



Seirbhís Phríosúin
na hÉireann
Irish Prison Service



An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt
Department of Justice

IOP Recommendations Action Plan

Proposed Recommendation from the Inspector of Prisons investigation report on
Death in Custody of prisoner Mr E on 12/08/2021

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.	The Irish Prison Service should intensify its efforts to physically prevent contraband from entering the prisons and to detect its presence once on the premises, including through technological means.	Accepted	<p>The Irish Prison Service published its new Drugs Strategy 2023-2026 in November 2023. This comprehensive strategy outlines a series of goals aimed at reducing the harm caused by substance abuse within the prison environment, and acknowledges the need for strong, consistent inter-agency collaboration.</p> <p>The new drugs strategy provides practical measures to be implemented and digital innovations to be explored by the Irish Prison Service in addressing the issue of illicit drug use over the next three years.</p>	Operations	Ongoing.



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2.	The Irish Prison Service should intensify its engagement with other relevant stakeholder including An Garda Síochána, to develop a multi-agency written strategy to counter contraband entering a prison. This strategy should examine the use of technology, architectural disruptions, as well as how to prevent exploitation and coercion being used as a means to bring drugs and other contraband into a prison.	Accepted	<p>The Irish Prison Service published a new Drug Strategy in 2023 with a renewed focus to address substance abuse in prisons. The Strategy identifies 3 essential areas of focus: Inform & Educate, Detect & Reduce, Support & Treat. Each heading confirms a set of practical goals to mitigate against the harmful effects of drugs in prisons including commitments to work strategically and collaboratively with An Garda Síochána, addiction and other services to reduce the demand and supply of drugs in the prison environment.</p> <p>A group has been established comprising of representatives from both the Irish Prison Service and An Garda Síochána. The first meeting of the group convened on 10th April, the group will meet biannually and have committed to further collaboration on sharing intelligence, strategic planning of joint operations on throw overs, and support in enhancing current infrastructure, e.g. anti-drone technology.</p> <p>Irish Prison Service engagement with An Garda Síochána has resulted in a number of successful operations, for example at Wheatfield/Cloverhill complex there were 75 arrests during the period 20/02/2023 – 16/03/2024. These operations are dependent on An Garda Síochána resources being available.</p>	Operations	Ongoing.
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			<p>Research into equipment suitable for use in a prison environment is ongoing. OSG continue to carry out random and intelligence led searches to detect and deter contraband entry.</p> <p>Engagement with local An Garda Síochána liaisons is ongoing in this regard.</p>		
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