



Independent Custody Visitors

July 2022

Below are some of the highlights, issues and other newsworthy information raised during visits or by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner during **July 2022**.

Sunderland - Southwick

One visit was made to Southwick Custody Suite, the suite was found to be clean and tidy on all occasions. Staff were also friendly and helpful.

ICVs positively highlighted that detainees had been provided with toilet roll in their cells which was positive.

ICVs highlighted that detainee's religious items had been handled and stored with care by staff.

ICVs noted that detainees with medical conditions were being well cared for and provided with their medication.

Exercise yards checked and all in order.

Areas for improvement:

14.07.22 (4:45PM)

No areas of improvement highlighted by ICVs

Force Response : I am pleased with the positive report.

North Tyneside – Middle Engine Lane

Two visits were undertaken to Middle Engine Lane, the overall cleanliness of the suite and exercise areas was very good and all staff were polite and helpful. Exercise yard 3 checked and in good condition.

ICVs positively highlighted that where detainees clothing/shoes had been removed this was correctly recorded on the custody record.

ICVs positively highlighted that detainees had been provided with reading materials.

ICVs observed that AA's had been provided to detainees.

Areas for Improvement:

19.07.22 (5:15pm)

- Out of date cereal bars disposed of.

30.07.22 (12:37)

- Cell 31 – out of use for storage
- Cell 4 – out of use due to broken camera
- No allergy chart in detainee kitchen for detainee food Bisto range.
- Low detainee food stocks.

Force Response:

Cell 31 now in full use.

Cell 4 is still awaiting work to fix the camera. This is logged for repair.

Allergy chart being updated.

Food stocks ordered.

Newcastle – Forth Banks

One visit was undertaken to Forth Banks, the overall cleanliness of the suite and exercise areas was good, and all staff were polite and helpful.

ICVs noted that cleaning of detainee kitchen had been undertaken and all in good order.

Areas for Improvement:

06.07.22 (7pm)

- Some detainees had not been provided toilet roll within their cells without having to request it.
- Detainee lockers outside of cells left open.

Force Response: Toilet roll should be provided to all detainees, if not provided due to DP's behavior then this should be noted on the ECR. Staff are reminded of this on a regular basis.