

Criminal Justice Inspection
Northern Ireland
a better justice system for all



**MAGHABERRY
PRISON**



INSPECTION OF MAGHABERRY PRISON 2022

In September and October 2022 there was an inspection of Maghaberry Prison. This booklet tells you what Inspectors found. A copy of the full report is in the library for you to look at.



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The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement



The **Regulation** and
Quality Improvement
Authority



WHAT IS A PRISON INSPECTION?

A prison inspection checks out how well services are working and what needs to be better. In this inspection we wanted to see how well people living in Maghaberry Prison were being treated and cared for.

When we inspect prisons, we look at five areas:



Leadership



Safety

how safely you are held.



Respect

you are treated with respect.



Purposeful activity

you can take part in learning, work and activities.



Rehabilitation and release planning

you can keep in touch with family and friends, get help to stop offending and after what will happen when you are released.



WHO DID THE INSPECTION?

The Inspection Team was made up of people from four organisations who looked at the prison, health care and education services.



HOW DID WE RATE THE PRISON?

All prisons in Northern Ireland and across England and Wales are rated the same way. Inspectors look at all the evidence and decide how well the prison is doing on safety, respect, purposeful activity and rehabilitation and release planning.

There are four ratings:



Good

In these areas things are working well for prisoners.



Reasonably good

Things are mostly working well but some things need to improve.



Not sufficiently good

Things are not working well. If nothing is done, these areas will become serious concerns.



Poor

Something needs to be done immediately.



HEALTHY PRISON OUTCOMES

	 SAFETY	 RESPECT	 PURPOSEFUL ACTIVITY	 REHABILITATION AND RELEASE PLANNING
2022				
2018				
	 Good	 Reasonably Good	 Not Sufficiently Good	 Poor

EXAMPLES OF POSITIVE PRACTICE



Use of technology.



Support provided for vulnerable prisoners in the Donard Centre.



The rewards and sanctions scheme took account of prisoners who had learning and behavioural difficulties.



Support for non-English speakers to make complaints in their own language.



WHAT NEEDS TO IMPROVE?

PRIORITY CONCERNS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION



Learning from deaths in custody.



Access to education, skills and work.



Safeguarding.



Plan to reduce the demand for the supply of drugs.



Support to guide prisoners through their sentence and prevent offending.

KEY CONCERNS



Regime for newly committed prisoners.



Attendance of prison health care appointments.



Level of accredited qualifications in work activities.



Supporting Prisoner at Risk.



Access to psychologically informed treatment services.



Gaps in the learning curriculum.



Meeting social care needs.



WHAT YOU TOLD US WHEN WE WERE AT MAGHABERRY

This is what people who were in Maghaberry Prison when we did the inspection told us.

33% said the overall quality of health services was very/quite good

23% said they had been helped with their mental health problem

29% reported completing offending behaviour programmes

50% said they spent less than two hours out of their cell on a typical weekday

78% said they felt safe

41% indicated it was very/quite easy to get illicit drugs

65% said most staff treat you with respect

20% said it was easy for their family to visit

Unless otherwise stated the survey findings relate to the main prison site and exclude the Mourne complex.





WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



We hope the NI Prison Service, South Eastern Health and Social Services Trust and Belfast Metropolitan College will work to improve the things they need to. Inspectors will come back to check how things are going.



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If you would like to know anything more about us or this inspection please get in touch with:

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The UK NPM is a group of independent bodies that work together to monitor the treatment of and conditions for detainees, including prisoners, to safeguard them against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. CJi, RQIA and HMIP are all part of the NPM.