



Seirbhís Phríosúin
na hÉireann
Irish Prison Service



An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt
Department of Justice

OIP Recommendations Action Plan

Proposed Recommendation from the Inspector of Prisons investigation report on
Death in Custody of prisoner Mr O in Cloverhill Prison on 10.08.2022

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 suggests timelines and action owners for completing the necessary actions.

Recommendation	IPS Response	Action Required	IPS Action Owner	Timeline
The Inspectorate reiterates the recommendation in its thematic report that urgent consideration be given to the systemic changes that are required to facilitate the swift transfer of persons suspected or convicted of minor offences, who have mental disorders, to local psychiatric hospitals. As this is likely to require the development and opening of appropriately secure, intensive care facilities/designated beds in civil psychiatric hospitals, this calls for a multi-agency approach.	Accepted	<p>The Irish Prison Service is working on a multi-agency basis towards the implementation of recommendations in the High Level Task Force (HLTF) on Mental Health and Addiction.</p> <p>In addition, the National Forensic Mental Health Service has progressed a business case which proposes to enhance the resources of the existing Prison In Reach Court Liaison Service team in Cloverhill, as well as expanding the service to other prisons.</p>	Care and Rehabilitation Directorate	Ongoing



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<p>It is imperative that the falsification of records is treated with the utmost seriousness. IPS management and oversight bodies should be in a position to rely on the veracity of official records. This is not the first occasion on which the Inspectorate has raised serious concerns regarding the standard of record keeping in prisons and highlighted the seriousness of prison staff falsifying official records. To ensure the integrity of the system, the Inspectorate recommends that IPS management take immediate and comprehensive steps to ensure accurate records are maintained. Similar recommendations have been made in the Inspectorate's reports on the deaths in custody of Mr. H 2014 and Mr. D 2019.</p>	Accepted	<p>The Digitisation Project is expected to commence in Q3 2025. This will improve record keeping across the estate through both enhancing the quality of records being kept and limiting the risk of falsification. The project is being supported by the Dept of Justice, who have provided a Business Analyst resource. Successful implementation of this project will be subject to the availability of resources.</p> <p>Staff who are found to falsify records are sanctioned in line with the Code of Discipline.</p>	Operations Directorate & HR	Jul-25
<p>There is no systematic justification or rationale for the routine placement in refractory clothing of prisoners accommodated in a CSC cell. The Inspectorate recommends that this practice be brought to an immediate end. This Inspectorate recommendation is fully consistent with the views of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) on this subject.</p>	Not Accepted	<p>Prisoners are placed in safety clothing in line with the requirements of the CSC SOP. Decisions on the use of safety clothing are made by both Prison Healthcare and the Prison Governor.</p>	Operations & Care and Rehabilitation Directorate	Closed



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In order to enhance the effectiveness of the health care monitoring, the Inspectorate recommends that the IPS explore the potential of employing remote monitoring of vital signs technology in prisons in Ireland. This recommendation was previously made and accepted in the report of Mr. K 2024, published in July 2024. The Director General committed to the establishment of a sub-group to examine this technology. The OIP is looking forward to receiving the findings of the sub-group.	Accepted - already in place	<p>A multi-disciplinary working group has been established to examine to possibility of implementing signs of life technology.</p> <p>2 prisons, namely Cloverhill and Limerick, have been identified as sites for a potential pilot project.</p> <p>Market research is currently underway to identify a product which can provide minimally invasive monitoring of prisoner life signs.</p> <p>The Irish Prison Service is currently awaiting feedback from the CSSO regarding the legality of installing such technology in CSCs and SOC.</p>	Care and Rehabilitation Directorate	Ongoing
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<p>Mr. O was not permitted to board a flight at Dublin Airport and was subsequently arrested at the airport by the Gardaí. This would suggest that he may have arrived at the airport with a valid form of identification. However, when committed to Cloverhill Prison Mr. O had no identification or personal belongings. The only identification on committal was a name on the warrant. The Inspectorate recommends that a Person Escort Record should be introduced and completed for every movement of a prisoner into or out of a prison whether by Irish Prison Service staff or Gardaí. This should include details of risks of self-harm and vulnerability in addition to security considerations and include any comments or threats made by a detained person. A similar recommendation was made in Ms. X 2019, published in November 2022. The Director General stated that “an information sharing group was established to look at information sharing between various Justice Bodies, they have begun the process of looking at the sharing of risk relevant information...” The IPS provided a quarter two 2024 update that “The Irish Prison Service has been engaging with An Garda Síochána with regard to the</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>A revised version of this form was agreed by the Irish Prison Service, Probation Service and An Garda Síochána Information Sharing working group in Q2 2024 and submitted to An Garda Síochána for review and approval.</p>	<p>Operations Directorate</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
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exchange of information” It is very disappointing that two years following a commitment by the IPS that an agreement in relation to the sharing of information, which can be critical to the preservation of life, has yet to be reached.				
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