



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 G 02/10/2021

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 ensure that the 'volume control' on all emergency activation devices in the Class Office and Control Room across the prison estate be locked to an audible volume which cannot be lowered or deactivated.	Recommendation accepted	The Director General of the Irish Prison wrote to all lead Governors requesting confirmation that each cell call bell is working and turned to the appropriate volume level in each of the class offices. Confirmation was received from all lead Governors. The Irish Prison Service will undertake an external audit of the cell call system nationally in the coming months.	Estates Directorate	Ongoing
2.	A Class Officer and an Assistant Class Officer should continuously observe the landing to which they are detailed to, inter alia, ensure prisoners are adequately supervised to ensure they do not require urgent	Recommendation not accepted	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. The revised documents were published on the IPS Intranet and a comprehensive communications plan was rolled out to raise awareness of same.	Operations Directorate	Already in place



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	attention.		These Standing Operating Procedures were designed to ensure that prisoners are adequately supervised, they were constructed based on experience and risk assessment while considering the needs of the 2007 Prison Rules.		
3.	Class Officers and management grades should ensure that the visibility of a landing is not obstructed by posters and/or notices displaced on the glass panel of a Class Office. It is recommended that Irish Prison Service HQ issue an instruction to this effect to all Prison Governors who should ensure implementation and compliance.	Recommendation accepted	Governor I Prison Support and Development has written to all Lead Governors advising them of the requirement to leave visibility from Class Offices unobstructed.	Corporate Services Directorate	Complete
4.	The Irish Prison Service consider the relocation of the Cell Call Activation light from its current position and place it towards the top of the cell door thereby eliminating any possible obstruction of a flashing light.	Recommendation accepted	The Irish Prison Service are currently developing a cell call monitor module which will be located in the nearby class office. This module will have an integrated light indicator for each cell to add a further enhance vision aid to the Officer. Due to its bespoke design, combined with the necessary testing and development, the sample unit is planned to be available by the end of 2023	Estates Directorate	Q4 2023
5.	Consideration should be given to a review of the 'Chaplaincy and Next of Kin Notification' document to include guidance on the provision of general practical information to the NoK following a death in custody.	Recommendation accepted	The Irish Prison Service will review the "Next of Kin Notification Protocol".	Care and Rehabilitation Directorate	Q4 2024



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6.	It is recommended that that an Office Notice be issued to all Prison Governors to remind them of the importance of adherence to the terms of the IPS 'Critical Incident Reporting and Debriefing Procedures' which provides for the holding of both a hot and cold debrief following a death in custody and for all staff involved in the incident to be encouraged/facilitated to attend briefing.	Recommendation accepted	Circular 08/2023 issued in June 2023 reminding all staff of the Critical Incident Reporting and Debrief SOP. It further instructed that the SOP should be read in conjunction with Operations circular 11/2016 – Reporting of serious and critical incidents (Rule 83) which is also contained in Appendix 1 of the document. The Irish Prison Service have committed to conducting a review of all relevant SOP's/circulars relating to critical incident reporting in the coming months.	Operations Directorate	End of Q4 2023
7.	The Irish Prison Service should ensure that staff understand the importance of accurate records and the consequences of creating an inaccurate record/report of their duty. Regular audits should be carried out by line management to ensure compliance. A Similar recommendation has been made in the past in Mr A 2012, Mr H 2014 and Mr I 2018.	Recommendation accepted	<p>The importance of accurate record keeping is covered during Recruit Prison Officer training and compliance is overseen at governor level.</p> <p>The Irish Prison Service are in the late stages of a prison security audit and discrepancies in record keeping will be brought to the attention of Senior Management with recommendations attached, this report is due in Q3 2023.</p> <p>Relevant officials have been identified to examine how the Irish Prison Service can streamline and improve the information management process in relation to logbooks and journals. The IPS intends to replace manual or written log books with the electronic recording of information. An IT solution is being explored to facilitate a more effective and efficient logging process which will support accuracy.</p>	Operations Directorate Corporate Services Directorate	Q4 2023 for update Q3 2023



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			Governor Prison Support and Development will advise all Lead Governors of their obligations under Rule 75 and related SOPs (available to all staff on PRISM) to ensure staff are creating accurate records/reports of their duty at the next meeting of the Prisons' Leadership Team.		
8.	It is recommended that Prison Officers be reminded of their obligation under Prison Rule 87(1)(b) which requires them to examine equipment in their area of responsibility and report any defects which could compromise good order, safe or secure custody or health and safety.	Recommendation accepted	Governor Prison Support and Development has written to all Lead Governors requesting that all staff be reminded of their obligations under Prison Rule 87(1)(b).	Corporate Service Directorate	Complete