Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Choiste Chuairte Phríosún Chorcaí 2011

Tionóladh cruinnithe míosúla agus thug comhaltaí an choiste cuairt ar rannóga éagsúla agus rinne siad iniúchadh orthu trí shocrú agus tugadh cuairteanna gan fógra orthu chomh maith.

Déileáladh le hiarratais príosúnach maidir le buaileadh le comhaltaí an choiste le fadhbanna ar bith a phlé agus tugadh na fadhbanna ar aird na nGobharnóirí agus lorgaíodh idirghabhálacha mar ba chuí.

Iarratais Phearsanta
Freastalaíodh go pras ar phríosúnaigh a d'iarr buaileadh le comhaltaí an choiste agus tugadh neart ama dóibh lena bhfadhbanna a phlé. Cuireadh gach cúrsa dá leithéid ar aird na nGobharnóirí agus dhéileáil siad leo gan mhoill. Is iad seo a leanas samplaí de na hiarratais sin:

1. Aistriú go príosúin eile
2. Cóiríocht cillíní - plódú.
3. Sláintíocht sna cillíní - na fualáin a fholmhú
4. Cuairteanna breise ó dhaoine muintire

Oideachas agus Oiliúint:
Tá gach clár ag oibriú ar an uasacmhainneacht. Tugadh cláir úra isteach chomh maith agus inseoidh príosúnaigh a nglacann páirt iontu faoi na tairbhí a fhaigheann siad astu. Tugtar moladh don mhodúl réamhscaoilte amach. Tá príosúnaigh á n-ullmhú anois dá scaoileadh amach, rud atá an-tábhachtach.
Is iad seo a leanas réimsí atá cumhdaithe sa chúrsa seo.
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1. Cóiríocht ar an taobh amuigh
2. Scileanna Poist
3. Teicnící Agallaimh
4. Teidlíochtaí sochar leasa
5. Feasacht ar ghrúpaí tacaíochta pearsanta atá ar fáil

Taispeántas Ceardaíochta.
Tionóladh é seo i gceardlanna an phríosúin. D'éirigh go han-mhaith ar fad leis. Cuireadh cuairteoirí ar an eolas faoin obair iontach atá á déanamh le príosúnaigh a athshlánú agus faoi na scileanna is féidir a fhorbairt le cuidiú leo fostaíocht a fháil nuair a scaoilfear amach iad. Tugtar moladh don fhoireann eile maidir leis seo.

Cuairt ar Fhoras Naomh Pádraig
Thug comhaltaí an choiste cuairt ar an bpríosún thuasluaite atá le haghaidh ciontóirí óga fir. Thiocfaí na hiarrachtaí móra a bhí á ndéanamh le tuilleadh oideachais a chur ar phríosúnaigh agus lena n-athshlánú tuilleadh amach anseo dá scaoileadh amach sa saol ar an taobh amuigh a fheiceáil. Comhaontaíodh é go mbeadh an reachtaíocht atá beartaithe ag an Aire maidir le clár Pobail a thabhairt isteach le haghaidh ciontóirí óga ina thionscadal fiúntach. Ár mbuíochas leis an nGobharnóir agus leis an bhfoireann agus le Denis Murphy, Cathaoirleach an Choiste Cuairte as a n-am agus an n-aird ar an lá.

Príosún úr Chorcaí, Cill Uird, Co. Chorcaí
Tá dul chun cinn an phríosúin bheartaithe seo á chur in iúl do na príosúnaigh seo agus táthar á gcoinneáil suas chun dáta maidir leis. Tá súil againn go ndéanfar cinneadh deimhneach faoi go luath.

Oiliúint
Tugtar cuireadh do Theagascóirí Cúrsaí le haitheasc a thabhairt do chomhaltaí an Choiste ar bhonn rialta ag cur a seirbhísí comhairleoireachta agus oiliúna leanúnacha in iúl dóibh. Tá an fhaisnéis seo tábhachtach ionas go gcuirfear comhaltaí ar an eolas faoi chúrsaí úra agus tugtha suas chun dáta maidir le cúrsaí leanúnacha.

Achoimre
D'ainneoin na n-iarrachtaí uile lena mbaineann, tá roinnt fadhbanna ann fós, cosúil le:

- Easnaimh Foirne
- Plódú
- Na fualáin a fholmhú, sláintíocht sna cillíní
- Foirgneamh príosúin Victeoiriach atá as dáta

Ar an taobh deimhneach de sainaithníodh an méid seo a leanas:
- Córas scagtha úr thar barr
- Úsáid rathúil madra bolaidh i mbrath drugaí

Seirbhís Meabhairshláinte
Lean an fhoireann de sheirbhís Síceolaíochta agus Comhairleoireachta a chur ar fáil. Baineann ríthábhacht leis an tseirbhís seo agus comhaontaíodh é gur cheart leibhéil na foirne a choinneáil ag na figiúirí reatha.

Conclúid
Ba mhaith leis an comhaltaí a mbuíochas a chur in iúl don Ghobharnóir, an tUasal James Collins, ár Rúnaí Eileen Horgan agus ár bhfoireann go léir as a gcomhoibriú agus as an gcúirtéis a thaispeáin siad i gcónaí.

Ár mbuíochas chomh maith do na heagraíochtaí deonacha a thug a n-am ar son leas na bpríosúnach:

Legion of Mary
Clann Shíomóin Chorcaí
Naomh Uinseann de Pól
Alcólaigh gan Ainm
Séiplínigh an Phríosúin
Agus gach duine eile a thug a n-am

Sínithe thar ceann Choiste Cuairte an Phríosúin

Cork Prison Visiting Committee Annual Report 2011

Monthly meetings were held and committee members visited and inspected various departments by arrangement and unannounced visits also took place.

Prisoner's requests to meet committee members to discuss any problems were dealt with and the problems brought to the Governors attention and interventions sought where necessary.

Personal Requests

Prisoners who requested to meet committee members were met promptly and were given ample time to discuss their problems. All such matters were brought to the Governors attention and seen to without delay. Examples of such requests were:

1. Transfer to other prisons
2. Cell accommodation – overcrowding
3. In cell sanitation – slopping out
4. Extra visits by relatives

Education and Training:

All programmes are working to their maximum potential. New programmes have also been introduced and prisoners who participate in them will inform you of the benefits they receive from them. The pre release module is to be commended. Prisoners are now being prepared for release which is important.

Areas covered in this course are:

1. Outside accommodation
2. Job Skills
3. Interview Techniques
4. Welfare benefit entitlements
5. Awareness of personal support groups available

Craft Exhibition:

This was held in the prison workshops. It was a huge success. Visitors were made aware of the great work being done to rehabilitate prisoners and also the skills which can be developed to help them to gain employment on release. All staff are to be commended for this.

Visit to St. Patrick's Institution

Committee members visited the above Institution which is for young male offenders. One could see the great efforts being made to future educate and rehabilitate inmates for release to the outside world. It was agreed that the Minister's proposed legislation to introduce Community work for young offenders will be a worthwhile project. Our thanks to the Governor, staff and Denis Murphy, Chairperson of Visiting Committee for their time and attention on the day.

New Cork Prison, Kilworth, Co. Cork

The members are being informed and kept up to date on the progress of this proposed prison. Hopefully a positive decision will be made in the near future.

Training

Course tutors are invited to address the committee members on a regular basis informing them of their ongoing training and counselling services. This information is important so that members are informed of new courses and updated regarding ongoing courses.

Summary

Despite the efforts of all concerned, there remain some problems such as:

- Staff Shortages
- Overcrowding
- Slopping out, in cell sanitation
- Outdated Victorian prison building

On a positive side the following were identified:

- Excellent new screening system
- Successful use of sniffer dog in drug detection

Mental Health Service

The staff involved continue to provide Psychology and Counselling service. This service is of the utmost importance and it is agreed that the staff levels should be maintained at present numbers.

Conclusion

The members would like to express their appreciation and thanks to the Governor, Mr James Collins, our Secretary Eileen Horgan and all staff for their cooperation and courtesy shown to the members at all times.

Our thanks also to all the voluntary organisations who give their time for the welfare of prisoners:

Legion of Mary
Cork Simon
St. Vincent de Paul
Alcoholics Anonymous
Prison Chaplains
And all others who give their time

Signed on behalf of the Prison Visiting Committee

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John Murphy
Chairperson