

Independent Monitoring Board Annual Report 2012-13 YOC & HMP HYDEBANK WOOD

## **Mission Statement**

To enhance the quality of prison life, by working to ensure fairness and accountability in prison

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Members of the Independent Monitoring Board for HMP Hydebank Wood & Young Offenders Centre were appointed by the Justice Minister under Section 3 of the Treatment of Offenders Act (NI) 1968 and under the Prison Act (NI) 1953.

The Board is required to:

- visit Hydebank Wood regularly and report to the Justice Minister on the conditions of imprisonment and the treatment of offenders;
- consider requests and complaints made by prisoners to the Board;
- report matters of concern to the Governor or, in serious cases, the Justice Minister;
  and
- exercise certain powers that are given under the Prison and Young Offender Centre Rules (NI) 2005.

The Prison Rules further require the Board to satisfy itself as to:

- the treatment of prisoners including provision for their healthcare and other welfare while in prison:
- the facilities available to prisoners to allow them to make purposeful use of their time;
  and
- the cleanliness and adequacy of prison premises.

To enable the Board to carry out these duties effectively its members have free access at any time to all prisoners and to all parts of the prison to which they are appointed. The Board shall also have reasonable access to any of the records of the prison.

## **UK NATIONAL PREVENTATIVE MECHANISM**

The Independent Monitoring Board is part of the United Kingdom National Preventative Mechanism (UK NPM) as required by the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT).

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CHAIRPERSON'S INTRODUCTION

As Chairperson of the Independent Monitoring Board (IMB) for Hydebank Wood Prison and

Young Offenders Centre (YOC) I am pleased to present the IMB's Annual Report for the

period 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013.

The members of the IMB are volunteers who visit the prison on a weekly basis to monitor the

treatment of prisoners, the conditions in which they are being held and the facilities available

to them that can enable them to make constructive and purposeful use of their time. IMB

members also keep an account of the cleanliness and suitability of the prison premises.

The IMB for Hydebank Wood had a complement of 7 members in April 2012 but incurred two

resignations during the year which stretched the Board to its limits. A recruitment campaign at

the start of this financial year should ease the heavy workload for members.

I would like to thank and pay tribute to all my IMB colleagues - past and present - for their

hard work and dedication during the year. Despite having family and occupational

responsibilities, it is an indication of members' commitment that as unpaid volunteers, they

make such a full contribution to the work of the Board. I am also extremely appreciative to

them for supporting me in my role of Chair during my first year.

On behalf of my IMB colleagues, I would like to thank the Governors for their unfailing

courtesy and co-operation, both with their presence at our monthly Board meetings and when

members are carrying out their duties within the prison. I would also like to acknowledge the

very many staff members throughout the YOC for their co-operation and willingness to

accommodate the Board members as they carry out their duties. Thank you.

Last, but by no means least, we are all indebted to the staff in the IMB Secretariat for their

continued assistance They effortlessly provide us with everything we need in terms of

administrative support and Divisional 'know-how' when needed. The experienced Head of

Secretariat leads a very efficient, effective and enthusiastic team and collectively make my

role of Chair a much, much easier one to carry out.

Sadie Logan

Chairperson

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## **OVERVIEW OF ESTABLISHMENT**

HMP & YOC Hydebank Wood (HBW) is a unique establishment in that it is effectively two different detention centres on one site. It accommodates young male offenders, both sentenced and remand, between the age of 17 and 21 years serving a period of four years or less. In some cases an inmate may remain there until the day before his 24<sup>th</sup> birthday. Hydebank YOC stopped housing juveniles in 2012. They are now housed at Woodlands Juvenile Justice Centre. Since 2004, Ash House in HBW has also been the women's prison for Northern Ireland. All female prisoners - both sentenced and remand, serving a full range of sentences of up to and including life - are held in this unit. Female immigration detainees are also held in the female facility.

The majority of prisoners are accommodated in five residential houses; Beech, Cedar, Elm, Willow and Ash. There is a separate Care and Supervision Unit (CSU) and a Healthcare Centre incorporating the prison hospital. Next to the Healthcare Centre, there is accommodation for separated prisoners. Because of the requirements for separated prisoners, the Healthcare Centre lost part of its wing.

Healthcare for all prisoners is provided through the South Eastern Health and Social Trust (The Trust). The drug and alcohol service for prisoners who are in need of consultation, is provided by AD:ept (alcohol and drugs, empowering people through therapy) in partnership with the Trust and the NIPS. Education and training is provided by local services.

Various charitable and voluntary organisations maintain a presence on the site - NIACRO provide guidance through Jobtrack scheme for prisoners trying to obtain employment on discharge. CRUSE provides invaluable support in dealing with bereavement issues, Barnardo's support prisoners with family issues, and Housing Rights staff brief prisoners on the complexities of obtaining housing, housing benefits and associated grants. NIACRO also run the visitor's centre where volunteers provide tea, coffee and sandwiches to the visitors and there is also a children's play area.

Spiritual and religious matters are the remit of the Prison Chaplaincy Team which aims to facilitate the practice of all faiths within the prison Community. Additional spiritual help is provided by Prison Fellowship.

#### **SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Board make the following recommendations:

## 1 ACCOMMODATION

- a) doubling up in cells should be avoided if at all possible (paragraph 1.2)
- b) action should be taken to regularise the ventilation in all cells (paragraph1.3)

#### 2 ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

a) a comparator scheme to the "drug free" landing in Quoile House in Maghaberry be trialed in Hydebank Wood (paragraph 2.2)

#### 3 CATERING AND KITCHEN

- a) a full range of training programmes is made available for the prisoners working in the kitchen (paragraph 3.2)
- b) both the kitchen and the staff rest area and toilet facilities should be refurbished and upgraded as soon as possible (paragraph 3.3)

## 4 CHAPLAINCY - No recommendations

#### 5 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- a) consider utilising the potential of skilled volunteers alongside employed staff (paragraph 5.2)
- b) competent experienced staff are retained even if the education provision is outsourced (paragraph 5.3)

#### 6 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY** – no recommendations

#### 7 HEALTHCARE AND MENTAL HEALTH

- a) steps are taken to make nursing in the prison environment more attractive to aid nursing staff retention (paragraph 7.2)
- b) NIPS and the Trust work together to devise a system to ensure that prescribed medication is readily available for inmates / prisoners on committal (paragraph 7.3)
- c) a purpose-built safe and secure facility should be set up outside of prison for prisoners with severe personality disorder (paragraph 7.5)

- **3 JUVENILES** no recommendations
- 9 LIBRARY no recommendations

#### 10 RECEPTION AND INDUCTION

a) induction staff should receive mental health awareness training (paragraph 10.2)

## 11 RESETTLEMENT

- a) landing staff and inmates should meet weekly to discuss training and skills development (paragraph 11.3)
- b) the Personal Officer Scheme should be reinstated (paragraph 11.3)

### 12 SAFER CUSTODY

- a) lockdowns are kept to a minimum (paragraph 12.1)
- b) general problems should be discussed at weekly meetings between landing staff and inmates (paragraph 12.3)
- c) staff trained in restorative practices and / or family group conferencing should be released from normal shift pattern to attend serious case reviews (pargraph 12.4)
- d) the Prisoner Forum's remit should be expanded to incorporate "health focus" groups (paragraph 12.5)
- e) greater use should be made of the Befriender Scheme (paragraph 12.5)
- f) the range of self-help and awareness programmes should be expanded (paragraph 12.5)
- g) the maximum phone allowance should be relaxed (paragraph 12.5)

## 13 SEGREGATION – CARE AND SUPERVISION UNIT (CSU)

- a) CSU staff should receive training in coping with difficult prisoners (paragraph 13.3)
- b) awards other than cellular confinement are made at adjudication (paragraph13.4)
- c) more use of restorative practices and that minor reporting should used instead of adjudication where possible (paragraph 13.5)

#### 14 SPORT AND RECREATION - no recommendations

## 15 TUCK SHOP

a) prices should be kept as competitive as possible (paragraph 15.2)

## 16 VISITS

- a) inmates should always be brought over in time for the start of visits (paragraph 16.2)
- b) family visits in the mobile home be reinstated for all suitably assessed inmates / prisoners (paragraph 16.5)

#### 17 WOMEN'S PRISON

- a) a separate secure unit should be established for women with mental health difficulties (paragraph 17.2)
- b) the Inspire Project should be expanded to provide accommodation for women prisoners who are released with no home to go to (paragraph 17.3)

#### Section 1 - ACCOMODATION

- 1.1 Most accommodation in Hydebank is of the standard prison block type. The standard varies across the establishment but most blocks provide as good an environment as possible within secure conditions. An ongoing refurbishment programme ensures this standard is maintained.
- 1.2 Given the rising population, accommodation is at a premium but the Board **recommends** that doubling up in cells should be avoided if at all possible. When pressure of placements dictates that sharing cells is necessary, it should be achieved voluntarily and where compatibility has been determined in advance.
- 1.3 The cells in Ash House still do not have efficient ventilation and become uncomfortably hot in warm weather with no suitable means of cooling them down. The Board has raised this issue many times but as nothing has changed the Board again **recommends** that action is taken to regularise the ventilation in all cells.
- 1.4 Hydebank Wood has attractive grounds that are very well laid out, well maintained and always immaculate. The Board commends the staff and prisoners who do this work to provide a very impressive and pleasant environment for prisoners and staff alike.

#### Section 2 - ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- 2.1 The misuse of substances as a factor when crime is committed continues to be a problem during incarceration and requires a concerted multi-disciplinary response. The work of AD:ept and the Addictions Team is essential and valued, but it is a never-ending challenge. A lot of focus is on dealing with the consequences of substance abuse and not enough on prevention. However, the Board is aware that because of staffing and budgetary constraints the agencies are struggling to cope with reactive work, let alone achieve a preventative approach.
- 2.2 The aspiration of having 'drug free' landings is generally regarded as naive and doomed to failure but it is defeatist not to try initiatives where avoidance of substance misuse is regarded as merited are essential to tackle offending and reoffending behaviour. Offering the goal of enhanced family life during and after release from prison may present the best chance of engaging with inmates helping them to see being drug free as a means to that end. The Board notes the good woork being done in Quoile House in Maghaberry and **recommends** a comparator scheme be trialed in Hydebank Wood.

#### Section 3 - CATERING AND KITCHENS

- 3.1 Complaints about food remain low and the religious and cultural needs of the various ethnic populations are catered for. Last year the Board reported that too much reliance was being placed on tinned and frozen food. This year it is pleased to note that this is no longer the case. Most meals are freshly cooked but the kitchen keeps a stock of ready meals for use at the weekends and most of the boys look forward to them.
- 3.2 Also last year, the Board reported that the food hygiene course and the National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) training in catering had stopped and recommended their reinstatement as soon as possible. The food hygiene course is once again available but as the NVQ course can last for up to 12 months it is unsuitable for most women as they are only serving short sentences. The Board is concerned that what used to be a great place to learn skills which would benefit prisoners on the outside has continued to slide so once again **recommends** that a full range of training programmes is made available.
- 3.2 The Board is also disappointed to note that still no action has been taken to improve the staff rest area. It remains in an unsatisfactory condition with male and female staff having to share the same toilet which is totally unacceptable. Likewise the recommended refurbishment and upgrading of the kitchen has not happened. This is very unsatisfactory so the Board **recommends** both these things be done immediately.

## **Section 4 - CHAPLAINCY**

- 4.1 The prison chaplains continue to enjoy a positive relationship with both prisoners and staff. They are involved in all aspects of prison life and provide spiritual help and support in any way they can which is a very positive extension of their role. Although the team is made up of a number of Christian denominations they are able to call in representatives of other faiths to meet the spiritual needs of prisoners of other religions. The Board commends the chaplains for the vital role they play in helping those committed to Hydebank Wood cope with their imprisonment.
- 4.2 It is good that Chaplains are now assisting inmates with the transition from imprisonment to becoming resettled in the community. This will enhance the family and community ties with which the inmates will become involved.

#### **Section 5 - EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

- 5.1 The Board remains concerned by the high number of prisoners who have very poor levels of literacy and numeracy so the necessary priority must be given to addressing this by providing adequate sessions of education and essential skills.
- 5.2 The Board remains very concerned that levels of constructive activity and learning have remained very low and are often reduced further when there is a shortage of staff. It is also evident that there are not enough places in classes and workshops. To help alleviate this, the Board **recommends** that prison management should consider utilising the potential of skilled volunteers alongside employed staff.
- 5.3 With the Prisons Review Team's aspiration that Hydebank Wood should become a 'Secure College', the education and training staff are apprehensive about their future as it could mean that their work will be franchised to an outside body. It is arguable that an outside establishment could potentially offer a wider choice of curriculum and more resources. However, the particular learning needs and challenging behaviour of inmates requires positive discrimination in terms of ratio and calibre of staff. This means deploying more resources, compared to the population in the rest of the community. The Board **recommends** that the NIPS and the Department of Justice (DOJ) examine how best to retain competent experienced staff in any prospective transition of service provision.

#### **Section 6 - EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY**

- 6.1 Hydebank Wood management promotes and follows the NIPS Equality and Diversity Policy. There is an Equality and Diversity Action Plan which is overseen by the Equality and Diversity Committee which meets on a monthly basis. Inmates and prisoners from the various Section 75 groups also attend the meetings to put their views on how the plan is working in practice.
- 6.2 As reported last year the small Irish Traveller population continues to make allegations that they are subjected to insults from other prisoners so again encourages staff to be vigilant to the possibility of such behaviour.
- 6.4 In previous reports the Board has raised the fact that a noticeable majority of adjudication charges were laid against Roman Catholics as compared to the total of charges laid against other religions. The Board is aware that this is a perception across all three establishments. However further examination produced reasonable explanation and there is no evidence of discrimination. The Board will continue to monitor this process.

#### Section 7 - HEALTHCARE AND MENTAL HEALTH

- 7.1 Since April 2012 the day to day running of health provision within the prisons has been the responsibility of the Trust but the employee / employer relationship (eg disciplinary issues) remains the responsibility of the NIPS. Over the past year the Board has monitored how this has worked. While there has been an undoubted improvement of working relationships at a senior level due to the formation of the Prison Healthcare Operational Forum, the relationship at landing level has not always been problem-free. The "patient confidentiality" restriction on information sharing was used frequently to both prison staff and Board members but it is good to report that gradually greater openness has been established.
- 7.2 The Trust provides a range of healthcare services of which primary care services are the most prominent. However the service operates on an emergency or crisis referral basis and, for most of the year, staffing levels were too low to allow any proactive work such as health improvement initiatives. Healthcare managers described their situation as 'fire fighting'. Gradually the posts were filled but with others resigning the healthcare staff were still unable to carry out the full range of services. It is obvious that staff retention is a problem and the Board is disappointed with the continuing shortage of staff. It **recommends** that steps are taken to make nursing in the prison environment more attractive to aid staff retention.
- 7.3 By far the largest number of issues raised by prisoners in relation to Healthcare relate to medication in particular the unacceptable length of time taken to access prescribed medication when they are initially committed to prison. The Board **recommends** that the Trust and the NIPS work together to devise a system to ensure that prescribed medication is readily available for inmates / prisoners on committal.
- 7.4 Despite the recommendation above, the Board fully support the principle that medication should only be given where needed and that dependency or the phenomenon of hoarding or bullying other inmates to use or trade their medication is quite rightly being tackled by healthcare staff.
- 7.5 Having two mental health nurses has been an improvement but the balance of mental health demand requires more investment. The Board remains convinced that prison is not appropriate for certain inmates, particularly those who display persistent and severe mental health issues. The absence of specific facilities for prisoners with serious personality disorders leaves the courts with no alternative but to lock them in an institution with staff who are not sufficiently qualified to look after them. The Board again **recommends** that a purpose-built unit is commissioned and provided.

## **Section 8 – JUVENILES**

8.1 During the year it was decided that boys under 17 years, who had previously been deemed unsuitable for the Juvenile Justice Centre (JJC) either by virtue of the nature of their crime or by their behaviour, should no longer be held in Hydebank Wood, although the option can still be exercised if considered imperative. The Board was pleased to hear this as it is something it has long recommended and appreciates the constant effort made by child care agencies and departments, the Youth Justice Agency (YJA) and the Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS) that brought about this welcome change.

#### **Section 9 - LIBRARY**

9.1 The Board is pleased to see that the library continues to be well used. It provides an excellent selection of books, magazines and newspapers in a variety of languages to cater for all inmates in a pleasant environment. The Board commends the Librarian and staff who provide this valuable resource. The mobile library which visits Ash House and the CSU is also well used.

#### **Section 10 – RECEPTION AND INDUCTION**

- 10.1 The reception area is where prisoners get their first impressions of the prison. The reception areas for both the boys and the women are bright, clean and well maintained. Those who are arriving for the first time may be nervous and apprehensive so the Board commends the staff for the calm and professional manner in which they handle these new arrivals.
- 10.2 The early phase of imprisonment can be a very anxious time and young male offenders in particular may not disclose the actual level of their distress. This places an important emphasis on the quality of the relationship between the staff and inmates / prisoners so once again the Board **recommends** the need for staff training in mental health awareness.

## **Section 11 – RESETTLEMENT**

11.1 The recidivism level, particularly among young offenders, is persistently high and the role of preparing prisoners for resettlement - offender management - lies with those members of staff who specialise in that area. Those who are dedicated to the job of resettlement, undoubtedly do good work, particularly with the most complex cases and those convicted of Public Protection offences. It is the Board's view that the latter take up the majority of the focus and time, and as a result, the level of welfare work / tackling offending with many inmates is comparatively light.

- 11.2 The Board supports the renewed emphasis on offender management and the plan for some of this to be partly based on the landings, with officers taking responsibility for sentence plans. Traditionally, being in steady employment helps inmates lead a crime-free life on release but with the shortage of training this prospect is weakened. Participation in learning and developing skills can eventually lead prisoners to earn the privilege of working outside the prison. If this opportunity was promoted as a realistic aspiration, it could prompt inmates to improve their behaviour and attitudes accordingly.
- 11.3 The Board is disappointed that, despite being recommended in previous years, weekly meetings between landing staff and inmates to discuss opportunities for training and skills and generally to encourage individual and collective responsibility still has not happened. It has also often recommended the reintroduction of the Personal Officer scheme but this has not happened either. The Board again **recommends** the implementation of both these initiatives.

#### **Section 12 - SAFER CUSTODY**

- 12.1 The Board is concerned with the increase in SPARs (Supporting Prisoners At Risk) being opened over the year, particularly in the women's prison. There appears to be no one specific reason for this but the increase in lockdowns must be a factor. The Board is of the view that prisoners should not be locked up for long periods but rather should be subject to structured purposeful activity and / or education. Being locked for long periods provides too much time to dwell on things and for thoughts of self-harm to surface. For this reason the Board **recommends** that lockdowns are kept to a minimum as far as possible.
- 12.2 SPAR reviews take place regularly with all relevant agencies in attendance. Board members also attend when practicable and the Board is satisfied that these reviews are well-run and organised and that all possible steps are taken to safeguard the prisoner and alleviate any concerns they might raise.
- 12.3 Over the past year the Board has been pleased to hear first names being used in conversations between staff and inmates. Fostering a culture of dignity and mutual respect is essential to defuse confrontation and helps counteract bullying. This could be helped by also discussing problems at the weekly meetings of inmates and staff recommended under Education and Training. Such meetings would help promote a shared responsibility and enhance relationships on the landings so the Board again **recommends** them.
- 12.4 The Board welcomes the practice of now involving family members of inmates who display self harming, destructive or substance abusing behaviour in serious case reviews. Relatives are more liable to help effectively in problem solving if they feel included and empowered. To further assist in this initiative, the Board **recommends** that staff who have

been trained in restorative practices and / or family group conferencing should be released from normal shift pattern, to undertake this work when necessary.

- 12.5 The Board is very disappointed that none of the recommendations made in this section last year have been acted on so recommends the following again this year -
  - the Prisoner Forum's remit should be expanded to incorporate "health focus" groups
  - greater use should be made of the Befriender
  - the range of self-help and awareness programmes should be expanded
  - the maximum phone allowance should be relaxed

## Section 13 – SEGREGATION – CARE AND SUPERVISION UNIT (CSU)

- 13.1 The Care and Supervision Unit (CSU) houses a number of categories of inmates those detained under Rule 32 who have offended against good order and discipline; those undergoing cellular confinement; those awaiting adjudication; violent inmates; and inmates who are accommodated there for their own protection. The Board is pleased to see that over the year the unit was used less for punishment and more for safeguarding.
- 13.2 Board members monitor all Rule 32s and apply critical scrutiny to all the relevant paper work to ensure that procedures have been followed and that application of the rule has been reasonable in the prevailing circumstances. Throughout the year the Board has been impressed with the care and respect shown by officers to inmates faced with Rule 32 charges.
- 13.3 Many inmates in the CSU have personality disorders and behavioural difficulties so are difficult to manage. The Board still feels that staff should receive specialised training to handle such individuals properly, so continues to **recommend** accordingly. Despite this the unit is well run and the Board commends the staff for their care and patience.
- 13.4 Adjudications are held in the CSU and are regularly monitored by members. The Board is content that due process is observed, inmates are treated fairly and that appropriate records are kept. However it would **recommend** that still fewer awards of cellular confinement are made with other restrictions being imposed instead.
- 13.5 To lessen the burden on CSU and also engage better with inmates, the Board **recommends** more use of restorative practices and that minor reporting should used instead of adjudication where possible.

#### Section 14 - SPORT AND RECREATION

- 14.1 The PE department at Hydebank Wood is a well-equipped facility with a sports hall, a weight training and fitness suite and five outdoor playing fields, one of which is an all-weather facility. The Board receives few complaints about sport and recreation which is a testament to the quality of the provision within the establishment.
- 14.2 PE staff make an effort to get as many inmates off the landing as possible and the Board commends them for their commitment.

## **Section 15 - TUCKSHOP**

- 15.1 The tuck shop is a valuable resource used by all prisoners. It provides a wide range of products and caters for the needs of all the population. Following the building work is a now a much larger facility and it has increased the range of goods on offer accordingly.
- 15.2 The price of some items remains a cause for complaint and while the Board appreciates that purchasing contracts influence prices it **recommends** that every effort is made to ensure that prices are reasonable and competitive.

#### Section 16 - VISITS

- 16.1 The case for maintaining family ties in terms of the support it offers to prisoners reintegrating into society has been well made. The services provided by both prison staff and NIACRO in the Visitors Centre promote these positive links so is highly commended by the Board.
- 16.2 The system for booking visits works efficiently and visits are generally well organised but the Board still hears complaints that prisoners are sometimes late for visits because of the lack of staff to escort them. As visits are such an important aspect of life for prisoners, it is crucial that they can take full advantage of their allocated time. When a prisoner does not get a full visit it can cause resentment and frustration and can also cause aggressive feelings towards the staff. While the Board recognises that this is a staffing issue and that with the ongoing downsizing it may get worse, it continues to **recommend** that every effort is made to ensure that prisoners get the full time allocated to them.
- 16.3 Last year the Board reported that the purchasing of sandwiches from the Visitors` Centre was banned as they were being used to transfer drugs from visitor to prisoner. With the withdrawal of this facility the sale of crisps sweets and other unhealthy snacks increased which was an unfortunate development especially for children. The Board is pleased to see

the problem has been resolved with NIACRO now selling sandwiches on paper plates in the visits hall and it commends this swift resolution.

- 16.4 The Visits area has recently been redecorated to provide a pleasant environment and visits are conducted in as relaxed a manner as is possible in a secure setting.
- 16.5 In previous years the Board praised the initiative that enabled women to spend time with their children at private visits in the onsite mobile home. The success of the scheme was such that young offenders who have children also wished to use the facility and raised it as an equality issue. This year the Board is disappointed to report that instead of widening the scheme to include the boys, the NIPS suspended it altogether and now it is not being used by anyone. This is not only a waste of a valuable facility, but it is detrimental to the family contact of those detained in Hydebank so the Board **recommends** that a solution is found to reinstate family visits in the caravan and widen it to include all inmates / prisoners with children who have been assessed as suitable to have them.

#### Section 17 – WOMEN'S PRISON

- 17.1 Ash House is the women's prison. In general the Board is content that the facility is run well within the limitation under which it operates but the arguments for ending the dual use of Hydebank for both women and young men is well rehearsed. For this reason the Board is pleased to note that a separate facility for women is planned.
- 17.2 Given the prevalence of mental health difficulties particularly displayed by women consideration should still be given to the relocation of some women to a secure unit in a Healthcare amenity rather than a purely prison setting. The Board **recommends** a separate unit is established for such prisoners.
- 17.3 The Board previously recommended that the Inspire Project should be expanded to provide accommodation for women prisoners who are released with no home to go to. It is disappointing that this idea has not been taken up. As having a stable base is a positive factor in the fight not to reoffend, the Board still feel that the facility should be expanded and so **recommends** it be given consideration this year.

## **APPENDIX 1**

## **HYDEBANK BOARD MEMBERS 2012-2013**

Mrs Frances Symington Chair

Ms Sadie Logan Vice Chair

Dr Michael Boyle Resigned in January 2012

Mrs Natasha Francis Resigned in May 2011

Mr Joe Irvine Resigned October 2012

Mr Michael Love

Ms Judy O'Loan Resigned March 2013

Mr Ronnie Orr

Ms Christine Stoll On sabbatical from February 2012

Mr Francis Walsh Resigned March 2013

Mrs Linda Williamson Resigned in April 2011