



IOP Recommendations Action Plan

Proposed Recommendation from the Inspector of Prisons investigation report on
Death in Custody of prisoner “Mr G” 14/07/2020

The Recommendations submitted by the IOP have been reviewed 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.	The Irish Prison Service should review the availability of a doctor for unexpected emergencies at Castlerea Prison. A similar recommendation was also made in relation to the death of Mr. N/2015 (pg. 8).	Recommendation not accepted	The Irish Prison Service provides a 9-5 Monday to Friday GP service at Castlerea Prison and outside these hours an on call service is available. Out of hours emergencies are managed by nursing staff and the National Ambulance Service as required.	Healthcare Directorate	N/A
2.	The Irish Prison Service should explore the viability of providing ‘chest compression machines’ to assist staff who are administering CPR. (Castlerea Prison is in a remote	Recommendation accepted	Staff are trained to provide CPR and if required the National Ambulance Service will be called. Previously, the IPS contacted the medical Director of the NAS on the use of chest compression devices and the advice was that, as a priority, Irish Prison Service should support staff in maintaining their competence to provide	Healthcare Directorate	Ongoing



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	location and in this case arrival of paramedics took over 25 minutes from the time of being called. There are limited numbers trained on CPR in any prison).		CPR in response to medical emergencies. The Irish Prison service is working with colleagues in the National Ambulance Service to assess and evaluate the likely benefits of a “chest compression system” within the Irish Prison Service. It is anticipated this will be completed by Q4 2022.		
3.	The Irish Prison Service should examine emergency access to all cells, such as a ‘code red’ alert, to minimise the amount of time between a request for first aid or assistance and entry being made. Each prison should have a protocol in place aimed at reducing emergency access times to a cell to 4 minutes or below. If it is identified that access to a cell in an emergency is beyond 4 minutes, measures should be put in place to rectify this.	Recommendation not accepted.	To satisfy this recommendation, the Irish Prison Service would have to move away from the established practice of operating from a central key repository and establish secondary key repositories across many prisons. It is likely the response times in other prisons that are of the Pentonville design (Mountjoy, Midlands, Cloverhill etc.) would have much shorter response times. Castlerea Prison is a converted mental health facility that does not benefit from the efficiencies of such bespoke prison design. As keys are accounted for multiple times daily, the changing of practice would present serious challenges for all prison personnel involved in the process. Key security is essential in all prisons.	Operations Directorate	N/A
4.	Prison Governors should include oversight and effectiveness of emergency access to cells during their routine inspections of a prison.	Recommendation in place	This is part of the daily duties of the Governor, Chief Officer or Assistant Chief Officer as set out in Rule 76 of the Prison Rules, Delegation of functions.	Operations Directorate	Completed