2.3 The Legalised Police Cells at Kirkwall Police Station are rarely used to hold prisoners for a period longer than one day. Any prisoners who require to be held for a longer period are transferred either to HM Prison Inverness (Porterfield) or HM Prison Aberdeen (Craiginchies).
- 2.4 The firm of Reliance takes responsibility for the care of prisoners. They provide ready meals which are prepared in the custody kitchen. Reliance employees work from 0930 hours to 2000 hours daily. NHS Orkney therefore continues to provide the food for prisoners' breakfasts. NHS Orkney also provides meals on any occasion when Reliance employees are not available or free to supervise a detention.

**3. REPORT 2009/10**

- 3.1 During the 12 month period to 31 March 2010, the Visiting Committee met on four occasions, namely 17 April, 2 July and 9 October 2009 and 14 January 2010. The minutes of the quarterly meetings are annexed hereto.
- 3.2 On each visit the cells were found to be clean and serviceable and the ancillary areas were satisfactory. On two occasions, male prisoners were detained within the cells but declined to speak to members of the Visiting Committee.

- 3.3 Monthly visits were carried out by individual Visiting Committee members in months in which a quarterly meeting was not held. During the monthly visits, if the legalised cells were occupied, the prisoners were asked whether they wished to speak with the member, but declined to do so. One prisoner, although detained, was not present in the cell during the visit by the Visiting Committee member.
- 3.4 On one occasion, the Visiting Committee member noted that there was no sign of chewed paper balls thrown at the camera, therefore thorough cleaning had been carried out.
- 3.5 Statistics provided by Northern Constabulary indicate that during the period of this report a total of 17 legalised prisoners were held. The legalised cells were occupied for 19 nights. The average days per prisoner were 1.1.

Hazel Flett  
Senior Committees Officer  
10 June 2010

**MINUTE of the QUARTERLY MEETING of the ORKNEY VISITING COMMITTEE FOR LEGALISED POLICE CELLS held in COUNCIL OFFICES, KIRKWALL on 17 APRIL 2009 at 9.15 am**

**Present:** Councillors Andrew Drever, Steven Heddle and Jack Moodie

**Clerk to the Committee:** Marie Love, Administrative Officer

**1.1 MINUTE OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2009**

The Committee **NOTED** the Minute of the Quarterly Meeting of the Orkney Visiting Committee for Legalised Police Cells held on 15 January 2009.

**1.2 DATE OF NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING**

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the next Quarterly Meeting should be held on 2 July 2009.

**1.3 VISIT TO LEGALISED POLICE CELLS, KIRKWALL POLICE STATION**

Members of the Committee, together with the Administrative Officer, visited the legalised police cells at Kirkwall Police Station and were met by Sergeant E Graham, who conducted the Committee around the legalised police cells.

One prisoner was held in Male Cell M1 within the legalised police cells and was asked if he wished to speak to members of the Committee, however he declined to do so.

**1.4 CONCLUSION OF MEETING**

At 9.45 am the Chairman declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: A Drever

**MINUTE of the QUARTERLY MEETING of the ORKNEY VISITING COMMITTEE FOR LEGALISED POLICE CELLS held in COUNCIL OFFICES, KIRKWALL on 2 JULY 2009 at 9.15 am**

**Present:** Councillors Andrew Drever, Steven B Heddle and Jack Moodie

**Clerk to the Committee:** Marie Love, Administrative Officer  
Councillor A Drever in the Chair

**1.5 MINUTE OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING HELD ON 17 APRIL 2009**

The Committee **NOTED** the Minute of the Quarterly Meeting of the Orkney Visiting Committee for Legalised Police Cells held on 17 April 2009.

**1.6 ANNUAL REPORT TO SCOTTISH PRISON SERVICE**

After consideration of a report by the Clerk, copies of which had been circulated, the Committee:-

**RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Report by the Clerk to the Orkney Visiting Committee for Legalised Police Cells for the year ended 31 March 2009.

Councillor S B Heddle joined the meeting at this point.

**1.7 DATE OF NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING**

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the next Quarterly Meeting should be held on 9 October 2009.

Councillor S B Heddle left the meeting at this point.

**1.8 VISIT TO LEGALISED POLICE CELLS, KIRKWALL POLICE STATION**

Members of the Committee, together with the Administrative Officer, visited the legalised police cells at Kirkwall Police Station and were met by Sergeant Derek Robb, who conducted the Committee around the legalised police cells.

One prisoner was held in Male Cell M1 within the legalised police cells and was asked if he wished to speak to members of the Committee, however he declined to do so.

**1.9 CONCLUSION OF MEETING**

At 9.40 am the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: A Drever

**MINUTE of the QUARTERLY MEETING of the ORKNEY VISITING COMMITTEE FOR LEGALISED POLICE CELLS held in COUNCIL OFFICES, KIRKWALL on 9 OCTOBER 2009 at 9.15 am**

**Present:** Councillors Andrew Drever and Jack Moodie

**Clerk to the Committee:** Marie Love, Administrative Officer

**Apology:** Councillor Steven B Heddle  
Councillor A Drever in the Chair

**1.10 MINUTE OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING HELD ON 2 JULY 2009**

The Committee **NOTED** the Minute of the Quarterly Meeting of the Orkney Visiting Committee for Legalised Police Cells held on 2 July 2009.

**1.11 DATE OF NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING**

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the next Quarterly Meeting should be held on 14 January 2010.

**1.12 VISIT TO LEGALISED POLICE CELLS, KIRKWALL POLICE STATION**

Members of the Committee, together with the Administrative Officer, visited the legalised police cells at Kirkwall Police Station and were met by Constable Wilma Norquay, who conducted the Committee around the legalised police cells. No prisoners were present and the condition of the cells was found to be satisfactory.

**1.13 CONCLUSION OF MEETING**

At 9.40 am the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: A Drever

**MINUTE of the QUARTERLY MEETING of the ORKNEY VISITING COMMITTEE FOR LEGALISED POLICE CELLS held in COUNCIL OFFICES, KIRKWALL on 14 JANUARY 2010 at 9.30am**

**Present:** Councillors Andrew Drever, Steven Heddle and Jack Moodie

**Clerk to the Committee:** Anthea Hume, Committees Officer

Councillor A Drever in the Chair

**1.14 MINUTE OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING HELD ON 9 OCTOBER 2009**

The Committee **NOTED** the Minute of the Quarterly Meeting of the Orkney Visiting Committee for Legalised Police Cells held on 9 October 2009.

**1.15 DATE OF NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING**

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the next Quarterly Meeting should be held on 30 March 2010.

**1.16 VISIT TO LEGALISED POLICE CELLS, KIRKWALL POLICE STATION**

Members of the Committee, together with the Committees Officer, visited the legalised police cells at Kirkwall Police Station and were met by Kevin Kingston, who conducted the Committee around the legalised police cells. No prisoners were present and the condition of the cells was found to be satisfactory.

**1.17 CONCLUSION OF MEETING**

At 9.40am the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: A Drever