



SHETLAND ISLANDS COUNCIL

LERWICK VISITING COMMITTEE FOR LEGALISED POLICE CELLS

ANNUAL REPORT

31 March 2009

Lerwick Visiting Committee for Legalised Police Cells

Annual Report 2009/10

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Clerk to the Visiting Committee is the Head of Legal and Administration. The Members of the Visiting Committee (appointed on 23 May 2007) are:

Councillor Florence B Grains (Chairperson)
Councillor Allison Duncan
Councillor Leslie Angus

2 Report 2007/2008

- 2.1 Three meetings of the Visiting Committee have been held since 31 March 2009.
- 2.2 Members of the Visiting Committee have visited the Lerwick Legalised Cells on 10 occasions during 2009. 3 visits were carried out immediately following a Committee meeting, 10 visits were planned and no unannounced visits were made.
- 2.3 In each case, Members of the Visiting Committee found the Legalised Cells to be in a clean, warm and tidy condition, Members were met well and accompanied at all times. Prisoners were met on 6 occasions. In most instances the prisoners had no complaints regarding their conditions or treatment, the cells were reported to be warm and the food provided was excellent.
- 2.4 Statistics provided by the Lerwick Police Station indicate the following:

April 2009 – March 2010

Prisoners - 60

Number of days legalised cells occupied - 76

Average days per prisoner - 0.79

- 2.5 The occupancy rates for this year are lower than the last two years.

3 Conclusion

- 3.1 The Lerwick Visiting Committee will continue to ensure the number of visits is maintained throughout 2010.

Clerk to the Visiting Committee
31 March 2010