



Mission Statement

The mission of the Irish Prison Service is to provide safe, secure and humane custody for people who are sent to prison. The Service is committed to managing custodial sentences in a way which encourages and supports prisoners in their endeavouring to live law abiding and purposeful lives as valued members of society.







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CHAIRMAN'S AND DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORTS

The Irish Prison Service will record 2006 as a year when significant progress was made in the development of a modern and responsive prison system. The Prisons Authority Interim Board has been very pleased to play its part during the year in helping to lead, support and encourage change in the prison system.



Brian McCarthy, Chairman

Interim Board Meetings

The six meetings of the Interim Board during 2006 concentrated on the critical change programmes under way or planned in the Irish Prison Service. The Interim Board allocated significant time to advancing implementation of the measures agreed in the Proposal for Organisational Change, the Prisons Capital Programme - especially the replacement of the prisons on the Mountjoy Campus and Cork Prison - and the implementation of sound financial management in controlling prison costs. The Interim Board remains convinced that the Prison Service must succeed in these key areas if it is to establish the platform for development of custody and care to the standards expected of a truly modern and efficient prison service.

Organisational Change

The Interim Board welcomed the elimination, by February 18 2006, of overtime in the Prison Service and the move to the new additional hours arrangement as part of the agreed change process contained in the Proposal for Organisational Change. The situation had developed where the capital budget and every other budget within the system was being cannibalised to fund overtime expenditure. This clearly had to stop in order that capital projects and education/rehabilitation services could be progressed.

On behalf of all Board members, I would like to pay tribute to all those involved on both the management and staff sides in bringing the programme to implementation stage. They have contributed enormously to the modernisation of their Service.

The task of implementing all aspects of the Proposal is both onerous and demanding. It will require continuing commitment and determination in overcoming the inevitable issues that will arise as new systems are rolled out. Progress towards achieving the full range of proposals envisaged under the Agreement was well advanced by the end of 2006. The Interim Board will remain in close touch with developments.

Capital Projects

The Irish Prison Service has embarked on a major prison capital building programme that includes the replacement of 40% of the current prison estate. This is an ambitious programme but one which must be pursued to replace outdated and clearly unacceptable prison accommodation. The Interim Board has been extremely pleased with developments during 2006 in this regard.

Most significant of these projects is the proposed new prison at Thornton Hall, North County Dublin, which will replace the four prisons at the Mountjoy complex. The Board was pleased that this project was progressed in 2006 to the stage that tender documents for the construction of the new complex were issued in November to four short-listed consortia.

The realisation of over €29 million through the sale of prison lands at Shanganagh Castle, Shankill, County Dublin in October 2006 effectively covers the cost of acquiring the site at Thornton Hall.

Financial Management

Sound financial management is essential if overall prison costs are to be controlled in the interest of diverting a greater proportion of the prison budget towards improving prisoner services and facilities. The Interim Board continued to closely monitor Prison Service expenditure in 2006 and was pleased that significant progress was again made in capping prison costs - most notably in relation to overtime.

Policy developments

There were a number of important policy developments during 2006. The Board welcomed the introduction in May 2006 of a pilot passive drug detection dog service in the Midlands Prison, as part of ongoing efforts to keep drugs out of prison. The service proved to be very effective and the Board looks forward to this service being extended and used to its full potential in all closed prisons in 2007.

A protocol dealing with threats against prison staff outside their place of employment was agreed with staff representatives and implemented. Also, a number of prisoner-focused initiatives were also developed during the year including an anti-bullying programme for prisoners and a revised system of processing prisoner complaints, incorporating an appeal mechanism.

Decentralisation

The Interim Board fully supports the Irish Prison Service in its commitment to relocate to Longford as part of the first phase of the Government's Decentralisation Programme. However, Board members are concerned about possible impacts of decentralisation, especially high staff turnover at a critical time in advancing change in the Service.

Decentralisation was a standing agenda item for each Board meeting during 2006 and will remain so until the Interim Board is satisfied that all possible measures are in place to mitigate the negative impacts of relocation. In this regard, Board members are heartened that the Prison Service has succeeded in attracting very able and qualified people who are willing to move to Longford.

Mentally-ill Prisoners

In previous Annual Reports the Interim Board outlined its concern at the delays experienced in accessing care for prisoners at the Central Mental Hospital. The Board remains concerned that admissions are still not up to the required level. The Interim Board will continue to devote attention to this matter as it considers that further improvements should be possible at the existing facility in Dundrum ahead of the proposed development of a new facility at the Thornton Hall site.

Remuneration Sub-committee

The Remuneration Sub-Committee of the Interim Board again reviewed the performance of the Director General against set targets in accordance with the terms of the Scheme of Performance Awards for Chief Executives of Non-commercial State Sponsored Bodies. The Sub-Committee's recommendation for the year 2006 took account of the strong personal contribution made by the Director General in advancing change in 2006.

Statutory Board

Finally, Board members continue to be disappointed at the delay in establishing the Board as a statutory body.

Brian McCarthy

Chairman

Prisons Authority Interim Board



Brian Purcell
Director General

Introduction - Director General's Report

To:
The Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr. Brian Lenihan, T.D.

Minister,

I am pleased to transmit to you the Annual Report of the Irish Prison Service for 2006.

Throughout the year, control and management of prisoner numbers and general sentence management were constant priority activities. In addition various policy developments took place aimed at enhancing overall safety and security.

An enhanced system for managing visits to prisoners was extended to all prisons. As part of the on-going effort to keep drugs out of prison, a passive drug detection dog service was initiated in May 2006 in the Midlands Prison. The service, provided on a contract basis by a private sector company, proved to be an effective adjunct to staff detection and deterrence efforts. A protocol dealing with threats against prison staff outside their place of employment was agreed with staff representatives and implemented.

Prisoner Numbers

During 2006 there were a total of 12,157 committals to prison, compared with 10,658 in 2005. A total of 9,700 persons accounted for the 12,157 committals.

In total there were 5,802 committals under sentence during the year and although there was a significant increase in the numbers committed to prison under sentence in 2006 over 2005 from 5,088 to 5,802 sentence patterns were broadly similar.

The overall daily average number of prisoners in custody in 2006 was 3,191, an increase of 40 on the 2005 figure of 3,151. The average number of female offenders in custody was 106, similar to the 2005 level (103). Custody levels were highest in the May to July period and in November and December. Most prisons operated at or near full capacity in 2006.

Once again there was a significant decrease in the average number of prisoners on temporary release from 164 in 2005 to 140 in 2006. The average total number in the prison system, which is a combination of the prisoners in custody (3,191) and those on temporary release (140), was 3,331 in 2006. This is an increase on the corresponding figures for 2005 – 3,151 in custody and 164 on temporary release giving an average of 3,315.

Deaths in custody

There were twelve deaths in custody in 2006. Two deaths were confirmed as natural causes by the Coroner while inquests are pending in the remaining cases.

Mr. Gary Douch died following an assault while he was a prisoner in Mountjoy prison on the 1st August 2006. Following this tragic death the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr Michael McDowell T.D., appointed Mr Michael Mellett to carry out an independent inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr Douch.

Mr. Mellett recommended, as an interim measure, that where a prisoner seeks special protection alleging a threat from another prisoner, and the Prisons Authorities accept that there may be some substance to the allegation, the threatened prisoner should be removed to a single-occupancy cell or room for at least 24 hours. This would allow time for the Prison Authorities to investigate the source, nature and seriousness of the threat, to evaluate the risk to the prisoner and so inform decisions on how best to deal with the situation. This interim measure was immediately implemented by the Irish Prison Service.

Organisational Change

The year 2006 marked a major milestone in the modernisation of the Irish Prison Service with the move to the new additional hours arrangement as part of the agreed change process contained in the Proposal for Organisational Change and the elimination of overtime in the Prison Service. The arrangements were successfully implemented in all prisons and places of detention within the agreed timeframe. Significant progress was also made during 2006 in implementing the full range of proposals contained in the Agreement.

I would once again like to acknowledge the work and commitment of both my management team and the staff side in making the proposal a reality.

Decentralisation to Longford

Good progress was made towards decentralising the Irish Prison Service Headquarters to Longford. The IPS will be one of the first organisations to relocate under the Government's Decentralisation Programme.

The IPS will ensure continuity of business and the maintenance of service delivery to all our stakeholders during the transition period.

Retirements

A total of 71 Prison Service staff retired during the year. Among those who retired were Governor Liam Metcalfe, Cork Prison, Governor T.J. Walsh, Portlaoise Prison and Governor Gerry McGlone, Building Services Division. I would like to wish all those who retired a long and happy retirement.

Bereavements

Sadly, a number of Irish Prison Service staff passed away during 2006 and I would like to extend my sympathy once again to the families and colleagues of Governor Pat Laffan, Limerick Prison, Governor David Cowman, Cork Prison, Assistant Industrial Supervisor Patrick O'Connell, Arbour Hill Prison and Kevin Kelly, IPS HQ.

Brian Purcell

Director General

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD 2006



Brian McCarthy
Chairman



Brian Purcell
Director General



Mairead Ahern



Anne Counihan



Kathleen O'Neill



Jim O'Hanrahan



Jerry Kiersey



Michael Whelan



Jimmy Martin



Tom Hoare



Frank McCarthy



Michael O'Shea

HEADQUARTERS DIRECTORATES

MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, EQUALITY & LAW REFORM

Prisons Authority
Interim Board

Secretary General, Department of
Justice, Equality & Law Reform



Brian Purcell
Director General

William Connolly
Operations Directorate
Custody of Prisons
Management of the
prisoner population



John Conlan
Estates, Finance and IT Directorate
Estate Management
Central Purchasing Unit
Information Technology



Dr. Edna Dooley
Healthcare Directorate
Prisoner Healthcare Nursing
Prisons Pharmacy



Derek Brennan
Regimes Directorate
Prisoner care and Rehabilitation
Specialist Services
(Education, Psychology,
Vocational training
and Chaplains)



Michael Fay
Human Resources Directorate*
Human Resource
Management
Training & Development
Industrial Relations



Brian Fitzpatrick
Corporate Affairs Directorate*
Board Secretariat
Strategic Planning
Press & Information



* Mr. Fitzpatrick was reassigned to the Corporate Affairs Directorate and Mr. Fay was appointed Director of Human Resources in December 2006.





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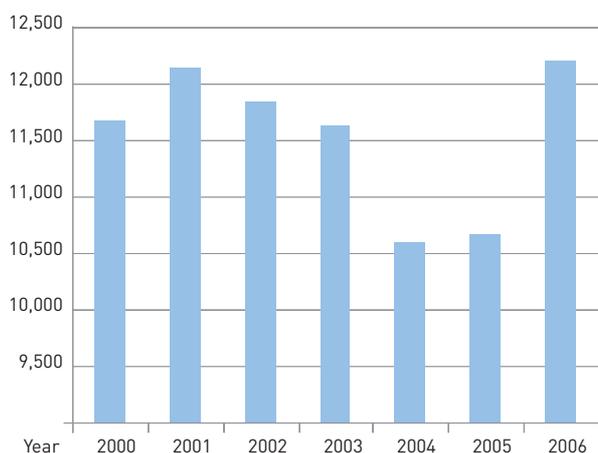
CUSTODY OF PRISONERS

There were 12,157 committals to prison in 2006, comprising 5,642 committals under sentence, 5,311 committals on remand, 1,196 committals under immigration law and 8 indefinite contempts of court. The 12,157 committals were in relation to 9,700 persons.

Number of committals to prison in 2006

A total of 12,157 committals to prison took place in 2006, compared with 10,658 in 2005. A person could be included more than once if committed more than once in the year. This represents an increase of 14.1 percent over the 2005 and 2004 figures and a return to levels experienced in the years 2000-2003.

Figure 1: Chart - Committals to Prison 2000 to 2006



The total of 12,157 comprised:

- 5,642 committals under sentence,
- 5,311 committals on remand,
- 1,196 committals under immigration law and
- 8 indefinite contempt of court.

Committals were highest in May and lowest in August and averaged just over one thousand per month (1013). For further details, see Tables 19 to 21 and Figure 2 below.

Number of persons committed to prison in 2006

A total of 9,700 persons accounted for the 12,157 committals. This figure relates to persons newly committed to prison (i.e. not already on remand or serving another sentence) This represents an increase of 11.7 percent over the 2005 total of 8686. The average of committals per person was 1.25 in 2006 compared with 1.23 in 2005.

Table 1: Persons committed to prison, 2000 - 2006

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number	9,539	9,716	9,814	8,820	8,686	9,700
Change	-	177	98	-994	-134	1,014
% change	-	1.9%	1.0%	-10.1%	-1.5%	11.7%

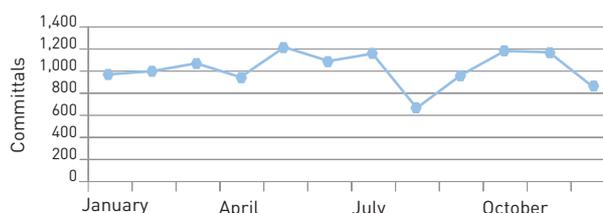
The breakdown by gender of persons committed was virtually unchanged when compared with 2005 with 90.1 percent male and 9.9 percent female in 2006.

The age profile was also very similar, with 68 percent of males and 73 percent of females in the 21-40 age category in 2006, 68 percent overall see Table at 3 on the next page.

Table 2: Age and gender of persons committed to prison in 2006

Age (years)	Female	Male	Total	%
15	1	2	3	0.03
16	4	129	133	1.4
17	12	149	161	1.7
18 - 21	117	1,214	1,331	13.7
21 - 25	185	1,828	2,013	20.8
25 - 30	223	1,890	2,113	21.8
30 - 40	290	2,183	2,473	25.5
40 - 50	86	952	1,038	10.7
50 +	42	393	435	4.5
Total	960	8,740	9,700	100
%	9.9	90.1	100	-

Figure 2: Committals per month 2006



County and Country of Origin

Over a third (36.5%) of all persons committed declared Dublin as their county of residence. Cork with 8.9%, Limerick with 5% and Galway with 3.3% were the next largest counties indicated.

Table 3: Home address, by county given by persons committed in 2006

County	no. of persons	% of total
Antrim	26	0.27
Armagh	10	0.10
Carlow	102	1.05
Cavan	111	1.14
Clare	150	1.55
Cork	860	8.87
Derry	20	0.21
Donegal	118	1.22
Down	29	0.30
Dublin	3,542	36.52
Fermanagh	5	0.05
Galway	318	3.28
Kerry	167	1.72
Kildare	197	2.03
Kilkenny	76	0.78
Laois	133	1.37
Leitrim	18	0.19
Limerick	485	5.00
Longford	69	0.71
Louth	203	2.09
Mayo	140	1.44
Meath	185	1.91
Monaghan	94	0.97
Offaly	107	1.10
Roscommon	64	0.66
Sligo	77	0.79
Tipperary	216	2.23
Tyrone	5	0.05
Waterford	219	2.26
Westmeath	164	1.69
Wexford	145	1.49
Wicklow	145	1.49
Not Stated	897	9.25
Outside Country	603	6.22
Total	9,700	100

Of those committed 6,799 were Irish nationals (70.1%) of the total (9700) which is an increase of 298 on the corresponding 2005 figure of 6501. This figure represents a decrease five percentage points, from 75 percent to 70 percent, of the total number of committals. Almost 30% of persons committed in 2006 were non-Irish nationals.

Other EU nationals (excluding Ireland) accounted for 1011 (10.4%) of persons committed. Other European nationals accounted for 618 (6.4%), African nationals for 550 (5.7%), Asian nationals 483 (5.0%) and Central/South American nationals accounted for 183 (1.9%). See Table 4 for further details.

Committals under sentence

There were 5,642 committals directly under sentence in 2006.

When those prisoners who were already in custody at the start of the year on remand/awaiting trial and who were subsequently recommitted on conviction are included the total number of prisoners received on conviction in 2006 is 5802. Males accounted for 5,393 (93%) and females accounted for 409 (7%).

Sentence length

Although there was a significant increase in the numbers committed to prison under sentence in 2006 over 2005 from 5088 to 5802 sentence patterns were broadly similar. Committals under sentence of less than 3 months were up by 291 (5.7%) from 1962 in 2005 to 2253 in 2006. However, this category of sentence remained a fairly constant proportion of the total numbers committed under sentence representing 39% of the total committed under sentence in both 2005 and 2006. See Tables 5 - 10 for further details.

As in previous years, persons aged between 21 and 40 years accounted for the majority of committals under sentence. In 2006 they accounted for 65.9% of the total (3826) as compared with 67% in 2005.

The number of persons committed under sentence aged under 21 was 1015, (17.5%) an increase of 206 on the 2005 total and a reversal of the continuous downward trend noted in previous years. The number of persons committed under sentence aged under 18 was 165. The youngest was aged 16.

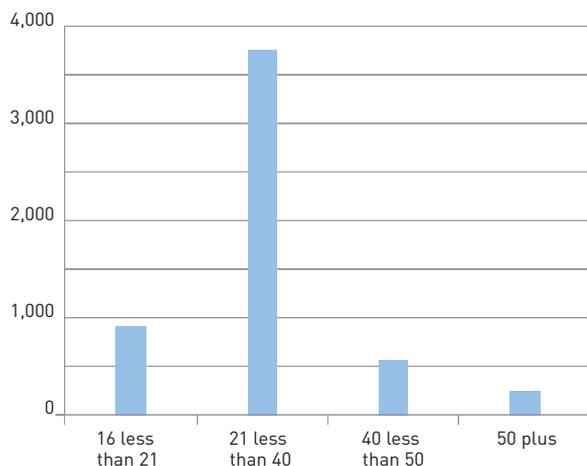
The number of persons aged 40 or over was 961, an 8 percent increase on the 2005 total of 889. This age grouping accounted for 16.6 percent of the total, down slightly from 17.5 percent in 2005. See Tables 5 - 10 for further details.

Table 4: Nationality as given by persons committed in 2006

Nationality	2006		2005		Change	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Irish	6,799	70.1	6,501	74.8	298	4.6
UK	226	2.3	195	2.2	31	15.9
Other E.U.	785	8.1	474	5.5	311	65.6
Other European	618	6.4	653	7.5	-35	-5.4
African	550	5.7	424	4.9	126	29.7
Asian	483	5.0	264	3.0	219	83.0
Austral/Asian	6	0.1	7	0.1	-1	-14.3
Central/Sth American	183	1.9	100	1.2	83	83.0
North American	19	0.2	13	0.1	6	46.2
Not recorded	31	0.3	55	0.6	-24	-43.6
Total	9,700	100.0	8,686	100.0	1014	11.7
Total EU (including Irl)	7,810	80.5	-	-	-	-
Other EU (including UK)	1,011	10.4	669	7.7	342	51.1

Table 5: Committals under sentence by age group

Age	No.	%
16 less than 21	1,015	17.5
21 less than 40	3,826	65.9
40 less than 50	644	11.1
50 plus	317	5.5
	5,802	100.0

Figure 3: Age profile of persons committed in 2006

Committals by offence group

The Irish Prison Service uses four main offence groupings to present information on offence type.

Group 1 (Offences against the person)

There were 780 committals under sentence in 2006 in respect of offences against the person (Group 1), an increase of 13 percent on the 2005 total of 689.

Group 2 (Offences against property without violence) and Group 3 (Offences against property with violence)

The total number of sentenced committals for offences against property was 1625 as compared with 1284 in 2005. Of this total sixty three (63) committals are classified as offences against property with violence. The comparable figure in 2005 was eighty four (84).

Group 4 (Other offences)

The largest grouping consists mainly of drug offences, road traffic offences and miscellaneous other offences, the largest of which relate to public disorder. All three sub-categories showed increases over 2005.

- Sentenced committals for drug offences were up significantly from 279 in 2005 to 395 in 2006.
- Sentenced committals road traffic offences increased from 1357 in 2005 to 1452 in 2006
- Sentenced committals for miscellaneous other offences increased from 1479 to 1550 in 2006.
- Sentences for road traffic offences and miscellaneous other offences were of relatively short duration compared with other categories.
- Over half (53%) of road traffic sentences were for less than three months, with 77 percent for less than six months.
- Two thirds (66%) of sentences for other offences were for less than three months and 86 percent for less than six months.

A more detailed breakdown of offences is contained in the following Table 6.

Table 6: Committals under sentence in 2006 further breakdown of offences

	F	M	Total 2006	% Sentenced Committals	Total 2005	% Sentenced Committals
Total Group 1:						
Offences Against The Person	35	745	780	13.4	689	13.5
Murder	1	16	17	0.3	17	0.3
Manslaughter	1	17	18	0.3	9	0.2
Sexual Offences	-	90	90	1.6	93	1.8
Other Offences Against The Person	33	622	655	11.3	570	11.2
Assault	20	323	343	5.9	-	-
Assault Causing Harm	4	151	155	2.7	-	-
Assault On Garda	3	29	32	0.6	-	-
Assault O.A.B.H.	-	26	26	0.4	-	-
Other Offences	6	93	99	1.7	-	-
Total Group 2:						
Offences Against Property With Violence	3	60	63	1.1	84	1.7
Total Group 3:						
Offences Against Property Without Violence	157	1,405	1,562	26.9	1,200	23.6
Offences Against Property Without Violence						
Theft	112	490	602	10.4		
Criminal Damage	10	298	308	5.3		
Burglary - Full	2	113	115	2.0		
Robbery	-	99	99	1.7		
Handling Stolen Property	11	81	92	1.6		
Entering Building Etc. With Intent To Commit Offence	4	57	61	1.1		
Other Offences In This Category	18	267	285	4.9		

	F	M	Total 2006	% Sentenced Committals	Total 2005	% Sentenced Committals
Total Group 4: Other Offences	214	3,183	3,397	58.5	3,115	61.2
Drug Offences	23	372	395	6.8	279	5.5
Road Traffic Offences	96	1,356	1,452	25.0	1,357	26.7
No Insurance (User)	48	571	619	10.7		
Drunken Driving (Breath Specimen)	2	96	98	1.7		
Unauthorised Taking Of MPV	1	74	75	1.3		
Dangerous Driving	-	69	69	1.2		
No Insurance (Owner)	4	48	52	0.9		
Non Display Of Disc (Use)	6	36	42	0.7		
No Driving Licence	4	34	38	0.7		
Drunken Driving (Blood Specimen)	1	31	32	0.6		
Unauthorised Carriage - In/on MPV	1	24	25	0.4		
Other Offences (Road Traffic)	29	373	402	6.9		
Other Offences	95	1,455	1,550	26.7	1,479	29.1
Threatening/abusive/insulting Behaviour In A Public Place	20	441	461	7.9		
Debtor Offences	11	183	194	3.3		
Intoxication In Public Place	4	109	113	1.9		
Possession Of Knives And Other Articles	2	67	69	1.2		
Failure To Comply With Direction Of Member Of Garda Siochana	4	52	56	1.0		
Failing To Appear On The Date Originally Set	6	46	52	0.9		
Breach Of Barring Order / Interim Barring Order / Protection Order / Safety Order	3	44	47	0.8		
Failed To Make Income Tax Return.	2	28	30	0.5		
Breach Of The Peace	1	23	24	0.4		
Other Offences	42	462	504	8.7		
Total	409	5,393	5,802	100.0	5,088	100.0

Table 7: Sentence length by age of offender in 2006

	<3 mths	3 - <6 mths	6 - <12 mths	1 - <2 yrs	2 - <3 yrs	3 - <5 yrs	5 - <10 yrs	10 + yrs	Life	Total
16	9	18	18	5	2	1	-	-	-	53
17	18	29	41	11	8	2	3	-	-	112
18 - <21	269	207	208	80	48	26	11	1	-	850
21 - <25	417	282	266	133	63	66	34	3	4	1,268
25 - <30	424	244	251	84	58	64	36	5	3	1,169
30 - <40	581	275	236	108	64	62	51	5	7	1,389
40 - <50	352	114	89	25	24	16	18	4	2	644
50+	183	51	25	12	14	13	15	2	2	317
Total	2,253	1,220	1,134	458	281	250	168	20	18	5,802

Table 8: Offence by Sentence length of offender in 2006

	<3 mths	3 - <6 mths	6 - <12 mths	1 - <2 yrs	2 - <3 yrs	3 - <5 yrs	5 - <10 yrs	10 + yrs	Life	Total
Murder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	17	17
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	-	3	13	1	1	18
Sexual Offences	1	3	7	11	17	19	29	3	-	90
Other Offences										
Against The Person	76	152	167	106	83	48	20	3	-	655
Offences Against										
Property With Violence	1	5	14	11	10	7	9	6	-	63
Offences Against										
Property Without Violence	321	333	462	208	109	93	33	3	-	1,562
Drug Offences	73	64	79	35	35	53	53	3	-	395
Road Traffic Offences	765	354	244	62	18	7	2	0	-	1,452
Other Offences	1,016	309	161	25	9	20	9	1	-	1,550
Total	2,253	1,220	1,134	458	281	250	168	20	18	5,802

Table 9: Offence by age of offender

Age In Years	16	17	18 - <21	21 - <25	25 - <30	30 - <40	40 - <50	50+	Total
Murder	-	-	-	4	3	7	2	1	17
Manslaughter	-	-	1	7	3	5	-	2	18
Sexual Offences	-	2	5	6	9	17	21	30	90
Other Offences									
Against The Person	6	23	122	178	118	143	41	24	655
Offences Against									
Property With Violence	-	3	17	10	16	11	6	-	63
Offences Against									
Property Without Violence	35	54	279	339	335	369	104	47	1,562
Drug Offences	4	2	39	93	123	98	22	14	395
Road Traffic Offences	4	11	199	357	281	343	180	77	1,452
Other Offences	4	17	188	274	281	396	268	122	1,550
Total	53	112	850	1,268	1,169	1,389	644	317	5,802

Persons detained under immigration laws

In 2006, 1196 committals were in respect of immigration issues and involved 1113 detainees. This represents an increase of 29 percent over the 860 persons detained in 2005 and a reversal of the trend in previous years. There was an average daily number of persons in custody under this category of 45 (see Figure 3 and Table 10).

Number of prisoners in custody

Most prisons operated at or near full capacity in 2006. The average number of prisoners in custody per month shows small variation around the year's average, with custody levels highest in the May to July period and in November and December. See Table 25.

- The overall daily average number of prisoners in custody in 2006 was 3191, slightly higher than in 2005 (3151).
- The average number of female offenders in custody was 106, similar to the 2005 level (103). See Table at 2 for details.

The average total number in the prison system, which is a combination of the prisoners in custody (3191) and those on temporary release (140), was 3331 in 2006. The corresponding figures for 2005 were 3151 in custody and 164 on temporary release giving an average of 3315.

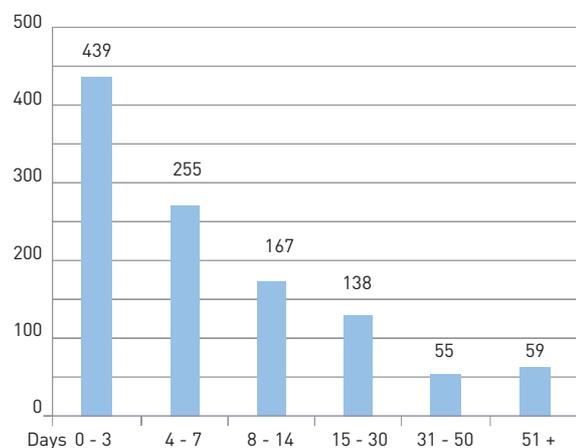
Figure 4: Time spent in custody by persons committed under the Immigration Acts


Table 10: Daily average number of prisoners per institution 2006

Institution	Bed Capacity	Average No in Custody	% Bed Capacity	Reviewable TR	Sex Offenders	Immigration Warrant Cases	Total
Arbour Hill	139	138	99.3%	-	71	6	138
Castlerea	207	216	104.3%	3	20	-	219
Cloverhill	433	404	93.3%	1	-	32	405
Cork	255	254	99.6%	31	6	1	285
Limerick (f)	20	17	85.0%	3	-	-	20
Limerick (m)	274	267	97.4%	9	4	1	276
Loughan	110	82	74.5%	7	-	-	89
Midlands	447	433	96.9%	9	85	-	442
Mountjoy (f)	85	89	104.7%	18	-	4	107
Mountjoy (m)	457	482	105.5%	33	-	-	515
Portlaoise	188	114	60.6%	1	-	-	115
Shelton Abbey	58	51	87.9%	10	-	-	61
St. Patrick's	217	187	86.2%	3	7	-	190
Training Unit	96	92	95.8%	7	-	-	99
Wheatfield	370	366	98.9%	8	51	1	374
Total	3,356	3,191	95.1%	140	244	45	3,331

Snapshot of Prison Population

The profile of the prison population on any one day is perhaps the most reliable indicator of the prisoners we have within the system. Figures for the population of sentenced persons on 7th December 2006 show a greater proportion of prisoners aged 40 and over (19.5%) and fewer offenders aged under 21 (12.5%). See Tables 26 to 29 for further details.

The breakdown by offence category and sentence length shows the greatest difference.

On 7 December 2006, the prison population totalled 3,287

- Sentenced 2,725
- Remand/Awaiting Trial/Others 519
- Immigration 43

This total included 229 offenders serving sentences for murder and 78 for manslaughter. Drug offences accounted for 14 percent and road traffic offences for 8 percent.

Some 234 prisoners were serving life sentences and another 189 were serving determinate sentences of ten years or more, and accounted

for 8.6 percent and 6.9 percent of the total population respectively.

With regard to prisoners serving shorter sentences, 87 offenders were serving sentences of less than three months representing just over 3% of the sentenced prison population. Twenty-two prisoners were in prison for non-payment of debt or fines.

As regards nationality, Irish nationals accounted for 92 percent of the total number of persons in custody under sentence on the 7th December 2006

Table 11: Nationality of persons in custody under sentence on the 7th December 2006

	Female	Male	Total	%
Irish	68	2,435	2,503	91.85
U.K.	5	64	69	2.53
Other E.U.	2	60	62	2.28
Other European	1	22	23	0.84
Other nationalities	6	62	68	2.50
Total	82	2,643	2,725	100.00

Table 12: Age profile of prisoners in custody under sentence on the 7th December 2006

	Female	Male	Total
16	-	11	11
17	1	33	34
18 - <21	11	285	296
21 - <25	9	521	530
25 - <30	17	586	603
30 - <40	27	691	718
40 - <50	10	317	327
50+	7	199	206
Total	82	2,643	2,725

Table 13: Sentence profile of prisoners in custody under sentence on the 7th December 2006

	Female	Male	Total
<3 mths	7	80	87
3 - <6 mths	6	158	164
6 - <12 mths	9	314	323
1 - <2 yrs	19	357	376
2 - <3 yrs	12	272	284
3 - <5 yrs	13	473	486
5 - <10 yrs	8	574	582
10+ yrs	3	186	189
Life Sentence	5	229	234
Total	82	2,643	2,725

Table 14: Offence Profile of Prisoners in custody under sentence on 7th December 2006

	Female	Male	Total
Group 1: Offences against the Person			
Murder	5	224	229
Manslaughter	4	74	78
Sexual Offences	1	231	232
Other Offences against the Person	7	380	387
Total Group 1	17	909	926
Group 2:			
Offences against property with violence	2	136	138
Group 3:			
Offences against property without violence	34	680	714
Group 4: Other Offences			
Drug Offences	13	368	381
Road Traffic Offences	2	219	221
Other Offences	14	331	345
Total Group 4	29	918	947
Total	82	2,643	2,725

Temporary Release

The Criminal Justice (Temporary Release) Act, 2003 and the Prisoners (Temporary Release) Rules 2004 provide the legislative basis for the power of the Minister to grant temporary release by setting down the principles which apply to the exercise of this power. The Act also provides a clear and transparent basis, as well as the necessary safeguards required, for the operation of the system of temporary release.

The average number of persons serving sentences who were on temporary release during 2006 was 140. This amounts to 4.2 percent

of the average total number of prisoners in the system. It represents a 17 percent decrease on the previous year's figure of 164.

Prisoners are considered for temporary release in various circumstances, for example, release under the direct supervision of the Probation Service; to employment or training programmes; on compassionate release because of ill health or family related circumstances; or for reintegration purposes because they are nearing the end of their sentence. The judicious use of temporary release remains an important instrument in the rehabilitation process. It is also used from time to time to help relieve overcrowding by granting early release to low risk prisoners coming to the end of their sentence. Each case is examined on its own merits.

The overriding issue in considering applications for temporary release is the safety of the public. All releases are subject to conditions which, in the vast majority of cases, include a requirement to report on a regular basis to the local Garda Station. A breach of the conditions may result in arrest and immediate return to prison.

Escapes and Absconds from custody

There were no escapes from closed prisons during 2006; however, six prisoners absconded from the custody of prison officers while outside the confines of a closed institution. These "escapes" occurred, in general, while the prisoners were either attending court or hospital.

A total of 90 prisoners absconded from custody, either from an open centre or while on accompanied outings (with an officer, a prison chaplain or other support services, such as a Probation and Welfare Officer). A number of attempted escapes were frustrated due to the vigilance of escort staff. Some 73 of those who escaped or absconded were back in custody by year-end.

Table 15: Escapes and Absconds from custody in 2006

Prison	Escapes	Absconds	Total	Returned to custody (before 31/12/06)	Still at Large (31/12/06)
Arbour Hill	-	-	-	-	-
Castlerea	-	-	-	-	-
Cloverhill	-	-	-	-	-
Cork	3	-	3	3	-
Limerick	1	1	2	1	1
Loughan House	-	39	39	30	9
Midlands	-	-	-	-	-
Mountjoy (f)	-	2	2	1	1
Mountjoy (m)	1	6	7	7	-
Portlaoise	-	1	1	-	1
Shelton Abbey	-	38	38	29	9
St. Patrick's	-	-	-	-	-
Training Unit	-	3	3	1	2
Wheatfield	1	-	1	1	-
Total	6	90	96	73	23

Deaths in Custody

There were twelve deaths in custody in 2006. Two deaths were confirmed as natural causes by the Coroner. While Inquests are pending in the remaining cases, initial indications suggest there were two further deaths due to natural causes, five suspected drug overdoses, and two suspected suicides. Mr. Gary Douch died following an attack on him while he was a prisoner in Mountjoy prison on 1st August 2006. The Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr Michael McDowell T.D., appointed Mr Michael Mellett to carry out an independent inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr Douch.

On the 3rd of August 2006 the Minister announced that he had received an interim recommendation from Mr Mellett. Mr Mellett recommended, as an interim measure, that where a prisoner seeks special protection alleging a threat from another prisoner, and the Prisons Authorities accept that there may be some substance to the allegation, the threatened prisoner should be removed to a single-occupancy cell or room for at least 24 hours. This would allow time for the Prison Authorities to investigate the source, nature and seriousness of the threat, to evaluate the risk to the prisoner and so inform decisions on how best to deal with the situation. The Irish Prison Service immediately implemented this recommendation.

Interim Parole Board

The Parole Board was established by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform to review the cases of prisoners with longer term sentences and to provide advice in relation to the administration of those sentences.

The cases of 58 prisoners were referred to the Board during 2006. In addition one case was re-referred to the Board for review and one prisoner, who having previously declined an invitation to participate in the review process, accepted the invitation during 2006 bringing the total number of cases to 60.

In addition to dealing with new referrals, 97 cases, at various stages of the review process, were carried over from 2005 and 47 cases were scheduled for a second or subsequent review.

During 2006 the Board made recommendations to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform in 73 cases as compared to the previous year when recommendations were made in 46 cases. The Minister accepted in full the recommendations of the Board in the majority of the cases.

Outcome of recommendations made by the Parole Board to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform

Recommendations made	73
Outcomes	
Recommendations accepted in full	64
Recommendations accepted in part	4
Recommendations not accepted	3
Ministerial decisions pending	2

Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons statistics

Fourteen prisoners transferred into the State; thirteen from the United Kingdom and one from Spain. Fourteen prisoners were transferred out of this jurisdiction in 2006; twelve to the United Kingdom, one to Northern Ireland and one to the Netherlands.

In total, one hundred and twenty six prisoners have now transferred into the Irish Prison system from abroad and seventy seven prisoners have transferred out since the Act came into operation on 1st November, 1995.





03

CARE AND REHABILITATION OF PRISONERS

The Irish Prison Service aims to provide a range of care services to prisoners to a standard commensurate with that obtaining in the wider community. These services include medical, dental, psychiatric, psychological, education, vocational training, work, and welfare, spiritual, counselling and recreational services. These services are important in sustaining prisoners' physical and mental health, encouraging positive personal development, counteracting the detrimental effects of imprisonment and preparing prisoners for reintegration into society following release.

There was continuing high demand for prisoner care services in 2006. Services continued to be provided to the maximum extent possible commensurate with available resources. During 2006 the implementation of the new organisational and working arrangements under the Proposal for Organisational Change helped towards the restoration and enhancement of prisoner regimes and services which had been constrained by the budgetary restraint measures introduced in 2004 due to the then industrial relations situation. It is envisaged that, in the years ahead, the new arrangements will facilitate improved access to services, the availability of better facilities and more productive use of out-of-cell time for prisoners.

The Prison Education Service

Education in prisons is delivered by way of partnership between the Irish Prison Service and a range of educational agencies from the community. Vocational Education Committees (VECs) and Public Library Services make the largest contribution to, and are the mainstay of, the Prison Education Service.

The Department of Education and Science provided an allocation of 220 whole-time teacher equivalents to the prisons through the VECs in the academic year 2005/06. This enabled education to be provided in all prisons, including provision for the summer months and also special teaching arrangements where prisoners are segregated (e.g. Portlaoise, Mountjoy, Wheatfield, Limerick, Midlands, Castlereagh and Cork).

Other agencies also contribute significantly to prison education, for example:

- The Open University, which now caters for close to 100 prisoners annually on degree-level distance education courses;
- The Arts Council, which provides writers' workshops and artists' workshops;

- Other third-level colleges, such as the National College of Art and Design, which is involved in Portlaoise, and Midlands prisons;
- Three full-time librarians, employed by Dublin Public Libraries, work in prisons in the Dublin area.

The Curriculum

Objectives, methods and course content are largely those of adult education. FETAC accreditation is widely used in prison education with all prison Education Units being accepted as meeting the quality assurance standards demanded by FETAC.

In broad terms, courses may be classified as follows:

- Basic Education, including Literacy and Numeracy
- General subjects, e.g. English, History, Geography, Mathematics, Languages, Computers
- Physical Education, Home Economics and Health Education
- The Arts, e.g. Visual arts, Music, Drama, Creative Writing, Photography
- Technology Courses, (e.g. Woodwork, Metalwork) and Horticulture
- Courses that address particular problems or needs that prisoners have, e.g. Pre-Release courses, Addiction Awareness, Childcare, Group Skills, and Anger Management.

Participation in Education in Prison

Participation in education generally varies with factors such as access, facilities, turnover of population and segregation. During 2006, 54% of all prisoners in thirteen institutions (Cloverhill Education

Unit opened in late autumn 2006) were involved in some education. 29% of the total prison population in these prisons was intensively involved, i.e. for more than 10 hours per week of classes. This level of involvement in education whilst in prison is very high by international standards. The pattern of participation for each particular prison may be seen in Table 16 below.

A very extensive library, which includes a wide range of material in the various languages and cultures, was available in Cloverhill in advance of the opening of the education unit.

Literacy and Basic Education

There was significant progress in 2006 in relation to Literacy and General Basic Education provision, which is a priority area for prison education. Literacy teachers undertook training in using the National Adult Literacy Agency's (NALA) assessment framework, **Mapping the Learning Journey** and individual learning plans are now in greater use among students. A module on teaching literacy in prisons was also developed by prison teachers and is accredited as part of the larger tutor development courses provided by NALA and the Waterford Institute of Technology.

Teaching English as a second language has become a major new educational challenge due to the increase in the number of non nationals in custody. Specialist teachers have been recruited to address this issue and in-service development in this field has been undertaken by other teachers.

Prison Education other developments

The Physical Education Best Practice Handbook, which provides a framework for PE teachers and Gym officers to improve the quality and range of Health and Fitness instruction in prisons, was launched in 2006.

Substantial progress was made on the construction of new Education Units at Limerick and Loughan House during the year, with both of these due to be ready during 2007.

As previously stated, the new Education Unit in Cloverhill prison was opened in late autumn 2006.

Table 16: Participation in Education in Prison

Prison	(a) Participation	(b) Population (23/11/06)	(a)÷(b) Percentage Participation	(c) Intensive Participation: No. Involved for 10 Hours or more per week	(c) ÷ (b) Rate of Intensive Participation
Arbour Hill	110	139	79%	63	45%
Castlerea	103	233	44%	57	24%
Cloverhill	6	431	1%	0	0%
Cork	137	265	52%	71	27%
Dochas	75	98	77%	46	47%
Limerick (M and F)	155	299	52%	101	34%
Loughan House	56	92	61%	55	60%
Midlands	223	427	52%	52	12%
Mountjoy (Male)	174	467	37%	120	26%
Portlaoise	89	115	77%	31	27%
Shelton Abbey	46	57	81%	23	40%
St. Patrick's Institution	95	193	49%	42	22%
Training Unit	45	94	48%	20	21%
Wheatfield	222	377	59%	153	41%
Total	1,536	3,287	47%	834	25%

% Participation excluding Cloverhill = 54%

% Intensive Participation excluding Cloverhill = 29%

Publications and further information

Further information on prison education can be obtained from a number of publications available from the office of the Co-ordinator of Education (Block 5, Belfield Office Park, Beaver Row, Dublin 4, Ireland) or www.pesireland.org.

Work and Training

The Irish Prison Service places strong emphasis on the provision of vocational training for prisoners. Training activities are chosen to give as much employment as possible for those in prison and to give opportunities to acquire skills which will help prisoners secure employment on release.

During 2006 new programmes and workshops were developed in a number of institutions and a refurbishment and equipment replacement programme continued in other workshops. New activities introduced included laundry skills training. Motivational group programmes were piloted in Wheatfield and St. Patrick's Institution. While a number of work and training courses are externally accredited, the IPS aims to significantly increase the number of such courses in the coming years. To this end, work commenced with FETAC in 2006 with a view to developing a Quality Assurance System (QAS) to underpin the certification of a range of additional courses. It is hoped to finalise the QAS during 2007.

The IPS's emphasis on quality assurance in our work and training services and programmes is not a recent phenomenon. Indeed, the development of quality food management standards and systems over many years was marked in 2006 by the award of a Taoiseach's Public Service Excellence Award. Our winning project – "Quality Management of Prison Food and Training" was one of three projects selected to represent Ireland at the Fourth Quality Conference for Public Administration in the E.U. (4QC) in Finland in September 2006. The IPS also won a Taoiseach's Public Service Excellence Award for the development of the new laundry facility at Wheatfield Prison.

The work training database system which was developed the previous year was extended to 9 prisons during 2006. The database facilitates the tracking of prisoners' participation and progress in work and vocational training activities and courses during their time in custody. It also assists in the monitoring and evaluation of the level and effectiveness of work and training services to prisoners.

Community assistance programmes and community project work continued throughout 2006. Several prisons raised funds and provided a wide range of materials for charitable organisations. Beneficiaries included the Barretstown Gang Camp, Limelight (the association of friends of the mentally handicapped at Peamount Hospital), CARI

(Children At Risk in Ireland) and To Russia with Love (an organisation that helps orphaned Russian children). Arbour Hill Prison continued to provide its valuable Braille productions and other community supports.

The Proposal for Organisational Change provides for a significant expansion and development of the work training programme including a substantial increase in the number of prison grade staff involved in vocational training activities. A significant number of these new posts were filled by competition during the year and the remaining posts will be filled in 2007.

Partnership arrangements with FÁS, the Probation Service, the Linkage Programme and Pobal were maintained and strengthened during the year in the interest of improving prisoners' prospects of employability on their return to the community. All the organisations mentioned are participating in the development partnership of an EQUAL project which was launched in 2005. The main aim of the action research project is to maximise the employment opportunities for prisoners and ex-prisoners in the committal areas of Castlereagh and Cork prisons through the development of integrated appropriate training, mentoring and guidance services and associated research. There is a range of other statutory and community voluntary agencies and organisations involved in the project including a number of Area Partnership Companies and Vocational Education Committees.

In 2006, the IPS secured €250,000 in Dormant Accounts Funding for projects focused on the employability of prisoners. Two projects were successful in the application process. The majority of the funding was awarded to the Linkage programme to engage two Training and Employment Officers (TEOs) to be based in the Mountjoy and Midlands campuses on a full time basis for a period of over a year. The TEOs will provide information and career guidance and a dedicated training, education and employment placement service to eligible prisoners. The two officers will start work in the campuses in 2007. The remaining funding was granted to the EQUAL project to develop a self-employment programme to equip prisoners with the necessary information and skills to set up their own businesses on release.

Drugs and Prison

In May of 2006 the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform launched the new Irish Prison Service Drugs Policy and Strategy - Keeping Drugs Out of Prisons. This new policy clearly set out the steps required to tackle the supply of drugs into prisons, provide adequate treatment services to those who are addicted to drugs and ensure that developments in the prisons were linked into the community. Since then significant progress has been achieved in implementing this plan.

Treatment and Rehabilitation Services

Drug Treatment Services to prisoners were significantly enhanced during 2006 through the development of new services and programmes for addicted prisoners. These services are being delivered by the Irish Prison Service in partnership with community based services, notably the Health Service Executive, and contracted private services. All of which were supported in 2006 by additional staffing for prison based Drug Treatment Teams.

Specific developments during 2006 included:

- The awarding of a contract for 24 addiction counsellors to cover all prisons to Merchants Quay Ireland. This will, in conjunction with other developments, lead to an increase of nearly 1000 hours per week of prisoner access to addiction counselling.
- 7 nurse officers and 5 prison officers were allocated to dedicated drug treatment teams in prisons with significant needs; this is supporting and improving service quality in prisons which receive a large number of prisoner committals with addictions.
- The Dormant Accounts Fund provided funding for 4 community groups to provide addiction counselling and other supports to prisoners while in prison and on release in the community. This will build on prisoners' success in becoming drug free in prison by supporting their return to the community.
- Additional Consultant in Addiction and Registrars Prisons Sessions were established and resourced, significantly improving the quality, coordination and availability of drug treatment in prisons.
- A consultant-led Infectious Disease Service has been contracted from St. James' Hospital to provide new treatments to prisoners who suffer from infectious diseases. It is hoped to expand this service to other sites.
- A tender for Dedicated Drug Treatment Pharmacy Services was developed, and the awarding of this contract will contribute significantly to supporting improved quality and availability of treatment services.

These services were and will continue to be provided on the basis of clinical needs and will be supported by the implementation of a system of mandatory drug testing (provided for in the Prisons Act 2007) upon the coming into force of the new Prison Rules.

Eliminating the Supply of Drugs

During 2006 the Irish Prison Service has intensified its focus on preventing illicit drugs being brought into prisons. The traditional means of effecting supply reduction - staff vigilance, physical searches and supervision of persons entering prisons - continues to be reinforced by means of improved facilities and procedures.

Specific measures which have been taken include:

- New prison visiting arrangements which involve greater control over the number and identity of visitors, and enhanced supervision of such visits. As a result only identified and known persons are allowed to have visits with prisoners, reducing the likelihood of visitors attempting to pass drugs, and of prisoners being coerced into receiving visits from persons not known to them to facilitate the passing of drugs.
- Enhanced perimeter security involving improved netting and closer cooperation with the Garda Síochána to arrest and prosecute persons attempting to convey drugs into prisons. This has resulted in arrest, prosecution and imprisonment of persons attempting to convey drugs into prisons.
- Improved technology for searching of cells and prison property which has resulted in the improved detection and seizure of contraband.
- Improved prison design aimed at ensuring greater security, for example new prisons are designed to be impervious to attempts to propel drugs into prison yards,
- The introduction of drug detection dogs to monitor persons entering prisons and to aid searches within prisons.

The target of achieving a prison system free of drugs will remain a significant challenge; but it is one the Irish Prison Service remains steadfastly committed to. Eliminating the supply of drugs into prisons and helping those addicted to drugs to break the cycle of crime and drug abuse will remain a central focus.

Linking with the Community

The Irish prison Service continued during 2006 and to engage with community based services and communities affected by drug addiction, most notably through the Prison Drugs Liaison Group. Links with the Community and other agencies involved with dealing with the issue related to drugs were enhanced by the continuing participation of the IPD Director of Regimes on the Inter-Departmental Group on Drugs.

Preventing Self-Harm

The Irish Prison Service Steering Group on Prevention of Self-harm and Death in the Prisoner Population met on three occasions in 2006. The Group promote best practice in the Irish Prison Service in preventing and, where necessary, responding to self-harm and death in the prisoner population.

Psychology Service

The Psychology Service forms part of the Regimes Directorate of the Irish Prison Service and applies psychological research, principles and skills to the needs of the prison service. As well as maintaining a commitment to the provision of mental health services to offenders, the Service addresses those factors that put offenders at risk of re-offending; participates in the development of group programmes for particular offender groups; contributes to a variety of training initiatives with prison officers aimed at enhancing the role of the officer and is involved in the development of strategy, policy and protocols in areas significant to the operation of the prison system. The Service also supports and facilitates research projects, including the evaluation of interventions with offenders.

During 2006 a further recruitment competition was run to fill existing vacancies within the service. As a result of this competition four new psychologists were recruited to the service, bringing the overall number of psychologists working in the IPS to sixteen, the largest it has been since the Psychology Service was established in 1981. The service now comprises 7 clinical psychologists, 8 counselling psychologists and 1 forensic psychologist.

A continuing focus during 2006 was supporting the induction and development of new psychologists into the service, particularly through supervision processes and continuing professional development, to ensure that all psychologists are equipped, both personally and professionally, to meet the complex and diverse needs of the prison service.

Distribution of Work

An overview of the distribution of work for the Psychology Service in 2006 is presented below.

Generic Therapeutic Services for Offenders	53.6%
Programmes for Offender Groups	10.7%
Work with Prison Officers	1.1%
Operational, Strategic and Policy Development Work	8.3%
Psychology Service Work	13.3%
CPD and Further Training	7.9%
Research	0.5%
Administration and Service Management	4.6%

As in previous years the majority of the Service's work involved direct contact with offenders, either in individual casework or in the running of group programmes for offenders. Individual and group work with offenders accounted for 64.3% of the service's time in 2006. The corresponding figure for 2005 was 66.8%.

Sex Offender Programme

As is the case for all offenders, sex offenders within the prison system have access to individual therapeutic work with specialist services working in their prison. Often such work with those who have committed sexual offences involves motivating them to take more responsibility for their offending and for addressing those issues that put them at risk of offending in the future. Individual therapeutic work undertaken by the specialist services plays an important part in preparing sex offenders to undertake more intensive group programmes.

The structured group programme for sex offenders is available in one prison - Arbour Hill (running since 1994). Offenders from any prison in the country may apply to take part in this programme. The Sex Offender Programme is a cognitive-behavioural, offence-focused programme which aims to reduce, to the greatest extent possible, the risk of re-offending. This is achieved through enabling offenders gain increased control over their offending behaviour. Eight offenders completed this programme in 2006 and a further programme commenced in Arbour Hill in the autumn of 2006.

As in previous years, the low number of suitably motivated and adequately prepared offenders seeking participation in the programme is a real cause for concern. During 2006 the Irish Prison Service, in conjunction with the Probation Service, devoted significant attention to examining this situation to determine what measures may be taken to increase the number of offenders participating on the programme. The absence of sufficient personal motivation on the part of offenders to participate in the programme was again identified as the core issue. A number of additional psychologists were appointed to the Irish Prison Service during 2006, and these new psychologists will play an important role in working with offenders to address their offending behaviour, including work with sex offenders aimed at enhancing their preparedness for possible participation on the Sex Offender Programme. The Irish Prison Service, in conjunction with the Probation Service and the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, are continuing to examine how the treatment and supervision of sex offenders can be enhanced, and in that context the recommendations of the Joint Committee on Child Protection, which reported in 2006, are under consideration. The Irish Prison Service remains committed to doing all it can to ensure that all sex offenders in our custody are encouraged to address their offending behaviour and participate in some form of intervention to achieve that aim.

Chaplaincy

There are twenty one full-time and two part-time chaplains in the Irish Prison Service. The chaplains are responsible for the pastoral care of the entire prison community and seek to promote the principles and practices of Restorative Justice in their work. Other religious denominations are catered for on a part-time or visiting basis.

The chaplains aim, at all times, to exercise a prophetic role in their stance for justice and to be a voice for those deprived of their freedom. They are often a healing link with the wider community in their efforts to reach out to families and to address the issues that affect prisoners on their release.

The chaplains work within the interdisciplinary framework of the prison and appreciate the acceptance of their independent role. At all times the confidential nature of the chaplain is respected and this contributes to the unique nature of their work. The chaplains adopt a holistic approach in their work and also endeavour to ensure that the spiritual needs of all are attended to. Sunday liturgies and the key seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter are central and times of quiet meditation and reflection are provided for at group level. At an individual level the chaplains meet on a one to one basis with the prisoners and appreciate the freedom to do this. Special consideration is given to those experiencing special difficulties.

Probation Service

The close partnership between the Irish Prison Service and Probation Service continued throughout 2006, a year which saw a high level of change for the Probation Service. The highlight of this was the launching of the Service's new Strategy Statement 2006-2007, 'Supporting and Delivering Change' on 26th June 2006 by Mr. Michael McDowell, TD, Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

The Probation Service Strategy Statement stated that the Probation Service: 'will restructure our delivery of services to the courts and prisons by refocusing our resources in order to improve effectiveness, efficiency and increased output'. This process commenced with an audit of all Probation teams nationally, including prison based teams, to assist with an analysis of efficiency and effectiveness. The Strategy Statement also included the objective of holding negotiations with the Irish Prison Service in relation to the refocusing of services to prisons and prisoners from a community perspective. This process commenced during 2006 and will continue into 2007.

The reintegration of prisoners remains a key objective for the Probation Service. Working in partnership with the Irish Prison Service, statutory and voluntary organisations, the Probation Service continued to play an important role in prisoner throughcare in 2006.

This was evidenced in many ways.

The Probation Service continued its support of multi disciplinary partnerships through the delivery of numerous group programmes throughout the prisons' estate. In conjunction with the Prison Service Psychology Service, the Probation Service co-delivered the Sex Offender Programme in Arbour Hill Prison. In Mountjoy Prison, the Service engaged with a broad range of services and community groups in the delivery of the Drug Treatment Programme and associated interventions within the Medical Unit. Throughout the prisons, the Probation Service assisted in the implementation of numerous group programmes such as Induction, Offending Behaviour, Life Sentenced Prisoners, Alcohol and Drug Awareness and Pre Release.

In partnership with the Regimes Directorate of the Irish Prison Service, the Homeless Offenders Strategy Team (HOST) continued its work in 2006. This ensured that the needs of homeless offenders and those at risk of homelessness in a throughcare context were continually highlighted at a policy level. The Multi Agency Group on Homeless Sex Offenders (MAG), a sub group of the Homeless Agency and chaired by HOST, continued to seek resolutions to the particular reintegration challenges facing this category of offenders.

In 2006, the Probation Service began using a psychometric risk and need assessment instrument within its work in prisons. The Level of Service Inventory Revised (LSI-R) aids Probation Officers to assess prisoners regarding their risk of reoffending. It also assists with the construction of pre-release plans targeted at managing risk within the community. Initially introduced to prisons on a trial basis, the instrument was targeted at four groups of prisoners:

- Prisoners subject to part suspended sentences, with a period of post release supervision by the Probation Service (mainly Circuit Criminal Court cases),
- Prisoners with whom Probation Officers are developing post release plans, including temporary release, with or without post release supervision,
- Prisoners being assessed by Probation Officers for an Intensive Supervision Programme e.g. Bridge,
- Prisoners with whom Probation Officers are engaged with offence focused work.

During 2006 the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform through the Probation Service provided funding to over 70 community and voluntary agencies working with prisoners at a local level in areas

such as accommodation, work and education, drug treatment and reintegration projects. These services are developed to respond to the throughcare and reintegration needs of offenders. Many of these, alongside a range of additional statutory and voluntary organisations provide inreach services to prisons, establishing effective relationships with prisoners prior to release.

Healthcare

Service Developments

During 2006 a number of service agreements with external health providers were put in place to improve healthcare provision. The provision of drug treatment services in both Cloverhill and Wheatfield Prisons under the clinical management of a consultant from the HSE community services has developed further. A further formal Service Level Agreement was concluded with St. James's Hospital for the provision of a consultant led Infectious Disease / STI service to both Cloverhill and Wheatfield Prisons and this service was initiated during the latter part of the year. The intention of this particular service is both to improve access at local prison level and to lessen the need for external hospital attendance. Exploratory discussions were held with other potential service providers in relation to the possible development of similar arrangements in other prison locations in the Dublin area.

Outside Dublin the appointment of a HSE Consultant in Forensic Psychiatry in the Mid-West Region with a dedicated allocation of sessions to Limerick Prison has significantly improved the co-ordination of psychiatric input to that prison. Given the success of this type of arrangement we would hope to replicate this model of provision on liaison with local HSE mental health services where feasible.

IPS Healthcare Mission Statement

Following a period of preparation a Strategic Mission Statement on Prison Healthcare was circulated in February 2006 to all prison healthcare staff and prison management. This clarifies the overall strategic goals of health provision within prisons in the context of population needs and national health aims. The overall aim of the Statement is to identify medium term goals and to provide a basis for the rationale incorporation of health issues within local Business Plans.

Prison Medical Record System (PMRS)

During the year further work was undertaken to promote and facilitate the use of this system through training and support and the development of changes based on user feedback.

New Pharmacy Services

The second contracted pharmacy service was introduced to Loughan House in April 2006, following the successful outcome of a tender competition held for provision of pharmacy services to the "Open Centres". (A similar service was introduced in Shelton Abbey in August 2005).

In June 2006, a tender competition for the provision of pharmacy services to all closed prisons was held. A Steering Group was established to evaluate the tenders received. This process was completed in October and the successful tenderers were notified. A total of four different pharmacies were successful, with two separate pharmacies each being awarded two lots (1 - Mountjoy Complex/Arbour Hill and Cork; 2 - Limerick and Midlands/Portlaoise), and the remaining two one lot each (3 - Castlereagh and 4 -Wheatfield/ Cloverhill).

The first new contract was successfully introduced in Cloverhill in mid-November, and the second in Dochas Centre on 1st December. The planning of the introduction of the contracts to the Training Unit commenced, with a proposed start date of early January 2007.

The introduction of these contracts ensure that all prisoners in these locations have access to professional pharmacy services, on an equivalent basis to that available in the wider community, taking into consideration the constraints that custody imposes. The contracts include both the technical (supply) and professional (pharmaceutical care) elements of pharmacy service provision.

The introduction of this pharmacy service has supported the introduction of "In-possession" medication, i.e. where following a risk assessment; certain prisoners are given responsibility for their own medication, in Loughan House on a pilot basis. It will also support more effective throughcare, whereby any medicines dispensed for a prisoner will be transferred with the prisoner to another prison, or where appropriate, be given to the prisoner on full or temporary release, to ensure continuity of essential treatment until the prisoner can engage with community healthcare services.

The overall expenditure on pharmaceuticals in 2006 was €2,569,059.48, which was an increase of 5.5% over the 2005 expenditure.

The average cost per prison space was €805, which varied from €194 to €1,897 according to the prison, which was a slight increase on the average cost per prison space in 2005 (€773). The most recent Report of the former General Medical Services (GMS), NSS Primary Care Reimbursement Scheme 2005, indicates that the average cost

Table 17: Irish Prison Service total expenditure on pharmaceuticals in 2006

Supplier	Pharmaceuticals from		Medical Dressings ref:24010 €	Other Medical Supplies ref:24110 €	Total €	Average Daily Population	Average Cost Per Prisoner Per Year	
	Wholesaler/ Pharmacy ref:23510 €	Retail ref:23610 €					2006	2005
Prison								
Arbour Hill	131,541.95	-	7,649.66	760.58	139,952.19	138	1,014	915
Castlerea	121,305.41	6,400.95	2,374.26	10,752.58	140,833.2	216	652	670
Cloverhill	273,038.59	-	-	37,650.88	310,689.47	404	769	998
Cork	89,187.52	5,607.77	1,353.95	10,189.89	106,339.13	254	419	415
Dochas	159,595.83	-	-	9,305.68	168,901.51	89	1,897	1,587
Limerick	133,075.18	73.39	-	15,864.85	149,113.42	284	525	476
Loughan House	15,784.9	-	119.79	-	15,904.69	82	194	314
Midlands	242,413.85	1,881.22	785.6	26,613.37	271,694.04	433	627	586
Mountjoy	553,871.29	3,254.11	1,629.11	37,533.25	596,287.76	482	1,237	1,316
Portlaoise	145,396.16	992.42	2,311.05	3,632.18	152,331.81	114	1,336	876
Shelton Abbey	13,254.35	15	-	-	13,269.35	51	260	164
St. Patrick's	49,235.78	362.46	225.69	8,722.16	58,546.09	187	313	213
Training Unit	90,926.26	2,110.44	204.1	7,116.48	100,357.28	92	1,090	395
Wheatfield	310,669.26	819.75	2,4325.9	9,024.63	344,839.54	366	942	825
Total	2,329,296.33	21,617.51	40,979.11	177,166.53	2,569,059.48	3,191	805	772

per person (of those who availed of GMS services) of pharmaceutical services in 2005 was €750. However, the average cost per male aged between 25 – 34 years (which more accurately reflects the prison population profile) was €399. It must be noted however that the prison population has been acknowledged as a special needs group among the national population and the healthcare needs of prisoners are accepted as being much more complex than those of a similar age-group in the community.

In four prisons, the average cost per prison space in 2006 was less than the corresponding figure for 2005 (up to 37% reduction); while in nine prisons the average was greater in 2006 than 2005. This can be explained in part by the increasing use of certain high cost medicines (e.g. Anti-retrovirals, Hepatitis C treatment etc) in those prisons and the significant healthcare inputs required for a large number of prisoners on committal.

This data reflects only the cost of pharmaceuticals purchased by the IPS in 2006 (based on invoices paid during 2006), for all prisons except Shelton Abbey and Loughan House (from April). As complete medication records were not easily accessible for all other prisons, it is necessary to use this data to reflect the use of medication in the

IPS. The introduction of new arrangements for pharmacy oversight which have proceeded during 2006 will, when fully embedded, provide more systematic data regarding not only the purchase of pharmaceuticals but also the dispensing and use of same.

The level of local purchasing of medication continues to decrease, and in 2006 this accounted for €21,617, less than 1% of total purchases. With the introduction of contracted pharmacy services, there will no longer be a requirement to purchase medicines in this manner.

Joint HSE/IPS Contracts

The move towards aggregated purchasing continued with the supply of flu vaccines to all prisons in October 2006 on the basis of a joint HSE/IPS contract. Discussions continued with the HSE to ensure the supply of all future vaccines on a similar basis.

Professional matters

Regular contact was maintained with both the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland and the Department of Health and Children, seeking advice as appropriate to ensure that prison pharmacy services meet all legal and professional requirements.

Summary of the number of individuals treated with Methadone in 2006

	Total Patients during period	New (1st time patient on CTL)	Total number on 31/12/06
Cloverhill Prison	678	107	175
Dochas Centre	216	20	32
Limerick Prison	8	0	6
Midlands Prison	19	2	12
Mountjoy Main Prison	416	13	145
Mountjoy Prison Medical Unit	48	2	12
Portlaoise Prison	2	1	2
St. Patrick's Institution	8	1	6
Wheatfield Prison	184	16	82
Totals for 9 Clinics	1,579	62	472

Links were also maintained with colleagues in the Scottish and Northern Ireland Prison Services, and the sharing of information on medication usage across these jurisdictions has been very useful.

Drug Treatment

The Table across outlines the total number of prisoners reported to the Central Treatment List (CTL) as being prescribed methadone while in prison during 2006.

The figures demonstrate an increase in the number of individuals (1579 vs. 1563 in 2005) treated. Particularly noteworthy is that 162 individuals were notified to the CTL (as receiving methadone treatment) for the first time in prison and this indicates that the prisons are one of the largest initiators of such treatment nationally.

Continuing Professional Development

Links with nursing bodies continue to be forged and strengthened. Joint training initiatives continue to take place with the nursing staff of the Northern Area Health Board, supported by the Nursing and Planning and Development Unit of the ERHA.

The background features a pattern of light blue and grey hexagons. Several hexagons contain concentric geometric shapes, including hexagons and triangles, rendered in white and dark blue outlines. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

04

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Irish Prisons Service's Human Resources Directorate aims to facilitate delivery of the prison service's business objectives now and in the future, by attracting, retaining, motivating, and developing talented people through effective human resource practices, working in partnership with managers and staff throughout the Irish Prison Service towards this end. Our approach to this task in 2006 was influenced by two significant developments, firstly the implementation of the new Additional Hours System under the Proposal for Organisational Change and secondly the planned decentralisation of Prison Service Headquarters to Longford in May 2007.

Organisational Change

The change programme has its origins in the Prison Service Cost Review Group which published its Report in 1997. This led to a comprehensive management analysis of the working and organisational arrangements in all prisons and places of detention by a Staffing and Operations Review Team (SORT). Detailed proposals for change were based on that analysis.

A comprehensive Proposal for Organisational Change in the Irish Prison Service was negotiated in April 2005. Following further discussions the proposal was amended and accepted in August 2005. The revised Proposal provided for implementation of new 'additional hours' arrangements based on the concept of 'annualised' hours and the elimination of overtime working across the Service within six months of the date of acceptance, i.e. by 18 February 2006. Under the new working arrangements staff are contracted to work an annual rather than a weekly number of hours, thus enabling management to structure attendance to better meet work demands in areas which are unpredictable. The arrangements were successfully implemented in all prisons and places of detention within the agreed time frame.

Other key elements of the Agreement which continued to be rolled out during the year include the following:

The Prison Service Escort Corps (PSEC) was established at the end of 2005 to provide a prisoner escorting service, including inter prison escorts, planned out-patient, and in-patient, hospital escorts. PSEC operates on an independent basis within the Irish Prison Service. PSEC initially ran on an overtime basis but moved to the Additional Hours System on 18 February 2006. It has been a considerable challenge to set up an organisation such as PSEC with all the supports that it requires in terms of infrastructure, specialised transport, administration, etc. in such a short period of time.

Arrangements are well advanced in relation to the recruitment of the new entry level Recruit Prison Officer grade (RPO). The first stages of the recruitment competition have been completed (aptitude testing, interviews and medical examinations). While it will be early next year before any recruits enter the Service from this competition we are nevertheless in a position to meet our interim needs from an existing panel. Staff appointed from that panel will be coming in on the modified conditions of service agreed for the new Recruit Prison Officer.

Progress towards achieving the full range of proposals envisaged under the Agreement was well advanced by the end of 2006.

A Central Purchasing Unit (CPU) has been established within the Finance Directorate to oversee the procurement function. This unit supports the Regional Distribution Centre (RDC) based at Santry.

The Agreement provides for close monitoring and review of the new working arrangements at both local and national level. These arrangements are working well.

Decentralisation to Longford

The Irish Prison Service will be one of the first organisations to relocate under the Government's Decentralisation Programme. It is envisaged that occupancy of the new building will begin in May 2007.

There will be a turnover rate of approximately 75% of Prison Service staff as a result of decentralisation and preparations are at an advanced stage in bringing staff on board. At the end of 2006 there were 71 individuals in place out of 113 general service grade posts, 28 of which were already Irish Prison Service staff and 43 had transferred in from the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform and other Departments.

The IPS has taken a number of steps to ensure continuity of business and the maintenance of service delivery to stake holders during the transition period, including a knowledge and skills tracking of all staff signing up for Longford and the completion of a specific project of process mapping of all work processes.

The staff shortfalls at various grades will be met through a combination of new applications to the CAF, promotion competitions and recruitment and the IPS are currently in discussion with both the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform and the Department of Finance in relation to this issue.

Other HR Developments in 2006

Key achievements during 2006 include the following:

- Management of the day-to-day needs of approximately 3,200 staff. There were 679 re-assignments and temporary assignments, as well as 96 retirements, resignations and dismissals during the year.
- Positive employee relations with our staff and their representatives continued to be maintained through both informal and formal mechanisms, including Partnership and use of the available IR machinery.
- Promotion competitions to the grades of Governor 1, Assistant Governor (Training), Inspector of Works (Electrical), Industrial Supervisor (Catering), First Responder Trainer, Chief Officer 1, Chief Officer II Training, Assistant Chief Officer, Assistant Chief Officer (Training), Clerk II, Trades Officer (Lockings) successfully completed over a concentrated period. Appointments are being made from the panels established from these competitions. The aforementioned competitions attracted over 680 candidates
- Further competitions for Clerk 1, Assistant Industrial Supervisor (Laundry), Industrial Supervisor (Woodwork), Industrial Supervisor (Computers) Assistant Industrial Supervisor (Computers), Assistant Industrial Supervisor (Industrial Cleaning), Assistant Industrial Supervisor (Industrial Skills), Assistant Industrial Supervisor (Woodwork), Assistant Industrial Supervisor (Printing/Braille) were processed in 2006 and panels are expected in early 2007. Over 329 candidates applied for promotion to these grades
- 162 new prison officers and 12 nurse officers recruited and trained at the Prison Service Training Centre
- Competition for nurse officer completed (25 applicants) and healthcare nursing manager completed (18 applicants). 12 nurse officers took up assignment in 2006 from the 2005 competition.
- Two prison doctors appointments made in 2006 from 2005 competition
- Psychologist grade II competition completed in 2006, 39 applicants, 1 appointment
- New head chaplain appointed in 2006 and a consequential vacancy filled
- Major recruitment competition for the new grade of recruit prison officer which attracted 2,417 applications, completed
- Performance management and development system (PMDS) training delivered to senior prison service grades, i.e. from Chief Officer Grade to Governor Grade and the training needs arising from this process identified and prioritised.
- New organisational structures to strengthen our approach to maintaining a safe and healthy work environment established and new supports introduced including a database to monitor, with a view to minimising, staff injuries and assaults. A protocol on dealing with threats to staff has been agreed with the POA and will be signed off on during 2007.
- Extensive Hepatitis B vaccination programme, available to all staff rolled out. Expected completion date, June 2007.
- A series of reviews of the more serious staff absence cases across prisons undertaken. Those cases reviewed on an individual basis. Maintained management systems for addressing problem cases to ensure that appropriate staff support as well as control measures can be systematically applied across the prison system. In the course of 2006 the frequency of reviews was increased, with the larger institutions being reviewed every three months approximately. The indications are that this approach will have a positive impact of sick leave levels. It was necessary in some cases to resort to sanctions to address particularly unsatisfactory sick absence records.
- In April, the final draft report of IPS HR Business Analysis was delivered by Deloitte and Touche. This was an evaluation of the Prison Service's requirements in implementing a computerised Human Resource Management System. The document was reviewed by representatives of the HR Directorate, the IT Directorate as well as from the wider prison network. Options are being considered as to the best way forward.





05

MANAGING THE PRISON ESTATE

Implementation of the prison building and refurbishment programme continued throughout the year. A key feature of this programme is the replacement of approximately 40% of the prison estate that is old and in poor condition in accordance with the commitment in the Programme for Government. This will include the replacement of the four prisons on the Mountjoy Campus (Mountjoy male prison, Dóchas Centre (female prison), St. Patrick's Institution and the Training Unit) with a new modern operationally efficient prison at Thornton Hall in north County Dublin and a new Munster prison development to replace Cork Prison. It is also planned to replace the older parts of Portlaoise Prison and Limerick Prison with new modern facilities over the coming years.

Capital projects

The following capital projects were under way or completed during 2006:

Thornton Hall PPP Project

The proposed new prison at Thornton Hall, north County Dublin, is being procured under a value for money, Public Private Partnership basis. A number of preliminary surveys were undertaken at the site.

These include:

- A major boundary planting scheme comprising a 10 metre wide strip around the site to supplement the existing hedgerow was completed;
- Various site investigation surveys were also undertaken and completed;
- A comprehensive archaeological survey was undertaken. This comprised a geophysical survey and test trench programme;
- A flora and fauna survey of the site was completed.

The legal and technical consultants for the project were appointed. The National Development Finance Agency will act as the financial and risk advisor for the project.

A Contract Notice was published in the Official Journal of the European Union with respect to the project in February 2006 inviting expressions of interests from interested parties to be selected to receive the tender documentation. Based on the submissions received four consortia were short listed to receive the tender documentation.

During the year a detailed output specification for the proposed prison development was compiled, the Public Sector Benchmark and detailed business case were finalised and approved by the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. A Process Auditor was appointed to the Project Board.

Tenders were issued in November following receipt of Government approval.

The tenders will be assessed by a team involving the Irish Prison Service, the National Development Finance Agency assisted by external technical and legal experts. This process will lead to the appointment of a preferred bidder in the New Year.

Cork Prison/New Munster Prison Development

The planning and initial survey to replace Cork Prison with a new 450 place facility and associated services commenced. This project is at a very early stage.

Portlaoise Prison

Construction work on a new prisoner accommodation cell block which will accommodate 138 offenders commenced during the year. The new block which includes a new reception area, medical suite, education and recreation areas is expected to take about 22 months to construct.

Shelton Abbey

Construction work commenced on the construction of a new 44 bed accommodation unit at Shelton Abbey. The new unit is expected to be completed by mid 2007. Preliminary works also commenced on upgrading education facilities at the prison.

Loughan House

Loughan House is an open centre and comprises mainly dormitory style accommodation. Construction work on a new 60 bedroom accommodation block commenced during the year. The new accommodation unit is expected to be completed by mid 2007. Preliminary works also commenced on the provision of a new education facility at the prison.

Castlerea Prison

Planning for a new remand unit which will accommodate 66 offenders got under way during the year. Work also commenced on the provision of two houses at the Grove area which will provide accommodation for 12 offenders by summer 2007. Other projects under way at Castlerea include improvements to the gate lock, main control room and a new recreation area.

Limerick Prison

Two new cell blocks were commissioned in Limerick Prison in recent years. Construction work on a new support services block which will provide enhanced education facilities, gymnasium, medical, pharmacy and administration rooms continued in 2006. This new services block is expected to be completed in 2007.

Wheatfield Prison

Construction work on a new control room at Wheatfield Prison was completed during the year. The new control room incorporates state of the art fire and related security systems.

Expressions of Interest were sought for the construction of a new accommodation block. The new block will provide accommodation for 144 offenders. Preliminary works on the new block got under way. A contract for the new accommodation block is expected to be awarded in the summer 2007.

Shanganagh Castle

Over €29 million was realised through the disposal of the former prison lands at Shanganagh Castle, Shankill, County Dublin in October 2006. The proceeds from the sale of the lands at Shanganagh Castle covers the cost of acquiring the 150 acre site in north County Dublin to facilitate the proposed new prison development at Thornton Hall.

Prison Maintenance Programme

The construction of new prison facilities and the refurbishment of others continues to be complemented by a major Prison Service-wide maintenance programme. The scale, age and variety of the prison estate requires constant upgrading and attention. Indeed four prisons date from the mid 1850's which offers their own unique maintenance challenges. During 2006 maintenance works were carried out in all

prison facilities around the country in order to maintain the fabric of the estate.

Environmental Management System (EMS) Implementation

The Irish Prison Service (IPS) Environmental Policy and EMS implementation strategy continues to develop under the guidance of the Executive Environmental Management Team (EEMT) and the Environmental Manager. Some of the developments during 2006 were:

- IPS training manual developed with pilot prisons Loughan House, Midlands and Portlaoise. These prisons will also pilot the EMS ISO 14001 template for the service, which is targeted for completion and external accredited audit by end of 2007.
- EMS Implementation Training completed in all locations. The training involves environmental management and implementation teams from all prisons and HQ. The training covers environmental awareness, impact assessment, environmental procedures, recording and documenting the EMS.
- Beladd Training Centre in partnership with the Institute of Technology Sligo completed the first Higher Certificate Course in Environmental Management Systems. Eleven Environmental Health and Safety Coordinators completed the course; there was also a member of An Garda Síochána in the group.
- Major recycling initiatives are under way in Arbour Hill, Castlerea, Midlands, Mountjoy Complex, Portlaoise, Shelton Abbey and Wheatfield. Cloverhill, Loughan House, Limerick and Cork are developing their infrastructure.
- The recycling initiatives are showing significant cost savings with 30% savings in some cases below previous year's costs. It has also led to links with charities and community enterprise schemes, which has encouraged staff and prisoner participation in a positive way.
- Portlaoise have a new purpose built waste management and recycling building. Its heating is provided by a sustainable wood pellet boiler. They have also produced an information booklet on environmental awareness.
- Arbour Hill Prison won the overall award in the Dublin City Neighbourhoods Competition 2006. The prison won the award in the category Best Example of Waste Management. They also completed a training and awareness DVD. The DVD will be used to train staff and prisoners throughout the service in best waste management practice.

- The Irish Prison Service Register of Environmental Legislation was updated and issued.
- Work is under way to have all prisons compliant under water discharge licence requirements.
- Castlerea Prison completed a pilot project on composting food waste and produced Class 1 grade compost. This has resulted in the IPS working with Cré the National Compost Association in developing an accredited compost facility operator training course, which will be delivered to IPS staff and prisoners in 2007.
- The first Energy Bureau pilot project is under way in Cloverhill and Wheatfield. A focus on energy, water, oil, electricity and gas usage is paramount as the service needs to develop an overall energy policy for the future. This will also impact on alternative fuels and Carbon emissions so much in debate at a national and global level.
- The Environmental Policy Statement has been incorporated in the new Thornton Hall Project. Environmental considerations and sustainability issues have been highlighted as a priority for the development.



06

FINANCE

Dáil Éireann voted a total of €411,184,000 for Prison and Probation and Welfare Services in the Prisons Vote 2006 (Vote 21). Excluding the provisions in the Vote for the Probation and Welfare Services (subheads E and F of Vote 21), the voted provision in 2006 for the Irish Prison Service was €389,572,000.

Finance Review

The total spend by the Irish Prison Service in 2006 was €388,702,000 some €870,000 within budget. In July 2006, the funding for the Probation and Welfare Service moved to the Justice Vote (Vote 19). No further Probation and Welfare costs will be charged to Vote 21 from July 2006. Pay accounted for approximately 59% of all spending by the Irish Prison Service in 2006. Particulars of the 2006 Provisions and Expenditure are set out in Table 18.

Apart from pay, the most significant area of expenditure is capital spending. Capital investment has been significant in providing improved accommodation and facilities at prisons and places of detention and enhanced officer training facilities. Particulars of the Prison Service 2006 building programme are given in the chapter on Estate Management. IT developments during 2006 are covered later in this chapter.

Irish Prison Service 2006 Expenditure and Income

Table 18: Prison Service 2006 Budget Provision and Actual Expenditure

	2005 Actual Expenditure €000	2006 Provision €000	2006 Actual Expenditure* €000
Administration			
A.1 - Salaries, Wages and Allowances	223,677	229,273	229,819
A.2 - Travel and subsistence	3,192	2,620	2,458
A.3 - Incidental Expenses	7,949	8,284	7,982
A.4 - Postal and telecommunications services	2,474	2,496	2,427
A.5 - Office Machinery and Other Office Supplies	5,172	5,213	4,547
A.6 - Consultancy Services	82	154	185
Other Services			
B - Buildings and Equipment	75,457	110,564	110,985
C - Prison Services, etc	24,465	26,852	26,300
D - Manufacturing Department and Farm	555	430	420
F - Community Service Order Scheme	-	-	-
G - Education Expenditure	1,374	1,391	1,474
H - Prison Officers, Medical Aid Society (Grant-in-Aid)	450	-	-
I - Compensation	1,801	2,295	2,105
Total Gross Expenditure	346,648	389,572	388,702
J - Appropriation in Aid (Receipts)	11,717	1,008	1,462
Total Net Expenditure	34,931	388,564	387,240

* These figures are subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General

Financial Management

Cost of Keeping a Prisoner

The average cost of keeping a prisoner in custody during the calendar year 2006 was €91,700. The breakdown by Institution is shown in Table 19 below.

The cost per prisoner is based on the average daily number of offenders in custody during 2006. The number of prisoner places is based on the number of places in each institution at end-December 2006. The operational cost of each institution is based on actual running costs, i.e. pay, overtime, food, light and heat, maintenance, etc. These costs include certain fixed costs that arise irrespective of the number of offenders in custody, e.g. staffing numbers, utilities, etc. All headquarters and central service costs are allocated over the prison establishments for the purpose of calculating the cost per prisoner at each institution. Capital expenditure is excluded from the calculation in the interest of facilitating comparison between individual institution costs.

Implementation of Management Information Framework (MIF) within the Irish Prison Service

The Irish Prison Service is implementing the Management Information Framework to bring about improved financial management and

control within the Prison Service. The intention is to have a more strategically driven organisation that meets the demands of a modern justice system and does so in a cost effective manner. The Irish Prison Service has implemented many parts of MIF to date primarily relating to developing improved accounting systems and is pressing forward with financial training for key groups of staff.

Financial Management System

The Irish Prison Service has been operating an Oracle financial management system since July 2002. In 2006 the system was rolled out to Central Purchasing Unit and the Regional Distribution Centre. Further roll out will continue during 2007 to IT and Estates HQ Directorates.

Expenditure Reviews

The third expenditure review in the area of capital expenditure commenced in 2006 and will be published in 2007.

Central Purchasing Unit (CPU)

During 2006, the Central Procurement Unit procured services and goods to support the strategic objectives of the Irish Prison Service. The main EU and national tender competitions run by the CPU were for the supply of pharmaceutical supplies to closed prisons, purchase of prisoner escort vehicles, purchase of dental chairs and

Table 19: Cost of Keeping a Prisoner and Cost of a Prisoner Place by Institution in 2006

Institution	Cost of Keeping an Offender (€)		Cost Per Prison Place (€)	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
Arbour Hill	81,400	75,600	80,600	74,800
Castlerea	76,700	76,900	72,800	78,000
Cork	90,100	87,700	88,200	85,600
Cloverhill	81,600	84,800	76,100	76,700
Limerick	76,900	75,800	74,800	69,000
Loughan House	70,000	68,500	52,800	47,200
Midlands	81,900	85,300	79,300	81,200
Mountjoy (Male)	101,200	100,400	101,300	107,300
Dochas (Mountjoy Female)	87,600	86,300	91,300	87,000
Portlaoise	247,200	240,700	150,500	156,100
Shelton Abbey	95,200	80,900	81,400	69,100
St Patricks	97,100	90,700	83,900	78,500
Training Unit	82,200	71,500	78,700	69,200
Wheatfield	84,000	81,100	81,400	78,100
Overall Average Cost Per Prisoner	91,700	90,900	85,800	85,100

the introduction of a Prison Officer Accreditation Training Programme. Amongst the other tenders were a Facilities Management Consultancy contract, Vehicle Maintenance contract, a tender for the development of an Infection Control policy for the Irish Prison Service and the introduction of a physical competency test for recruit officers.

In 2006, the CPU, together with An Garda Síochána and the Defence Forces, successfully tendered through the EU procurement process for the supply of electricity to the Irish Prison Service. This was in pursuit of the Department of Finance's policy of aggregating public bodies' requirements under one tender.

The CPU also liaised with the Office of Public Works and the Government Supplies Agency in relation to aggregation of IPS supply requirements. This resulted in supply contracts for items such as natural gas, oil, staff uniforms, nurses' uniforms, prisoner clothing, office supplies, personal protective equipment, furniture, bedding and other sundry goods. The Central Procurement Unit has a central coordinating role in establishing Irish Prison Service requirements for all of the above items.

The ongoing management of a number of contracts including food, gym equipment, photocopiers maintenance and related contracts, was also carried out by the CPU in 2006. This also included annual price reviews as provided for under the various contracts.

During 2006, the Central Purchasing Unit documented its procurement processes with a view to facilitating the decentralisation of the Irish Prison Service Headquarters to Longford. This has facilitated the transfer of information to new staff arriving in the Directorate arising from the decentralisation process. CPU also put in place training programmes for new staff.

The CPU is overseeing the implementation of reform in the Prison Stores as outlined in the Proposal for Organisational Change in the Irish Prison Service. The CPU has expanded its role as outlined in the SORT (Staffing and Operations Review Team) Programme and a Regional Distribution Centre has also been established.

The CPU is also responsible for overseeing and advising on procurement matters and reporting practices.

Payroll Functions

The Irish Prison Service payroll includes payment of basic pay, allowances and extra attendance. The Financial Shared Services Centre of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform based in Killarney is responsible for the payment functions. The Time and Attendance system is integrated with the payroll system in the

Financial Shared Services in Killarney. This allows for automated electronic pay details transfer between the two systems. A project to upgrade the electronic Time and Attendance system to cater for the new additional hours regime of working as agreed under the SORT process was delivered to all Prisons by mid 2006.

Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997

The following information is provided in accordance with the Act within the guidelines issued by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

The Irish Prisons Service has procedures in place to ensure that all invoices are paid within the statutory time limit. While the procedures have been designed to ensure compliance with the Act, they only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material non compliance with the Act.

These procedures operate in the financial period under review and, in the case of late payments, the relevant suppliers were notified and the interest due was paid to them.

In accordance with the Prompt Payment of Account Act 1997, the following information is provided in respect of the financial period ending December 31st, 2006:

(a) Payment Practices

The Irish Prison Service makes payment to suppliers in accordance with the terms specified in the respective invoices or conditions specified in individual contracts, if appropriate. Since 2002 the standard terms are 30 days.

(b) Late Payments

Invoice Amount	No. of Invoices	Amount of Interest Paid€
Under €317	9	80.31
Over €317	491	12,252.07
Total	500	12,332.38

(c) Overall percentage of late payments to total payments and total interest paid.

The overall percentage of late payments to total payments was 1.8%. The total amount of interest paid with respect to late payments was €12,332.38.

Payments to members of the Prisons Authority Interim Board

The Chairman received gross remuneration of €24,000 in 2006 in respect of his chairmanship of the Prisons Authority Interim Board. Other Board members received gross remuneration of €14,000 in 2006 in respect of their membership of the Interim Board. As full-time, salaried public servants, three members of the Interim Board were not remunerated in respect of their membership of the Interim Board.

Compensation Awards and Criminal Injuries

The total expenditure on compensation payments was €1.9m in 2006 including the Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal Scheme and civil compensation cases and associated costs.

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal operates independently of the Irish Prison Service. However, the Irish Prison Service funds any award made by the Tribunal to prison officers as a result of criminal injuries incurred in the course of their duty. The total expenditure in respect of Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal cases in 2006 was €1,083,000 (€878,000 in 2005).

The State Claims Agency (SCA) has taken responsibility for the management and disposal of the majority of claims initiated after 1 January 2001. The Irish Prison Service Claims Unit continues to manage cases initiated before 1 January 2001 and a small number of specific types of claims. The Irish Prison Service Claims Unit also liaises with the SCA in relation to the management of cases handled by the SCA.

The total expenditure in respect of Civil Compensation Claims cases managed by the Irish Prison Service and the SCA in 2006 was €862,000 (€881,000 in 2005). The proactive approach taken by the Irish Prison Service Claims Unit, together with considerable assistance from local management and the active involvement of the SCA ensured that the level of expenditure was kept to a minimum.

Information Technology

The Irish Prison Service has made significant investment in IT to provide the key operational systems required to run a modern prison service and almost all areas of prison administration have been addressed. The Prison Service has become a substantial IT operation with up to 3,500 users and more than 1,500 PCs in 19 locations around the country. All parts of the Prison Service are now connected by a wide area network which allows the key systems to be deployed and has also greatly enhanced the capacity of the organisation to share information.

Among the systems developed has been the Prisoner Records

Information System (PRIS). This system is now operational in all prisons since 2001 and provides a comprehensive means of recording and sharing information about the prison population. It is intended that this system will, over the coming years, provide a valuable source of statistical information in relation to trends in the composition of the prison population and will act as an aid to policy making in this area. During 2006 this system was significantly enhanced with a number of new software releases which provide enriched functionality to the Irish Prison Service staff. In addition new software reporting tool was deployed which provides a greater level of detailed reporting to Irish Prison Service Senior Management. The system is now well established and has realised significant business benefits to the organisation over its life to date.

The Time and Attendance system having been linked to the payroll system in Killarney during 2005 was significantly upgraded in 2006 to cater for the introduction of the new additional hours attendance arrangements agreed in the Proposal for Organisational Change. The changes made are working well and allow for the full range of amended attendance arrangements and payments under the Proposal for Organisational Change.

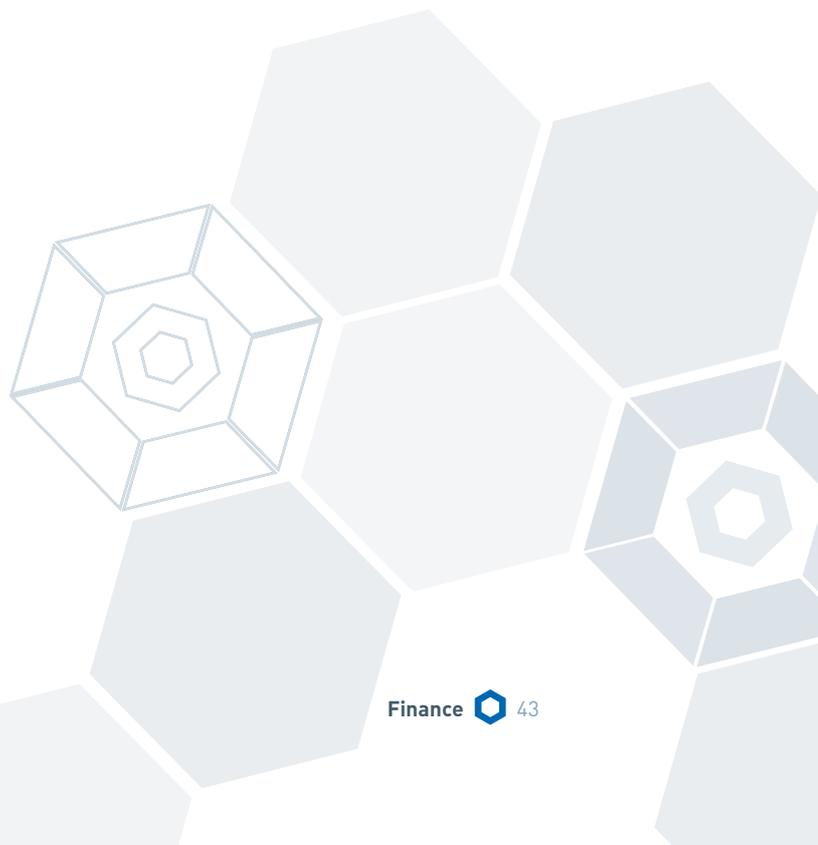
A computerised Prisoner Medical Records System has been developed for doctors, nurses and other medical staff working within the Irish Prison Service. Roll-out of the system is complete and this system is in place in all prisons for utilisation by prisons medical staff. During 2006 the system was further enhanced with a number of new software releases which provide enriched functionality to the Irish Prison Service medical staff.

An IT Support contract is in place to ensure business continuity and quality service through a partially out sourced IT System support team. This service provides high quality user support to all prison sites using a combination of the contracted IT support team and Prison Service in-house IT staff.

Significant progress was also achieved in 2006 in the following areas:

- A significant number of new IT document management systems were put in place;
- A substantial amount of new IT equipment and infrastructure were deployed;
- Upgrades took place to the Irish Prison Service Database;
- Work continued on the specification of a Video Conferencing solution to link Prisons and Courts Service;

- Work has commenced on a number of significant projects in advance of the decentralisation of the Irish Prison Service to Longford in 2007. These include a redesign of the IT Network, a move to Terminal Services, consolidation of the IT hardware infrastructure and a move to voice over internet protocol (VOIP) technology for our phones systems – commencing in 2007 with the new Longford Headquarters.





07

2006 IN THE INSTITUTIONS



Arbour Hill Prison

Arbour Hill, Dublin 7.

Governor: Seán Quigley

Profile

Arbour Hill is a closed, medium security prison for males aged 18 years and over, serving sentences of more than two years. It has a design capacity of 139 cells. All cells have in-cell sanitation and piped television and all the facilities that one would expect in a modern custodial facility.

Prisoner Population

There were 67 prisoner transfers into Arbour Hill Prison during 2006. The daily average number in custody was 138.

Prisoner Programmes

Eight men completed the Sex Offender Programme (SOP) during 2006 and a further Programme began in the autumn of the year. Only one of the SOP participants for the latter Programme was originally based in Arbour Hill and this necessitated the transfer of seven prisoners from other prisons to Arbour Hill to facilitate their participation. That only three offenders in Arbour Hill applied for the SOP, and that only one was deemed suitable to participate on the programme, is a matter of concern; this reflects the declining number of applicants for the SOP across the prison system. During 2006, the Governor of the Prison and the staff involved in the Programme worked closely with IPS Headquarters to examine how the paucity of offenders motivation to participate could be addressed.

Participation in Educational Activities

The Education Unit in the prison continues to provide an excellent service to offenders. A wide range of subject/courses was available at various levels from basic literacy to degree level through the Open University.

No. sitting for subjects in	Junior Cert	Leaving Cert
English	4	2
History	3	-
C S P E	3	-
Geography	5	-
Mathematics		
B 2	-	1
C 1	-	1
A 1	-	1
Applied	-	1

Further Education and Training Awards Council [FETAC] 2006

Forty entries, from Level 3 to Level 6.

Commercial Examining Board (Word Processing, Spread sheets and Databases)

There were 15 entries at Intermediate and Advanced levels. All 15 passed successfully: 3 with distinction and 10 with honours.

Chartered Institute Of Logistics and Transport

Two candidates successfully completed [June 2006] the Road Transport Management Certificate of Professional Competence.

Food Hygiene Course

Environmental Health Office Certification, there were twelve successful candidates.

The Open University

Altogether there were twenty students doing a variety of OU courses in Arbour Hill during 2006.

Educational involvement at Arbour Hill has involved approximately 82% of the prison population throughout the school year. This high level of interest and attendance by offenders is indicative of the commitment and enthusiasm of the prison's teaching staff.

Vocational training

The Industrial Unit continued to provide work and training to all offenders in the prison. The individual units provide a range of products in Woodwork, Print, Fabric and Braille. These products were supplied to a variety of areas throughout the public service, prisons and private bodies.

The kitchen area has been completely renovated and new toilets and wash areas have been provided. This was no doubt a factor in our achieving the Q Mark for the first time. The highest standards of hygiene are maintained, and continually monitored, reviewed and amended, as necessary.

Tackling Drug Abuse

There were few incidents of soft drug usage during 2006; those occurrences were quickly contained and, on occasions, prisoners were transferred out of Arbour Hill rather than endanger the drug-free status. To reinforce the drug-free prison policy, staff are advised of the need for constant vigilance. Together with increased use of random urinalysis testing the prison has, to date, succeeded in restricting to a minimum the level of drug related activity.

Other Significant Developments in 2006

Waste Management

Arbour Hill has led the way within the Irish Prison Service in developing and implementing a waste management policy.

In 2006, Arbour Hill Prison received the Dublin City Council Local/District Waste Management Award; was the Dublin City/County Overall Winner in the Waste Management category and was the Irish Times Waste Management Winner.



Castlerea Prison,
Harristown, Castlerea,
Co.Roscommon.

Governor: Daniel Scannell

Profile

Castlerea Prison is designated as a committal prison for prisoners aged 17 years and upwards for the geographical region of Connacht and counties Longford, Cavan and Donegal.

Prisoner Population

The daily average in custody was 216 prisoners. There were 1028 prisoners committed to this prison during the year including a significant number of transfers from other prisons.

Work Training and Education

The Industrial Manager and his team provide courses in catering, laundry, joinery, textile work, concrete products, horticulture, waste management and computer use. Discussions are ongoing with two Institutes of Technology with a view to acquiring third-level accreditation for catering and waste management courses.

There is a daily average of 120 prisoners involved in work and training activities with a further 20 employed in delivering the basic house-keeping needs of the Institution.

There are many educational and vocational courses available to prisoners that are well suited to the client group through the Educational Unit. While some of the subjects are of a basic level, many prisoners have secured FETAC awards in various subjects. On average, 35 prisoners attend classes each day.

A prison magazine is produced and edited under the supervision of an Industrial Supervisor.

We also launched the "You're Equal" project during 2006. This EU-funded project has as its overall aim the "maximisation of employment opportunities for prisoners and ex-prisoners" in partnership with community and statutory organisations.

Tackling Drug Abuse

There has been a policy of drug testing, both random and targeted, in this prison since it opened in 1996. This practice has been of great assistance in the control of the use of illicit drugs.

Significant developments and events in 2006

- Work is under way on a major capital investment in the prison. Two additional houses are being provided in The Grove (domestic type housing with some rooms shared) with accommodation for a further 12 prisoners.
- A new Remand Unit with a capacity for 50 persons is being constructed as well as a Unit with 12 spaces for non-compliant prisoners.
- A new outdoor exercise yard, an all-weather pitch and an indoor recreation and general-purpose hall is also under construction.



Cloverhill Prison
Cloverhill Road, Clondalkin,
Dublin 22.

Governor: Tom Somers

Profile

Cloverhill Prison is a medium security prison mainly for male pre-trial adults. The prison has accommodation for 433 prisoners in a combination of single, double and triple cells.

Prisoner Population

There were a total of 3760 persons committed to Cloverhill Prison during the year. The average daily prisoner population was 404.

Programmes

Title of Programme	Throughput in 2006
Alcoholics Anonymous	5 to 10 on average weekly
Narcotics Anonymous	5 to 10 on average weekly
Leonardo Programme	1
Listener Programme	30

Tackling Drug Abuse

Measures taken to assist with the objective of a drug-free prison include:

- Alcohol and Drug Awareness Programmes.
- A Detox Programme which has 20-30 prisoners participating at any one time.
- A Methadone Maintenance Programme that accommodates approximately 100 prisoners daily.
- Prisoners were also treated on committal for alcohol related illness and approximately 10% - 15% of the population would be receiving a 5-day detox programme.
- There were a number of Health Awareness and Fitness Weeks for prisoners held during the year.

Specific measure to tackle the supply of drugs included:

- Upgrading of visiting boxes: visits are all behind glass screens
- The use of an X-Ray machine in the reception
- Searches, including random searches within the prison
- Visitor information

Significant developments and events in 2006

- Hygiene awards
- Q Mark and Excellence Award in Hygiene
- The Learning and Development Unit opened in September.



Cork Prison

Rathmore Road, Cork City,
Cork.

Governor: Jim Collins

Governor Liam Metcalfe retired in July 2006. He was replaced by Governor David Cowman who sadly passed away in September, 2006, may he rest in peace. Governor Jim Collins was appointed governor in September 2006.

Profile

Cork Prison is a closed, medium security committal prison for Cork, Kerry and Waterford, for males aged seventeen and upwards, serving sentences up to life. The prison has a bed capacity of 255.

Prisoner Population

During the year a total of 1807 prisoners were committed, or transferred, to Cork Prison. They included some difficult and disruptive prisoners who had been deprived privileges in other prisons. The average daily prisoner population was 254.

Programmes

The following services are available to all prisoners.

- Individual counselling
- Group therapy
- Assessment and referral to outside agencies
- Court reports when requested
- Follow up services in post release
- Advice and support for families of prisoners
- Addiction counselling
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Narcotics Anonymous
- Smoking cessation
- Thinking skills
- Anger management

Cork Prison also has a post-release services co-ordinator who provides information and assistance to prisoners for release. The

service deals with emergency accommodation, social welfare allowance payments, rent allowance, Safe Pass Training, etc.

Education

The components of the Project Plan for the Equal II European Initiative have now been put in place and a local prison committee met on a regular basis during the year to implement and review.

The Dillons Cross project is now firmly established as an integral part of the Prison Educational Programme. It is managed and run by three VEC teachers and provides counselling, advice and training for the partners of prisoners in custody. Courses are available in computers, personal development, crafts and skills, childcare and health education. Prisoners take part in parallel courses in the prison.

Vocational training

The following vocational training programmes took place in 2006:

Programme	Participants
Hygiene matters	46
Care of substances hazardous to health	46
Use of chemicals	46
Health and safety statement	46
Dangerous machinery (operation and care of)	46
Manual handling	35

Sixty one (61) prisoners completed the Safe Pass Course.

Prisoners completed 49 modules in European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) and one prisoner completed the advanced ECDL.

Tackling Drug Abuse

Measures were in place in 2006 to prevent drug supply and reduce the demand for drugs in the prisoner population. These included:

- Netting over the yard
- CCTV in appropriate areas
- There is no physical contact allowed on visits

Significant developments and Events in 2006

Significant works carried out in the Prison in 2006 were:

- Commencement of new facilities for Prison Service Escort Corps (PSEC).
- Completion of special cells
- Renovation of the prison kitchen, laundry and general office



Dóchas Centre

North Circular Road,
Dublin 7.

Governor: Kathleen McMahon

Profile

The Dóchas Centre is a closed, medium security prison for women. It is a purpose-built, modern prison with accommodation designed for 81 women in seven separate houses within the complex. With some alterations to rooms capacity has increased to 85.

Prisoner Profile

There were 1020 committals and transfers to the Dóchas Centre during the course of the year. The average daily prisoner population was 89.

Tackling drug abuse

Two houses are designated drug-free. Measures to tackle drug abuse include drug assessments, counselling, advice and referral to residential drug rehabilitation, community drug programmes or individual counselling. The women also have access to the Probation and Welfare Services and to a psychologist who is attached to the Centre. Methadone maintenance and Detox programmes continue to be available within the Centre

Vocational training/employment

The following programmes were provided

Programme	Participants
FÁS Hairdressing course FETAC Level 3	20
Sewing/Fashion Design course	16
Kitchen course	17
Fáilte Ireland E Learning	10
Primary Course in Food Hygiene	12
FÁS Finglas Day Release Hairdressing	1
Beauty Course, College day release	1
Work and Training Day release	1

Arts and Crafts

Classes were given by staff members and inmates in arts and crafts during the course of the year.

Examples of materials made included duvet covers and table cloths for Barretstown Castle and costumes for the Italian Opera that played in Ireland in the autumn, and for Moate Drama Club.

The production of the opera La Bohème was a major success, this project was in co-operation with Mountjoy Prison and Maiano Prison in Spoleto, Italy. This provided interest and a challenge for the offenders and the staff who worked on the project. The teamwork and co-operation amongst the various prisons worked very effectively to provide this marvellous production at the Gaiety Theatre. The sets were then removed after the production in Dublin and transported to Maiano Prison in Italy. The production was then staged in Spoleto (Italy) during the month of May.

Summer School 2006

Summer School 2006 ran in the Dóchas Centre during the month of August when the teachers were on holidays. Classes were given by the women themselves and by instructors who are brought in from the outside. The materials for the classes were provided by the IPS. The staff in charge of the school and workshop areas drew up a timetable for the month and posted it in the various houses. Classes offered included, Card Making, Blanket Making, Pottery, Art, Aerobics, Relaxation, Hairdressing, Personal Development, Jewellery Making, Beauty Classes, Nails and Manicure, and Drama. At the end of the month certificates were awarded to all those who took part in the classes and also to those who were tutors .

Significant Events and Developments in 2006

The Dóchas Centre catering area was a finalist in the Gold Medal award for catering and maintained EIQA Sapphire and Emerald mark.



Limerick Prison
Mulgrave Street,
Limerick.

Governor: Pat Laffan

Governor Laffan sadly passed away in December 2006. May he rest in peace.

Profile

The prison is a closed, medium security committal prison for male and female prisoners from age 17 and upwards. The bed capacity is 274 for males and 20 for females. Male prisoners can be committed from courts in counties Limerick, Tipperary and Clare only. Female prisoners can be committed from courts in all six Munster counties.

Prisoner Profile

There were 904 new committals during the course of the year. The average daily prisoner population was 284.

Programmes

Title of Programme	Participants
Safe Pass	27
Listowel Writers Week	2 Winners
Alcohol and Drug Awareness and STI's	52 (Ongoing Classes)
Personal Effectiveness FETAC/FÁS Introductory Skills	19
Microsoft Office 2006	2
Parenting, FETAC Child Care and Caring for Children	14

Participation in Educational Activities

An average of 54% of the prisoner population participated in educational activities during the year. 64% of prisoners participated for more than 10 hours per week, with 35% nearing full-time participation.

Six prisoners sat the Junior Certificate examination, two sat the Leaving Certificate and eight sat Open University examinations. Twenty-three prisoners took part in other accredited courses through FETAC and FÁS. Seventy prisoners did basic numeracy and literacy courses and fifty-five studied Information Technology. Other certified training programs included Dishwashing, Sandwich Making, Safety Awareness, Industrial Sewing and an Elementary Cookery Course

There were 800 visits to the library during the year.

Tackling Drug Abuse

The following measures were utilised to deal with the supply of drugs: nets covering the exercise yards, CCTV, random searching, screened visits, random urinalysis, staff vigilance, and liaison with Gardaí. A total of 157 prisoners underwent methadone detoxification during 2006.

Significant Events and Developments in 2006

Construction of the New Educational and Recreational Wing of Limerick Prison commenced on site in May 2005 and is expected to be completed in May 2007.

The New Wing will consist of the following:

- Ground Floor / First Floor: New sports hall and fitness suite
- Second Floor: New medical suite which will consist of dental room, pharmacy, surgery, urinalysis room, meeting room and associated ancillary offices and file stores
- Third and Fourth Floor: New education suite which will consist of a library, classrooms, home economics room, music room, computer room, pottery room and staff accommodation

The advantage of the New Wing is that it will give the education and medical staff in Limerick Prison up-to-date facilities from which to provide services to the Prison in a safe and secure environment.



Loughan House

Blacklion,
Co. Cavan.

Governor: Catherine Comerford

Profile

Loughan House is an open centre for convicted male offenders aged 18 years and over, who are transferred from other institutions. The bed capacity is 110 and sleeping accommodation is mainly single and double bedrooms.

Committals for 2006

A total of 530 persons were committed to Loughan House in 2006. The average daily prisoner population was 82.

Participation in educational activities in 2006

The rate of participation in education was 61%, with 324 enrolled in educational activities. Of these, 54% participated for 10 hours or more per week. Two hundred and eighteen prisoners availed of numeracy and literacy education and 185 participated in FETAC Foundation Level Computer Literacy courses.

Prisoner Programmes

The multi-disciplinary Regimes Committee continued to co-ordinate and facilitate the delivery of programmes to prisoners.

Programme	Participants
Certified Courses:	
Parenting Plus	11
Safe Pass	96
Forklift Training	44
Driving Theory Test	15
First Aid Course	15
Structured Pre Release Course	66
Manual Handling	38
Leaving Certificate	1
FETAC	27
STEPS (Cavan Partnership)	17

Information Tutorials:

Start your own Business (Leitrim Partnership)	26
FÁS	11
Dept of Social and Family Affairs	32
MABS (Debt Management Agency)	42
Suicide Awareness (Hope Organisation)	27
Men's Health (HSE)	34

Individual Career Guidance:

One consultation	152
In excess of one consultation	54

Tackling Substance Abuse

Loughan House aspires to drug free status. This is maintained by appropriate urinalysis testing and staff vigilance. On committal, each prisoner enters into a contract to remain drug free in order to obtain certain benefits and privileges associated with being in an open centre. Counselling, advice and support are available to those who wish to deal with addictions. AA continues to visit and engage with prisoners who seek support.

Other significant developments and events in 2006

- A new recycling plant was completed in to 2006
- A total refurbishment of Loughan House Kitchen was carried out in 2006. This provides the Institution with a state of the art facility to assist our catering team to achieve Fáilte Ireland certification.
- A new 60-bedroom unit is nearing completion and is due to be handed over in early 2007. The unit is being constructed using modular construction methods which provides substantial heat retention properties. Additional advantages within the design include that it is a purpose-built building and will incorporate single-occupancy rooms with shared en-suites, recreational areas, tea room facilities and a secured main office. A wood pellet boiler is being incorporated within the structure in order to comply with the sustainable policy implemented by the Irish Prison Service
- A new Educational Unit to incorporate work shops in Building Skills, Industrial Cleaning and Multi Purpose is nearing completion and is due to be handed over in mid-2007.



Midlands Prison
Dublin Road, Portlaoise,
Co Laois.

Governor: John O'Sullivan

Profile

The Midlands Prison is a closed, medium security prison for males aged 18 years and over, serving sentences up to life. The Prison has a bed capacity of 447 places, mainly in single cell accommodation, with a small number of triple cells. From 1st September 2006 Midlands was designated as a committal prison for sentenced adult prisoners from the counties of Kildare, Carlow, Kilkenny, Laois, Offaly and Westmeath.

Prisoner Population

Nine hundred and twenty-eight prisoners were committed and transferred to the Midlands Prison in 2006. The average daily prisoner population was 433.

Participation in Work / Training Activities

Title of Course	Participants	Accredited Certs
Metalwork	70	8
Carpentry	85	8
Horticulture	63	14
Building Skills	72	12
Catering	76	4
Computer Training	74	11
Industrial cleaning	16	16
Craft Shop	55	8
Laundry	70	3
Health and Safety	270	270*

*(in-house certificates)

Participation in Educational Activities

Education at the Midlands Prison has now completed its fifth academic year, where 2006 saw 53% of prisoners participating in

educational activities. Subjects such as the following are on offer at basic, improver and advanced levels:

English, English for Speakers of Other Languages, Mathematics, Home Economics, Physical Education, Art, Drama, Business Studies, Accounting, Model Making, Film Studies, Technical Drawing, Creative Writing, Home Crafts, Yoga, Music, Pottery, Personal Development, Computer Applications, Science, Horticulture, Materials Technology (Wood and Metal), Photography, Technology, Construction Studies, Spanish, French, German, Irish, Caring for Children, History, Geography, Sociology, Current Affairs, Transport Management, Driving Theory, Sports Studies, Spoken Communication.

Students who wished were entered for examinations accredited by FETAC, Department of Education and Science, Open University and the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport.

Prisoners also participated in basic numeracy and literacy classes and computer literacy classes.

Tackling Drug Abuse

To ensure that the prison remains drug free, and in accordance with prison policy, the following procedures are in place:

- The introduction of two passive search dogs
- The use of CCTV
- Provision of voluntary urine samples for testing
- Screened visits
- Searching of visitors before they enter the visiting area. Visitors found in possession of drugs in the waiting or visiting areas are barred from the prison and the Gardaí contacted.
- Searching of prisoners after visits
- Staff vigilance
- Searching of prisoners' property in reception
- Restrictions for set periods on prisoners found to be in breach of the prison rules and regulations.
- The assistance of the local Gardaí.

Other significant events in 2006

- The introduction of passive search dogs to the prison has considerably curtailed the flow of contraband into the prison.
- The provision of an extension to the surgery area enhanced medical services to prisoners through extra office space, examination/consultation rooms and a pharmacy.



Mountjoy Prison
North Circular Road,
Dublin 7.

Governor: John Lonergan

Profile

Mountjoy Prison is a closed, medium security prison. It is the main committal prison for Dublin County for males aged 18 years and over serving sentences up to life. It is a purpose-built prison with a bed capacity of 457. Mountjoy prison is the largest penal institution in the State and has the highest numbers of prisoners in custody.

Prisoner Population

There were 2906 committals and transfers to Mountjoy Prison in 2006. The average daily prisoner population was 433.

Participation in educational activities

In 2006, there were 180 regular attendees at classes with 76 completing certification: five prisoners sat for subjects in the Junior Certificate, two did Leaving Certificate subjects, 3 studied with the Open University, 32 did other accredited courses and six did European Computer Driving Licence/Information Technology skills courses.

Programmes/courses on offer in Mountjoy Prison included:

Addiction Studies, Art and Visual Studies, Business Studies, Career information/FETAC, Computer Applications, Cookery, Drama, English (Junior and Leaving Certificate), First Aid, Geography, Health Education, History , Maths, Mosaic and Stained Glass, Open University, Pre Release

Included for the first time in 2006 were:

FETAC Health and Fitness, Drama Therapy, Addiction Studies, English for Speakers of Other Languages, Front Page Computer Design, Sound Recording and Special Needs Education

Participation in Work / Training Activities

All committals to Mountjoy Prison are interviewed by the Industrial Manager who highlights the work/training opportunities available to them in the prison.

In addition to the normal work/training provided in the Industrial Area in Mountjoy, the prison has also responded to some external community requests and charity projects such as the Fabric Workshops undertaking for the Chernobyl Children’s Project, Celbridge Community and various Christmas charities. The Metal Workshop completed a number of in-house projects such as replacing the stainless steel in the toilets on the ‘C’ Division. This also provided hands-on training for the prisoners to adapt to such work projects.

The production of the opera La Bohème was a major success, this project with the co-operation of the Dóchas Centre shared the project with Maiano Prison in Spoleto, Italy. This provided interest and a challenge for the offenders and the staff who worked on the project. The teamwork and co-operation amongst the various prisons worked very effectively to provide this marvellous production at the Gaiety Theatre. The sets were then removed after this production in Dublin and transported to Maiano Prison in Italy. The production was then staged in Spoleto (Italy) during the month of May.

The Industrial Workparty (External) was engaged in various projects and continues to complete small projects for the Special Olympics Project at Park House. The Carpentry workshop continues to assist with the maintenance demands of Mountjoy Prison and to provide training for offenders. The ‘A’ and ‘D’ Fabric Workshops supply jeans and towelling to all the Irish prisons.

From January to June there were:

- 112 prisoners involved in Work Training,
- 66 prisoners engaged in accredited prevocational and vocational courses, and
- 28 prisoners receiving accredited qualification.

From July to December there were:

- 110 prisoners involved in Work Training,
- 39 prisoners engaged in accredited prevocational and vocational courses, and
- 34 prisoners receiving accredited qualifications

Tackling Drug Abuse

A daily average of 180 prisoners was on methadone maintenance and 129 availed of detox facilities. Drug treatment programmes were considerably enhanced with the addition of an addiction nurse to the prison staff. Another positive development has been the inclusion of an additional psychologist to the Medical Unit.

Considerable efforts were made during the year to reduce the supply of drugs passed into the prison, such as:

- new visiting arrangements
- upgraded CCTV systems internal and external to the prison
- the exercise yards are now enclosed in anti-throw netting to prevent contraband being launched into these areas from outside the prison walls.

During 2006, a total six drug treatment courses were run in the Medical Unit. Fifty-four offenders participated and 28 successfully completed the course.

As part of continuous measures to tackle the drug problem three Garda and Prison Service operations were carried out to target individuals who may be trafficking contraband into the prison by way of visits or throwing drugs or mobile phones over the boundary walls. The operations yielded positive results with a quantity of cannabis and cocaine seized.

A drug detection dog introduced on a trial basis, proved to be beneficial in terms of seizures and its overall deterrent value. It is expected that the drug dog will be deployed on a full time basis in 2007.

Other significant events in 2006

- Work commenced in October on the construction of a new Health Care Building. This new building is a most welcome development in the provision of health care services. An additional benefit is that the building will also make provision for the replacement of the existing Dental Surgery.



Portlaoise Prison
Dublin Road, Portlaoise,
Co. Laois.

Governor: John Dooley

Profile

Portlaoise Prison is a high security, closed prison for males aged 18 years and over. The Prison has a bed capacity of 188 but operates below capacity for security and operational reasons.

Prisoner Population

In 2006, the average number of prisoners in Portlaoise Prison was 114, with 24 committals to the Prison in the year.

Some prisoners were convicted for subversive type offences. The prison now also accommodates prisoners from organised crime who have been committed directly to the prison, or have been committed elsewhere but due to security considerations have been transferred to Portlaoise Prison.

Participation in Educational Activities

Censuses for May and November 2006 indicated participation in education rates of 69% and 68% respectively.

The following provides an outline of the number of students who entered for and completed accredited examinations. The subjects for FETAC included Horticulture, Health Related Fitness, Food and Nutrition, Communications, Computer Applications, Computer Literacy, ESI, Personal and Interpersonal Development, Personal Effectiveness and Information Technology. Subjects for Leaving and Junior Certificates included Spanish, History, English, Irish, Business Studies, Mathematics, Accounting, German and French.

Course Title	Candidates
FETAC	37
Junior Certificate	8
Leaving Certificate	14
Open University	14
ACCA	1
Leinster School of Communications	4
Royal Irish Academy of Music	3
Safe Pass	19
Scrudú Ceol Tire Comhaltas	18
English for Speakers of Other Languages and Teaching English as a Foreign Language	7
European Computer Driving Licence	3
First Aid/CPR	6
Other correspondence	2

A Pre-Release Programme established in 2003, continued in 2006 with sessions including the following:

Anger Management; Thinking out; Goal Setting; Confidence/Self Esteem; Hopes/Fears/Coping strategies; Family and Relationships; Hobbies/Socialising/Re-introduction; Alcohol Awareness; Job Preparation and Health and Medical Issues.

Tackling Drug Abuse

Detox and Methadone Maintenance programmes are available on a limited basis.

Significant events in 2006

- The construction of the new high-security C Wing is under way. The expected completion date is October 2007.
- The Waste Management building is complete. This new facility will provide Portlaoise Prison with a state-of-the-art waste management facility.



Shelton Abbey

Arklow,
Co Wicklow.

Governor: Seamus Cramer

Profile

Shelton Abbey is an open detention centre for male offenders from 19 years of age upwards.

Shelton Abbey receives prisoners from closed prisons to finish their sentences. Long-term prisoners are sent to Shelton Abbey to prepare them for release. Sleeping accommodation is mainly in dormitories. The bed capacity is 58.

Prisoner population

The daily average number of prisoners in custody was 51 and 410 prisoners were transferred to Shelton Abbey in 2006.

Participation in Educational Activities

One hundred and eighty-three students enrolled for courses. The average number of students attending classes each week was 45. Seventy-six per cent of offenders participated in daytime and evening courses.

Yoga and Business Studies were added to the curriculum in the Education Centre.

Certification/Student Achievements

Course	Participants
FETAC: CAD (level 5), Woodcraft (level 4), Personal and Interpersonal Skills and Maths (level 3)	27
Computer Studies/ECDL	5
Alcohol and Drugs Awareness	16
Anger management	22
Getting Out Programme/Pre-release preparation included talks on topics such as, Finance/Budgeting, Accommodation, and Rights and Responsibilities of Unmarried Fathers.	86
3 one day Safe Pass courses	60
	achieved Safe Pass cards
Driver Theory	21
Driving tests	3
Career Planning	94
fork-lift operator theory and practice course	10
other FAS/Adult education courses	7

In September 2006, the Education Unit was re-located to a new temporary building in order to accommodate the construction of a new accommodation block.

Tackling Drug Abuse

Offenders transferred to Shelton are required to undergo random urinalysis in order to maintain a drug free centre.

Other significant events in 2006

- Construction began on the new 44-bedroom unit.
- The farm continued to thrive with the construction of a two-bay polytunnell



St. Patrick's Institution
North Circular Road,
Dublin 7.

Governor: Seán Lennon

Profile

St. Patrick's Institution is a closed, medium security place of detention for males aged 16 to 21 years of age. It has a bed capacity of 217.

Prisoner Profile

There were 1080 persons committed and transferred to the Institution during the course of the year. The average daily prisoner population was 187.

Programmes

Title of programme	Throughput in 2006
Alcohol Awareness	22
Drug Awareness	10
Drug and Offending Behaviour	10
Pre-release Relapse Prevention workshop for Christmas Release	12
School Pre-release Programme	44
Personal Effectiveness	3
Breakthrough Programme	10

Participation in Educational Activities in 2006

Course	No sitting for subjects	No of subjects taken
Junior Certificate	32	6
Leaving Certificate	3	3
Other accredited courses - FETAC	69	11

Participants

Basic numeracy and literacy	163
IT skills courses (Introduction to Computers)	148
IT skills courses (Introduction to Computers) who availed of classes	351

Vocational training

Title of Course	Participants	Accredited
Catering:		
Induction to Food Hygiene	44	No
Education Unit:		
Communications	14	Yes
Art and Design	2	Yes
Modular Art	73	No
Introduction to Computers	148	No
Preparation for Work	16	Yes
Basic Cookery	127	No
Health Related Fitness	2	Yes
Mathematics	11	Yes
Pre-release Course	44	No
Crafts	105	No
Basic Guitar Course	69	No
Personal Effectiveness	3	Yes
EHOA (Food Hygiene Course)	21	Yes

Tackling Drug Abuse

Measures to tackle supply include:

- Screened Visits.
- Protective nets over exercise yards.
- Nominated visiting arrangements.
- Visitors caught bringing in drugs are banned.
- No physical contact on visits.
- Random searches after visits.
- CCTV coverage
- Staff vigilance
- Sanctions imposed on inmates caught receiving prohibited articles on visits.

Treatment Programmes

Twenty-eight inmates participated in the Detoxification Programme and 11 in the Methadone Maintenance Programme

Drug Free 'D' Division

Three hundred and forty-three inmates were housed on this Division during the year. The D Division has a cell accommodation capacity for 76 inmates and is a completely drug free division. Urine analysis is used to ensure inmates remain drug free.

Other Measures

One-to-one drug focus work with probation and welfare officers, including 2,112 individual interviews/counselling sessions

Significant Developments and Events in 2006

- A significant development in 2006 was the opening of the Work and Training Area in St. Patrick's Institution. This area had required comprehensive remodelling of the existing annex building and adjacent area in order to give five workshops to enable meaningful work and training activities take place. The building work was completed in the spring of 2006 and after subsequent fit out the area was opened for work and training on a staggered basis.
- The Woodwork Workshop opened on 31st July 2006. On entering the work shop, the inmates are given an Induction Course regarding Health and Safety and the safe use of the machinery. Inmates are given instruction in basic carpentry skills and wood turning. The carpentry workshop assisted the 'Double Vision' photographic exhibition (referred to below) with the supply of stands. The inmates create wooden garden furniture and hobby work however it is envisaged this Workshop will progress to FETAC certification in the near future.
- The Computer Skills Workshop opened on 31st July. Inmates will have the opportunity to complete a number of Courses in the Computer workshop including Mavis Beacon, ECDL, Equal Skills, eCollege and a number of specific courses in food hygiene and literacy skills.
- The Industrial Skills Workshop opened on 7th August. Inmates can learn a number of skills such as picture framing and various crafts in the industrial skills workshop. Inmates in this workshop were able to take an active part in the 'Double Vision' photographic exhibition; all photographs in the exhibition were mounted and framed in this workshop.
- The Industrial Cleaning Workshop opened on 14th August. Inmates are instructed in all aspects of cleaning for industry and can receive certification by the British Institute of Cleaning Science. There are many employment opportunities in this field and the qualifications that can be obtained in this workshop are well respected in industry.
- The Metal Workshop opened on 18th December. The metal shop is equipped to carry out small to medium fabrication projects in all types of steel bar. Typical types of projects are steel ornate holders for hanging baskets, garden benches, gates and ornate garden lamps. The welding processes currently in use in the metal shop are MMA (manual metal arc), TIG (tungsten inert gas) and MIG (metal inert gas welding). The metal shop will be assessed as a London City and Guilds test centre. When approved as a test centre this will allow for all inmates who reach the standard in welding and fabrication to be certified as London City and Guilds approved.
- 'Double Vision' Photographic Exhibition – This exhibition took place on the 19th December 2006. It was the culmination of the partnership between the Irish Prison Education Service and the Arts Council's Artist in Prison Scheme. The workshops were an artistic project in which French photographer Klavdij Sluban gave volunteer inmates a brief education in photography as an artistic expression. Participants were allowed to take photographs on specific aspects within the institution. The exhibition of their photographs was a great success and the exhibits were subsequently also shown in the Sirius Arts Centre in Cobh, Co. Cork.
- The Drug Free Division continues to pilot the Positive Sentence Management Programme in St Patrick's Institution. Two hundred and forty-eight inmates took part in the Positive Sentence Management Programme in 2006.



Training Unit

Glengariff Parade,
Dublin 7.

Governor: John O'Brien

Profile

The Training Unit is a semi-open, low security prison for males aged 18 years and over, serving sentences up to life. Long sentence prisoners are normally nearing the end of their sentence. The prison has accommodation for 96 prisoners in single rooms.

Prisoner Population

One hundred and seventy-seven prisoners were transferred to the Training Unit in 2006. The average daily prisoner population was 92.

Prisoner Programmes

Programme	Participants in 2006
CONNECT Induction Programmes (12)	107
Driver Theory Test	20
Driver Theory Test (HGV)	4
Safe Pass	24
Fork Lift Course	4

The following vocational training courses, accredited by City and Guilds were provided in the Industrial Training Workshops:

Programme	Participants in 2006
Welding	40
Electronics	16
Computers	22

Tackling Drug Abuse

The Training Unit is drugs free centre for all prisoners. Urinalysis was used extensively in 2006 to ensure the validity of the system. Any offender who tests positive for any banned substance is returned to the previous institution. All offenders were assisted by the many courses provided to help reduce demand for drugs and by one-to-one counselling with the Probation and Welfare Service and the Psychologist.

Interaction with the local community

- Between twenty and thirty offenders were released on a daily basis (Monday to Friday) to attend community based work initiatives such as PACE, Triple R, Pathways, the Mountjoy Workparty, and with various employers who have given work to offenders prior to committal.
- A completely equipped computer room was made available to all offenders from 5 to 9 p.m. weekdays, all day Saturdays and Sundays and whenever the school and workshops are closed.



Wheatfield Prison

Cloverhill Road, Clondalkin,
Dublin 22.

Governor: Edward Whelan

Profile

Closed medium security committal prison for male offenders aged 18 and over on remand and serving sentences up to life. Since 1st September 2006 it is the committal prison for Wicklow, Wexford, Louth, Meath and Monaghan Court areas. The bed capacity is 370.

Prisoner Population

There were 69 committals to Wheatfield Prison in 2006. The average daily prisoner population was 366.

Participation in Work and Training Activities

There were 947 prisoners participating in work and training during 2006. Prisoners who completed training programmes were awarded various certificates of achievement, which included:

- EHOA Primary Course in Food Hygiene.
- FETAC Elementary Cookery Programme.
- Guild of Cleaners and Launderers Technician Certificate.
- MIG TIB ARC Welding Certificate.
- FETAC Engineering Process.
- City and Guilds Computer Skills.
- Safe Pass.
- Abrasive Wheel.
- Construction Skills.
- Road and Street Workers Safety
- An Gaisce Presidents Bronze, Silver and Gold Medal Awards
- City and Guilds Diploma in Culinary Skills

Participation in Educational Activities

There were 384 prisoners enrolled in various educational classes in 2006.

- Leaving Certificate 4 entries
- Junior Certificate 10 entries
- FETAC Awards 71 students received awards
- Distance Education Courses 19 students enrolled.

Drama

Three very different pieces emerged from the Drama Workshop - "Many Voices", "Leaving" and "Othello". Many students involved received certification in Drama.

Music

In October, the musicians presented "The Dark Side of the Moon". Twelve students received certificates in Music Theory from the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music.

Arts

Arts Day took place in June. This is a celebration of students work in the creative arts throughout the year.

Significant Developments and Events During 2006

- The Catering Division were successful in achieving the following awards:
- Public Service Excellence award for laundry service to inmates in Wheatfield and Cloverhill Prisons.
- Re-certification in NSAI ISO 9001-2000 (catering area)
- EIQA Emerald Hygiene Mark (Catering)
- Retained Q Mark status in the new Laundry Area.
- Re-Certification to ISO 22000- -International Standard for Food Management
- EFQM; EIQA Committed to Excellence Category Award Winners.
- EIQA Emerald Hygiene and Food Safety Category Winners
- City and Guilds Catering 7065 was introduced during 2006. This course offers qualifications in Culinary Art: Successful candidates will qualify as chefs on successfully completing of 2 years of study.



08

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 : All Committals to prisons and places of detention in 2006**Table 19: Committals to Prison, 2000 - 2006**

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number	11,626	12,127	11,860	11,775	10,657	10,658	12,157
Change	-	501	-267	-85	-1,118	1	1,499
% change	-	4.3%	-2.2%	-0.7%	-9.5%	0.0%	14.1%

Note: Total committals during the year (not persons).

Committals are new entries during the year or re-entries following a period out . For any one year, committals on sentence are excluded if the person was already on remand in custody

Table 20: Committals to Prison 2006 classified by type of committal and gender

Committal Type	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total	%
	n	n	n	%	%	%	
Sentenced	402	5,240	5,642	7.1	92.9	100.0	46.4
Remand	459	4,852	5,311	8.6	91.4	100.0	43.7
Immigration	292	904	1,196	24.4	75.6	100.0	9.8
Indefinite contempt of court	-	8	8	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.1
Total	1,153	11,004	12,157	9.5	90.5	100.0	100.0

Table 21: Committals by month in 2006

January	957
February	987
March	1,059
April	935
May	1,208
June	1,081
July	1,148
August	651
September	952
October	1,172
November	1,161
December	846
Total	12,157
Average	1,013

Persons Committed to Prisons and Places of Detention
Table 22: Persons committed to prison, 2001 - 2006

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number	9,539	9,716	9,814	8,820	8,686	9,700
Change	-	177	98	-994	-134	1,014
% change	-	1.9%	1.0%	-10.1%	-1.5%	11.7%

Figures relate to persons newly committed to prison (i.e. not already on remand or serving another sentence)

Table 23: Age and gender of persons committed in 2006

Age (years)	Female	Male	Total	%
15	1	2	3	-
16	4	129	133	1.4
17	12	149	161	1.7
18 - < 21	117	1,214	1,331	13.7
21 - < 25	185	1,828	2,013	20.8
25 - < 30	223	1,890	2,113	21.8
30 - < 40	290	2,183	2,473	25.5
40 - < 50	86	952	1,038	10.7
50+	42	393	435	4.5
Total	960	8,740	9,700	100.0
%	9.9	90.1	100.0	-

Table 24: Debtor/Fine defaulters

Type	Female n	Male n	Total n	Female %	Male %	Total %
Debtor	10	184	194	5.2	94.8	100
Fine Sentence	129	960	1,089	11.8	88.2	100
Total	139	1,144	1,283	10.8	89.2	100

Table 25: Numbers in Custody by month in 2006

Prison	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Arbour Hill	138	135	137	139	139	139	138	139	139	138	139	139
Castlerea	209	203	214	211	209	220	222	211	205	224	227	227
Cloverhill	390	399	394	365	426	403	387	384	425	413	447	395
Cork	244	254	255	259	258	244	255	244	255	252	262	266
Limerick (f)	14	14	19	18	19	16	20	17	17	17	18	17
Limerick (m)	238	251	260	262	277	268	283	281	275	276	278	266
Loughan	61	83	68	83	83	99	91	85	74	83	94	95
Midlands	420	435	428	434	431	448	445	439	422	429	421	446
Mountjoy (f)	81	84	95	94	83	89	90	84	86	93	94	92
Mountjoy (m)	464	498	508	494	491	501	514	464	438	452	453	480
Portlaoise	113	112	108	116	113	114	110	117	113	114	114	120
Shelton Abbey	48	54	49	46	46	43	59	57	52	49	58	57
St Patrick's	164	183	198	194	192	184	217	198	182	180	186	185
Training Unit	88	93	96	93	93	90	90	95	94	88	96	86
Wheatfield	344	347	353	356	377	377	373	379	368	372	377	373
Totals	3,016	3,145	3,182	3,164	3,237	3,235	3,294	3,194	3,145	3,180	3,264	3,244

Appendix 2 : Statistics on prison population on 7th December 2006
Table 26: Persons in custody under Sentence on 7th December 2006 - Offences classified by Age

	16	17	18 - < 21	21 - < 25	25 - < 30	30 - < 40	40 - < 50	50+	Total
Murder	-	-	4	24	34	71	54	42	229
Manslaughter	-	-	5	15	11	28	10	9	78
Sexual Offences	-	2	9	15	25	38	59	84	232
Other Offences against the Person	1	5	57	111	88	89	25	11	387
Offences against Property with violence	-	1	13	18	30	56	17	3	138
Offences against Property without violence	8	18	115	159	170	185	49	10	714
Drug Offences	-	1	19	62	111	118	44	26	381
Road Traffic Offences	2	7	44	53	48	40	21	6	221
Other Offences	-	-	30	73	86	93	48	15	345
Total	11	34	296	530	603	718	327	206	2,725

Table 27: Offence Profile of Prisoners in custody under sentence on 7 December 2006

	Female	Male	Total
Group 1: Offences against the Person			
Murder	5	224	229
Manslaughter	4	74	78
Sexual Offences	1	231	232
Other Offences against the Person	7	380	387
Total Group 1	17	909	926
Group 2: Offences against Property with violence	2	136	138
Group 3: Offences against Property without violence	34	680	714
Group 4: Other Offences			
Drug Offences	13	368	381
Road Traffic Offences	2	219	221
Other Offences	14	331	345
Total Group 4	29	918	947
Total	82	2,643	2,725

Table 28: Persons in Custody under Sentence on 7th December 2006 - Offences classified by sentence length

	< 3 mths	3 - < 6 mths	6 - < 12 mths	1 - < 2 yrs	2 - < 3 yrs	3 - < 5 yrs	5 - < 10 yrs	10+ yrs	Life	Total
Murder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5*	224	229
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	1	4	50	23	1	79
Sexual Offences	-	1	-	9	25	37	102	51	7	232
Other Offences against the Person	6	22	44	74	62	92	65	21	1	387
Offences against Property with violence	-	-	2	11	10	27	59	29	-	138
Offences against Property without violence	14	39	136	178	111	144	81	10	1	714
Drug Offences	2	11	22	23	41	96	147	39	-	381
Road Traffic Offences	19	49	65	52	13	15	8	-	-	221
Other Offences	46	42	54	29	21	71	70	11	-	344
Total	87	164	323	376	284	486	582	189	234	2,725

5* = 4 people are serving a 40 years for a 'Capital Murder' and 1 person received 20 years for murder in a different jurisdiction, and was repatriated to Ireland

Table 29: Debtors and Default of Fine in custody on 7th December 2007

Debtor/Fines	Female	Male	Total
Debtor	1	7	8
Fine Sentence	3	11	14
Total	4	18	22

Appendix 3: Counting rules and recording practice

The statistical tables in this annual report were compiled on the basis of the following counting rules and recording practices:

Counting of committals

Where a person is committed on more than one separate occasion during the year, he/she is counted once for each reception. However, where an offender currently serving a sentence receives a further prison sentence, this is not counted as a separate reception.

Recording of offences

In the case of an individual committed under sentence for more than one offence, only the principal offence is recorded in the tables. The offence selected as the principal offence is that for which the heaviest sentence is imposed.

Age of offenders

The age of offender in the tables is recorded as the offender's age at date of committal.

Guide to table headings

In tables relating to age, the age range is indicated as 16, 17, 18 less than 21, 21 less than 25, etc.. The convention used is that, For example, '18 less than 21' means aged from 18 years and no days up to and including 20 years and 364 days old.

In the case of tables referring to sentence length e.g., 3 mths - <6 mths, 1 year - <2 years, the convention used is that '3 mths - <6mths' means a sentence 90 days up to and including a sentence of one day less than 6 calendar months, '1 year - <2 years' means a sentence from one calendar year up to and including a sentence of one day less than two calendar years.

Offence classifications

This report classifies 1,400 offences in four groups, i.e. offences against the person, offences against property with violence, offences against property without violence and other offences. Particulars of offences included in each group are available from the Corporate Affairs Directorate, Irish Prison Service, Ballinalee Road, Longford. E-mail: info@irishprisons.ie.



Irish Prison Service

Irish Prison Service HQ, IDA Business Park, Ballinalee Road, Longford, County Longford.
T: (043) 35 100 **F:** (043) 35 101 **E:** info@irishprisons.ie **W:** www.irishprisons.ie