



IOP Recommendations Action Plan

Proposed Recommendation from the Inspector of Prisons investigation report on
Death in Custody of prisoner “Mr M” 01/08/2019

The Recommendations submitted by the IOP have been review and considered. The table below is a summary of proposed actions based on the investigation of the IOP in respect of the Irish Prison Service. The table also suggest timelines and action owners for completing the necessary actions.

No.	IOP Recommendations	Irish Prison Service Response	Action Required	Action Owner	Timeline
1.	IPS Management must ensure that all sections of Official Journals are fully and comprehensively completed in legible handwriting and all signatures are supported by block capitals. Furthermore, that regular audits of all records is carried out to ensure compliance. [Page 10]	<p>Recommendation accepted</p> <p>In 2019 the Irish Prison Service carried out a review of the policy and Standard Operating Procedures with regard to the Monitoring of Prisoners during Periods of Lock Up.</p> <p>The revised documents were published on the IPS Intranet and a comprehensive communications planned was rolled out to raise awareness of same</p> <p>The requirement for the recording of information in the Close Supervision Log is set out in Standard Operation Procedure 11/21 - Close Supervision</p>	<p>Operations Directorate intends to carry out a full review of all Policies and Standard Operation Procedures in relation to the Monitoring of Prisoners during periods of lock up in 2022 and this recommendation will be considered as part of that review.</p> <p>In the interim, Operations Directorate will issue a reminder to all staff regarding the need to ensure that all appropriate information is recorded in the appropriate journals</p>	Operations Directorate	Q4 2022



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		<p>Cell which states “the Governor must ensure that information pertaining to all matters relating to the prisoner is recorded in the Close Supervision Log in accordance with the SOP.</p> <p>All staff should be aware of their obligations/requirements to record and note any significant information in relation to the prisoners under their supervision in the appropriate journal.</p>			
2.	<p>The issuing of Official Journals should be recorded in a master file showing date of issue, by who, date received and by who, location and date of completion.</p> <p>Only officers of ACO or above should sign for these books. [Page 10]</p>	<p>Recommendation accepted</p>	<p>Relevant officials will examine how best to streamline and improve the information management process in relation logbooks and journals.</p> <p>The scope of the review associated with the management of journals across the estate includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Types of journals 2. Fields in the journals 3. Issuing of journals to prisons 4. Issuing of journals within prisons 5. Central recording of same – numbers on the journals; when issued; to whom; by whom; date received; location; date journal completed; retention of journal; 6. Are current journals fit for purpose? 7. Are digital journals possible? 	<p>Corporate Services Directorate</p>	<p>Q1 2023</p>



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			The review will produce a clearly documented process for issuing and recording of logbooks/journals and information management of same.		
3.	Officers on supervisory duty in charge of the exercise yard should respond when prohibited article(s) are thrown onto the netting and make every effort to ensure that contraband is not secured by prisoners. [Page 11]	A meeting is required with the IOP to discuss this matter further.	Based on a dynamic risk assessment the appropriate action is taken in response to such events.	Operations Directorate	
4.	Prisoners sharing a cell where a serious incident occurs should not be placed with other prisoners when removed from that cell as vital evidence could be contaminated or lost. [Page 11]	Recommendation in place. The requirement to remove and isolate other prisoners from the cell is set out in Appendix 2 – Death in Custody – Action Checklist which forms part of SOP 11/019 Death in Custody.	Where a serious incident occurs, prisoners are searched, clothes removed for evidence and prisoners are placed in a free cell. This would be standard practice.	Operations Directorate	
5.	The recommendation in relation to cell searches in our death in custody investigation report Mr K 2018 is also applicable as a recommendation in this report i.e. that the IPS should conduct regular routine and unannounced cell searches for illicit material. The results should be made available to the Inspector of Prisons for the purposes of Death in Custody	Recommendation in place	Insofar as resources allow, targeted (cell-specific) and general area searches of prisons occur on a regular basis with the aim of retrieving contraband. OSG regularly provide Operations and the Statistics Unit with contraband seizure figures. These figures are now available on the Prison Service website	Operations Directorate	



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Irish Prison Service



An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt
Department of Justice

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