

Independent Custody Visitors

June 2023

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 **June 2023**.

Sunderland - Southwick

Four visits were made to Southwick Custody Suite, the suite was found to be clean and tidy. Staff were also friendly and helpful.

ICVs positively noted that detainees had been provided with toilet roll without asking on most occasions.

ICVs noted the detainees having been provided with time in the exercise yard.

Areas for improvement:

Detainee lockers left open and unlocked.

Exercise yard in need of a full clean due to buildup of bird excrement.

Boxes of out of date detainee meals removed.

Force Response :

Staff reminded regarding open/unlocked lockers

Exercise yard reported to maintenance for cleaning

No out of date food items remain, daily checks to be done on such items.

Forth Banks - Newcastle

Two visits were undertaken, the overall cleanliness of the suite and exercise areas was good, and all staff were polite and helpful.

Exercise yards checked and all in order.

Food stocks all checked and in order.

ICV's positively noted the provision of distraction items.

DO 9432 escorting ICVs on visits very helpful.

Areas for Improvement:

Exercise yard 2 in need of maintenance due to peeling paint

On some occasions detainees not always provided with toilet roll in cells without asking for it to be provided.

Detainee lockers open and unlocked.

Force Response:

Exercise yard reported to maintenance for repair

Detainees had been provided with toilet roll without asking on most occasions, this message to staff has been repeated to ensure we provide toilet rolls.

Staff reminded regarding open/unlocked lockers

Middle Engine Lane – North Tyneside

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

Exercise yards checked and all in order.

Food stocks all checked and in order.

ICVs positively highlighted that female hygiene packs had been offered.

Force Response: