

## HER MAJESTY'S PRISON (HMP) DHEKELIA - HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF PRISONS REPORT – 4-7 NOVEMBER 2013



27<sup>th</sup> March 2014

In November 2013, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) visited Her Majesty's Prison (HMP) Dhekelia upon invitation from the Administrator to undertake an inspection. The inspection took place in the week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013. This is the third inspection since 2004 under an arrangement between the Administrator and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons.

Whilst HMP Dhekelia is not included in the mandatory inspections of prison and detention facilities in the UK by HMIP, the Administrator felt that a thorough review of the facility to identify best practice would be beneficial.

HMP Dhekelia is a small, multi-purpose detention facility within the Sovereign Base Areas (SBAs) of Cyprus. It was built in 1955 and substantially refurbished in 1997. It was further extended with new cell accommodation in 2013 to accommodate up to 13 prisoners. It is used to hold both short- and long-term sentenced offenders, as well as those on remand, and has cell facilities for both male and female prisoners.

### [View Report](#)

HMIP applies four key 'healthy prison' tests when they inspect prisons: safety, respect, purposeful activity and resettlement. The final report makes a total of 45 recommendations.

SBAA was provided with a copy of the draft report in January 2014 by HMIP and has produced an [action plan](#) in response. A number of the recommendations have already been implemented, which include:

- ✦ Implementation of an in-depth assessment of prisoner needs during their first days of custody;
- ✦ Formalised monthly reports on prisoner behaviour are being produced for analysis for trends;

- ✦ The training plans of prison managers and officers have been updated to include the prevention of self-harm and suicide;
- ✦ Prison Policy has been reviewed, to include an independent review of the discipline register annually to monitor proportionality with regards to the punishment regime;
- ✦ Prison Policy have been reviewed to remove the practice of withdrawal of visits and telephone calls as a punishment;
- ✦ Formal system implemented to monitor the number and nature of complaints by prisoners;
- ✦ Formal Service Level Agreement between HMP Dhekelia and British Forces Cyprus has been instigated provide medical support to prisoners, which cover the full range of health needs, including mental health;
- ✦ A comprehensive health screening is provided to all prisoners on arrival at HMP Dhekelia;
- ✦ Medical professionals will provide psychological assessments and support for prisoners with mental health issues;
- ✦ Medical professionals provide a weekly medical clinic to prisoners;
- ✦ Medical administration, including the refusal of medication by prisoners, is recorded formally;
- ✦ Catering facilities have been refurbished including the provision of a new cooker;
- ✦ Supervised access to the internet has been provided;
- ✦ Cleaning contracts have been reviewed and updated to ensure association rooms kept to a suitable standard; and
- ✦ One-to-one meetings have been implemented between prisoners and senior officers as an ongoing assessment of discrimination.

SBAA is reviewing the remainder of the recommendations to assess the feasibility of their implementation taking into account the unique nature of HMP Dhekelia.