



Seirbhís Phríosúin  
na hÉireann  
Irish Prison Service



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Irish Prison Service  
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CREATING A BETTER ENVIRONMENT





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Castlerea Prison raised the Olympic flag twice in 2021 in support of two local athletes, Aoife O'Rourke and Rachel Timothy, competing in the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.





# Creating A Better Environment

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2021





# DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

To: Minister  
Helen McEntee T.D.,

Dear Minister,

I am pleased to transmit to you the Annual Report of the Irish Prison Service for 2021.

2021 was a hugely challenging year for the Irish Prison Service as we continued to manage the challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic. The continued emergence of new Covid-19 variants resulting in high infection rates in our communities made it more difficult to prevent the spread of the virus into prisons across the estate.

As a result, the Service managed multiple outbreaks (17) across the system in 2021 resulting in 401 confirmed staff cases and 356 confirmed prisoner cases of Covid-19. These outbreaks were expertly managed by our dedicated management teams and staff across the Service, in line with our *Contingency Plan for the Management of Covid-19 Outbreaks*, and I am indebted to their professionalism and dedication throughout the year.

In 2020 I reported to you that we had reengineered our service delivery methods and introduced new innovative means of maintaining services to prisoners and their families. In 2021, these new methods of service delivery were enhanced and became embedded as tools for service delivery. We were honoured in 2021 to be awarded a Civil Service Excellence and Innovation Award for "**Leading Reform During COVID-19**", which was recognition of the efforts made by our staff to maintain the provision of essential services in the most challenging environment. Learning from our experiences in 2020 and 2021 innovation will be at the centre of our thinking going forward and will feature strongly in our next Strategic Plan on which work will commence in late 2022.

I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of the prisoners in our care who worked closely



Caron McCaffrey | Director General

with us to ensure the safety of all within the system. We are cognisant of the impact that more restrictive regimes had on them and their families, especially during outbreaks. We have been mindful of this at all times when making critical decisions on the implementation of restrictions and the need for swift lifting of same when safe to do so.

## Prison Numbers

This Annual Report includes a detailed statistical analysis of prison numbers in 2021 including annual committals data and an overview of a snapshot of the prison population.

I reported last year that the Covid-19 pandemic had impacted significantly on committals to prison with reduced committals being experienced due to reduced courts activity. This had halted the previous trend up to 2019 when prison numbers were increasing steadily.

There was a minor decrease in the number of committals to prison in 2021, which is a continued reflection of the reduced courts activity during





the year. The total number of committals was 6,133, which represented a 3.3% decrease on the previous year (6,340). The continued lower rate of committal resulted in the number in custody throughout 2021 being maintained at less than 3,900. However, the data shows an incremental increase in the number in custody throughout the year, with the number in custody reaching almost 3,900 on a number of occasions before levelling off by year end to 3,700.

The average number in custody in 2021 was 3,792 compared to 3,824 in 2020, a decrease of .84% (-32). The average number of females in custody was 144, a 2.7% (-4) decrease on 2020 and the average number of males was 3,648, a decrease of .76% (-28) on the previous year's figure.

In 2021 the number of persons held on remand grew significantly throughout the year increasing from 615 in January 2021 to 867 in November. The average number held on remand in 2021 was 712 and while this decrease (-3.5%) on the 2020 figure reflects the reduced committals it is higher than the 2019 figure. There was evidence of a longer duration of remand on average. The proportion of remand prisoners in custody for a period of one year or more increased from 5% of all remand prisoners in March 2020 to 12.7% of all remand prisoners in December 2021.

## Inspector of Prisons

The Inspector of Prisons completed Covid-19 Thematic Inspections of prisons in 2021. These inspections provide important oversight of our prisons and I welcome the positive commentary made by the Office of the Inspector in terms of the efforts made by the Service to protect the prison population from Covid-19. The Irish Prison Service has developed action plans to address the recommendations and we will continue to work with the Office of the Inspector of Prisons with regard to their implementation.

## Strategic Plan 2019 - 2022

The Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 - 2022 set out our vision in 2019 for the Service and was built of 5 key pillars including Staff Support, Prisoner Support, Safe and Secure Custody, the Prison Estate and Governance.

This Annual Report includes a comprehensive update on the delivery of our Strategic Actions in 2021. I am pleased to report that notwithstanding the challenges of Covid-19 considerable work has been completed by the Service on implementing the wide range of actions and commitments and some of the key actions delivered are set out in summary at the beginning of the Chapter on Strategic Objectives (page 48).

Work now turns to the next iteration of our Strategic Plan which will be very much informed by our experiences over the past two years. As a Service we continue to grow, learn and evolve in order to provide the very best level of services for those in our care, for their families and for our communities as we play our part in making Ireland safer for all its citizens.

Caron McCaffrey | Director General





(L to r) Maeve Monaghan (CEO, NOW Group), Angela Denning (CEO, The Courts Service), Patricia O'Moore (Dublin District Coroner's Court), Seamus Beirne (Irish Prison Service).

### JAM Card Initiative

In September 2021, the Irish Prison Service, Courts Service and Dublin Coroners Court launched the JAM Card initiative with JAM Card organisation NOW Group at the Criminal Courts of Justice. The JAM Card allows people to ask for a minute of patience in any situation they need it including in shops, restaurants, public transport and accessing public services. It is also available as an app for smartphones that allows users to select different screen display options including 'I have autism', 'I have a condition' and 'I have a brain injury'. The JAM card initiative was piloted in Midlands Prison and Castlerea Prison, where staff dealing with the public were trained, including those in the visits and search areas. This initiative will be rolled out across the Prison Estate into 2022.



# OVERVIEW OF THE IRISH PRISON SERVICE



## TEAM WORK

We achieve more by working together than we can as individuals working alone

## INTEGRITY

We must always have the courage to do the right thing, the decent thing ...even when no one else is watching

## POTENTIAL

Everyone has the potential to be a better person and we actively seek to provide staff and those in custody with opportunities to realise and achieve this

## SAFETY

We actively contribute to maintaining an environment in which staff and those in our custody feel emotionally and physically safe and ultimately, contribute to a safer community

## SUPPORT

We actively seek to provide supports to staff and support rehabilitation of those in custody





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# THE ORGANISATION

# THE ORGANISATION

Political responsibility for the prison system in Ireland is vested in the Minister for Justice. The Irish Prison Service operates as an Office of the Department of Justice and is headed by the Director General supported by five Directors.

The Irish Prison Service forms a key component of the criminal justice system. Its fundamental role is to help achieve a safer and fairer Ireland by:

- ▲ Providing safe and secure custody with dignity of care for people committed to prison.
- ▲ Reducing the risk of harm to the public and the likelihood of reoffending by providing rehabilitation for people in prison.
- ▲ Working with the Probation Service to create an integrated offender management programme.
- ▲ Assisting people in prison maintain family relations and contact with the wider community.

- ▲ Ensuring the health and safety of all those who live and work in our prisons through the implementation of effective infection control measures and supporting policies and procedures at local and national level.

The Irish Prison Service is responsible for the safe and secure custody of persons sentenced to prison, held on remand, or held on immigration matters. It is responsible for ensuring that convicted persons properly serve their sentence and for providing them with opportunities to engage in a meaningful way to reduce the likelihood of reoffending and assist their reintegration into law-abiding society.

The Irish Prison Service deals with male and female offenders who are 18 years of age or older.

The Irish Prison Service is administered centrally, with its headquarters located in Longford Town.



Fig. 1 The Irish Criminal Justice System



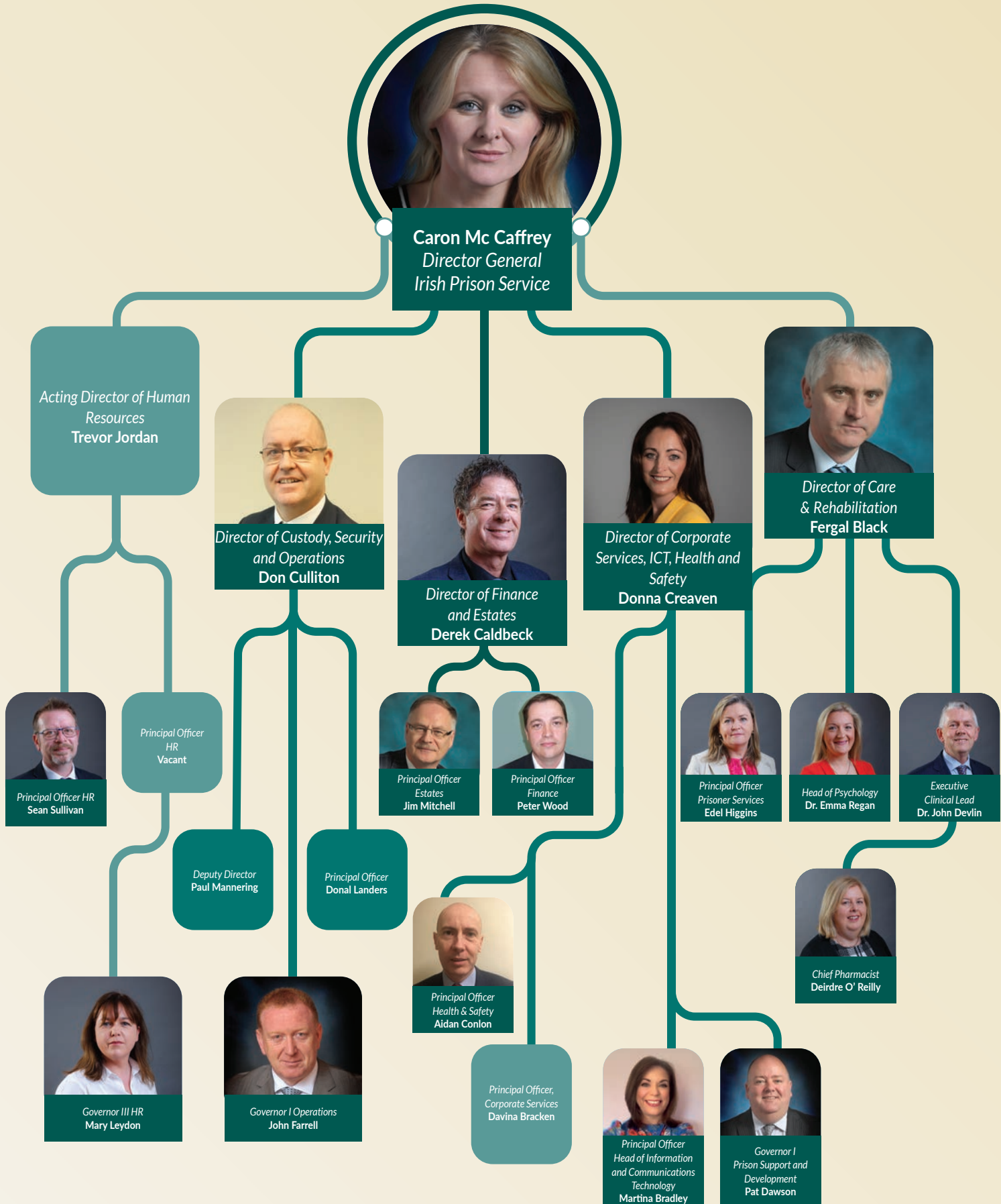
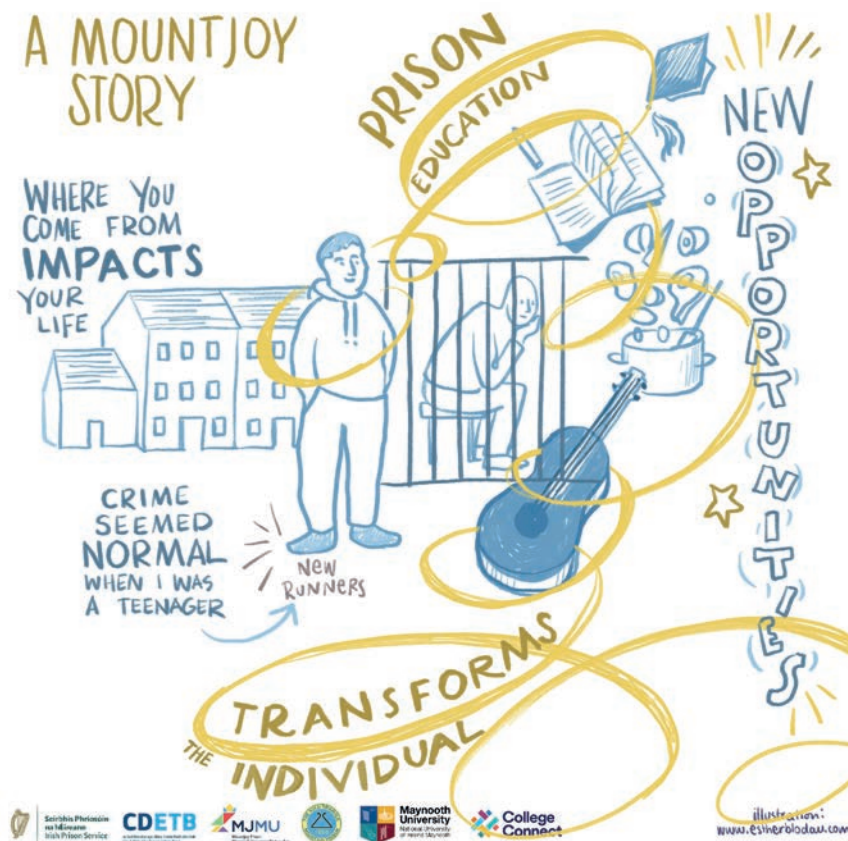


Fig 2. Irish Prison Service Headquarters and Directorates



The **Mountjoy Prison and Maynooth University Partnership (MJMU)** was launched in April 2021. This online event was hosted by Eddie Mullins, Governor of Mountjoy Prison and Professor Aislínn O'Donnell, Head of the Department of Education at Maynooth University. Minister Simon Harris attended to provide his Department's endorsement of the partnership. The unique partnership promotes access to education and

supports the reintegration of prisoners and former prisoners in society. Building on the great work which has already been taking place between the University and Mountjoy, the partnership provides strategic direction and support for a range of new initiatives, including 'The Story Exchange', 'Unlocking Potential' and the 'Mountjoy Lecture Series'.







## Living with Covid-19 in 2021 and delivering Output Targets in a Restricted Prison Environment.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been hugely challenging for the Irish Prison Service as we sought to keep all those who live and work in our prisons safe.

2020 saw the introduction of new innovative methods of service delivery including - the delivery of teleservices for Chaplaincy and Psychology; the carrying out of visits with family and friends virtually using video link technology; the introduction of electronic money transfer systems in partnership with An Post; and the introduction of in-cell telephones to help prisoners keep in contact with their loved ones and to support their mental health.

However, in early 2021 it became clear that living with Covid-19 was going to be a reality for some time. Many of these new systems, introduced in response to Covid-19, became embedded as essential tools for the delivery of prisoner services in 2021. These new innovative means of service delivery have been permanently retained as we have moved into a less restricted environment across the estate.

### Achieving Output Targets in a Global Pandemic

The Irish Prison Service has a Performance Delivery Agreement with the Department of Justice which is reviewed annually. The Performance Delivery Agreement sets out a number of Key Performance Indicators that are linked to Irish Prison Service strategic priorities.

Notwithstanding the challenges presented by Covid-19 since 2020, the Irish Prison Service has continued to deliver on our strategic priorities as set out in our current Strategic Plan. A more detailed update on the delivery of the Strategic Plan is set out in the 'Strategic Objectives' chapter.

### Output Area/Initiatives - Metrics

#### Output Area 1 - Create a more safe and secure custodial setting.

|                        |          |     |
|------------------------|----------|-----|
| Average occupancy rate | Target:  | 90% |
|                        | Outturn: | 86% |

The number in custody in prisons was reduced to approximately 3,600 from March 2020 to

June 2020 to ensure effective infection control measures in response to the threat posed by Covid-19.

The Irish Prison Service witnessed a gradual increase in the Prison Population throughout 2021 with numbers rising to 3,906 by mid-year. The numbers reduced somewhat by year end with the average number in custody over the course of the year being 3,792. This equates to an average occupancy rate of 87% which is below the target of 90%.

There were 6,133 committals to prison in 2021, which is a 3% decrease on the 2020 figure of 6,340. The Irish Prison Service continued the judicious use of temporary release in 2021 to ensure the prison population was maintained below 90% to ensure effective infection control measures were possible.

#### Output Area 2 - Prisoner Education and Training

|  |          |       |
|--|----------|-------|
| Average attendance at work training as a percentage of capacity of workshops         | Target:  | 59%   |
|  | Outturn: | 52.9% |
| % of total prison population attending prison education classes and blended learning | Target:  | 35%   |
|  | Outturn: | 28%   |
| Referrals to IASIO GATE (Training and Employment) Service                            | Target:  | 600   |
|  | Outturn: | 588   |

The provision of education and work and training opportunities were impacted during 2021 with restrictions in participation rates being experienced across the estate. Prison schools were closed due to Covid-19 from 12 March 2020 until September 2020 and in January 2021 until the end of April 2021. The Output Targets for Education and Work and Training were reduced for 2021 to reflect the additional restrictions in place.

Education was provided in 2021 through a blended model including in class learning and in-cell learning. Due to infection control measures prison schools operated on a reduced capacity for all of 2021. The average attendance rate in education was 28%. The target attendance rate for 2021 was 35%.

Prison schools were able to provide increased education capacity from November 2021, in line with schools in the community, due to less restrictive infection control measures.

There were several impacts on the Work and Training Service in prisons due to Covid-19 during 2021. Essential services such as catering, laundry, industrial cleaning and waste management continued, with increased activity undertaken by cleaners at this time as part of the infection control arrangements. The numbers of prisoners engaged in all workshops like education, had to be reduced due to social distancing requirements.

The external employment arrangements from Shelton Abbey and Loughan House were suspended due to the closure of non-essential businesses.

The 2021 target for the average attendance at work training as a percentage of capacity of workshops was 59% with the 2021 outturn being 52%.

Access to prisoners remained a challenge for the Training and Employment Service to deliver interventions. The Training and Employment Service was also re-purposed as the Resettlement Service at times to provide a response to the demand to support homeless people leaving prison.

### Output Area 3 – Psychology Service

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Prisoners seen by Psychology Service              | Target: 1,200<br>Outturn: 1,407 |
| Group or one-to-one psychology sessions completed | Target: 6,000<br>Outturn: 7,095 |

The Psychology Service continued to operate as an essential clinical service throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, with a return to face to face group and individual engagement across the estate with the appropriate health and safety measures in place. Some hybrid working continued as required.

In August 2021 the Service welcomed the 2021 cohort of Assistant Psychologists (APs). Thirteen APs started one year contracts across the estate and their focus remains on primary care mental health and supporting young people’s sentence management (18 – 24 year olds with a sentence of one year or more, without post release supervision).

The target number of clients seen by the Psychology Service in 2021 was 1,200, with an outturn of 1,407. The target number of sessions provided was 6,000 with a 7,095 outturn.

A Covid-19 outbreak-specific mental health protocol was developed and implemented by the Psychology Service in 2021. This approach incorporates a three-tiered layered care model which includes preventative, enhanced and acute mental health care interventions. This includes the use of tablet computers to proactively engage people on significantly restrictive measures, where required.

The Irish Prison Service has continued to enhance the psychology provision in prisons and in 2021 additional resources were sought and approved in the 2022 Estimates process. The recruitment of additional staff will take place in 2022. The additional resources will allow the Irish Prison Service to increase the team of psychologists working with people convicted of sexual violence to address their risks and needs and seek to enhance public safety. The additional funding will also allow for an increase to some local prison psychology teams and the recruitment of a part-time psychologist for Shelton Abbey and Loughan House Open Centres.

### Output Area 4 – Provision of Drug Treatment in Prisons

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Prisoners engaged with drug counselling services | Target: 1,950<br>Outturn: 1,930 |
|--|---------------------------------|

The Irish Prison Service continued to provide essential drug treatment services throughout 2021.

There was a continuation of a blended type of service provision as introduced in 2020. Where possible, clients were seen face to face in prisons. However, if that was not possible, alternative arrangements such as video phone or phone contact were used.

On average 742 counselling sessions were provided each month in 2021. There were on average 81 assessments and 194 brief interventions each month. It is important to note that ‘Group Work’, which is a key aspect of the Service provision was generally not possible in 2021 due to risk of the spread of infection. The lack of ‘Group Work’ sessions impacted on the total number of interventions delivered.

In May 2020 MQI (Merchants Quay Ireland) began a phone service to prisoners who needed





to isolate. This has developed and evolved since then and throughout 2021 and is now a point of contact for all prisoners who have access to a phone line. Some use the line to check in with a counsellor, receive information or request updates on their care plan. This service receives an average of 654 calls each month.

#### Other Output Areas – Non-metric

##### **Output 1 – Infection Control and Prevent Infection Outbreak in Prisons.**

The Irish Prison Service introduced a range of measures in 2020 with the aim of protecting the prison population from Covid-19. The Directors Group, chaired by the Director General, met almost every day throughout 2021 to consider the strategic management of the prison system during Covid-19 and to agree modifications to Covid-19 related policies and procedures.

The Irish Prison Service Emergency Planning Team (“ERPT”), chaired by the Director of Corporate Services met weekly to develop and agree the specific policies and protocols for the management of Covid-19 across the estate. This included the continuous review of the comprehensive *Covid-19 Contingency Plan for the Management of Outbreaks in Prisons*.

In 2021, the Irish Prison Service secured a prison specific vaccination programme for prisoners and staff which was delivered by the National Ambulance Service with the support of prison healthcare teams. Under this programme over 550 staff were vaccinated, with the remainder were vaccinated in the community. The roll out of the vaccine programme for prisoners in 2021 resulted in approximately 90% uptake in most prisons with a total of 3,271 first and second doses being administered.

The Irish Prison Service continued to review and assess infection control measures on a weekly basis throughout 2021. The implementation of the Covid-19 vaccination programme which saw approximately 90% of the prison population vaccinated against the disease allowed the Irish Prison Service to reduce the level of restrictions in most prisons in the second half of the year. This included the resumption of physical visits, the restoration of the delivery of face to face services and the resumption of temporary release programmes.

##### **Management of Covid-19 Outbreaks.**

The emergence of the highly transmissible Omicron variant of Covid-19 had a considerable impact on the Irish Prison Service with multiple outbreaks being experienced across the system. In 2021 there were **17** Covid-19 outbreaks managed across the system resulting in **401** confirmed staff cases and **356** confirmed prisoner cases of Covid-19.

Each outbreak was managed in line with the Covid-19 Contingency Plan which saw the establishment of Outbreak Control Teams (OCT) in all locations to manage the outbreak. Each OCT oversaw the implementation of necessary additional infection control measures and the implementation of specific actions required to manage the outbreak, including engaging with the HSE/Public Health regarding the mass screening of all prisoners and staff.

Through the careful management of each outbreak, restrictions were generally lifted within 14 days with a more normal prison regime being restored.

##### **Output 2 - Review of Prison Healthcare**

Despite the restrictions across the Service the Review of Prison Healthcare continued in 2021. A number of site visits, including to Mountjoy and Castlerea Prisons, were carried out prior which lockdown.

The methodology of the review was revised given the restrictions and a new project plan based on remote working and single day site visits was established.

The visits to the remaining prisons were completed once the first lock down restrictions were relaxed.

The draft report and recommendations was submitted to the Irish Prison Service in Q1 2022.

##### **Output 3 - Tackling the increasing threats posed by drone incursions into prisons.**

The roll out of the Anti-Drone Technology was extended to six prisons in total in 2021. The Irish Prison Service saw significant seizures of contraband in prisons across the estate in 2021 with the number of seizures of illegal drugs and mobile phones being double the rate from 2016.

| Year | Phones | Drugs | Weapons |
|------|--------|-------|---------|
| 2021 | 1,369  | 1,518 | 292     |
| 2020 | 1,148  | 1,251 | 294     |
| 2019 | 964    | 1,251 | 540     |
| 2018 | 962    | 1,138 | 664     |
| 2017 | 872    | 1,018 | 557     |
| 2016 | 648    | 715   | 435     |

The seizure of contraband continued to be a priority for the Irish Prison Service in 2021. The reduced movements into prisons due to reduced committals and visitors to prisons saw a return to more traditional contraband smuggling methods such as throw over walls, and as a result higher levels of detection were recorded.

Following a number of significant drug seizures in 2020 and 2021, the Irish Prison Service and An Garda Síochána have strengthened their co-operation to tackle the organised trafficking of contraband into prisons and a number of actions have been agreed including enhanced intelligence sharing arrangements.

#### Output 4 - Governance

Significant work on the development of enhanced governance structures including the development of a new Operating Model for the Irish Prison Service and the development of Operational Dashboards continued in 2021.

The Terms of Reference for the various components of the new Operating Model have been drafted and are expected to be agreed by mid-2022 for implementation.

The piloting of the new functional structure was delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, however, it will be piloted in two prisons in 2022. The additional resources required to stand up the new functional structure in two pilot prisons have been assigned.

An enhanced Risk Management Framework, which includes a risk management policy and process, was approved in 2021. The Risk Management Framework was designed to support good governance by helping to identify priorities, objectives and accountabilities in the interest of enabling a more informed decision-making process. Since the Risk Management Framework was finalised, the Irish Prison Service continued to develop its suite of risk management tools and by the end of 2021, an Assurance Mapping project had reached an advanced stage of development. This initiative will produce a detailed set of Baseline Assurance Maps and Remedial Action Plans spanning a wide range of business activities.

Volunteers and the Community Based Health in Justice programme have been active in addressing vaccine hesitancy amongst the prisoner population. To support this, the programme and Irish Prison Service Healthcare invited Professor Luke O'Neill to make a film about Covid-19 and vaccinations for use on the in-cell TV system. This was to augment important messages already produced and circulated by Irish Prison Service. Healthcare and Red Cross volunteers around the country collected questions from their respective communities which were then collated centrally to be asked of the Professor by the Red Cross volunteers in Mountjoy Prison.



Luke O'Neill and IRC volunteers during the Question and Answer film of COVID-19 and vaccination





## Budget

The annual budget for the Irish Prison Service for 2021 was €395 million, of which salaries, wages and allowances accounted for €267 million or 68% of the gross budget. There was a capital budget of €36 million and a budget for goods/services of €91 million. The capital budget was utilised to fund investment in a number of capital projects to improve the infrastructure and security of the estate, including a major construction project at Limerick Prison, as well as for the provision of new ICT equipment and fleet assets.

The Irish Prison Service operates under Vote 21 of the Voted funds of the Oireachtas and the Secretary General of the Department of Justice is the Accounting Officer. The Appropriation Account for Vote 21 is published on the Comptroller and Auditor General website at [www.audit.gov.ie](http://www.audit.gov.ie).

The average annual cost of an available, staffed prison space during the calendar year 2021 was €80,335, a 0.1% decrease on the 2020 cost of €80,445. This includes all elements of net expenditure incurred within the year (such as salaries, utilities/maintenance, ICT, prison services, etc.) excluding capital expenditure on buildings and vehicle purchases.

Expenditure of approximately €6 million was incurred in 2021 to assist with the circumstances arising as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and included items such as:

- ▲ staff costs;
- ▲ medical PPE;
- ▲ deep cleaning & infection control;
- ▲ industrial cleaning;
- ▲ bedding, laundry and catering contingencies; and
- ▲ ICT for improved prisoner services and remote working for staff.

Approximately 1,100 suppliers were engaged during 2021, with many of these being in the small and medium enterprise sector.

## Staff

At the end of 2021, there were 3,474.35 (fulltime equivalent) staff in the Irish Prison Service, including civilian grades and headquarters staff. 133 Recruit Prison Officers and 15 Prison Clerical

Officers joined the Irish Prison Service in 2021.

256 staff were promoted in 2021, of which 185 were male and 71 were female.

There were a total of 113 retirements in 2021 broken down as follows:

- ▲ 83 normal retirements;
- ▲ 18 compulsory retirements (aged 60); and
- ▲ 12 ill health retirements.

## Governance and Statutory Framework

The overall governance and statutory control framework within the Irish Prison Service is guided by:

- ▲ the Prisons Acts, including the Prisons Act 2007, the Prisons Act 2015;
- ▲ relevant provisions in other statutes such as the Prisons (Visiting Committees) Act, 1925, the Criminal Justice Act, 1960, the Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1997, the Criminal Justice Act, 2007, other criminal justice acts and the Transfer of Sentenced Persons Acts, 1995 and 1997;
- ▲ the Prison Rules, 2007, including the Prison Rules Amendment (2014) (2017) (2020); and
- ▲ the European Convention on Human Rights Act 2003.

For persons held on immigration related matters the main legislative provisions are the Immigration Acts 1999, 2003 and 2004 and their associated regulations, the Illegal Immigrants Trafficking Act 2000 and the International Protection Act 2015.

The Prison Service also takes due account of various international human rights treaties, declarations, standards and recommendations, including:

- ▲ the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- ▲ the European Convention on Human Rights;
- ▲ the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners;
- ▲ the European Prison Rules 2006;
- ▲ the United Nations Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
- ▲ the United Nations Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and



- ▲ the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

The Prison Service also takes due account of the Inspection Framework for Prisons and endeavours to implement the Inspector of Prisons recommendations.

## Irish Prison Service Governance Structure and Risk Management Strategy

Governance is a key pillar in the Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022 and the Irish Prison Service is continuing to progress a range of important objectives under this heading. Good governance is central to effectively discharging statutory and policy obligations by ensuring that a robust framework of structures, policies and processes is in place. It also allows for an objective assessment of management and corporate performance. The requirement to adhere to good governance applies to all staff throughout the organisation, rather than only those employed in key leadership roles.

The Irish Prison Service's Governance Framework is kept under review and updated as necessary to ensure it meets the needs of our stakeholders. It is designed to support existing external oversight mechanisms led by the Inspector of Prisons, the Prison Visiting Committees, the Council of Europe Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhumane and Degrading Treatment and the Comptroller & Auditor General.

The key relationship between the Department of Justice and the Irish Prison Service is governed by an Oversight Agreement. The Oversight Agreement sets out the broad governance and accountability framework within which the Irish Prison Service operates. It also defines key roles, responsibilities and commitments with a view to ensuring the development, delivery and effective administration of prison services is an integral part of the criminal justice system. Compliance with the requirements of the Oversight Agreement is monitored through quarterly governance meetings between Senior Management of the Irish Prison Service and the Department of Justice.

A Head of Risk, Assurance & Compliance was appointed in 2021 to support the Irish Prison

Service's audit, assurance, risk management and compliance frameworks and related compliance activities, including Health & Safety and Fire Safety statutory obligations. An enhanced Risk Management Strategy, which includes a risk management framework and process, was also approved in 2021. The Risk Management Strategy was designed to support good governance by helping to identify priorities, objectives and accountabilities in the interest of enabling a more informed decision-making process.

Risks are identified and monitored at prison level by senior management. They are also captured and managed at corporate level by the Directors. While Covid-19 continued to present a significant risk to the Irish Prison Service, a robust cross-divisional approach was adopted in response to the evolving challenges caused by the pandemic.





## Protected Disclosures Irish Prison Service Protected Disclosures policy

The Irish Prison Service's current Protected Disclosures Policy was issued on 1st July 2018. The Policy is aimed at supporting the Irish Prison Service's values, ensuring employees can raise concerns about relevant wrongdoings which come to their attention in connection with their employment without fear of penalisation, and providing a transparent and confidential process for dealing with concerns.

The policy is being reviewed in line with Directive (EU) 2019/1937 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2019 on the protection of persons who report breaches of Union law. A revised policy is expected to issue in 2022.

### Implementation of the Protected Disclosures Policy

To support the implementation of the policy the Irish Prison Service has:

1. Committed to the Integrity at Work Programme Membership and the Integrity at Work Pledge with Transparency International Ireland ("TII"). Staff are made aware of the *Transparency International Ireland Speak Up Helpline 1800 844 866* for **independent guidance** on reporting a concern or making a protected disclosure.
2. A dedicated **Protected Disclosure Manager** for the Irish Prison Service is in place with a confidential email address [speakup@irishprisons.ie](mailto:speakup@irishprisons.ie) and Post Box number to enable staff to raise their concerns through multiple channels.

### Training and Communications

The Irish Prison Service continue's to work with TII as part of the Integrity At Work ("IAW") programme. Information about IAW is included as part of staff induction.

A bespoke Protected Disclosures Portal features on the staff intranet, which provides access to the policy and support information including a comprehensive Frequently Asked Questions document. The Speak Up Safely Guide is also available for download on the staff intranet. Staff are made aware that free and confidential advice

is available from the TIIs Speak Up helpline and the Speak Up Safely Video is displayed.

Information notices regarding the Protected Disclosures Policy are displayed on electronic noticeboards, which are available in staff areas in prisons. Posters with information highlighting the confidential phone line have been circulated to all prisons for display in staff areas.

In terms of external communications, unions, membership bodies and the Department of Justice have been informed about the Irish Prison Service participation in the IAW.

Training on the changes from Directive (EU) 2019/1937 which came into effect will occur throughout 2022.

### Cooperation with the Department of Justice

The Irish Prison Service continues to work with the Department of Justice to ensure that the process for the submission of protected disclosures is clear and communicated carefully to all employees of the Irish Prison Service.

### Protected Disclosures at end December 2021

During 2021, three allegations of wrongdoing were received for examination under the Irish Prison Service Protected Disclosures Policy.

The three disclosures received in 2021 were dealt with as follows:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 2 | Disclosures were assessed and put forward for investigation: by an external independent investigator.                                       |
| 1 | Anonymous allegations sent to Head of Internal Audit who recommended that an investigation be undertaken by Irish Prison Service management |

Three investigations were concluded by the external investigator in 2021 for allegations received in 2019. The allegations in these investigations were not upheld. The results and recommendations of these finalised investigations were communicated to the relevant Director, the Director General and the Department of Justice for follow up action where appropriate.

## Information Requests 2021

The Irish Prison Service continues to meet its obligations in relation to responding to Freedom of Information (FOI) requests and Subject Access requests. FOI decisions and Types of Request are outlined below:

| FOI Decision                    | Year 2021  |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Granted                         | 51         |
| Part-Granted                    | 122        |
| Refused                         | 44         |
| Withdrawn                       | 11         |
| Under Consideration at Year-End | 68         |
| <b>Total Received</b>           | <b>296</b> |

| Type of Requests         | Year 2021  |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Media                    | 87         |
| Business Interest Groups | 4          |
| Staff                    | 40         |
| Prisoner                 | 151        |
| Member of Public         | 14         |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>296</b> |

| Data Subject Access requests 2021 | Number |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Received                          | 443    |
| Completed                         | 399    |
| Under Consideration at year-end   | 44     |

| Summary of information requests for 2021 | Number |
|--|--------|
| FOI                                      | 296    |
| Data Protection                          | 443    |
| Dáil Parliamentary Questions*            | 144    |

## Data Protection Compliance

The Irish Prison Service takes its responsibility in respect of information security and privacy and its obligations under relevant legislation very seriously. Throughout 2021, the Irish Prison Service worked to ensure the organisation's full compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Law Enforcement Directive (LED) requirements.

The Data Protection Office assisted the organisation, data subjects, external stakeholders and the national supervisory authority in all matters pertaining to the protection of data subjects with regard to the processing of their personal data across the organisation.

The Data Protection Office provided advice and support to Irish Prison Service personnel, as well as external stakeholders, on all data protection related matters, including the drafting of data sharing/processing agreements, data protection impact assessments, privacy notices, data subject rights requests and the introduction of additional data protection audit measures.

The Data Protection Office routinely issues notifications reminding all personnel of their legal obligations in respect of data privacy, security and confidentiality. A new personal data breach reporting mechanism, accessible through the internal intranet and the website, was introduced in 2021.

## Energy Consumption and Energy Costs

Irish Prison Service has annual energy spend of €6,662,073 (103,004,570kWh). Table 1 shows the breakdown of annual energy cost and consumption by fuel types. Natural gas accounts for 58% of the total consumption.

**Table 1 Annual Energy Consumption and Energy Costs 2021**

| Fuel         | kWh                | % use       | €                | % €         | Delivery Cost c/kWh | Useful Cost c/kWh | Tonnes CO2    |
|--------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Electricity  | 26,188,377         | 25%         | 3,670,822        | 55%         | 14.02               | 14.02             | 7,747         |
| Natural Gas  | 59,466,851         | 58%         | 2,008,713        | 30%         | 3.38                | 4.50              | 12,024        |
| Heating Oil  | 3,798,506          | 4%          | 220,439          | 3%          | 5.80                | 7.74              | 1,002         |
| LPG          | 9,491,440          | 9%          | 299,378          | 4%          | 3.15                | 4.21              | 2,176         |
| Wood Pellets | 831,648            | 1%          | 44,550           | 1%          | 5.36                | 7.14              | 0             |
| Transport    | 3,227,747          | 3%          | 418,173          | 6%          | 10.97               |                   | 813           |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>103,004,569</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>6,662,075</b> | <b>100%</b> |                     |                   | <b>23,762</b> |





Electricity accounts for 55% of the total cost. Heating Oil, LPG, and Wood Pellets accounts for 8% of the total cost.

Wood Pellets are carbon neutral and ideal fuel for any decarbonisation plan. The public sector target is a 51% reduction in absolute carbon by 2030, using the average of 2016-2018 as their baseline. Current usage of Natural Gas, Heating oil, LPG, and Transport accounts for 67% of Irish Prison Service carbon emissions.

Overall energy consumption and cost have increased by 23.4% and 14.1%, respectively, since 2020, and carbon has increased by 16.4%. The most significant increase in consumption was natural gas, up by 12,625,211 kWh (24.5% increase). The impact of Covid-19, due to higher ventilation rates, account for the increase. LPG consumption has also increased by 5,871,711 kWh, a 97% increase. Transport accounts for 3% of the total energy consumption, up from 0.1% in 2020.

## Irish Prison Service Stakeholder Service Charter

The Irish Prison Service interacts with a broad range of internal and external stakeholders including the Department of Justice, the Department of Health, EuroPris, families of people in our custody, victims of crime, and many advocacy groups and regulatory bodies.

The delivery of effective and quality service is a priority for the Irish Prison Service and forms an integral part of our overall Strategic Plan (2019-2022).

To support this objective, the Irish Prison Service published a Stakeholder Service Charter and accompanying Action Plan in 2021, which set out how we aim to provide the highest level of service to our stakeholders. The Charter sets out the standard of service and behaviour, which should underpin our interactions with all stakeholders.

## Irish Prison Service General Complaints Policy

The Irish Prison Service General Complaints Policy, also published in 2021, is a commitment from the organisation to provide a clear, simple and straightforward way for anyone using our service to make a complaint. We aim at all times to provide a positive experience to all and we use the complaints procedure as a way to learn and improve for the future.

## Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights & Equality Act 2014

Since 2014, the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty is part of the legislative framework governing human rights and equality in Ireland. Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014 imposes a statutory obligation on public bodies in performing their functions to have regard for the need to:

- ▲ eliminate discrimination;
- ▲ promote equality of opportunity and treatment for staff and persons to whom it provides services; and
- ▲ protect the human rights of staff and services users.

This Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty places equality and human rights at the heart of how a public body fulfils its purpose and delivers on its strategic plan. In keeping with the “assess, address, report” principles of the Duty, an assessment was made across the various functional areas of the organisation and an action plan was compiled.

The Irish Prison Service is responsible for the safe secure custody of all those committed to it by the courts. While it is our duty to enhance public safety by holding securely those committed by the courts, our role must be deeper than just a custodial function. We are committed to ensuring that those deprived of their liberty are treated with dignity and with humanity. Prisoner care and rehabilitation is a core aim of the Service and we strive to achieve a balanced approach in the effective performance of our care and custody functions.

As a responsible organisation of the State we operate within the parameters set out in Irish, European and international human rights law.

We promote equality and human rights through our policies and practices. In the Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019-2022 we outline our values, duties and expectations in relation to our staff, prisoners and those in the greater prison community.

In relation to our staff, we value, trust and treat them in a respectful manner. In return, we expect our staff to behave in a fair and respectful manner to all who work, reside or visit our institutions. We support staff diversity and take appropriate action against allegations of discrimination, bullying and



harassment. In 2020 we reported that the Irish Prison Service engaged with the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre to assist us as an organisation in appropriately addressing sexual harassment and sexual assault of staff in the workplace, to ensure the systems we have in place adequately and appropriately support staff. Owing to Covid-19 restrictions on gatherings it was necessary during 2021 to postpone a series of planned training workshops. In order to continue raising awareness during this time, a guidelines and frequently-asked-questions document on Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault was compiled and published on PRISM, the Service's intranet forum. This initiative serves to underline the Irish Prison Service's commitment to providing support to any staff or prisoner experiencing sexual harassment or sexual assault. In keeping with the principles of our Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty, the document is designed to provide guidance to all Irish Prison Service staff on what is required in the case that a member of staff witnesses or is made aware of an allegation of sexual harassment or sexual assault. This guideline document is for reference by prison staff where alleged incidences of sexual harassment and/or sexual assault arise, and may be considered as a companion document to the Prison Rules, Dignity at Work Policy, Complaints Policy and Manual, Civil Service Disciplinary Code and Staff Security Protocol, which contain the agreed procedures.

Awareness of international instruments, as well as an appreciation of the ethical context within which prisons must be administered, form part of the training for Recruit Prison Officers and in continuous professional development of established staff. Technical skills are underpinned by a belief in the dignity and humanity of everyone involved in prisons. Training programmes emphasise the need to treat prisoners as individuals, with humanity and respect and to act within the law at all times, and it is true to say that the concepts of humane treatment and awareness of international human rights instruments are embedded through elements of Irish Prison Service training programmes. In this regard we worked with the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission to develop bespoke human rights training for prison staff.

The Irish Prison Service College also delivers training on disability awareness to Irish Prison

Service staff as part of recruit training and continuous professional development. The classes include Human Rights in a Custodial Environment, Equality and Diversity Awareness, Mental Health Awareness Training, Working with Older Prisoners, Learning Styles And Learning Difficulties, Effects of Addiction, and the health needs of groups including the health of incarcerated women, juveniles, Travellers, older prisoners and the chronically ill.

In addition, all staff were provided with details of online training courses in the areas of Human Rights, Equality, Diversity, Privacy and Inclusion.

In keeping with the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy aim to create an Ireland that cherishes its LGBTI+ people equally, the Irish Prison Service supported our LGBTI+ staff and prisoners by displaying prominently/flying the rainbow flag (also known as the gay pride flag or LGBT pride flag) from 26-28 June across the Estate. In addition, the Irish Prison Service liaised with advocacy groups in relation to issues that affect LGBTI+ prisoners in their day to day prison life. One such group was the Transgender Equality Network Ireland (TENI) who delivered an online presentation to a number of staff on matters relevant to the transgender community. This presentation gave some useful information on vocabulary, definitions, statistics, relevant legislation and supportive actions that are useful in the context of our daily life as we may encounter colleagues, prisoners, visitors, service providers, relatives and friends who are or may come out to us as being under the trans umbrella. A PowerPoint presentation was made available on PRISM and all staff were encouraged to access it. Policies, standard operating procedures and targeted training for staff are being developed in these areas including searching, accommodation and the provision of informational and recreational literature.

March is an important month for Irish and global Anti-Racism Movements due to the national and international celebrations and commemoration days that take place, which focus on combating racism and celebrating diversity. The week commencing 21 March marks the beginning of UN Week of Solidarity with the People Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination, and during that week an anti-racism/anti-xenophobia campaign was run across the prison estate for





staff and prisoners. The aim of the campaign was to increase a sense of awareness of racism and xenophobia in prisoners, staff and visitors.

In relation to conditions of detention for all prisoners, either physical or regime, we strive to conform to international standards including those instruments set out by the United Nations as a minimum. Where possible, we endeavour to exceed these standards and become a global leader in penal practice. Where deficiencies are identified we ensure appropriate action is taken to address them.

The Irish Prison Service is aware of the varying needs of prisoners with disabilities, including physical, sensory, psychological and intellectual. A full assessment of all persons committed to prison takes place by a team led by the prison doctor. Depending on the findings or the declared needs, the team may refer the prisoner onwards to occupational therapy, psychological or educational resources for further assessment.

All physical and psychological issues are dealt with as part of a care pathway as devised by this team.

As a prison service we are aware that the deprivation of liberty is the sentence handed down by the courts as punishment for offending and that our role is to administer that sentence in a way which is no more restrictive than required. We aim to ensure that prison regimes provide for appropriate out-of-cell time and sufficient constructive and rehabilitative activities are

provided during periods of unlock. When the restriction of a prisoner's regime is necessary we ensure that it is done for no longer than is required and in a manner that upholds the prisoner's right to access, where possible, prison services including education, training and healthcare.

We are aware of and understand the special role we have on behalf of society in respecting the dignity of the prisoners in our care. Through strong leadership by our management teams we ensure that all our staff are mindful of this responsibility.

The safety and security of all persons working, residing, or visiting any of our institutions is of utmost importance to the Irish Prison Service. As such, for safety reasons, we have introduced appropriate security measures in all our prisons. We ensure that all staff conducting searches within our prisons, including the searching of persons or property, do so in a manner that recognises the inherent dignity of the person and their property.

We are committed to working with the various national and international bodies involved in the inspection and monitoring of prisons and places of detention. We expect staff and management to keep accurate records, to secure all relevant evidence and to cooperate fully with national and international accountability bodies. This is an important process for us and such inspections are valuable and critically important mechanisms.



*Pride flag being raised at Arbour Hill Prison for Pride Month, June 2021*

## HORSES OF HOPE

A new equine centre was developed on grounds adjacent to Castlerea Prison in late 2020 and has introduced a new innovative prisoner programme, where prisoners learn practical skills that will assist in securing employment in the equine industry post release. The development of the equine centre is the result of an innovative partnership project, spearheaded by Jonathan Irwin, founder of the Jack and Jill Foundation, between the horse racing industry and the Irish Prison Service. Many years ago, Jonathan witnessed first-hand an equine correctional programme in the USA, which is premised on the natural affinity between a human and a horse. Evidence from equine programmes internationally demonstrates that people in custody can learn practical skills that can be leveraged for future employment opportunities, foster responsibility and build confidence and self-belief while also developing compassion through the care of animals. Minister Hildegard Naughton visited the equine centre as part of a visit to Castlerea in 2021.







## Psychological Services

The Irish Prison Service Psychology Service is a national service, made up of a Head of Psychological Services, a Principal Psychologist, Senior Psychologists, Staff Grade Psychologists and Assistant Psychologists. Psychologists in each prison are embedded within a multi-disciplinary team. Services provided by Psychologists in each prison are organised within a layered care model. The Service works across all levels of clinical intensity from primary care mental health through to severe and enduring mental health difficulties. Clients also present with a range of criminogenic needs. This integrated model of care is bio-psycho-social, strengths-based and recovery focused, and balances this with principles from the Risk, Need and Responsivity (RNR) model used throughout forensic clinical services.

As the Irish Prison Service Psychology Service provides an integrated care model, it accepts referrals for a broad range of mental health and criminogenic need. The Service prides itself on thorough, individualised, evidence-based assessment and interventions with clients. The vast majority of referrals to Psychological Services are in relation to any, or a combination of:

- a) Mental health difficulties such as: Mood and Anxiety Disorders, Disorders of Personality and Behaviour, (complex) Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Self-Harm and Suicidal Behaviour, Eating Disorders, Psychosis and Schizophrenia, Addiction, and
- b) Offence-specific needs, including the need for formal offence related risk assessments,

preparation of Statutory Parole Board reports, offence related group and individual work, complex case consultation and risk management work.

In addition to the above presentations, the Service works with people presenting with developmental disorders, intellectual difficulties, cognitive decline, traumatic brain injuries, people with limited literacy, and people from a wide variety of cultural (national and international) backgrounds.

Irish Prison Service Psychologists have regular contact with community agencies involved in the support and resettlement of people leaving custody. They also work with the families and carers of those in custody, and where clinically appropriate, may provide time-limited community intervention(s) to support a client's transition from custody to community.

Irish Prison Service Psychological Services provide a critical role in support, consultation, education and training to the broader Irish Prison Service organisation, providing an evidence informed psychological perspective to policy development and implementation, Irish Prison Service working groups and staff training. Trainee Clinical and Counselling Psychologists are provided with supervised placements across the prison estate.

The Psychology Service are continuously monitoring and assessing its services year on year. Below is a brief outline of some of the Service's initiatives and related outcomes in 2021. (A more in depth outcome report is available on the Psychology Service section of the Irish Prison Service website: [www.irishprisons.ie](http://www.irishprisons.ie).)

The average ratio of  
Psychologists to Prisoners  
in 2021 was:



## Referrals in 2021:

Table 2. Number of People Referred to Psychology by Referral Type in 2021:

| Type of Referral  | N            |
|---|--------------|
| Open Referral (typically in relation to mental health, other emotional or behavioural difficulties) | 939          |
| 18-24 Year Old Initiative (1+ Yr Sentence; No PRSO)   | 133          |
| Screening for Building Better Lives Programme   | 166          |
| Violent Offence (2+ Yr Sentence; No PRSO)   | 330          |
| Psychological First Aid (PFA)   | 286          |
| <b>Total Referrals</b>  | <b>1,854</b> |



Table 3: Number of 'Unique Clients Seen' and 'Sessions Offered' in 2021:

| Clients Seen | Sessions Offered |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1,405        | 7,095            |

### Wait Times for clients seen in 2021:

Table 4. Wait times following open referral (mental health, other emotional or behavioural difficulties):

| Referral Year | Number of People | Average Number of Days Waiting |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2021          | 430              | 88 Days                        |
| 2020          | 259              | 247 Days                       |
| 2019          | 24               | 568 Days                       |
| 2018          | 2                | 1,058 Days                     |
| Total: 715    |                  |                                |

Outlined in Table 4 is the length of time clients who were seen in 2021 for triage were on the Psychology Service wait list in relation to their mental health, other emotional or behavioural difficulties

Table 5. Wait times following proactive referral for a violent offence

| Referral Year | Number of People | Average Number of Days Waiting |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2021          | 76               | 103 Days                       |
| 2020          | 43               | 278 Days                       |
| 2019          | 7                | 562 Days                       |
| 2018          | 1                | 948 Days                       |
| Total: 127    |                  |                                |

Outlined in Table 5 is the length of time clients who were seen in 2021 for triage were on the Psychology Service wait list in relation to their violent offending

### Outcomes:

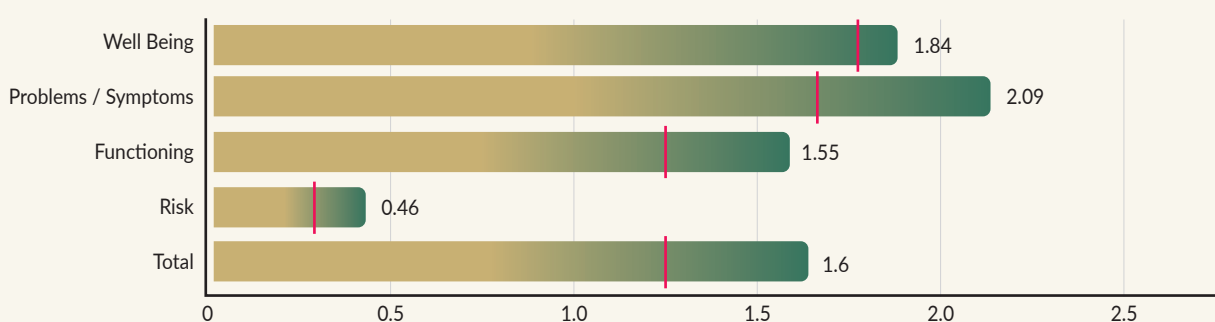
This outcomes summary report provides some of the clinical outcomes for initiatives provided by the Irish Prison Service Psychology Service. As only very limited group programmes ran in 2021, outcomes data focuses on individual assessment and intervention initiatives only.

#### Distress / Severity of Symptoms at Triage:

The Clinical Outcome in Routine Evaluation – Outcome Measure (CORE-OM) is a 34-item global measure of distress or the severity of symptoms

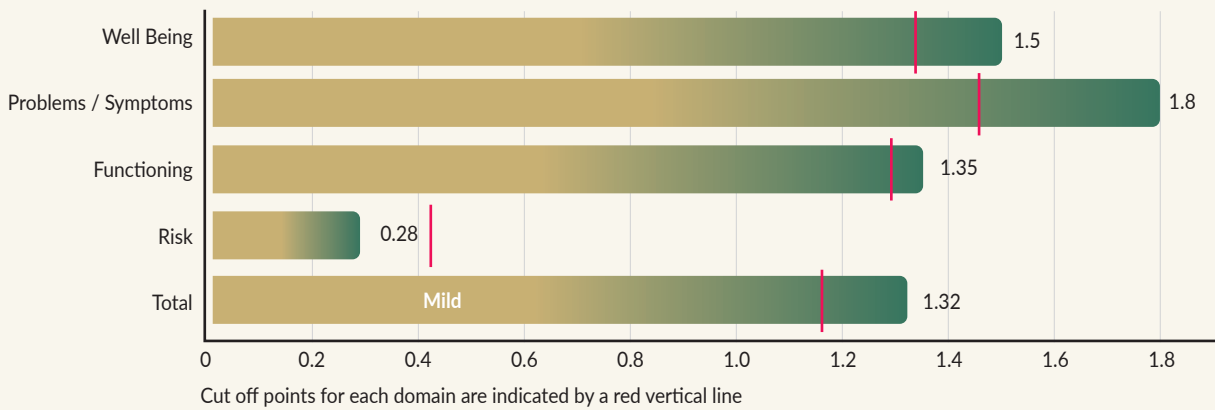
across four key domains: 1. Subjective Well-being, 2. Problems and Symptoms, 3. Functioning and 4. Risk (self and others). The CORE-OM is administered to every client triaged by the Psychology Service. Results in Figure 4 and 5 outline the levels of global distress being experienced by clients at the time of triage (females and males). Every domain was rated above the clinical cut off, with the exception of the risk domain in the male population indicating that people presenting to the Service are typically in significant global psychological distress.

Fig 4. Mean CORE-OM Scores at Triage: Females



Cut off points for each domain are indicated by a red vertical line

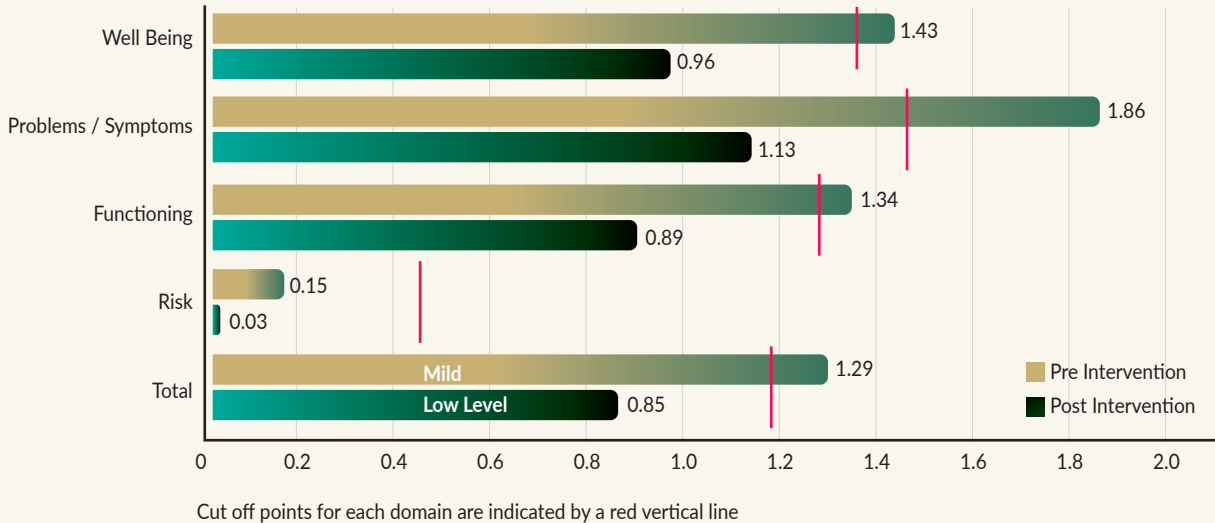
Fig 5. Mean CORE-OM Scores at Triage: Males



### Primary Care Mental Health Interventions:

Under the supervision of qualified Psychologists, Assistant Psychologists provided 138 people with primary care mental health difficulties up to 12 appointments of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy-informed intervention. This work focused primarily on mood disorders such as anxiety and depression and other primary care mental health needs. This initiative is similar in its approach to that in the Health Service Executive and UK National Health Service's Improving Access to Psychological Therapies. The CORE-OM, Burns Depression Checklist and Burns Anxiety Inventory are completed by clients pre and post participation. Outcomes outlined in Figure 6, 7 and 8 demonstrate improvements in clients' mean scores following completion.

Fig 6. Mean Pre and Post CORE-OM Scores in Males: Primary Care Mental Health



Figures 7 and 8: Mean Pre and Post Burns Anxiety Inventory and Burns Depression Checklist Scores: Primary Care Mental Health.

Fig 7. Burns Anxiety Inventory

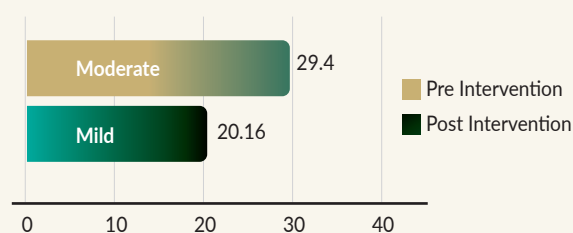
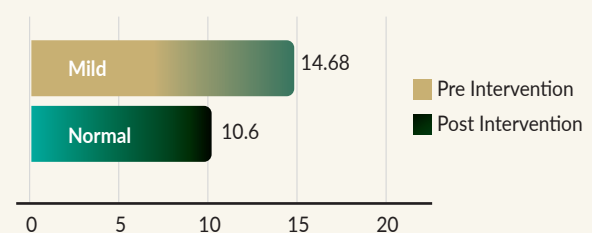


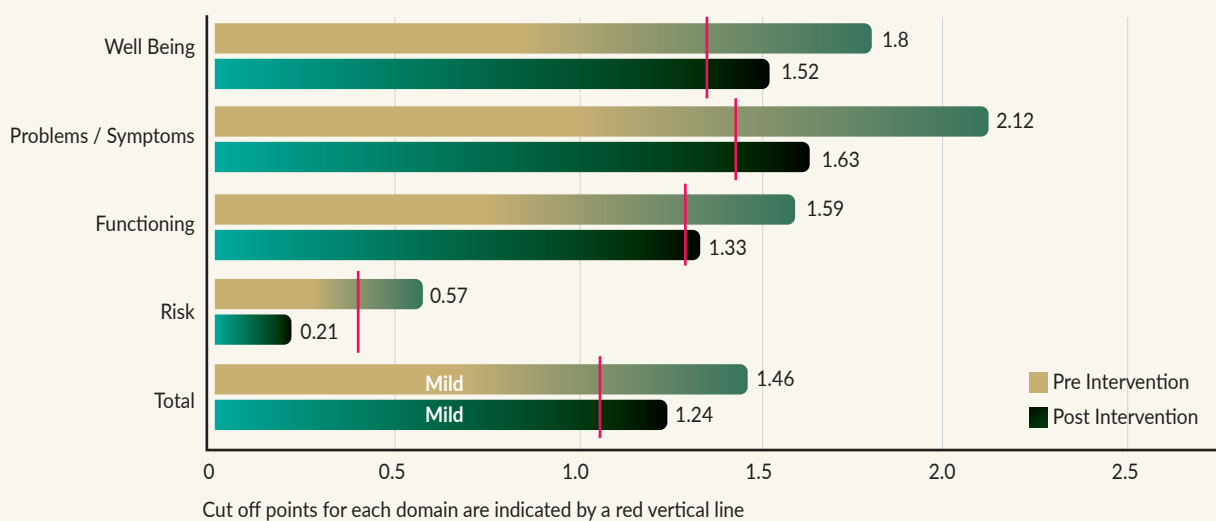
Fig 8. Burns Depression Checklist



### Secondary Care Mental Health Interventions:

Secondary care psychological interventions are provided by qualified Psychologists across the Service. These interventions focus on more complex mental health presentations typically seen in secondary care settings if the person was in the community. This includes people with more severe and enduring mental health problems including major depression, eating disorders, psychotic disorders, personality disorder presentations, and people with a history of complex trauma. Interventions are typically longer in duration, and the length and intensity is informed by best practice guidelines (e.g. NICE Guidelines). The Service met with 216 clients for secondary care psychological intervention in 2021. The CORE-OM is completed by client's pre and post participation, and outcomes outlined in Figure 9 demonstrate improvements in clients mean scores following completion.

Fig 9. Mean Pre and Post Core-OM Scores: Secondary Care Mental Health Intervention



### Young People in Custody:

A specific focus on young people in custody is highlighted both nationally and internationally. A particular emphasis is placed on the importance of early engagement and sentence planning. The Irish Prison Service Psychology Service provide early engagement, psychological assessment and formulation, and individualised sentence plans with 18 – 24 year olds who are serving a sentence of one year or more and who do not have a post release supervision order with the Probation Service. The Service met with 133 young people for this initiative in 2021. Figure 10 and 11 outline the prisons each young person was referred and outcomes of the initiative in 2021.

Fig 10. People referred by Prison (N =133)

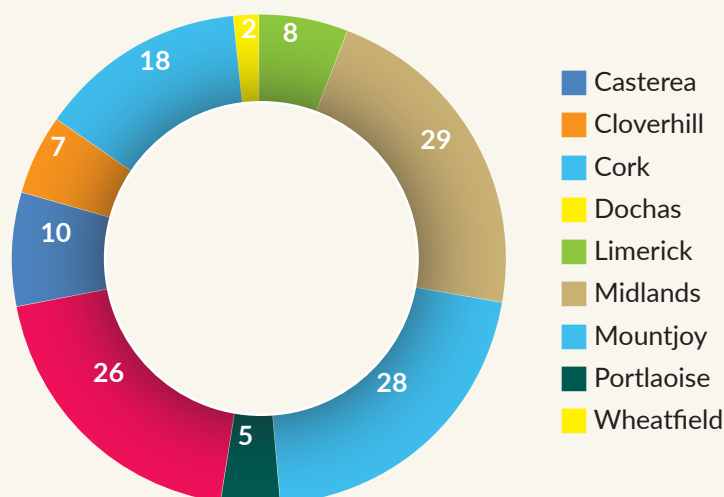
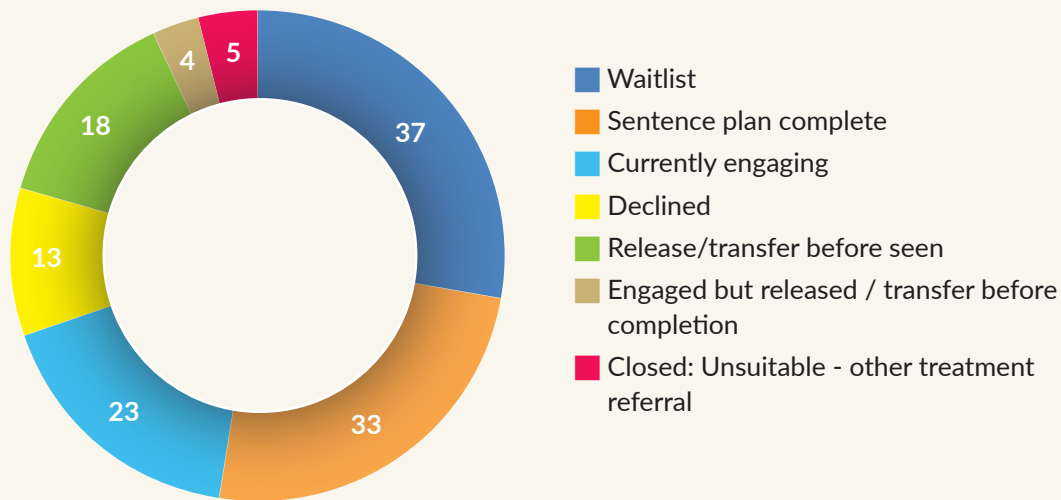




Fig 11. Sentence Plan Engagement (N = 133)



### People Serving Life Sentences:

A new model of engagement for people serving life sentences was developed in 2017. The model includes various initiatives by the Irish Prison Service Psychology Service, the Probation Service and other members of the prison-based multi-disciplinary team. Key features of the model (i.e. early assessment, individual sentence plans, active engagement with services, regular reviews, and progressive movement) reflect recommendations made by international human rights standards (e.g., Council of Europe, 2003). The model was implemented on 1st April 2017 and since then, 75 people have been committed on life sentences who meet criteria (up to 31st Dec 2021). The following information outlines where these 75 people are located and the progress of the initiative from the Irish Prison Service perspective. An evaluation of this model is currently being completed by Anna Flynn, PhD student (funded by the Irish Research Council, University of Limerick and the Irish Prison Service). Figures 12, 13 and 14 outline where people are accommodated, the number of people who have engaged in the initial three-way meeting with Probation and Psychology Services, and the number who have completed their first violence risk assessment with the Psychology Service.

Fig 12. Number of People Serving a Life Sentence, by Prison under the new model of Engagement (N = 75)

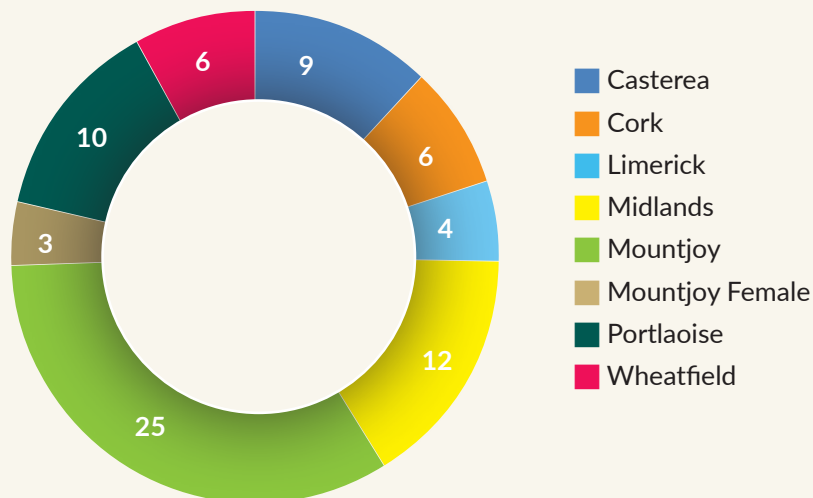


Fig 13. Number of People Seen for Three-Way Meeting (N = 75)

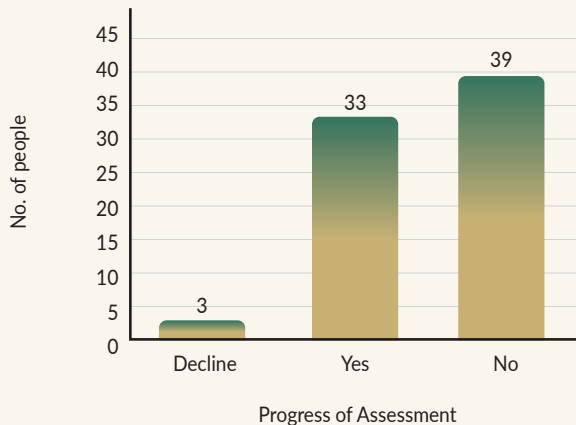
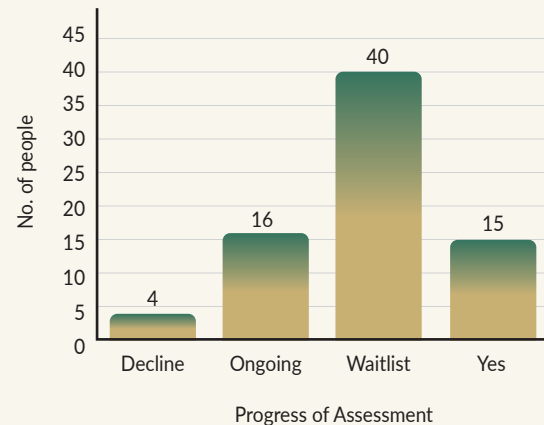


Fig 14. Number of People Seen for HCR-20 V3 Risk Assessment (N = 75)



## Outcome Report Strengths and Challenges

The Irish Prison Service Psychology Service continues to lead by example by providing a detailed insight into service accessibility (wait times, number of people seen, number of sessions offered, and psychologist to prisoner ratios), and efficacy of programmes offered. In 2022, we anticipate including a client experience measure to gain additional feedback on the experience of working with the Irish Prison Service Psychology Service.

Whilst we continue to plan expansion of services, implementation of same was again hampered in 2021 by the Covid -19 pandemic and outbreaks in prisons which significantly impacted our access to clients. Group work was particularly difficult to implement. Therefore, outcomes in 2021 are limited to individual work only. It is anticipated that 2022 will witness a significant increase in the number of groups offered and therefore a greater breadth of outcome measures to report. Separately, client transfers between prisons prove a major challenge in terms of the completion of outcome data (post treatment). All reasonable steps are taken to gather data and the Service continues to work to meet this challenge.

In 2021 the Psychology Service sought funding for additional resources through the Estimates process 2022.

Budget 2022 has committed to the provision of just over €1 million for psychologists and specialist mental health nurses in prisons who can work with prisoners to address mental health issues for all categories of offender. It is intended to recruit additional psychologists throughout the duration of 2022.



Seirbhís Phríosúin  
na hÉireann  
Irish Prison Service

# THE PRISON ESTATE



# IRELAND'S PRISONS

There are 12 institutions in the Irish prison system consisting of 10 traditional “closed” institutions and two open centres, which operate with minimal internal and perimeter security.

The majority of female prisoners are accommodated in the Mountjoy Female Prison (Dóchas Centre), with the remainder accommodated in Limerick Prison.



Fig 3. The Irish Prison Service Estate  
31 December 2021



## ARBOUR HILL PRISON

Arbour Hill  
Dublin 7 D07 YV40

**Operational Capacity:** 138 at year end

**Arbour Hill Prison** is a closed, medium security prison for adult males. Its prisoner profile is largely made up of long term sentenced prisoners.

**Prisoner Population:** The daily average number in custody in 2021 was 125.



*Governor III*  
Desmond O'Shea

## CASTLEREA PRISON

Harristown  
Castlerea  
Co. Roscommon F45 X330

**Operational Capacity:** 340 at year end

**Castlerea Prison** is a closed, medium security prison for adult males. It is the committal prison for remand and sentenced prisoners in Connaught and also takes committals from counties Cavan, Donegal and Longford.

**Prison Population:** the daily average number in custody in 2021 was 286.



*Governor II*  
Anthony Shally

## CLOVERHILL PRISON

Cloverhill Road  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22 D22 WC84



*Cloverhill Prison*  
*Acting Governor I*  
Anthony Harris



*Cloverhill Prison*  
*Governor I*  
Frances Daly

**Operational Capacity:** 431 at year end

**Cloverhill Prison** is a closed, medium security prison for adult males, which primarily caters for remand prisoners committed from the Leinster area.

**Prisoner Population:** The daily average number in custody in 2021 was 369.

## CORK PRISON

Rathmore Road  
Cork City T23 Y642

**Operational Capacity:** 296 at year end

**Cork Prison** is a closed, medium security prison for adult males. It is the committal prison for counties Cork, Kerry and Waterford.

**Prisoner Population:** The daily average number in custody in 2021 was 255.



*Governor II*  
Peter O'Brien

## LIMERICK PRISON

Mulgrave Street  
Limerick V94 P8N1

**Operational Capacity:** 210 (males) and 28 (females) at year end

**Limerick Prison** is a closed, medium security prison for adult males and females.

It is the committal prison for males for counties Clare, Limerick and Tipperary and for females for all six Munster counties. All females sentenced in these counties are sent to Limerick Female Prison.

**Prisoner Population:** The daily average number in custody in 2021 was 195 males and 28 females.



*Governor II*  
Mark Kennedy

## LOUGHAN HOUSE

Blacklion  
Co Cavan F91 NY76

**Operational Capacity:** 140 at year end

**Loughan House** is an open, low security prison for adult males who are regarded as requiring low levels of security.

**Prisoner Population:** The daily average number in custody in 2021 was 95.



*Governor III*  
Mark Lydon





## MIDLANDS PRISON



*Governor I*  
David Conroy

Dublin Road  
Portlaoise  
Co. Laois R32 F796



*Governor III*  
Michael O' Mahony

**Operational Capacity:** 875 at year end

**Midlands Prison** is a closed, medium security prison for adult males. It is the committal prison for counties Carlow, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Meath, Monaghan, Offaly, Westmeath, Wexford and Wicklow.

**Prisoner Population:** The daily average number in custody in 2021 was 802.

## PORTLAOISE PRISON



*Governor I*  
Ultan Moran

Dublin Road  
Portlaoise  
Co. Laois R32 KN97



*Governor III*  
Theresa Beirne

**Operational Capacity:** 291 at year end

**Portlaoise Prison** is a closed high security prison for adult males. It is the committal prison for males committed to prison on remand, pending trial or under sentence by the Special Criminal Court.

**Prisoner Population:** The daily average number in custody in 2021 was 211.



## MOUNTJOY MALE PRISON / MOUNTJOY FEMALE PRISON (DÓCHAS CENTRE)

North Circular Road  
Dublin 7 D07 YC97



Campus Governor  
Martin O'Neill



Governor III  
Maria Connolly (Dóchas)

**Operational Capacity:** 146 at year end

**Mountjoy Female (Dóchas Centre)** is a closed medium security prison for adult females. It is the committal prison for females committed on remand or sentenced from all courts outside the Munster area all females committed to prison on remand or pending trial by the Special Criminal Court.

**Prisoner Population:** The daily average number in custody in 2021 was 116.



Governor III  
Martin Galgey (Mountjoy)

**Operational Capacity:** 755 at year end

**Mountjoy Prison** is a closed, medium security prison for adult males. It is the main committal prison for Dublin city.

**Prisoner Population:** The daily average number in custody in 2021 was 691.



## SHELTON ABBEY

Arklow  
Co Wicklow Y14 T638

**Operational Capacity:** 115 at year end

**Shelton Abbey** is an open, low security prison for adult males who are regarded as requiring lower levels of security.

**Prisoner Population:** The daily average number in custody in 2021 was 96.



*Governor III*  
Joseph Donohue

## WHEATFIELD PRISON



*Governor I*  
Eddie Mullins



*Governor III*  
Raymond Murtagh

Cloverhill Road  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22 D22 Y2VS

**Operational Capacity:** 610 at year end

**Wheatfield Prison** is a closed, medium security prison for adult males.

**Prisoner Population:** The daily average number in custody in 2021 was 523.





## IRISH PRISON SERVICE SUPPORT UNITS



### Operational Support Group

Governor III: Lorraine McCarthy

The **Operational Support Group (OSG)** supports Prison Governors in preventing contraband entering prisons, to prevent the direction of crime from prisons and to detect prohibited articles within prisons and are in operation in all closed prisons with the exception of Arbour Hill.

Operational Support Group, Árd na Gaoithe, Arbour Hill, Dublin 7 D07 YV40.



### Prison Service College

Governor III: David Clarke

The **Irish Prison Service College (IPSC)** provides all training within the Irish Prison Service.

Irish Prison Service Training College, Stack House, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois R32 NX53.



### Prison Service Escort Corps

Governor III:  
James Kelly

The **Prison Service Escorts Corps (PSEC)** provides the prisoner escorting service. PSEC is sub divided into three regional areas, Munster, Connaught and Leinster. Ulster is incorporated into Connaught and Leinster.

Prison Service Escort Corps, Cloverhill Prison, Cloverhill Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 D22 WC84.



### Building Services Division

Governor II: Ronan Dunning

**Building Services Division (BSD)**, provides a technical / advisory support service in relation to the maintenance of prison facilities and prison capital projects. It also provides the specialist prison's locking service.

Building Service Division (BSD), Unit 2, Airways Industrial Estate, Santry Dublin 17 D17 HW53.

# Irish Prison Service Statistical Note – December 2021

| Year                 | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2021  |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Committals to Prison | 16,155 | 13,408 | 14,182 | 15,099 | 9,287 | 8,071 | 6,490 | 4,233 |
| Releases             | 17,206 | 14,182 | 12,579 | 15,099 | 9,287 | 8,071 | 6,490 | 4,233 |

## Releases from Prison in December 2021

| Year To Date | Releases in December | Year To Date |
|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 0            | 1                    | 41           |
| 48           | 53                   | 566          |
| 182          | 130                  | 1,426        |
| 44           | 59                   | 680          |
| 6            | 9                    | 145          |
| 32           | 47                   | 480          |
| 0            | 5                    | 97           |
| 24           | 58                   | 663          |
| 27           | 29                   | 451          |
| 59           | 94                   | 96           |
| 1            | 8                    | 1            |
| 0            | 3                    |              |
| 0            | 48                   |              |
| 423          | 544                  |              |
| 5,182        | 5,221                |              |

423 persons  
5,182 persons  
544 persons  
5,221 persons

| Year      | Committals |
|-----------|------------|
| Year 2021 | 6,136      |
| Year 2020 | 6,340      |
| Year 2019 | 8,939      |
| Year 2018 | 8,071      |
| Year 2017 | 9,287      |

## Number in custody & temporary release

| Year      | Number in Custody |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Year 2021 | 3,704             |
| Year 2020 | 3,650             |
| Year 2019 | 3,950             |
| Year 2018 | 3,911             |
| Year 2017 | 3,704             |

## Census Prison Population October 2021 – Cell occupancy – In-Cell Sanitation

This report includes information on the numbers of usable cells in each institution, the number of prisoners in cells that accommodated one, two, three and four or more prisoners, prisoners without access to in-cell sanitation and prisoner who were required to use toilet facilities in the presence of others.

The key statistics from this section of the Census are:

- There were **3,838** prisoners in custody.
- **2,138** (56%) cells accommodated one prisoner.
- **676** cells accommodated two prisoners (1,352 prisoners).
- **88** cells accommodated three prisoners (264 prisoners).
- **20** cells accommodated four or more prisoners (80 prisoners).

## Prisoner Population on Friday 31st December 2021

| INSTITUTION   | Number in Custody | Date to Date TR | No. On Temp Release* | No. On Trial/ Remand | Total Prisoners in System** | Bed Capacity | % of Bed Capacity |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Mountjoy (m)  | 682               |                 | 81                   | 39                   | 824                         | 755          | 90%               |
| Mountjoy (f)  | 113               |                 | 28                   | 29                   | 149                         | 146          | 77%               |
| Cloverhill    | 370               |                 | 0                    | 338                  | 375                         | 431          | 86%               |
| Wheatfield    | 488               |                 | 37                   | 73                   | 532                         | 610          | 80%               |
| Midlands      | 811               |                 | 14                   | 122                  | 833                         | 875          | 93%               |
| Portlaoise    | 215               |                 | 3                    | 11                   | 219                         | 291          | 74%               |
| A Block       | 30                |                 | 0                    | 30                   | 40                          |              |                   |
| C Block       | 164               |                 | 3                    | 0                    | 168                         | 181          |                   |
| E Block       | 21                |                 | 0                    | 11                   | 21                          | 70           |                   |
| Cork          | 237               |                 | 38                   | 51                   | 288                         | 296          | 80%               |
| Limerick (m)  | 186               |                 | 32                   | 54                   | 227                         | 210          | 89%               |
| Limerick (f)  | 26                |                 | 14                   | 5                    | 41                          | 28           | 93%               |
| Castlereagh   | 266               |                 | 11                   | 52                   | 285                         | 340          | 78%               |
| Arbour Hill   | 127               |                 | 0                    | 0                    | 143                         | 138          | 92%               |
| Loughan House | 93                | 0               | 4                    | 0                    | 103                         | 140          | 66%               |
| Shelton Abbey | 90                | 0               | 8                    | 0                    | 105                         | 115          | 78%               |
| Totals        | 3,704             | 0               | 270                  | 774                  | 4,124                       | 4,375        | 85%               |

Date to Date TR refers to prisoners in the Open Centres temporarily released to engage in Structured TR etc

| Temporary Release Types   | Total      |
|---|------------|
| Number on Temporary Release serving less than 3 months solely for Fines | 0          |
| Number on Community Return under Probation Supervision                  | 82         |
| Number on Community Support Scheme                                      | 47         |
| Number on structured Temporary Release from Open Centres                | 6          |
| Number on Temporary Release <6 months excluding Fines                   | 37         |
| Number on Temporary Release including under Probation Supervision       | 98         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>270</b> |

| Institution     | Average Number in Custody in December | Average TR |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Arbour Hill     | 129                                   |            |
| Castlereagh     | 276                                   |            |
| Cloverhill      | 377                                   |            |
| Cork            | 242                                   |            |
| Limerick Female | 26                                    |            |
| Limerick Male   | 193                                   |            |
| Loughan House   | 86                                    |            |
| Midlands        | 810                                   |            |
| Mountjoy Female | 113                                   |            |
| Mountjoy Male   | 690                                   |            |
| Shelton Abbey   | 216                                   |            |
| Wheatfield      | 86                                    |            |
| Totals          | 3,754                                 |            |

Number in Custody 3,840 No. on TR 299  
Number in Custody 3,732 No. on TR 323  
Migration detainee(s)

| Institution     | 31/10/21 | 30/11/21 | 31/12/21 |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Arbour Hill     | 404      | 402      | 407      |
| Castlereagh     | 434      | 449      | 458      |
| Cloverhill      | 471      | 461      | 446      |
| Cork            | 69       | 65       | 69       |
| Limerick Male   | 48       | 48       | 48       |
| Limerick Female | 74       | 76       | 76       |
| Loughan House   | 294      | 289      | 281      |
| Midlands        | 447      | 466      | 442      |
| Mountjoy Male   | 48       | 47       | 49       |
| Mountjoy Female | 5        | 47       | 313      |
| Shelton Abbey   | 126      | 126      | 126      |
| Wheatfield      | 71       | 71       | 71       |
| Totals          | 2,500    | 2,500    | 2,500    |



Seirbhís Phríosúin  
na hÉireann  
Irish Prison Service

# STATISTICAL NOTE

# OVERVIEW 2021 STATISTICS

From 2020 to 2021 committals under sentence increased in all areas except for those receiving a sentence of 1 to < 2 years (-12.8% or -45) and 2 to < 3 years (-14.4% or -46).

The number of committals for the non-payment of court ordered fines has declined further from 2020, from 285 to 234. Of this 82.9% were male and 17.1% were female.

## Overall committals during 2021

There were 6,133 committals to prison in 2021, a 3.3% (-207) decrease on the number of committals in 2020 (6,340).

5,179 persons were sent to prison in 2021 compared with 5,263 in 2020, a decrease of 1.6% (-84). Of those persons committed, 90.6% were male and 9.4% were female.

## Total sentenced during 2021

There was an increase of 138 or 3.6% in the total sentenced during 2021 from 3,803 in 2020 to 3,941 in 2021. Of the 3,941 who were sentenced, 601 persons were committed in a previous year and subsequently convicted in 2021.

## When fine defaulters are excluded from these figures:

- ▲ Numbers under sentence have increased by 189 or 5.4%, from 3,518 in 2020 to 3,707 in 2021.
- ▲ The number who received a sentence of less than 3 months has increased by 82 or 16%, from 511 in 2020 to 593 in 2021.
- ▲ The number who received a sentence of 3 to less than 6 months has increased by 148 or 14.5% from 1,023 in 2020 to 1,171 in 2021.
- ▲ The number who received a sentence of 6 to <12

months has increased by 6 or 0.8% from 778 in 2020 to 784 in 2021.

- ▲ The number who received a sentence of 1 to <2 years has decreased by 45 or 12.8% from 352 in 2020 to 307 in 2021.
- ▲ The number who received a sentence of 2 to <3 years has decreased by 46 or 14.4% from 320 in 2020 to 274 in 2021.
- ▲ The number who received a sentence of 3 to <5 years has increased by 18 or 5.3% from 337 in 2020 to 355 in 2021.
- ▲ The number who received a sentence of 5 to <10 years has increased by 1 or 0.6% from 164 in 2020 to 165 in 2021.
- ▲ The number who received a sentence of 10 years plus has increased by 18 or 85% from 21 in 2020 to 39 in 2021.
- ▲ The number who received a life sentence has increased by 7 or 58.3% from 12 in 2020 to 19 in 2021.

## Persons detained under Immigration Laws

In 2021, there were 86 committals in respect of immigration issues involving 83 detainees. This represents a 65.2% (-161) decrease in such committals on the previous year.

## Daily average number of prisoners in custody

The overall daily average number of prisoners in custody in 2021 was 3,792 compared to 3,824 in 2020, a decrease of **0.84%** (-32). The daily average number of female offenders in custody was 144, a **2.7%** (-4) decrease on the 2020 average of 148. There was a **0.76%** (-28) decrease in the daily average number of male offenders in custody, from 3,676 in 2020 to 3,648 in 2021.

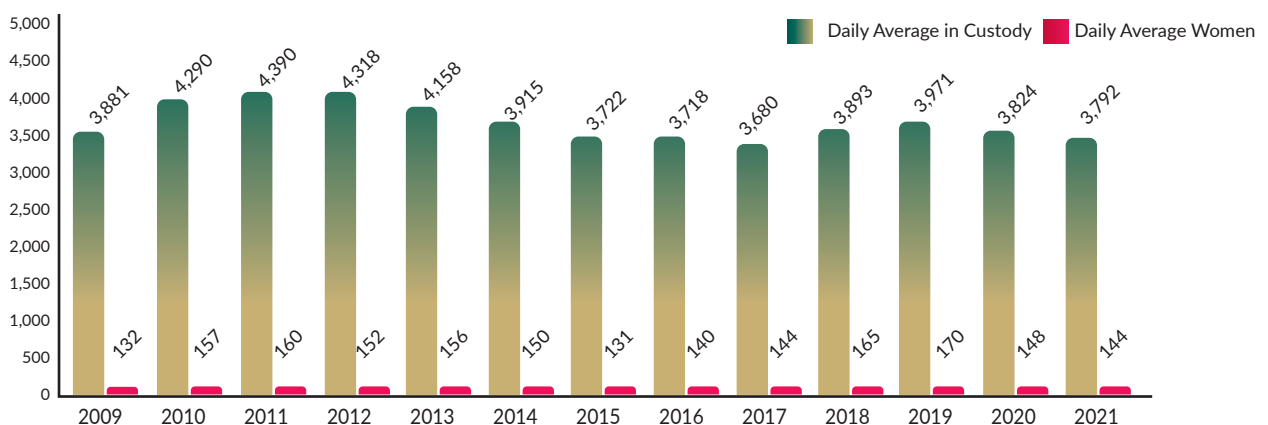


Fig. 15 Daily Average 2009 - 2021





# COMMITTALS TO PRISON 2021 OVERVIEW



6,133

Overall Committals to Prison in 2021



3.3%

Decrease in Overall Committals from 2020 to 2021



5,179

No. of Persons Committed to Prison in 2021



1.6%

Decrease in Persons Committed from 2020 to 2021



79%

of Sentence Committals were for 12 months or less

## COMMITTAL STATUS

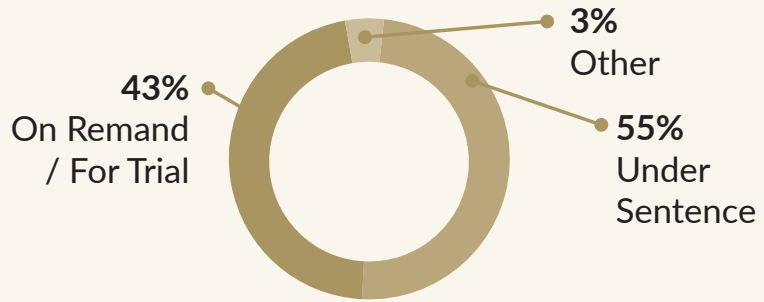


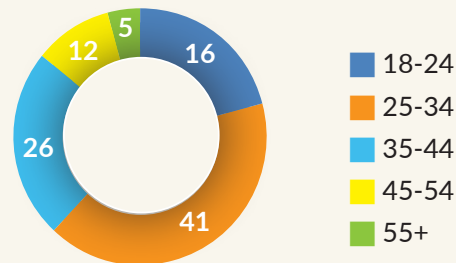
Fig. 16 Committal Status

## GENDER



Fig. 17 Committal to Prison 2021, broken down by Gender

## AGE GROUP ON COMMITTAL (%)



## SENTENCE LENGTH

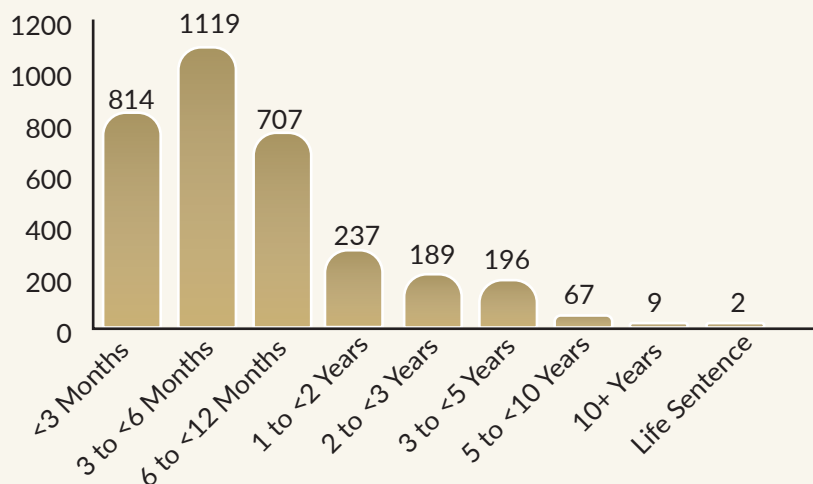


Fig. 18 Sentenced Committals during 2021, broken down by Sentence Length and Age Group

# COMMITTALS TO PRISON IN 2021

## Total Number of Committals to Prison in 2021

There were 6,133 committals to prison in 2021.

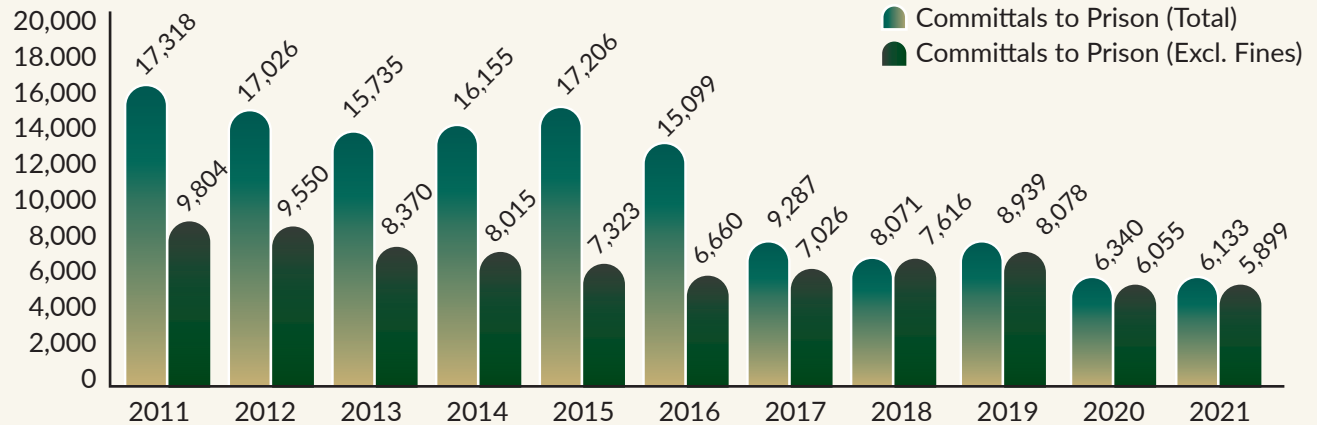


Fig. 19 Committals 2011 to 2021

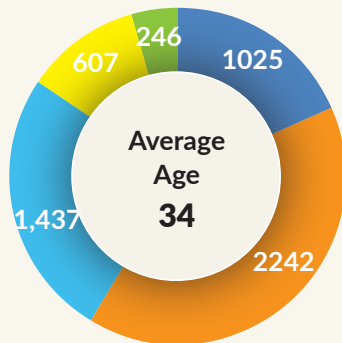
## Number of Persons Committed to Prison in 2021

A total of 5,179 persons accounted for the 6,133 committals. This figure relates to persons newly committed to prison (i.e. not already on remand or serving another sentence).

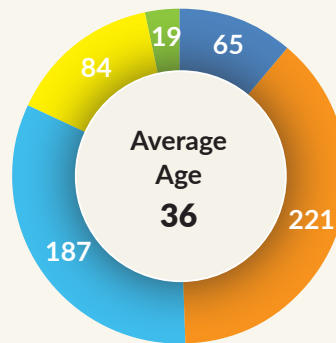
The total of 6,133 committals comprised of:

- ▲ 3,340 under sentence,
- ▲ 2,639 on remand,
- ▲ 64 for European Arrest Warrant extradition,
- ▲ 86 under immigration law, and
- ▲ 4 for indefinite contempt of court.

### AGE OF MALE PERSONS COMMITTED



### AGE OF FEMALE PERSONS COMMITTED



■ 18 - 24 ■ 25 - 34 ■ 35 - 44 ■ 45 - 54 ■ 55+

Fig. 20 Age Profile of Committals in 2021, broken down by Gender

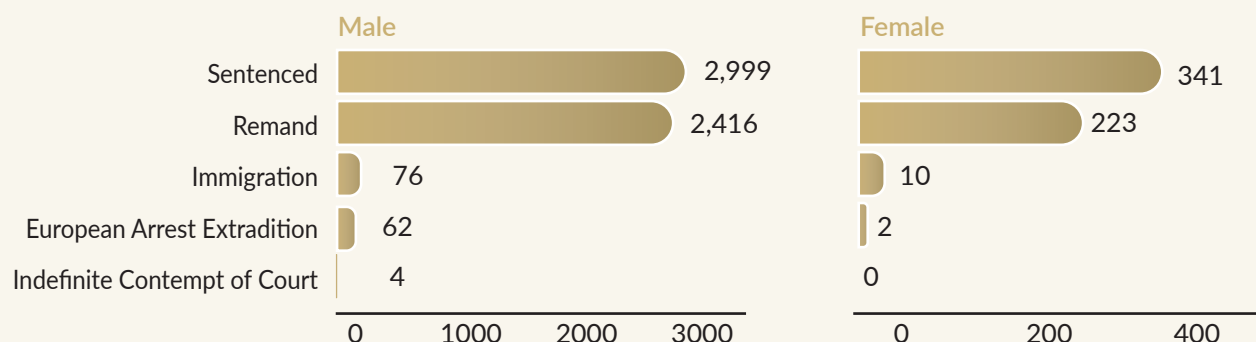


Fig. 21 Committal Type broken down by Gender



### County and Country of Origin of Persons Committed to Prison in 2021

Over one third (36% or 1,871) of all persons committed to prison declared Dublin as their county of residence. Cork was the second most commonly declared county of residence (10.5% or 543), followed by Limerick (5.8% or 299) and Galway (3.3% or 173). People who declared they had no fixed abode accounted for 6.5% (339) of all committals in 2021.

78.6% (4,070) of persons committed to prison in 2021 were Irish nationals. Other European Union nationals (excluding Irish) accounted for 13.1%

(676) of persons committed. British accounted for 1.6% (81). Other European nationals (excluding European Union nationals) accounted for 0.9% (48) of persons committed. African nationals accounted for 3.3% (172) of persons committed, Asian nationals for 1.4% (71), and South American nationals for 0.6% (33) of persons committed. Other nationals, including those from Middle East, North & Central American and The Caribbean, accounted for 0.5% (28) of persons committed.

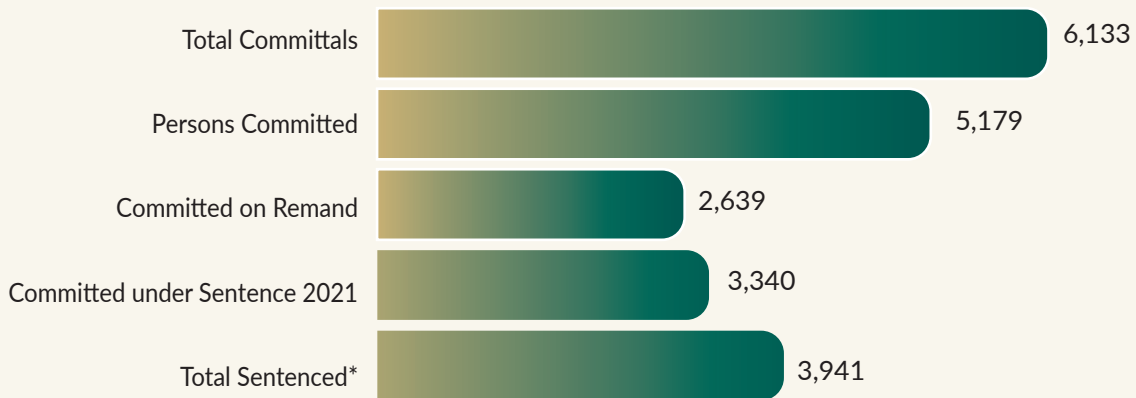
A full breakdown by county of residence and country of origin is available on our website: [www.irishprisons.ie](http://www.irishprisons.ie).

### Total Sentenced during 2021

There were 3,340 committals under sentence in 2021. When an additional 601 prisoners, who were already in custody at the start of the year on remand/awaiting trial and who were subsequently convicted are included, the total number of

prisoners received on conviction in 2021 was 3,941.

There was a 3.6% decrease (138) in the total number sentenced in 2021 compared with 2020 (3,803).



\*Includes the 601 prisoners who were on remand at the start of the year and who were subsequently convicted

Fig. 22 Total Sentenced during 2021



## Under Sentence by Age Group

| Age Group    | Total        | %            |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 18 - <25     | 662          | 16.8         |
| 25 - <35     | 1,612        | 40.9         |
| 35 - <45     | 1,032        | 26.2         |
| 45 - <54     | 439          | 11.1         |
| 55 +         | 196          | 5.0          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>3,941</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

Table. 6 Total Sentenced during 2021 by Age Group

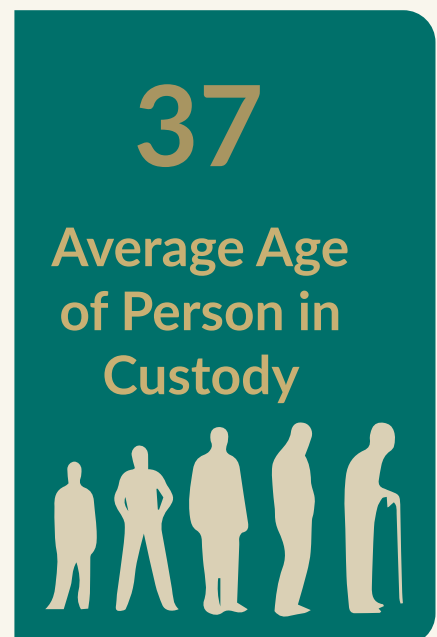
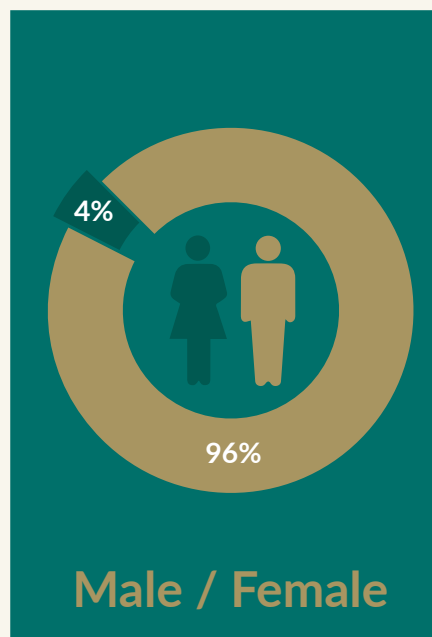
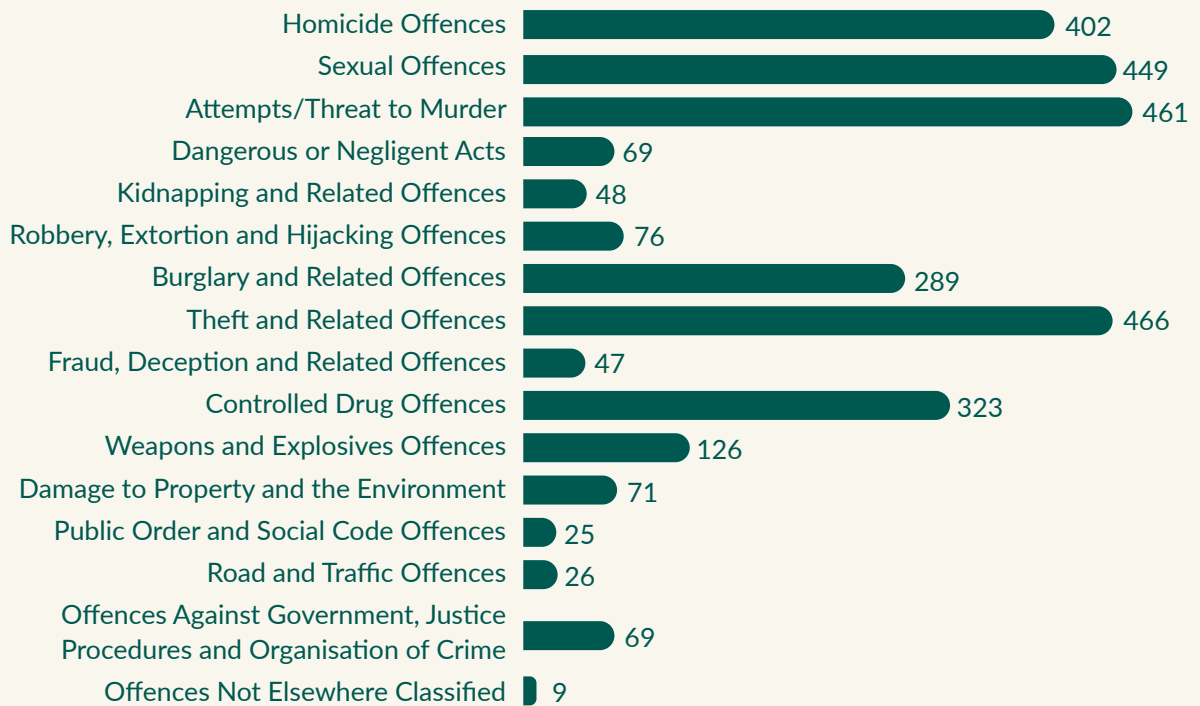
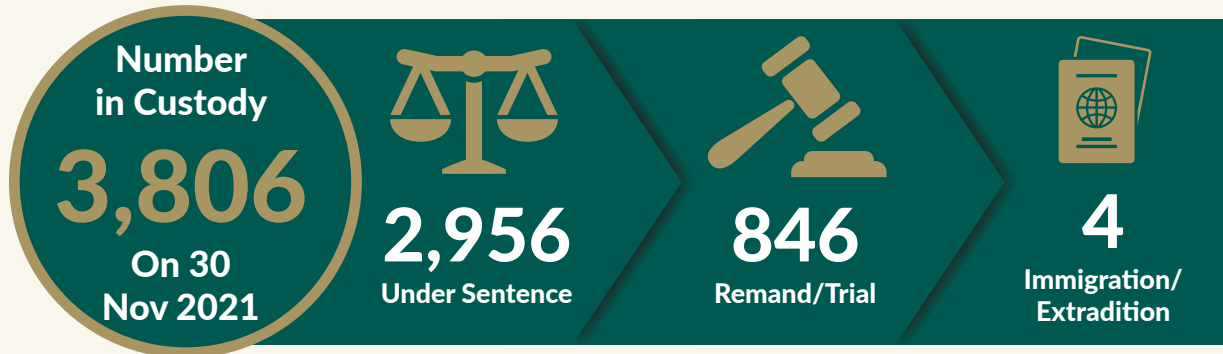
## Total Sentenced during 2021 broken down by Offence Group

| Offence Group  | Female     | Male         | Total        | %          |
|--|------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| GP01 Homicide Offences   | 2          | 36           | 38           | 0.7        |
| GP02 Sexual Offences   | 4          | 185          | 189          | 3.1        |
| GP03 Attempts/Threat to Murder, Assaults , Harassments and Related Offences    | 41         | 458          | 499          | 13.1       |
| GP04 Dangerous or Negligent Acts   | 1          | 140          | 141          | 2.9        |
| GP05 Kidnapping and Related Offences   | 0          | 15           | 15           | 0.5        |
| GP06 Robbery, Extortion and Hijacking Offences                                 | 2          | 48           | 50           | 1.6        |
| GP07 Burglary and Related Offences   | 4          | 213          | 217          | 6.9        |
| GP08 Theft and Related Offences  | 140        | 491          | 631          | 18.8       |
| GP09 Fraud, Deception and Related Offences                                     | 8          | 68           | 76           | 2.0        |
| GP10 Controlled Drug Offences  | 20         | 355          | 375          | 8.5        |
| GP11 Weapons and Explosives Offences   | 5          | 121          | 126          | 4.4        |
| GP12 Damage to Property and the Environment                                    | 10         | 220          | 230          | 5.6        |
| GP13 Public Order and Social Code Offences                                     | 29         | 238          | 267          | 6.1        |
| GP14 Road and Traffic Offences   | 33         | 431          | 464          | 10.1       |
| GP15 Offences against Government, Justice Procedures and Organisation of Crime | 65         | 504          | 569          | 14.5       |
| GP16 Offences Not Elsewhere Classified   | 14         | 40           | 54           | 1.2        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>378</b> | <b>3,563</b> | <b>3,941</b> | <b>100</b> |

Table. 7 Total Sentenced during 2021 by Offence Group



# SNAPSHOT OF PRISON POPULATION ON 30 NOVEMBER 2021



# SNAPSHOT 30 NOVEMBER 2021 - KEY POINTS

The total number of persons in custody was 3,806 on 30 November 2021.

Of the 2,956 sentenced prisoners, 356 prisoners (12.0%) were serving life sentences and another 247 (8.4%) were serving determinate sentences of 10 years or more.

29 offenders were serving sentences of less than 3 months representing 1% of sentenced prisoners.

353 offenders were serving sentences of less than 12 months representing 11.9% of sentenced prisoners.

## Temporary Release

There were 297 prisoners on temporary release on 30th November 2021. Of these 297 prisoners, 96 were on the Community Return Programme and 41 were on temporary release to the Community Support Scheme.

Five prisoners were on structured temporary release from an open centre, 32 were on temporary release serving less than 3 months for non-fine offences, and 123 were on other temporary release including under the supervision of the Probation Service.

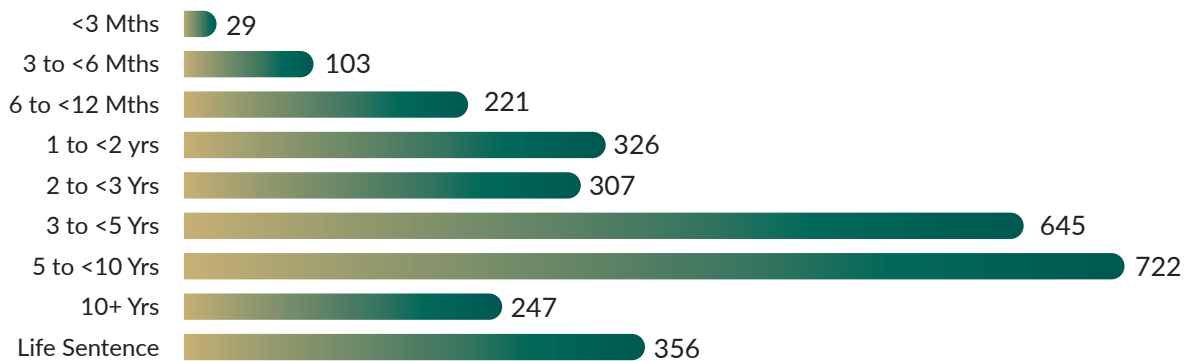


Fig. 23 Sentence length of Prisoners in Custody under Sentence on 30 November 2021

## Males Under Sentence

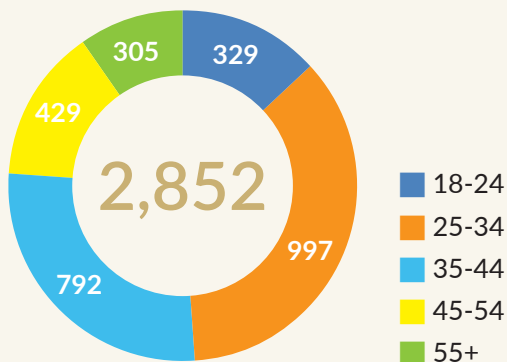


Fig. 24 Male Prisoner Population Under Sentence on 30th November 2021, broken down by Age Group

## Females Under Sentence

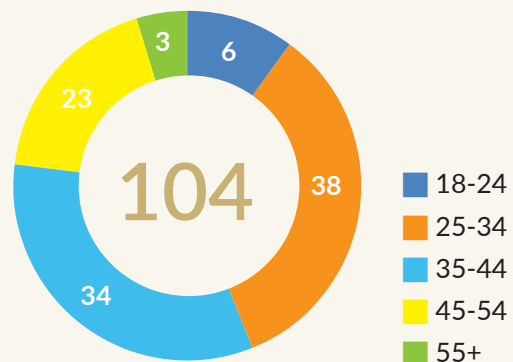


Fig. 25 Female Prisoner Population Under Sentence on 30th November 2021, broken down by Age Group

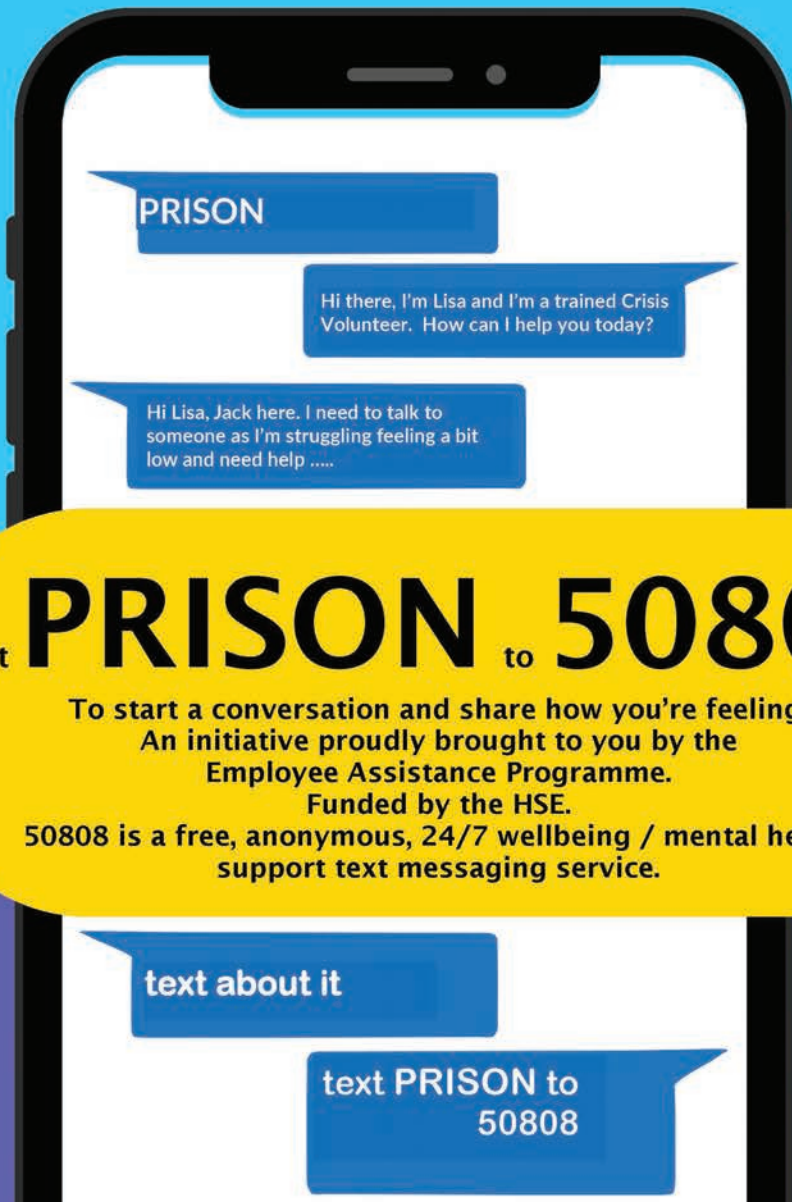




## EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

When you can't talk  
about it text about it  
Start the conversation now

Text **PRISON** to **50808**

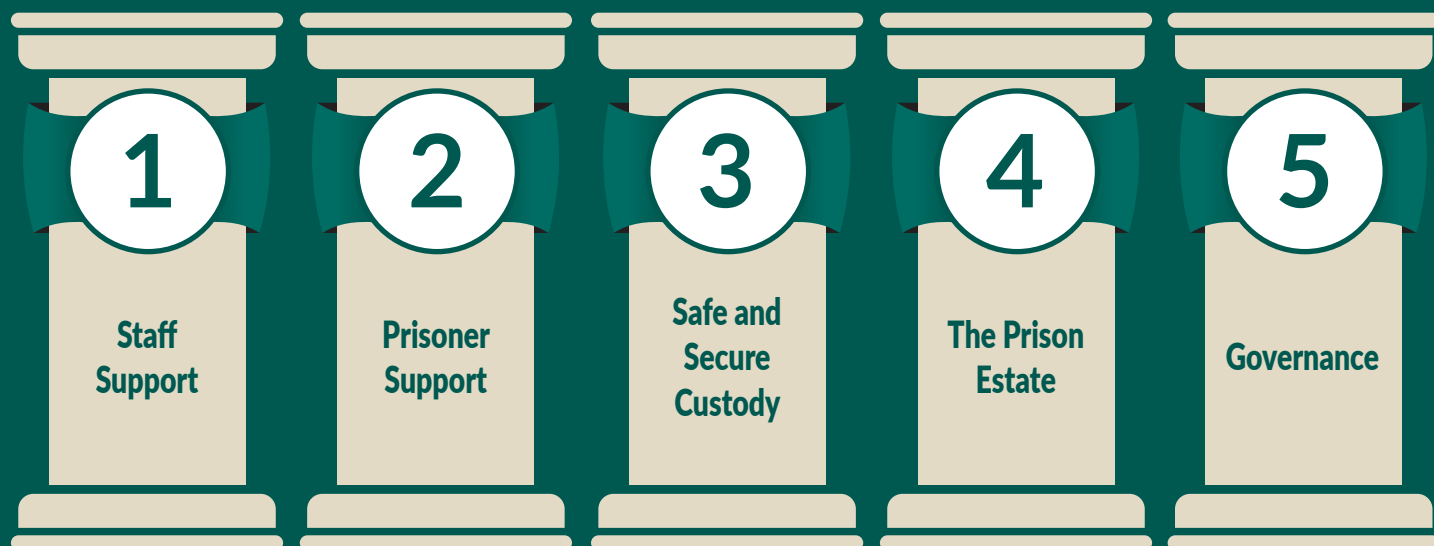


Text **PRISON** to **50808**

To start a conversation and share how you're feeling.  
An initiative proudly brought to you by the  
Employee Assistance Programme.  
Funded by the HSE.  
50808 is a free, anonymous, 24/7 wellbeing / mental health  
support text messaging service.

# OUR FIVE STRATEGIC PILLARS

## 2019 TO 2022



Seirbhís Phríosúin  
na hÉireann  
Irish Prison Service

# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



# IRISH PRISON SERVICE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 - 2022 is a plan for service improvement, development and a road-map, which sets out how we continue to operate as a world class public service organisation.

This strategy has been built around five pillars: Staff Support, Prisoner Support, Safe and Secure Custody, the Prison Estate and Governance.

This Annual Report outlines the significant progress on the implementation of the Strategy and the delivery of actions during 2021.

## Delivering on our Objectives

Despite the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic the Irish Prison Service achieved considerable progress in the delivery of Strategic Objectives in 2021. During the year we continued to embed the operation of the Civil Service Code of Discipline in the Irish Prison Service which was introduced in 2020. In addition, work was completed on the development of our new Competency Framework and Code of Ethics which were both published during the year. **(Strategic Action No.1)**

We continued to protect the health and safety of all prisoners and staff throughout the prison system through the effective management of Covid-19 by implementing robust and adaptable Covid-19 restrictions and infection control measures, under the guidance of our National Infection Control Team. We continued to regularly review restrictions and infection control measures to respond to latest Government announcements and Public Health advice. To achieve our shared goals we conducted wide ranging stakeholder communications and engagement including departmental collaboration within the criminal justice system and wider Government network.

Significant work was also undertaken on enhancing Mental Health Services for people in custody through our participation in the *High-level Taskforce on Mental health and Addiction Challenges of Persons Interacting with the Criminal Justice System* and the completion of the Health Needs Assessment. Consideration will be given to the implementation of the recommendations contained in the reports by these groups in 2022, subject to the provision of additional resources if necessary. **(Strategic Action No. 2)**

Throughout the year we continued to manage the prison population to ensure that effective infection controls were in place. The Covid-19 pandemic did impact on the operation of some structured temporary release programmes however, both Community Return and Community Support were operating as normal by year end. In addition, we continued our efforts to prevent the trafficking of contraband into prisons with record interceptions of illegal drugs and mobile phones across the system. We have enhanced our co-operation with An Garda Síochána with regard to the organized trafficking of contraband by Organised Criminal Gangs and this work continues to be a priority for our Service. **(Strategic Action No. 3)**

Despite the impact on the construction sector significant progress has been achieved in the construction of new accommodation for male and female prisoners at Limerick Prison. While some delays have been experienced due to the closure of construction sites at certain times during the year the project remains on budget and construction is expected to be completed by the end of 2022. **(Strategic Action No. 4)**

The Strategy contains ambitious plans to strengthen governance and accountability in our Service. Significant progress has been achieved on the reform of existing governance structures with the development of a new Operating Model for the Service. Enhanced oversight of agreed performance indicators will be delivered in 2022 via a new Operational Dashboard with 308 individual metrics. In addition, significant progress has been achieved in the enhancement and development of risk management systems and structures. A new Head of Risk, Assurance and Compliance was appointed in July 2021. In October 2021, the Irish Prison Service completed the development of a new Risk Management Framework, which provides for the effective management of risk across the organisation. **(Strategic Action No. 5)**



# OUR STRATEGIC ACTIONS

## Strategic Priority 1: Staff Support

We will create a more supporting working environment with a more engaged workforce

## Strategic Priority 2: Prisoner Support

We will further develop the integration of prisoner care and support services to deliver more effective rehabilitation to prisoners

## Strategic Priority 3: Safe and Secure Custody

We will create a more safe and secure custodial setting in our Estate making prisons a safer place for staff, prisoners and visitors

## Strategic Priority 4: The Prison Estate

We will ensure in a Prison Estate that provides safe, secure and humane custody, that upholds the dignity of all users and that reflects and supports a modern and progressive penal policy

## Strategic Priority 5: Governance

We will ensure an open, transparent and accountable Prison Service.

### The Strategy aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- ▲ Create a more supporting, working environment
- ▲ Enhanced services for staff and positive physical and mental health of all employees
- ▲ All staff are confident and competent to perform safely and effectively in their duties
- ▲ Enhanced Psychological Services for the provision of mental health services and offence-specific interventions to people in custody
- ▲ Provision and enhancement of healthcare services
- ▲ Increased participation in rehabilitative activities by prisoners
- ▲ Improved coordination of community integration plans in preparation for release of prisoners
- ▲ A more modern technology-driven prison estate for safer prisons
- ▲ Contribute to safer communities through prisoner progression and tackling over-crowding and over-capacity
- ▲ A fairer, simpler Prisoner Complaints System
- ▲ Enhanced Organisation Governance Structure by continuing to strengthen internal governance and risk management, information and security systems.



# IRISH PRISON SERVICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2022

## PROGRESS REPORT DECEMBER 2020

| Strategic Priority 1: Staff Support<br><br>“We will create a more supporting working environment with a more engaged workforce” through:  | Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 - 2022<br><br>Progress report December 2021   |
|---|--|
| <b>1.1 Developing our Organisational capacity.</b>  |  |
| <p><b>1.1.1</b> Reviewing senior management structures and local management structures within prisons</p>   | <p><b>1.1.1</b> A review of senior and local management structures was completed in 2020. The process to identify the pilot locations for the Functional Structure roll out was completed in 2021. Competitions for the necessary additional resources were also completed.</p>        |
| <p><b>1.1.2</b> Strengthening functional management to make sure there is clarity regarding responsibility and accountability</p>   | <p><b>1.1.2</b> The Functional Structure roll out was delayed due to Covid-19. New Structure to be rolled out in 2 locations in early 2022.</p>  |
| <p><b>1.1.3</b> Widening the HR Teams, developing their skills and aligning Detail Offices to the relevant HR Team</p>  | <p><b>1.1.3</b> Will form part of the new Functional Structure arrangements in the pilot locations.</p>  |
| <p><b>1.1.4</b> Developing and implementing a suite of audit tools</p>  | <p><b>1.1.4</b> Suite of audit metrics for new Operational Dashboards completed. To be introduced in 2022.</p>   |
| <p><b>1.1.5</b> Developing and publishing a HR customer charter</p>   | <p><b>1.1.5</b> Completed.</p>   |
| <b>1.2 Providing a safer working environment for our people.</b>  |  |
| <p><b>1.2.1</b> Acknowledging the challenges of working in prison and providing supports to staff to deal with both critical incident stress and the more routines stresses</p> | <p><b>1.2.1</b> Ongoing – Resilience included as core element of RPO training. Significant resources allocated to staff support. Approximately 70 Staff Support Officers operating across the system in 2021.</p>  |
| <p><b>1.2.2</b> Promoting and implementing clear Standards of Behaviour and Ethics (Code of Ethics/ Acceptable Behaviour Standards)</p>   | <p><b>1.2.2</b> Completed and published in 2021.</p>   |
| <p><b>1.2.3</b> Publishing all HR related Standard Operating Procedures and Governors Orders on the new communication platform</p>  | <p><b>1.2.3</b> Updated policies and procedures are published to the Intranet. Information published on PRISM is revised and updated regularly.</p>  |
| <p><b>1.2.4</b> Cultivating pride in our uniform</p>  | <p><b>1.2.4</b> Uniform awareness displays are posted in all locations highlighting how the uniform should be correctly worn. A national Uniform Policy is in place. New corporate branding was introduced in 2021 and a new Irish Prison Service uniform logo is being developed.</p> |

| Strategic Priority 1: Staff Support   |  | Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 - 2022   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| “We will create a more supporting working environment with a more engaged workforce” through:                                 |  | Progress report December 2021   |  |
| <b>1.3 Support our people by creating a culture of inclusivity and wellbeing.</b>   |  |   |  |
| 1.3.1 Promoting a work environment that is centred on our values  |  | 1.3.1 Code of Ethics published in 2021.   |  |
| 1.3.2 Developing a new communications platform that is accessible to all staff  |  | 1.3.2 Completed.  |  |
| 1.3.3 Providing ongoing regular engagements between Human Resources Directorate and Prison Management                         |  | 1.3.3 Ongoing.  |  |
| 1.3.4 Implementing the Well at Work/ Healthy Ireland Programme (HSE) across the Estate  |  | 1.3.4 A Wellbeing Steering Group was established in 2019 and continues to meet. While the Well at Work Programme was deferred due to Covid-19, engagement has continued with the HSE with regard to the establishment of the Programme. |  |
| <b>1.4 Attracting and retaining the best people for our organisation.</b>   |  |   |  |
| 1.4.1 Reviewing our approach to recruitment and promotion competitions  |  | 1.4.1 Completed.  |  |
| 1.4.2 Moving to an online application process for promotion competitions  |  | 1.4.2 Commenced first phase of roll out of e-recruitment in 2021 to include shortlisting and interviewing.  |  |
| 1.4.3 Reviewing job specifications, competencies and updating them to make sure they meet our needs                           |  | 1.4.3 A new Irish Prison Service Competency Framework was completed and published in 2021.  |  |
| 1.4.4 Exploring the possibility of moving to regional and open recruitment  |  | 1.4.4 Completed.  |  |
| <b>1.5 Developing our People.</b>   |  |   |  |
| 1.5.1 Enhancing Continued Professional Development (CPD)  |  | 1.5.1 The provision of CPD was significantly curtailed in 2021 due to COVID however CPD was delivered to 432 officers in 2021.  |  |
| 1.5.2 Reviewing the current model of Recruit Prison Officer training to ensure it meets our organisational needs              |  | 1.5.2 The delivery of the HCCC continues to be reviewed regularly. Delivery of Semesters 2-4 of the HCCC has changed from classroom to online delivery and this has resulted in improved student feedback and engagement.               |  |
| 1.5.3 Creating a work environment in which all staff and managers have the competencies required to support of our objectives |  | 1.5.3 Management training was impacted by COVID-19 in 2021. The development and introduction of a Leadership Development Programme is prioritised for completion in 2022.   |  |



**Strategic Priority 1: Staff Support**

**Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 - 2022**

**“We will create a more supporting working environment with a more engaged workforce” through:**

**Progress report December 2021**

**1.6 Having high standards of leadership and management.**

**1.6.1** Establishing a dedicated Leadership and Management Section

**1.6.1** The Prison Management and Administration Support Team (“PMAST”) is in place to provide support and training for managers when required.

PMAST delivered significant one-on-one training in 2021 in the absence of conducting classroom training.

**1.6.2** Developing best practice in decision making through a Decision Making Model

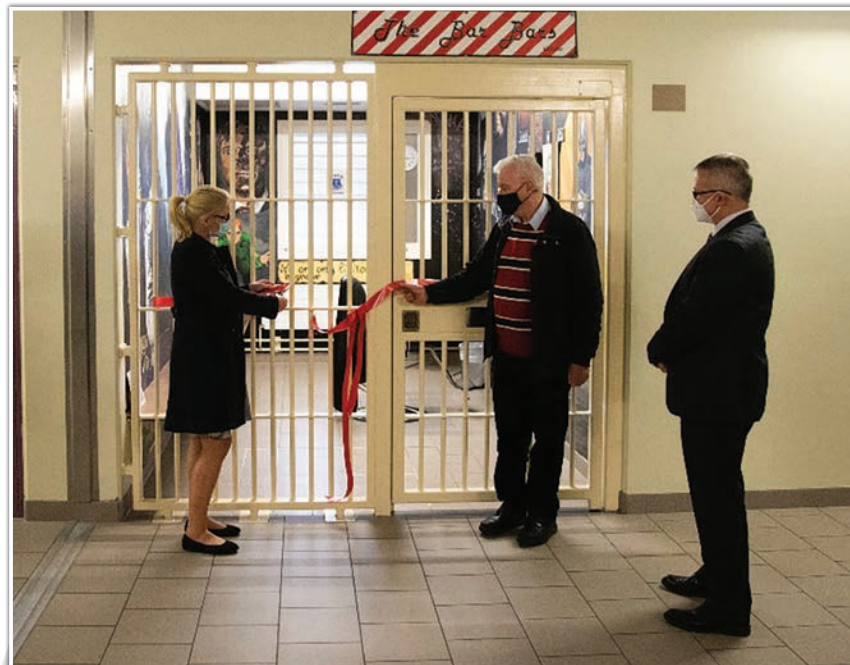
**1.6.2** Completed.

**1.6.3** Further developing the HR matrix to assist prisons in evaluating and enhancing their performance

**1.6.3** Completed.

**1.6.4** Ensuring that there is accountability at all levels of our organisation through Performance Agreements

**1.6.4** Work on the development of Operational Dashboards was completed in 2021. The drafting of Service Agreements will be completed in 2022 and will be rolled out with the new Operating Model and Dashboards.



*In December 2021, Fr. Peter McVerry and the Director General of the Prison Service visited Midlands Prison for the opening of their second barbershop. The Barbers Course, training to a junior barber level, works towards the reintegration of participants back into the community. Participant also engage with IASIO staff for placement in employment in Barbershops or additional training upon their release back into the community.*



| <p>Strategic Priority 2: Prisoner Support</p> <p>“We will further develop the integration of prisoner care and support services to deliver more effective rehabilitation to prisoners” through:</p> | <p>Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022</p> <p>Progress Report December 2021</p>  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>2.1 Improving Health Care.</b></p>  |  |
| <p><b>2.1.1</b> In conjunction with the HSE, provide appropriate forensic psychiatric services in all closed prisons and explore the number of admissions to the Central Mental Hospital (CMH)</p>  | <p><b>2.1.1</b> The Irish Prison Service has been centrally involved in the High-level Interdepartmental Task Force on Mental Health (and addiction challenges) for persons interacting with the Criminal Justice system. The Taskforce was established in April 2021. The Irish Prison Service participated in the Taskforce throughout 2021 with one of the sub-groups chaired by the Irish Prison Service Executive Clinical Lead.</p> <p>The Taskforce is to report in 2022.</p>   |
| <p><b>2.1.2</b> Strengthen primary care provision, develop clinical governance arrangements and continue development of Prisoner Healthcare Management System (PHMS)</p>                            | <p><b>2.1.2</b> A competition for the recruitment of prison doctors was completed in 2021 with seven full time doctors recruited and inducted in May 2021. Additional funding has been allocated for the recruitment of two additional doctors in 2022.</p> <p>Funding was also approved for a Mental Health &amp; Addictions Lead to develop and amalgamate the treatment of mental health &amp; addiction issues estate wide. Much of this work will be directed by the outcomes of the Health Needs Assessment and the Governments High Level Task Force on Mental Health (including dual diagnosis).</p> |
| <p><b>2.1.3</b> Enhancing and developing infection control policies and procedures</p>  | <p><b>2.1.3</b> Significant work was achieved by the National Infection Control Team in the management of Covid-19 including the development of policies and procedures to support infection control across all prisons. Additional resources were sought and granted in the 2022 estimates process to augment the National Infection Control Team in 2022.</p>  |
| <p><b>2.1.4</b> Commence a Review of Prison Healthcare (HNA)</p>  | <p><b>2.1.4</b> Notwithstanding the challenges of Covid-19 work on the completion of the Health Needs Assessment was completed in 2021. The report was submitted to the Irish Prison Service in Q1 2022.</p>   |
| <p><b>2.1.5</b> Implement recommendations of the independent Drug and Alcohol Report and develop a contemporary Drug and Alcohol Policy</p>   | <p><b>2.1.5</b> It has not been possible to substantially advance this action due to Covid 19. The completion of a new Irish Prison Service Drugs Policy is being prioritised for delivery in 2022.</p>  |



| <p><b>Strategic Priority 2: Prisoner Support</b></p> <p>“We will further develop the integration of prisoner care and support services to deliver more effective rehabilitation to prisoners” through:</p> | <p><b>Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022</b></p> <p><b>Progress Report December 2021</b></p>  |
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| <p><b>2.2 Enhancing Psychological Wellbeing.</b></p>   |  |
| <p><b>2.2.1</b> Continuing to implement key recommendations from the Porporino New Connections report (2015)</p>   | <p><b>2.2.1</b> The Irish Prison Service has continued to enhance the provision of Psychology Service in line with the recommendations of the Porporino Report. Additional psychological resources were sought and granted in the 2022 Estimates process to support mental health and sexual violence interventions and recruitment of additional psychologists will take place in 2022.</p> |
| <p><b>2.2.2</b> Establishing a multi-disciplinary model of mental healthcare in prisons in conjunction with NFMHS and allied services</p>  | <p><b>2.2.2</b> The Irish Prison Service is awaiting the outcome of the High-level Taskforce on Mental Health which is due to report in 2022. This will inform any significant action in this area.</p>  |
| <p><b>2.2.3</b> Continuing to provide psychologically informed input to the Irish Prison Service College and ensuring psychology staff are supported to maximise potential as clinicians</p>               | <p><b>2.2.3</b> The Psychology Service continue to contribute significantly to staff training and development. Funding for the appointment of a senior psychologist for the Irish Prison Service College was sought and approved in the 2022 Estimates process. Recruitment of same will be completed in 2022.</p>   |
| <p><b>2.2.4</b> Continuing to build on best practice offence - specific interventions and developing a best fit model of Trauma Informed Correctional Care (TICC)</p>                                      | <p><b>2.2.4</b> The implementation of this action has been delayed due to Covid-19. It will be reviewed in 2022.</p>   |
| <p><b>2.2.5</b> Developing interventions for prisoners who deny sexual violence</p>  | <p><b>2.2.5</b> Additional psychological resources were sought and partial funding was granted in the 2022 Estimates process to support sexual violence interventions to address risks factors and seek to reduce the risk to public safety. The recruitment of additional resource will take place in 2022.</p>   |
| <p><b>2.2.6</b> Enhancing the Psychology Case Tracking System (PCTS)</p>   | <p><b>2.2.6</b> Funding for the development of the PCTS has not been received to date. It is intended to resubmit the business case for same as part of the 2023 Estimates process.</p>  |

| <p>Strategic Priority 2: Prisoner Support</p> <p>“We will further develop the integration of prisoner care and support services to deliver more effective rehabilitation to prisoners” through:</p>             | <p>Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022</p> <p>Progress Report December 2021</p>   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>2.3 Increasing Rehabilitation Support.</b></p>  |   |
| <p><b>2.3.1</b> Progressing the delivery of the Irish Prison Service and Probation Service Strategic Plan 2018-2020</p>   | <p><b>2.3.1</b> Actions are being progressed, subject to oversight by Joint Probation Service/Irish Prison Service Group.</p> <p>Continued implementation of all aspects of the Joint Strategy in 2021. A reporting system is in place.</p>   |
| <p><b>2.3.2</b> Better resourcing and managing the Integrated Sentence Management process and maximising opportunities to access constructive activities, prisoner support services and suitable facilities</p> | <p><b>2.3.2</b> Funding secured in 2021 to move to rostered post for ISM Coordinator in committal and larger prisons.</p> <p>The filling of ISM coordinator vacancies was completed in 2021. The Irish Prison Service secured some funding in the 2022 Estimates process to increase capacity by three in 2022.</p> <p>A comprehensive new database was designed, tested and delivered with training in 2021.</p> |
| <p><b>2.3.3</b> Delivering catering, cleaning, laundry and environmental waste management in all prisons to national standards</p>  | <p><b>2.3.3</b> A comprehensive Work Training Review was completed in 2021. The Report is to be finalised and considered in early 2022 at which stage the implementation of the recommendation will be considered.</p>  |
| <p><b>2.3.4</b> Continuing to develop and review the application of the Incentivised Regimes Policy</p>   | <p><b>2.3.4</b> Completed.</p>  |
| <p><b>2.3.5</b> Implementing a Joint Education Strategy with the Educational Training Boards (ETBs), and further developing library services</p>  | <p><b>2.3.5</b> A Joint Strategy is in place. All seven strategic actions are being implemented in partnership with the ETBs and other partners over the lifetime of the Strategy.</p> <p>The Local Government Management Agency have commissioned an independent review of Prison Libraries in Ireland which is due to be completed in Q2 2022</p>   |



**Strategic Priority 2: Prisoner Support**

**Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022**

“We will further develop the integration of prisoner care and support services to deliver more effective rehabilitation to prisoners” through:

**Progress Report December 2021**

**2.4 Resettlement and Integration.**

- 2.4.1** In collaboration with the Probation Service continuing to enhance programmes for structured release
- 2.4.2** Continuing to build effective partnerships with statutory and non-statutory agencies
- 2.4.3** Continuing to work with Housing Authorities to improve case management of offenders at risk of homelessness on release
- 2.4.4** Proactively engaging with employers and social enterprises to provide employment to ex- offenders

- 2.4.1** Structured temporary release programmes were curtailed due to Covid-19 and the closure of community return sites.
- 2.4.2** Ongoing across all areas.
- 2.4.3** Year 1 of Criminal Justice Housing First completed successfully in 2021. The Irish Prison Service have secured agreement to expand Housing First initiative nationally as part of Housing For All Strategy.
- 2.4.4** The Irish Prison Service and the Department of Justice continue to implement the “Working to Change” Strategy. In addition, funding was sought and secured in the estimates process for the 2022 budget to increase the Training & Employment Officer complement by one.

MONSTERevin: Midlands Prison partnered with Monasterevin Tidy Towns committee to design and produce Halloween silhouettes that were placed around the town to create a ghoulish atmosphere that was described by organisers as ‘above and beyond what could have been expected’ and taking the project ‘to a whole new level’.

The prison workshops also provided Christmas silhouettes for the town in 2021, and other items such as planters, basketball backboards and bird boxes for schools and GAA clubs.





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| <p><b>Strategic Priority 3: Safe and Secure Custody</b></p> <p><b>“We will create a more safe and secure custodial setting in our Estate making prisons a safer place for staff, prisoners and visitors” through:</b></p>   | <p><b>Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022</b></p> <p><b>Progress Report December 2021</b></p>  |
| <p><b>3.1 Creating a more modern, technology driven, prison estate with a focus on.</b></p>   |  |
| <p><b>3.1.1</b> Tackling the increasing threats posed by drone incursions into prisons</p> <p><b>3.1.2</b> Investing in front of house security measures to prevent contraband smuggling</p> <p><b>3.1.3</b> Investing in equipment to assist in the search and retrieval of contraband</p> | <p><b>3.1.1</b> The upgrading and review of security measures takes place on an ongoing basis. Significant progress was achieved by the organisation in continuing to tackle the smuggling of contraband such as illegal drugs, weapons and mobile phones into prisons.</p> <p>The roll out of the anti-drone system has been extended to six prisons across the estate and this has assisted the interceptions of contraband in a number of areas.</p> <p><b>3.1.2 &amp; 3.1.3</b> The Irish Prison Service carried out a review of the existing policies and procedures for the operation of the Security Screening Areas in all closed prisons in 2021 and these have been updated.</p> <p>Customer Service training was provided to all Operational Security Group staff.</p> <p>The Irish Prison Service completed security reviews in a number of prisons in 2021 which included a focus on the prevention of contraband.</p> <p>In addition, the Irish Prison Service has enhanced its co-operation with An Garda Síochána with regard to the organised trafficking of contraband into prisons and further progress in this area is expected in 2022.</p> |



| Strategic Priority 3: Safe and Secure Custody   |  | Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022  |  |
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| “We will create a more safe and secure custodial setting in our Estate making prisons a safer place for staff, prisoners and visitors” through: |  | Progress Report December 2021  |  |
| <b>3.2 Contributing to safer communities through prisoners progression and tackling over-crowding and over-capacity.</b>                        |  |  |  |
| <b>3.2.1</b> Conducting a full cell audit within the estate to identify additional bed capacity   |  | <b>3.2.1</b> Completed.  |  |
| <b>3.2.2</b> Reviewing our policies in relation to the Open Centres and structured temporary release  |  | <b>3.2.2</b> Completed.  |  |
| <b>3.2.3</b> Continuing to liaise with partners and service providers in the area of sentence management  |  | <p><b>3.2.3</b> The operation of the Community Return and Community Support Schemes was impacted by the Covid-19 restrictions and alternative arrangements were made for same. The Irish Prison Service continued to engage with the Department of Justice and other stakeholders on the review of penal policy.</p> <p>The Irish Prison Service commenced the development of a new Prisoner Progression Plan to support the management of prisoner sentence from committal to release. The new Prisoner Progression Plan has been prioritised for completion in Q3 2022.</p>  |  |
| <b>3.3 Introducing a fair, transparent and more streamlined prisoner complaint system.</b>  |  |  |  |
| <b>3.3.1</b> Implementing the recommendations of the Inspector of Prisons audit of the current complaint system                                 |  | <p><b>3.3.1 &amp; 3.3.2 &amp; 3.3.3</b> The Irish Prison Service continued to engage with the Department of Justice (Criminal Policy Division) on the development of a new Prisoner Complaints System.</p> <p>Significant engagement took place between the Irish Prison Service, the Department and the Office of Parliamentary Council on the drafting of new legislation to underpin the new system.</p> <p>The Irish Prison Service commenced the use of some aspects of the new ICT system to support the operation of the existing system, pending the introduction of the new SI, in order to achieve greater adherence to existing legislative requirements.</p> |  |
| <b>3.3.2</b> Amending the Prison Rules 2007, to give effect to those recommendations for a fairer, more user friendly system                    |  |  |  |
| <b>3.3.3</b> Introducing a system of Internal Review and External Independent Appeal with final determination being made by the Ombudsman       |  |  |  |



| Strategic Priority 3: Safe and Secure Custody   |  | Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| “We will create a more safe and secure custodial setting in our Estate making prisons a safer place for staff, prisoners and visitors” through:   |  | Progress Report December 2021  |  |
| <b>3.4 Contributing to public safety and a safer working environment.</b>   |  |  |  |
| <b>3.4.1</b> Continuing to implement recommendations of the State Claims Agency Report - Review on Assaults on Operational Prison Staff by Prisoners  |  | <b>3.4.1</b> Completed.  |  |
| <b>3.4.2</b> Investing in standardised personal protective equipment Personal Protection Equipment before (PPE) for staff on escorts and other staff  |  | <b>3.4.2</b> Enhancement to PPE remains under constant review. The Irish Prison Service continued to invest in the provision of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment for staff in 2021. |  |
| <b>3.4.3</b> Investing in our CCTV systems  |  | <b>3.4.3</b> The roll out of the new CCTV system has been completed.   |  |
| <b>3.5 Victim Support:</b>  |  |  |  |
| <b>3.5</b> We will engage openly and meaningfully with registered victims of crime, in line with the Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act 2017, recognising their concerns and right to be understood and treated with respect and dignity |  | <b>3.5</b> The Irish Prison Service continued to engage with the victims of crime via the Victim Liaison Officers. In 2021 there were 418 active cases being managed by the end of the year. |  |



| Strategic Priority 4: The Prison Estate   |  | Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022 |  |
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| <p>“We will ensure a Prison Estate that provides safe, secure and humane custody, that upholds the dignity of all users and that reflects and supports a modern and progressive penal policy” through:</p>  |  | <p>Progress Report December 2021</p>            |  |
| <p><b>4.1 Delivering the Limerick Prison redevelopment design &amp; build project which includes.</b></p>   |  |   |  |
| <p><b>4.1.1</b> A new B Wing Cell Block for male prisoners including staff facilities, kitchen, laundry, delivery facilities and a waste management facility</p> <p><b>4.1.2</b> A new stand-alone female prison</p> <p><b>4.1.3</b> A new gatehouse and offices, Escort Corps (PSEC) and Operation Support Group (OSG) offices, visits and reception facilities</p> <p><b>4.1.4</b> New secure vehicle gatelock</p> <p><b>4.1.5</b> External works comprising, ancillary services, landscaping and recreation facilities</p> <p><b>4.1.6</b> New Probation Service offices</p> | <p><b>4.1 Expenditure €22.4M</b></p> <p>Notwithstanding the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the construction industry the Limerick Prison works were substantially progressed in 2021.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the construction of the new accommodation and support facilities will be completed in late 2022.</p>   |   |  |
| <p><b>4.2</b> Repurposing the Mountjoy Training Unit as an Older Persons Unit</p>   | <p><b>4.2</b> Work on the refurbishment of the Training Unit for use as an older persons facility were completed in early 2020 however, plans to open the facility were deferred due to the ongoing challenges of Covid-19 and the risks posed specifically to this cohort of prisoners.</p> <p>It is expected that the Training Unit will reopen as a centre for older male prisoners in mid-2022 – subject to the advice of the National Infection Control Team and available resources.</p> |   |  |
| <p><b>4.3</b> Maximising capacity and services within the Prison Estate</p>   | <p><b>4.3 Expenditure €1.6M</b></p> <p>The Irish Prison Service has continued to invest in an improvement programme across the prison estate including enhancement to systems for the delivery of services. This includes development work on the provision of video link systems, in-cell telephony and cell improvement works in various locations including Midlands, Limerick, Cloverhill and Castlereagh.</p>   |   |  |
| <p><b>4.4</b> Improving security &amp; safety measures</p>  | <p><b>4.4 Expenditure €2.7M</b></p> <p>Significant investment continued on safety and security systems such as fire alarm, CCTV and security equipment. Additional minor works, repairs and system upgrades were also completed.</p>   |   |  |





| Strategic Priority 4: The Prison Estate   |  | Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022 |  |
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| “We will ensure a Prison Estate that provides safe, secure and humane custody, that upholds the dignity of all users and that reflects and supports a modern and progressive penal policy” through: |  | Progress Report December 2021                   |  |
| 4.5   | Improving buildings fabric, facilities & equipment | 4.5   | <b>Expenditure €2.7M</b><br><br>Includes small works, repairs, upgrades and investment in equipment throughout the Estate such as small refurbishments/reconfigurations/ catering/ anti-vandal sanitary ware/gymnasium equipment and retentions etc. |
| 4.6   | Developing ICT facilities and systems              | 4.6   | <b>Expenditure €2.3M</b><br><br>Investment in a number of ICT infrastructure and systems, computer hardware, data security and upgrades, prisoner services, remote working ICT facilities.   |
| 4.7   | Enhancing the quality of our fleet                 | 4.7   | <b>Expenditure €0.51M</b><br><br>Investment to update and upgrade the Irish Prison Service fleet.  |



| Strategic Priority 5: Governance   |  | Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022 |   |
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| “We will ensure an open, transparent and accountable Prison Service” through:  |  | Progress Report December 2021                   |   |
| <b>5.1 Enhancing Organisation Governance Structure in line with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.</b> |  |   |   |
| <b>5.1.1.</b> Continuing to strengthen internal governance and risk management, information and security systems             |  | <b>5.1.1 &amp; 5.1.3</b>                        | <p>Significant progress has been achieved in the enhancement and development of risk management systems and structures. A new Head of Risk, Assurance and Compliance was appointed in July 2021.</p> <p>In October 2021, the Irish Prison Service completed the development of a new Risk Management Framework, which provides for the effective management of risk across the organisation.</p> <p>The Corporate Risk Register was reviewed and updated on a quarterly basis. All Prison Risk Registers were also revised and updated with a view to identifying and mitigating risks relating to key operational issues.</p> <p>In early 2021, a comprehensive assurance mapping project commenced. This project was designed to help senior management to understand how they obtain assurance, and from whom, in relation to key risks and associated compliance requirements. A standardised template was developed to report on assurance and any gaps identified through the process are expected to be addressed through remedial action plans.</p> |
| <b>5.1.2</b> Establishing an Internal Audit Unit (IAU)   |  | <b>5.1.2</b>                                    | <p>IAU being delivered by Internal Audit DOJ</p> <p>New governance structures in the Irish Prison Service being implemented; current transitional arrangement / transfer of audit services being considered by the Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Head of Internal Audit DoJ.</p>  |
| <b>5.1.3</b> Developing internal process of compliance and risk management   |  | <b>5.1.3</b>                                    | <p>As above at 5.1.1.</p>   |
| <b>5.1.4</b> Develop external oversight governance framework/ infrastructure   |  | <b>5.1.4</b>                                    | <p>The Irish Prison Service/Dept. of Justice Oversight Agreement 2022 - 2024 was completed in 2021, for publication in January 2022.</p> <p>Quarterly governance meetings between Senior Management of the Irish Prison Service and Criminal Justice Governance, Dept. of Justice took place on a quarterly basis at which the Annual Performance Delivery Agreement was approved and monitored. Key issues and risks were also considered and discussed at each meeting.</p> <p>A working group to examine the future legal operating status of the Irish Prison Service (chaired by A/Sec, Criminal Justice Governance) was established and the Irish Prison Service actively engaged in this process in 2021.</p>  |

| Strategic Priority 5: Governance<br>“We will ensure an open, transparent and accountable Prison Service” through:  | Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022<br>Progress Report December 2021   |
|--|--|
| <p><b>5.2</b> Further developing functional structure governance in prisons</p>  | <p><b>5.2</b> Significant work completed on the redesign of the Irish Prison Service Operating Model in 2021 including the drafting of new terms of reference for Senior Management teams and forums.</p> <p>The work completed in 2021 included the holding of workshops in each of the Prisons and the Directorates where feedback from the 137 participants was obtained following a presentation on the Operating Model and the Organisational Dashboards. This feedback was assimilated in to the model and then draft TORs for each forum were developed.</p> <p>A review of the 166 committees seeks to streamline the functional operation of the Irish Prison Service through identifying the outputs of each committee and aligning that with the Operating Model.</p>   |
| <p><b>5.3 Developing internal structures to facilitate a planned approach to policy development</b></p>  |  |
| <p><b>5.3.1</b> Developing an annual policy implementation plan</p> <p><b>5.3.2</b> Examining and assessing potential for Information Communications Technology (ICT) to enhance organisation capacity</p> <p><b>5.3.3</b> Publication of standards in an easy accessible manner</p> | <p><b>5.3.1</b> The introduction of an Annual Policy Implementation Plan was delayed due to Covid-19.</p> <p>The Irish Prison Service introduced new Policy, Protocol and Standard Operating Procedure templates in Policy Place, located on the Intranet (PRISM), in line with new corporate identity.</p> <p>A new monitoring system for the management of a policy life span is now available on PRISM which supports the Policy Review Process.</p> <p>A comprehensive review and revalidation of Policies and SOPs which had reached review stage commenced in 2021.</p> <p><b>5.3.2</b> ICT continued to deliver on the ICT Delivery Plan 2020-2022 by maintaining existing ICT systems, developing solutions in response to identified business needs and enhancement of ICT Cyber Security.</p> <p><b>5.3.3</b> Directorate policies are now available on the Directorate Section on the Irish Prison Service Intranet (PRISM).</p> <p>Enhanced policy awareness published on PRISM in new policy spotlight section.</p> |



|  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Strategic Priority 5: Governance</b>  |   | <b>Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022</b> |  |
| <b>“We will ensure an open, transparent and accountable Prison Service” through:</b>   |   | <b>Progress Report December 2021</b>                   |  |
| <b>5.4 Continuing to develop evidence based decision making.</b>   |   |  |  |
| <b>5.4.1</b> Developing enhanced data analytics and data management  | <b>5.4.1</b> Operational Dashboards (previously referred to as Scorecards) were developed following extensive consultation with stakeholders across the Irish Prison Service with a view to improving performance and driving decisions. 308 individual metrics have been identified.<br><br>Preparations for Irish Prison Service obligations under the EU Directive on Open Data and Re-use of Public Sector Information began in 2021. An organisation-wide data audit began in 2021.<br><br>IGEES Spending Review on Work and Training across the Prison Service was published in November 2021. The Spending Review Programme provides evidence to support more informed decisions about priorities within and between expenditure programmes. |  |  |
| <b>5.4.2</b> Rolling out an electronic document and record management system across the Service  | <b>5.4.2</b> The Irish Prison Service entered into an OGP framework competition for the provision of a records management service.  |  |  |
| <b>5.5 Creating a work environment that is centered on open, two-way communications to build unity in our Service.</b>   |   |  |  |
| <b>5.5.1</b> Continuing to build internal capacity to sustain, improve and communicate our Performance   | <b>5.5.1</b> The Irish Prison Service continued to use the new Intranet (PRISM) as a central means for internal communications.<br><br>PRISM is a central resource for the real-time communication with staff and includes features such as latest news section, staff news and a “Spotlight” section to raise awareness about new policies procedures and resources available for prison staff.<br><br>Enhanced structures for internal communications were introduced in 2021 to support the cascading of information to key internal stakeholders.   |  |  |
| <b>5.5.2</b> Continuing to build and enhance our communications structures in our prisons and developing our communications and learning capabilities through the use of multimedia technologies | <b>5.5.1</b> The Irish Prison Service social media presence was expanded to enhance communications which included increased use of social media platforms and the Irish Prison Service website for stakeholder engagement.<br><br>A new Prisoner Information and Learning Channel was introduced in 2021 to support the provision of information to prisoners and this system will be further developed in 2022.  |  |  |





| Strategic Priority 5: Governance  |   |
|---|---|
| Irish Prison Service Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022   |   |
| “We will ensure an open, transparent and accountable Prison Service” through:   |   |
| Progress Report December 2021   |   |
| <b>5.6</b> Continuing to meet our obligations under the Public Sector Duty  | <b>5.6</b> Work continued, in so far as possible, in 2021 to implement the work programme set out by the Irish Prison Service Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Lead. The restrictions on face to face engagement limited the delivery of a number of actions.<br><br>In March 2021 an awareness campaign on racism and equality to coincide with a number of key International Awareness dates was rolled out electronically.<br><br>Work commenced on the development of an overarching Policy for the Management of Transgender Prisoners and stakeholder engagement was commenced in this regard.<br><br>The Irish Prison Service held a coordinated event in June 2021 to support PRIDE Month with rainbow flags being raised in all prisons in the State. |
| <b>5.7</b> Exploring and examining mechanisms for incorporating restorative justice principles throughout the Irish Prison Service. |   |
| <b>5.7.1</b> Include restorative justice principles in the training of staff including new recruits                                 | <b>5.7.1</b> In 2021, a draft Restorative Practices strategy was developed for consideration and implementation. The completion of the draft Strategy was delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic and has been prioritised for delivery in Q2 2022.<br><br>Restorative Practice has been embedded in Recruit Prison Officer training.  |



Seirbhís Phríosúin  
na hÉireann  
Irish Prison Service

# APPENDICES

# APPENDIX I

## Persons in custody under sentence on 30 November 2021 - Offence group classified by sentence length

| Offence  | <3 Mths   | 3 to <6 Mths | 6 to <12 Mths | 1 to <2 Yrs | 2 to <3 Yrs | 3 to <5 Yrs | 5 to <10 Yrs | 10+ Yrs    | Life       | Total        |
|--|-----------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| GP01 Homicide Offences   | 0         | 0            | 0             | 3           | 2           | 10          | 31           | 12         | 344        | 402          |
| GP02 Sexual Offences   | 0         | 2            | 11            | 30          | 28          | 73          | 166          | 129        | 10         | 449          |
| GP03 Attempts/Threat to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences     | 2         | 14           | 33            | 82          | 78          | 137         | 88           | 25         | 2          | 461          |
| GP04 Dangerous or Negligent Acts   | 2         | 6            | 10            | 16          | 11          | 10          | 13           | 1          | 0          | 69           |
| GP05 Kidnapping and Related Offences   | 0         | 0            | 0             | 0           | 4           | 10          | 24           | 10         | 0          | 48           |
| GP06 Robbery, Extortion and Hijacking Offences                                 | 0         | 2            | 3             | 8           | 9           | 23          | 29           | 2          | 0          | 76           |
| GP07 Burglary and Related Offences   | 0         | 8            | 25            | 29          | 38          | 92          | 83           | 14         | 0          | 289          |
| GP08 Theft and Related Offences  | 10        | 30           | 59            | 83          | 57          | 125         | 94           | 8          | 0          | 466          |
| GP09 Fraud, Deception and Related Offences                                     | 0         | 2            | 2             | 6           | 10          | 17          | 10           | 0          | 0          | 47           |
| GP10 Controlled Drug Offences  | 3         | 6            | 19            | 26          | 49          | 98          | 103          | 19         | 0          | 323          |
| GP11 Weapons and Explosives Offences   | 2         | 5            | 6             | 10          | 5           | 22          | 55           | 21         | 0          | 126          |
| GP12 Damage to Property and the Environment                                    | 2         | 4            | 11            | 12          | 10          | 18          | 13           | 1          | 0          | 71           |
| GP13 Public Order and Social Code Offences                                     | 5         | 6            | 7             | 4           | 1           | 0           | 2            | 0          | 0          | 25           |
| GP14 Road and Traffic Offences   | 1         | 8            | 11            | 5           | 1           | 0           | 0            | 0          | 0          | 26           |
| GP15 Offences against Government, Justice Procedures and Organisation of Crime | 2         | 10           | 23            | 12          | 1           | 9           | 7            | 5          | 0          | 69           |
| GP16 Offences Not Elsewhere Classified   | 0         | 0            | 1             | 0           | 3           | 1           | 4            | 0          | 0          | 9            |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>29</b> | <b>103</b>   | <b>221</b>    | <b>326</b>  | <b>307</b>  | <b>645</b>  | <b>722</b>   | <b>247</b> | <b>356</b> | <b>2,956</b> |



## APPENDIX II

### Daily average number of prisoners per Institution 2021

| Institution              | Bed Capacity at Year end | In Custody   | On Temporary Release | On Remand/Trial |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Arbour Hill Prison       | 138                      | 125          | 0                    | 1               |
| Castlerea Prison         | 340                      | 286          | 15                   | 56              |
| Cloverhill Remand Prison | 431                      | 369          | 2                    | 298             |
| Cork Prison              | 296                      | 255          | 48                   | 52              |
| Limerick Female Prison   | 28                       | 28           | 17                   | 7               |
| Limerick Male Prison     | 210                      | 195          | 32                   | 55              |
| Loughan House            | 140                      | 95           | 5                    | 0               |
| Midlands Prison          | 875                      | 802          | 27                   | 91              |
| Mountjoy Female Prison   | 146                      | 116          | 37                   | 33              |
| Mountjoy Male Prison     | 755                      | 691          | 92                   | 36              |
| Portlaoise Prison        | 291                      | 211          | 3                    | 9               |
| Shelton Abbey            | 115                      | 96           | 6                    | 0               |
| Wheatfield Prison        | 610                      | 523          | 37                   | 73              |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>4,375</b>             | <b>3,792</b> | <b>321</b>           | <b>711</b>      |



## APPENDIX III

### Committals to prison 2003 to 2021

| Year | In Custody | % Change from Previous Year | Persons | % Change from Previous Year | Male   | Female |
|------|------------|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
| 2021 | 6,133      | -3.3                        | 5,179   | -1.6                        | 4,692  | 487    |
| 2020 | 6,340      | -29.0                       | 5,263   | -26.6                       | 4,707  | 556    |
| 2019 | 8,939      | 10.8                        | 7,170   | 10.5                        | 6,276  | 894    |
| 2018 | 8,071      | -13.1                       | 6,490   | -13.3                       | 5,724  | 766    |
| 2017 | 9,287      | -38.5                       | 7,484   | -40.5                       | 6,403  | 1,081  |
| 2016 | 15,099     | -12.2                       | 12,579  | -11.3                       | 10,033 | 2,546  |
| 2015 | 17,206     | 6.5                         | 14,182  | 5.8                         | 11,264 | 2,918  |
| 2014 | 16,155     | 2.7                         | 13,408  | 2.7                         | 10,723 | 2,685  |
| 2013 | 15,735     | -7.6                        | 13,055  | -5.8                        | 10,729 | 2,326  |
| 2012 | 17,026     | -1.7                        | 13,860  | -0.7                        | 11,709 | 2,151  |
| 2011 | 17,318     | 0.8                         | 13,952  | 1.4                         | 12,050 | 1,902  |
| 2010 | 17,179     | 11.4                        | 13,758  | 11.5                        | 12,057 | 1,701  |
| 2009 | 15,425     | 13.8                        | 12,339  | 12.9                        | 10,880 | 1,459  |
| 2008 | 13,557     | 13.6                        | 10,928  | 12.5                        | 9,703  | 1,225  |
| 2007 | 11,934     | -1.8                        | 9,711   | 0.1                         | 8,556  | 1,155  |
| 2006 | 12,157     | 14.1                        | 9,700   | 11.7                        | 8,740  | 960    |
| 2005 | 10,658     | 0.0                         | 8,686   | -1.5                        | 7,780  | 906    |
| 2004 | 10,657     | -9.5                        | 8,820   | -10.1                       | 7,914  | 906    |
| 2003 | 11,775     |                             | 9,814   |                             | 8,669  | 1,145  |



## APPENDIX IV

### Total Sentenced in 2021 - classified by sentence length and offence group

| Offence Group  | <3 Mths    | 3 to <6 Mths | 6 to <12 Mths | 1 to <2 Yrs | 2 to <3 Yrs | 3 to <5 Yrs | 5 to <10 Yrs | 10+ Yrs   | Life      | Total        |
|--|------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| GP01 Homicide Offences   | 0          | 0            | 0             | 3           | 1           | 3           | 7            | 5         | 19        | 27           |
| GP02 Sexual Offences   | 1          | 12           | 18            | 37          | 29          | 39          | 39           | 14        | 0         | 118          |
| GP03 Attempts/Threat to Murder, Assaults, Harassments and Related Offences     | 30         | 128          | 103           | 81          | 61          | 66          | 18           | 12        | 0         | 497          |
| GP04 Dangerous or Negligent Acts   | 18         | 73           | 19            | 10          | 11          | 7           | 3            | 0         | 0         | 110          |
| GP05 Kidnapping and Related Offences   | 0          | 0            | 0             | 1           | 4           | 7           | 3            | 0         | 0         | 19           |
| GP06 Robbery, Extortion and Hijacking Offences                                 | 2          | 3            | 6             | 8           | 8           | 17          | 6            | 0         | 0         | 60           |
| GP07 Burglary and Related Offences   | 6          | 45           | 65            | 20          | 30          | 40          | 9            | 2         | 0         | 261          |
| GP08 Theft and Related Offences  | 83         | 158          | 215           | 54          | 44          | 63          | 14           | 0         | 0         | 716          |
| GP09 Fraud, Deception and Related Offences                                     | 11         | 19           | 15            | 5           | 12          | 9           | 5            | 0         | 0         | 75           |
| GP10 Controlled Drug Offences  | 28         | 69           | 79            | 53          | 44          | 64          | 36           | 2         | 0         | 325          |
| GP11 Weapons and Explosives Offences   | 17         | 40           | 32            | 4           | 5           | 11          | 15           | 2         | 0         | 169          |
| GP12 Damage to Property and the Environment                                    | 29         | 66           | 68            | 24          | 19          | 20          | 4            | 0         | 0         | 213          |
| GP13 Public Order and Social Code Offences                                     | 161        | 78           | 20            | 3           | 1           | 2           | 2            | 0         | 0         | 233          |
| GP14 Road and Traffic Offences   | 85         | 346          | 32            | 0           | 1           | 0           | 0            | 0         | 0         | 384          |
| GP15 Offences against Government, Justice Procedures and Organisation of Crime | 330        | 121          | 109           | 1           | 1           | 3           | 2            | 2         | 0         | 552          |
| GP16 Offences Not Elsewhere Classified   | 26         | 13           | 3             | 3           | 3           | 4           | 2            | 0         | 0         | 44           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>827</b> | <b>1,171</b> | <b>784</b>    | <b>307</b>  | <b>274</b>  | <b>355</b>  | <b>165</b>   | <b>39</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>3,941</b> |

## APPENDIX V

### Total Sentenced by sentence length 2011 - 2021

|                     | <3 Mths | 3 to <6 Mths | 6 to <12 Mths | 1 to <2 Yrs | 2 to <3 Yrs | 3 to <5 Yrs | 5 to <10 Yrs | 10+ Yrs | Life Sentence | Total  |
|---------------------|---------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------|---------------|--------|
| Year 2021           | 827     | 1,171        | 784           | 307         | 274         | 355         | 165          | 39      | 19            | 3,941  |
| Year 2020           | 796     | 1,023        | 778           | 352         | 320         | 337         | 164          | 21      | 12            | 3,803  |
| Year 2019           | 1,552   | 1,609        | 1,153         | 402         | 339         | 401         | 188          | 37      | 9             | 5,690  |
| Year 2018           | 1,070   | 1,494        | 995           | 336         | 338         | 342         | 183          | 33      | 21            | 4,812  |
| Year 2017           | 2,704   | 1,312        | 884           | 346         | 299         | 276         | 167          | 27      | 22            | 6,037  |
| Year 2016           | 8,820   | 1,137        | 1,039         | 295         | 290         | 344         | 183          | 39      | 16            | 12,163 |
| Year 2015           | 10,229  | 1,273        | 1,028         | 423         | 432         | 362         | 185          | 36      | 19            | 13,987 |
| Year 2014           | 9,361   | 1,249        | 986           | 350         | 343         | 346         | 165          | 28      | 25            | 12,853 |
| Year 2013           | 8,663   | 1,422        | 1,097         | 348         | 335         | 398         | 173          | 31      | 22            | 12,489 |
| Year 2012           | 8,837   | 1,734        | 1,273         | 461         | 447         | 494         | 227          | 31      | 22            | 13,526 |
| Year 2011           | 8,070   | 1,786        | 1,358         | 636         | 380         | 472         | 227          | 39      | 22            | 12,990 |
| % Change '20 to '21 | 3.9     | 14.5         | 0.8           | -12.8       | -14.4       | 5.3         | 0.6          | 85.7    | 58.3          | 3.6    |

## APPENDIX VI

### Total Sentenced (excluding fines) 2011 - 2021

|                     | <3 Mths | 3 to <6 Mths | 6 to <12 Mths | 1 to <2 Yrs | 2 to <3 Yrs | 3 to <5 Yrs | 5 to <10 Yrs | 10+ Yrs | Life Sentence | Total |
|---------------------|---------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------|---------------|-------|
| Year 2021           | 593     | 1,171        | 784           | 307         | 274         | 355         | 165          | 39      | 19            | 3,707 |
| Year 2020           | 511     | 1,023        | 778           | 352         | 320         | 337         | 164          | 21      | 12            | 3,518 |
| Year 2019           | 693     | 1,607        | 1,153         | 402         | 339         | 401         | 188          | 37      | 9             | 4,829 |
| Year 2018           | 618     | 1,491        | 995           | 336         | 338         | 342         | 183          | 33      | 21            | 4,357 |
| Year 2017           | 460     | 1,295        | 884           | 346         | 299         | 276         | 167          | 27      | 22            | 3,776 |
| Year 2016           | 468     | 1,050        | 1,039         | 295         | 290         | 344         | 183          | 39      | 16            | 3,724 |
| Year 2015           | 484     | 1,138        | 1,026         | 422         | 432         | 362         | 185          | 36      | 19            | 4,104 |
| Year 2014           | 540     | 1,091        | 986           | 350         | 343         | 346         | 165          | 28      | 25            | 3,874 |
| Year 2013           | 723     | 1,241        | 1,097         | 348         | 335         | 398         | 173          | 31      | 22            | 4,368 |
| Year 2012           | 780     | 1,487        | 1,273         | 461         | 447         | 494         | 227          | 31      | 22            | 5,222 |
| Year 2011           | 846     | 1,496        | 1,358         | 636         | 380         | 472         | 227          | 39      | 22            | 5,476 |
| % Change '20 to '21 | 16.0    | 14.5         | 0.8           | -12.8       | -14.4       | 5.3         | 0.6          | 85.7    | 58.3          | 5.4   |



## APPENDIX VII

### Number of Committals per Month in 2021

| Month        | Number of Committals |
|--------------|----------------------|
| January      | 410                  |
| February     | 575                  |
| March        | 532                  |
| April        | 509                  |
| May          | 592                  |
| June         | 603                  |
| July         | 558                  |
| August       | 305                  |
| September    | 504                  |
| October      | 563                  |
| November     | 560                  |
| December     | 422                  |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>6,133</b>         |



# APPENDIX VIII STATEMENT ON THE IRISH PRISON SERVICE SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROLS

I can confirm that the Irish Prison Service ensures an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated. This responsibility takes account of the relevant provisions of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.

I confirm that the 2021 Irish Prison Service Annual Report and Comprehensive Report has been submitted to the Minister for Justice.

Any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely manner. Maintaining the system of internal financial controls is a continuous process and the system and its effectiveness are kept under ongoing review.

A system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, has been in place in the Irish Prison Service for the year ended 31 December 2021 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

## Financial Control Environment

A control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- ▲ Financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability.
- ▲ Reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned.
- ▲ Formal procedures have been established for reporting significant control failures and ensuring appropriate corrective action.
- ▲ There is an Audit Committee to advise the Secretary General and the Department Management Board in discharging responsibilities for the internal financial control system.

## Administrative Controls and Management Reporting

A framework of administrative procedures and regular management reporting is in place including segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability and, in particular that:

- ▲ There is an appropriate budgeting system with an annual budget which is kept under quarterly review by Senior Management of the Irish Prison Service and the Department of Justice.
- ▲ There are monthly reviews by the Department of Justice Financial Management Committee of Irish Prison Service periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecasts.
- ▲ A risk management system operates within the Irish Prison Service.
- ▲ There are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the ICT systems.
- ▲ There are appropriate capital investment control guidelines and formal project management disciplines in operation.
- ▲ Procedures for all key business processes have been documented.
- ▲ There are systems in place to safeguard the assets.

A Data Analytics system is in development. The new system will provide a holistic analysis of a range of Irish Prison Service data sources which will be vital in supporting the organisation achieve our strategic objectives and drive a higher level of compliance across the system.

## Procurement

I confirm that the Irish Prison Service has procedures in place to ensure compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines and that during the year 2021 the Irish Prison Service complied with those procedures.

## Risk and Control Framework

An enhanced Risk Management Framework was adopted by the Irish Prison Service in



2021 following the appointment of a Head of Risk, Assurance and Compliance. The Irish Prison Service continued to develop its risk management strategy in 2021 and the assurance mapping project reached an advanced stage of development by the year-end. This project will help to inform the organisation's broader risk management processes by identifying key business activities and related oversight mechanisms with a view to strengthening internal controls and demonstrating how assurance is provided.

Senior management continued to identify and review key risks and contribute to the Corporate Risk Register on a quarterly basis. The significant risks associated with Covid-19 were closely monitored throughout 2021 and a focused, cross-divisional approach was adopted in implementing infection control measures aimed at addressing the evolving challenges caused by the pandemic.

I confirm that a control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- ▲ procedures for all key business processes have been documented,
- ▲ financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability,
- ▲ there is an appropriate budgeting system with an annual budget which is kept under review by senior management,
- ▲ there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the information and communication technology systems.

### Review of Effectiveness

I confirm that the Irish Prison Service has procedures to monitor the effectiveness of its risk management and control procedures. The Irish Prison Service's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors and the senior management within the Irish Prison Service responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal financial control framework.

### Internal Audit and Audit Committee

The Department has an internal audit function with appropriately trained personnel, which operates in accordance with an approved written charter. Its work is informed by the analysis of key risks. The annual internal audit plans are approved by the Audit Committee and take account of this analysis. These plans aim to cover the key controls on a rolling basis over a reasonable period. The internal audit function is reviewed periodically by the Audit Committee. An agreed system for tracking progress on implementing audit recommendations is in place and regular updates are presented to the Audit Committee. In late 2019, the Department seconded an Internal Audit Manager to the Irish Prison Service to develop an internal audit capacity and a related annual action plan. The Internal Audit Manager meets with the Irish Prison Service's Head of Risk, Assurance and Compliance on a fortnightly basis.

### DPER Public Spending Code

I confirm that the appropriate requirements of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform's Public Spending Code are being complied with.

### Internal Control Issues

No weaknesses in internal control were identified in relation to 2021 that require disclosure in the Financial Statements.

*Caron McCaffrey | Director General*

## IRISH PRISON SERVICE CONTACT INFORMATION

|  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <b>Arbour Hill Prison</b><br>Arbour Hill,<br>Dublin 7<br>D07 YV40                    | Tel: 01 4724000<br>Fax: 01 4724082                 | <b>Loughan House</b><br>Open Centre<br>Blacklion,<br>Co. Cavan<br>F91 NY76           | Tel: 071 9836021<br>Fax: 071 9853234                  |
| <b>Castlerea Prison</b><br>Harristown,<br>Castlerea,<br>Co. Roscommon<br>F45 X330    | Tel: 094 9625213<br>Fax: 094 9625226               | <b>Midlands Prison</b><br>Dublin Road,<br>Portlaoise,<br>Co. Laois<br>R32 F796       | Tel: 057 8672110<br>/ 057 8672100<br>Fax: 057 8672199 |
| <b>Cloverhill Prison</b><br>Cloverhill Road,<br>Clondalkin,<br>Dublin 22<br>D22 WC84 | Tel: 01 6304530 /<br>01 6304531<br>Fax: 01 6304580 | <b>Mountjoy Prison</b><br>North Circular Road,<br>Dublin 7<br>D07 YC97               | Tel: 01 8062800<br>Fax: 01 8062824                    |
| <b>Cork Prison</b><br>Rathmore Road,<br>Cork City,<br>Cork<br>T23 Y642               | Tel: 021 2388000<br>Fax: 021 2387240               | <b>Portlaoise Prison</b><br>Dublin Road,<br>Portlaoise,<br>Co. Laois<br>R32 KN97     | Tel: 057 8621318<br>Fax: 057 8620997                  |
| <b>Dóchas Centre</b><br>North Circular Road,<br>Dublin 7<br>D07 YC97                 | Tel: 01 8858987<br>Fax: 01 8062824                 | <b>Shelton Abbey</b><br>Open Centre<br>Arklow,<br>Co. Wicklow<br>Y14 T638            | Tel: 040 242300<br>Fax: 040 242350                    |
| <b>Limerick Prison</b><br>Mulgrave Street,<br>Limerick<br>V94 P8N1                   | Tel: 061 204700<br>Fax: 061 415116                 | <b>Wheatfield Prison</b><br>Cloverhill Road,<br>Clondalkin,<br>Dublin 22<br>D22 Y2V5 | Tel: 01 7789400<br>Fax: 01 7789430                    |

## PRISON SUPPORT UNITS

|                                   |  |                                    |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Building Services Division</b> | Unit 2, Airways<br>Industrial Estate,<br>Santry, Dublin 17 D17<br>HW53 | <b>Operational Support Group</b>   | Árd na Gaoithe,<br>Arbour Hill, Dublin 7<br>D07 YV40         |
| <b>Prison Service College</b>     | Stack House, Dublin<br>Road, Portlaoise,<br>Co. Laois R32 NX53         | <b>Prison Service Escort Corps</b> | Cloverhill Prison,<br>Cloverhill Road, Dublin<br>22 D22 WC84 |

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Seirbhís Phríosúin  
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Irish Prison Service

CREATING A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

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