Irish Prison Service

Annual Report 2002 >



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Irish Prison Service Annual Report 2002

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Prisons Authority Interim Board

Chairman's report on activities during 2002

I am pleased to present this report on the activities of the Prisons Authority Interim Board for 2002. The year saw important developments in the move towards the establishment of an independent Prisons Agency. The new Irish Prison Service Headquarters in Clondalkin was consolidated, with the filling of new Director posts in Regimes and Corporate Affairs, the appointment of a new Head of the Psychology Service and progress towards the employment of the full approved complement of headquarters staff.

The year also saw the roll out of business planning to the institutions for the first time, as well as the development of business plans for each Headquarters Directorate. This is a vital part of the development of a professional, results focussed, prison service.

All members of the Interim Board were saddened at the sudden death of Mr Eamon Leahy, SC., in July 2003. Mr Leahy was a member of the Interim Board from its inception to the end of 2001. His contribution to the Board and the developing Irish Prison Service was greatly appreciated. Mr Michael O'Shea was appointed by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform to replace Mr Eamonn Leahy as a member of the Board from January 2002.

The Interim Board met on six occasions during the year. In addition, a Remuneration Subcommittee was established to implement a performance pay scheme applicable to the Director General of the Irish Prison Service, i.e., the Scheme for Performance Pay Awards for Chief Executives of State Bodies.

As the Chairman of the Interim Board I met the new Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform in September to discuss issues of concern to us. In addition, I wrote to the Minister on a number of occasions to raise concerns and advise on the operation of the Irish Prison Service.

The Interim Board continued to be briefed on important developments and events in the Irish Prison Service and took a proactive role in policy formulation. The following are some of the issues dealt with by the Board during the year:

Development at St Patrick's Institution

The Government decided on 17 April 2002 that an existing prison, or part of a prison, would be designated as a special school to provide emergency accommodation for boys aged from 14 up to 16. It was decided that St Patrick's Institution would be used for this purpose, catering for 20 such boys.

The Board had flagged its concerns regarding the inappropriate committal of children under 16 years of age to prisons in the past, but, given the Government decision, felt that it had to implement the decision in the best possible way, providing the most appropriate custodial and rehabilitation facilities it could.

The Board expressed the view to the Minister that the use of St Patrick's Institution to accommodate children under 16 years of age should be seen as an emergency measure and be strictly time limited. The Board reiterated to the Minister its concerns regarding the inappropriate committal of children under 16 years of age to prisons and pointed out that the Irish Prison Service was neither mandated nor resourced to deal with these children, but was obliged to carry out the decisions of the Courts in as humane a manner as possible. The Board sought assurances that the staff, specialised services, accommodation, counselling and educational facilities would be made available to the Service to implement the Government decision.

At the meeting with the Minister in September the Chairman raised the implications for the Prisons Capital Programme of the diversion of approx. €9m from the 2002 allocation to fund the construction of the emergency special school. The Board was disappointed that no additional funds were provided to the Irish Prison Service to implement the Government decision and that the capital cost of the work to convert part of St Patrick's Institution to a Special School for 14 to 16 year olds had to be met from the existing capital allocation. This had a serious impact on



Construction work on the emergency special school in St, Patrick's

the capital programme for 2002 by displacing much needed remedial work at some of the older institutions.

The Board would like to compliment all the staff of the Irish Prison Service who worked speedily and diligently to implement the Government decision in a most positive manner. A large amount of planning and work was invested in the implementation of the decision, including the building work and the development of an appropriate therapeutic regime for the young offenders.

We note that the Government has now decided (July 2003) that the new facility should be used for the benefit of 16 and 17 year old boys in custody, in keeping with the Childrens Act 2001, and we welcome this decision.

Visit of the Council of Europe Committee for Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)

The Board reviewed the report of the CPT, following its visit to a number of institutions from 20 to 28 May 2002.

The Group visited Cork, Cloverhill and Mountjoy prisons, including the Dóchas Centre. The Board was happy to note that the delegation reported that it received excellent co-operation both before and during their visit and that they highlighted a number of positive areas in the report.

Closure of Shanganagh Castle Open Prison

The Interim Board noted the decision of the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform to close Shanganagh Castle Open Prison with effect from 20 December 2002. The Board noted that the viability of Shanganagh Castle as an open centre for young men was questioned as far back as 1985 in the Whitaker Report. The retention of the property as a prison would have required substantial investment in increased security and improved living accommodation. The Board sought to ensure that the proceeds from the proposed sale of the property would be designated for reinvestment in the Irish Prison Service, and welcomed the assurances it received in this regard.

Video-conferencing

The Board is strongly committed to the development of video-conferencing, to link prisons with courts, with solicitors' offices and, ultimately, to facilitate prison visits by video link. The Board welcomed the appointment of a committee, chaired by Mrs Justice Denham, by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, to progress the project to link the courts and prisons. The Irish Prison Service is represented on the Committee and is providing administrative and technical support.

Tenders issued in 2002 for the purchase of the technology and equipment to enable the launch of a pilot project, linking the Law Library and a number of solicitors' offices with Cloverhill Prison by the end of 2003.

The Board believes that significant savings and greatly increased efficiencies will result when the system is operational on a service-wide basis.

Prisoner Based Research Ethics Committee

The Interim Board established the Prisoner Based Research Ethics Committee to promote, encourage, support and disseminate ethically based and appropriate research within the Irish Prison Service. The Committee is chaired by Professor Patricia Casey, a member of the Interim Board.

The Committee was established in 2002. One of its first tasks was to agree terms of reference for the committee. A pro forma application was developed for submission of research proposals to the Committee. The Committee examines all proposals for research involving prisoners, from internal and external sources, and recommends authorisation, rejection or modification of proposals in so far as adherence to ethical standards is concerned.

Since its establishment the Committee has seen an improvement both in the quality of research proposals received and in the process of evaluation of such proposals.

Prisons Building Programme

Between 1997 and 2002 the Prison Service Building Programme delivered in excess of 1,200 additional prisoner spaces. The Interim Board was disappointed that it was necessary in 2002 to defer and/or review several new capital projects because of the non-availability of the necessary finance to proceed. The Board was particularly disappointed that the proposed new development at Cork Prison did not secure approval to proceed. Outdated conditions, including daily slopping-out in Cork and other prisons, remain a cause for serious concern and a continuing embarrassment to this State at this stage in our history.

The shortage of funds for capital investment was further exacerbated in 2002 by the necessity to divert capital funds to the development at St Patrick's Institution, on foot of the Government decision, and by the need to meet the shortfall on the allocation to cover overtime costs.

Legislation to establish the Irish Prison Service on a statutory basis

The Board was disappointed that progress was not made in 2002 in relation to the preparation of legislation for the establishment of a statutory Board and Prison Service. The Board noted that the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform was considering the establishment of a corrections service which would combine the services currently provided by the Irish Prison Service and the Probation and Welfare Service. The Board is looking forward to the outcome of the Minister's deliberations in the matter.



Brian McCarthy, Chairman of the Prisons Authority Interim Board at the official opening of the new Prison Service Headquarters

Business Planning

The Board received progress reports on the implementation of business plans in the local institutions and headquarters. The Board also received a presentation on the experience of business planning in St Patrick's Institution. The Board noted that progress on implementing the plans was satisfactory, despite a number of factors, including the turnover of approximately 50% of Headquarters staff with the move to the new HQ in Clondalkin. The Board was pleased that business planning was embedded in institutions and part of management practice.

Programme for Government

The Board considered the prisons-related commitments in the Agreed Programme for Government published in June. The Board welcomed the Government's commitment to the programme of modernising prisons and providing extra places; plans to tackle the high level of illiteracy and lack of educational accomplishment prevalent among prisoners by supporting enhanced educational programmes within prisons; the provision of skills training to enhance employment prospects; compulsory drug testing of prisoners where appropriate and proposals to end all heroin use in prisons, including the availability of treatment and rehabilitation for all those who need them

Inspector of Prisons and Places of Detention

The Board welcomed the establishment by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform of a Prisons Inspectorate and the appointment of the Honourable Mr Justice Dermot Kinlen as the first Inspector of Prisons and Places of Detention. The Board also welcomed the appointment of retired Governor Jim Woods to the Prisons Inspectorate.

Brian McCarthy

Chairman Prisons Authority Interim Board

August 2003

Introduction



To: The Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr Michael McDowell, T.D.

Minister,

I am pleased to transmit to you the Irish Prison Service Annual Report, 2002.

This is the first time for many years that the Irish Prison Service has published an annual report in the year following the year under report. No doubt readers will appreciate the more timely availability of statistics and information in regard to prison services.

Prisoner numbers

The year 2002 was a demanding and busy one for the Irish Prison Service with a total of 11,860 committals to prison. Although this represented a reduction of 167 committals as compared with 2001, the average daily prisoner population rose slightly to 3,165 - an increase of 1.7% over the previous year.

Of the 11,860 committals to prison during the vear, 5036 were committals under sentence. This represented a small reduction in the number of such committals as compared with 2001 (5,160). More significant, however, is the reduction in the number of committals under sentence in 2002 of persons under 21 years of age, i.e., down by 403 to 823 - a reduction of almost 33%. This reduction is most encouraging, even if there is, as yet, no indication of any emerging trend in terms of less resort to imprisonment of convicted young people. Greater availability of alternatives to custody, coupled with changes in demography offer positive prospects that such a trend may emerge in the future. The Irish Prison Service will continue to monitor developments with interest.

The average cost of keeping a prisoner in custody in 2002 was €84,750, up €5750 on the equivalent cost in 2001. This reflects the continuing escalating costs of using imprisonment as a criminal sanction and is a further argument in support of the contention that imprisonment should remain the sanction of last resort.

Organisational developments

The Prisons Authority Interim Board, under the chairmanship of Mr Brian McCarthy, ably guided and steered our Service in 2002 through its first full year as a separate executive office of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. The Service successfully established new, independent organisational, operational and financial structures, while maintaining important policy and reporting relationships with the Minister and the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. Important organisational developments in 2002 included

- formal establishment of the Service's new headquarters at Monastery Road, Clondalkin;
- appointment of Directors of Regimes and Corporate Affairs to complete the new Headquarters team with senior management responsibilities and
- advancement of the SORT/STEP process, in consultation with Prison Governors, to the point of developing a package of new staffing and attendance proposals and related compensatory measures for negotiation with the Prison Officers' Association.

Implementation of the latter proposals is fundamental to introducing much-needed organisational flexibility to enable the Service to respond effectively and efficiently to the operational challenges confronting it. It is also essential to implement those proposals to ensure that the Service operates within budget in a changed financial climate, driven by economic imperatives.

Closure of Shanganagh Castle

As the administrative head of the Irish Prison Service, with responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the Service, I fully concurred with the decision taken by Government in November 2002 to close Shanganagh Castle as a Place of Detention. The decision was, in my view, necessary both on financial and operational grounds. Among the foremost considerations involved were the failure, notwithstanding repeated and genuine efforts, to maintain viable prisoner numbers at the facility and the wholly unsatisfactory dormitory-type sleeping accommodation there which was not amenable to conversion to single rooms.

Our Service and its Board will continue to review the contribution and cost effectiveness of each institution having regard to prevailing conditions.

Inspection of Prisons

The Irish Prison Service welcomed the appointment in 2002 of Mr Justice Dermot Kinlan as Inspector of Prisons and Places of Detention. The Inspector inspected three prisons in 2002 -Cloverhill, Limerick and Portlaoise. The Inspector's recommendations in regard to those prisons will receive careful consideration and will be implemented, as appropriate, subject to financial or other constraints.

The Inspector will continue to receive every courtesy and assistance in his work and our co-operation in the course of his ongoing and future inspections.

Committee on the Prevention of Torture and Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

The Council of Europe Committee on the Prevention of Torture and Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment visited Cork, Mountjoy and Portlaoise Prisons, as well as the Dóchas Centre, in 2002. The Committee's report is due to be published in the second half of 2003.

Mr Eamon Leahy, RIP

It is with great sadness that we learnt at the time of this report going to press of the death of Mr Eamon Leahy, S.C. Mr Leahy was a valued member of the Prisons Authority Interim Board from its inception in Spring 1999. He was a constant source of sound advice and valued judgement until his resignation at the end of 2001, following his appointment as Chairman of the Legal Aid Board. Suaimhneas síoraí dá anam dílis.

Seán Aylward Director General

August 2003

Board Members



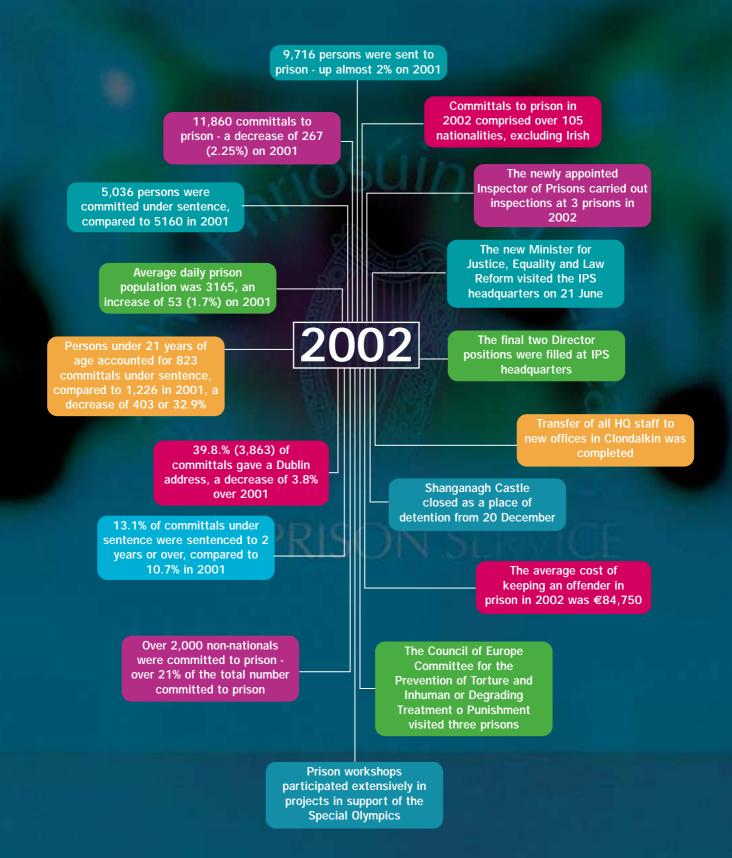








Overview - 2002 at a glance







Custody of Prisoners

Committals

There were 11,860 committals to prison in 2002, a decrease of 2.25% on 2001. Of these, 5,036 were committals under sentence, which also show a decrease on 2001.

Annual committal figures have long been used as an indicator of (i) the extent to which the Courts exercise the option of custodial sanction, and (ii) the level of activity in prison reception areas. Committal figures should not be confused with statistics of the number of persons sent to prison as any one person can be committed several times in the one year. For example, a person who is remanded by the courts on a number of occasions pending trial is newly committed following each new court remand. Also, a person may be remanded, convicted and released on more than one occasion in the same year, giving rise to multiple committals on remand and sentence.

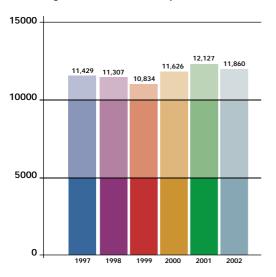


Figure 1: Committals to prison 1997-2002

Persons committed in 2002

The computerised Prisoner Records Information System (PRIS) provides statistics and profiles of persons who are sent to prison each year. In 2002, 9,716 persons entered the prison system. An analysis of the age, gender, home address (by county) and country of origin of those persons is given in Tables 1 and 2 and Figure 2.

Age and gender profiles of prisoners

A total of 8,673 males and 1,043 females were sent to prison in 2002. Males accounted for almost 90% of all committals.

Of the total of 9,716 persons sent to prison in 2002, 1,857 (19%) were aged under 21 years of age and 1,490 persons (15.3%) were aged over 40 years of age. These numbers are in line with statistics for the previous year.

Of the males sent to prison in 2002, 19.4% of them were under 21 years of age and 15.6 % were aged over 40 years. The number of females aged under 21 years was 174 (16.7%) while 140 (13.4%) females were aged over 40 years.

Table 1: Age and gender of persons committed in 2002

Age	Female	Male	Total	
15 to <17	10	145	155	
17 to < 21	164	1,538	1,702	
21 to < 25	255	1,889	2,144	
25 to < 30	213	1,689	1,902	
30 to < 40	261	2,062	2,323	
40 to < 50	103	873	976	
50 and over	37	477	514	
Total	1,043	8,673	9,716	

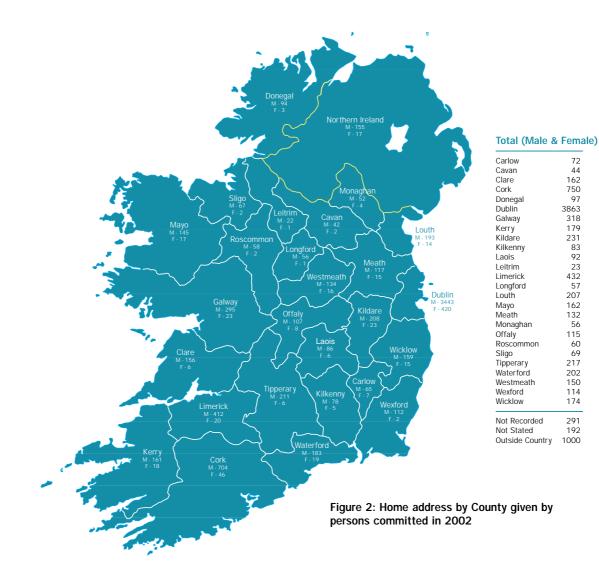
County and country of origin

The number of persons who gave a Dublin address on committal to prison in 2002 was 3,863 (39.8%). This represented a decrease of 3.8% on 2001. Cork and Limerick addresses were given by 7.7% and 4.5% respectively of persons committed.

As regards country of origin, 2,000 persons committed in 2002 indicated that they were nonnationals, representing over 21% of the total number committed, compared to 18% in 2001. Over 105 different countries of origin were indicated. The number of non-nationals being committed to prison continued to pose service delivery challenges for the Irish Prison Service in areas such as translation, education, health care, catering, social and spiritual support and promotion of racial equality. Planning and delivery of prison services has to take into account much greater ethnic diversity and much greater diversity in the needs of the prisoner population.

Nationality	Number
Irish	7551
E.U.	279 (209 British)
Other European	983
Asian	257
African	446
North American	21
Central/South American	58
Austral/Asian	9
Not Recorded	112
Total	9716

Table 2: Nationality as given by personscommitted in 2002





Visiting room

Committals under sentence

There were 5,036 committals under sentence in 2002. Table 3 profiles the principal offence which gave rise to each committal, classified by sentence length. Table 4 profiles the principal offence classified by age of offender. Table 5 profiles the age of offender classified by sentence length. Separate profiles by gender are included in the Appendix to the report.

Almost 38% (1,909) of all committals under sentence in 2002 were for less than three months. There were 661 committals for two years or more. This represented a increase of 100, or 18%, as compared with 2001.

Of the 4,735 males committed under sentence in 2002, 37% were for less than three months; 13.6% of male committals under sentence were for two years or more. Of the 301 females committed under sentence in 2002, 46% were committed under sentences of less than three months and 5.6% of female committals under sentence were for two years or more.

Committals by age group

Of the total of 5,036 committals under sentence in 2002, 3,358 (67%) were in respect of persons aged between 21 and 40 years of age, two thirds of whom were aged between 21 and 30 years. Persons aged 40 years and over accounted for 855 (17%) of total committals under sentence. The number of males under 21 years of age committed under sentence was 793 (16.8%) and the number over 40 years was 794 (16.8%), compared to 1166 (24.2%) and 646 (13.4%) respectively in 2001. The number of women aged under 21 years committed under sentence was 30 (10%) in 2002, compared to 60 (18%) in 2001; 61 (20%) of women were aged over 40 years, compared to 56 (17%) in 2001.

The most notable change in statistics of committals under sentence in 2002 was the reduction in the number of such committals of persons under 21 years of age. Committals under sentence of persons under 21 years were down from 1,226 in 2001 to 823 in 2002, a reduction of 403 (33%). The reduction occurred in respect of committals for sentence lengths of less than one year (i.e., committals for less than three months were down by 147, committals for three to six months were down by 89 and committals for six to twelve months were down by 150).

The drop in the number of committals under sentence of persons under 21 years old is encouraging. It would be unwise, however, to suggest any emerging downward trend in committals of young people on the basis of a

Sentence Length	<3 MTHS	3 TO <6MTHS	6 MTHS to <1YR	1 TO < 2YRS	2 TO < 3YRS	3 TO <5 YRS	5 TO <10 YRS	10YRS PLUS	LIFE	TOTAL
Group 1 Offences Against the Person										
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	13
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	1	0	7
Sexual Offences	0	2	12	23	16	25	21	3	0	102
Other Offences Against the Person	83	136	184	78	29	26	25	1	0	562
Total Group 1	83	138	196	101	46	53	49	5	13	684
Group 2 Offences against property with violence	12	23	60	51	34	43	27	3	0	253
Group 3 Offences against property without violence	153	162	220	141	45	30	10	0	0	761
Group 4 Other Offences										
Drug Offences	30	28	56	34	30	42	35	5	0	260
Road Traffic Offences	734	298	272	80	23	25	14	2	0	1448
Other	897	274	225	107	43	48	33	3	0	1630
Total Group 4	1659	601	554	221	96	115	82	10	0	3338
Total	1909	923	1029	514	221	241	168	18	13	5036

Table 3: Offences classified by sentence length - All offenders

single year on year change. This is particularly so given that

- (i) it has not been possible, to date, to identify the factors underlying the 2002 reduction; and
- (ii) the total number of persons under 21 years of age sent to prison in 2002 (1,857 as per Table 1) shows little change from 2001 (1,838).

The Irish Prison Service will monitor the numbers

of committals under sentence in respect of persons under 21 years of age over the coming years.

Committals by offence group

Sixty-six percent, 3,338, of the 5,036 committals under sentence in 2002 were in respect of Group 4 Offences, i.e., offences other than offences against the person or property. Of these, 1,448

Age Group (Years)	15 to <17	17 - <21	21 - <25	25 - <30	30 - <40	40 - <50	50+	Total
Group 1								
Offences against								
the Person								
Murder	0	1	2	3	4	0	3	13
Manslaughter	0	1	2	2	0	1	1	7
Sexual Offences	0	3	7	8	25	15	44	102
Other Offences								
against the Person	2	102	142	109	138	50	19	562
Total Group 1	2	107	153	122	167	66	67	684
Group 2								
Offences against	3	56	59	64	52	13	6	253
Property with	J	50	57	04	JZ	IJ	U	200
Violence								
Group 3								
Offences against	8	166	191	166	175	42	13	761
Property without Violence								
Group 4								
Other Offences								
Drug offences	2	27	71	66	58	18	18	260
Road Traffic Offenc		245	339	288	345	159	67	1448
Other	6	196	320	308	414	222	164	1630
Total Group 4	13	468	730	662	817	399	249	3338
Total	26	797	1133	1014	1211	520	335	5036

Table 4: Offences classified by Age Group - All Offenders

Table 5: Age Groups classified by Sentence Length - All Offenders

All Offenders	<3 MTHS	3 TO <6MTHS	6 MTHS to <1YR	1 TO < 2YRS	2 TO < 3YRS	3 TO <5 YRS	5 TO <10 YRS	10YRS PLUS	LIFE	TOTAL
15 TO <17	2	6	6	4	7	1	0	0	0	26
17 TO <21	210	172	187	143	43	31	9	1	1	797
21 TO <25	352	206	280	133	52	71	34	3	2	1133
25 TO <30	382	198	191	90	48	50	51	1	3	1014
30 TO <40	512	215	241	92	45	54	42	6	4	1211
40 TO <50	291	71	86	26	15	16	11	4	0	520
50 PLUS	160	55	38	26	11	18	21	3	3	335
TOTAL	1909	923	1029	514	221	241	168	18	13	5036



committals were in respect of Road Traffic Offences, about half of which were punished by sentences of less than three months.

A total of 684 persons were committed under sentence in 2002 in respect of Offences against the Person. This compares with 639 such committals in 2001. Sixteen percent, 109 persons, committed in respect of Offences against the Person were under 21 years of age. The number of committals under sentence in 2002 in respect of crimes against property -1,044 - was relatively unchanged as compared with 2001 (1,097).

Accommodation for prisoners

The situation regarding overcrowding in Ireland's prisons has been addressed in previous reports. Overcrowding has largely been resolved in recent years by the construction of new facilities. Overall, the provision of over 1,200 new prison spaces has meant that the Prison Service can now accommodate those sentenced by the Courts for the duration of their sentences without recourse to the level of shedding of numbers that was necessary in the past. This is not to say that no capacity problems remain. Some of the prison infrastructure is in urgent need of refurbishment and it has been necessary to close some of the older and poorest quality accommodation, viz the 'A' Wing and Separation Unit in Mountjoy.

Table 6: Daily average number of persons in custody

Institution	Design Capacity	Bed Capacity	Number in Custody	% of Bed Capacity
Mountjoy (m)	547	466	441	95%
Dóchas Centre	80	70	88	125%
St Patrick's	220	197	179	91%
Cork	150	270	267	99%
Limerick (m)	133	170	171	101%
Limerick (f)	12	16	16	100%
Castlerea	183	182	193	106%
Cloverhill	400	406	386	95%
Wheatfield	320	377	368	98%
Portlaoise	205	203	137	67%
Arbour Hill	138	139	137	99%
Fort Mitchel	102	102	84	83%
Training Unit	96	94	91	96%
Curragh	68	94	92	97%
Midlands	515	515	375	73%
Loughan House	85	85	70	82%
Shanganagh Castle	58	58	23	40%
Shelton Abbey	58	51	47	91%
Daily average for all institution	3370	3495	3165	90

Most prisons are currently operating at or near full capacity. Portlaoise prison operates below capacity for security reasons. The Midlands Prison is a relatively new institution and it's population is being increased on a phased basis for operational reasons. As the Midlands Prison expands its prisoner population, there is a corresponding decrease in the numbers accommodated at Mountjoy Prison.

Number of prisoners in custody

The daily average number of prisoners in custody for 2002 was 3,165 an increase of 1.7% on 2001. The daily average number of female offenders in custody during the year was 104.

Table 6 gives details of average custody figuresby institution.

Closure of Shanganagh Castle

The Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform decided in November 2002 to close Shanganagh



Wing in Arbour Hill Prison

Castle Place of Detention with effect from 20 December 2002.

Shanganagh Castle had been in operation as a detention centre for young male offenders since 1968, catering chiefly for prisoners serving their first custodial sentence. However, it had become increasingly difficult to identify young male offenders for this type of open prison accommodation. Shanganagh Castle had an average offender occupancy of 30 inmates in 2001 and 25 in 2002. At the date of closure of the prison only 16 Juvenile Offenders were accommodated there.

A number of initiatives were taken to increase the number of inmates and thereby make better use of the centre, however it became clear that Shanganagh Castle did not have a long term future in catering for the sort of offender for which it was established. The number of committals of male offenders in this age category into the prison system has fallen from over 1,800 in 1994 to a figure of less than 1,200 in 2001. As a result there was no realistic prospect of a significant recovery in levels of occupancy.

While other options were looked at for the centre, including raising the age group of prisoners, the balance of argument strongly favoured closure. It was felt that holding young male offenders in dormitory accommodation was no longer appropriate. In addition, there was a high rate of absconsion from Shanganagh. To retain the property as a prison would have required substantial investment to bring it up to modern day fire safety and hygiene standards as well as security works. Both the Taoiseach and the Minister have indicated that the proceeds of the sale of Shanganagh Castle will be used for other more productive prison-related purposes. The Irish Prison Service would like to take this opportunity of paying tribute to Governor John Quigley, his staff and their predecessors for the very important contribution they made over more than three decades in the running of Shanganagh Castle



Control room - Wheatfield Prison

Temporary Release

The proportion of the total number of persons serving sentences who were on temporary release rose marginally from 5.7% in December, 2001 to 6% in December 2002. Variations would occur in this figure in the course of a typical year. Prisoners on temporary release were generally on either a structured temporary release programme, often under the direct supervision of the Probation and Welfare Service, or on short periods of temporary release for compassionate reasons, such as ill health or a death in the family. The judicious use of temporary release remains an important instrument in the rehabilitation process.

Escapes and absconsions from custody

There were 11 escapes from custody in 2002. In nine cases the prisoners escaped from the custody of prison officers while outside the confines of an institution. All of the escapees were recaptured or returned voluntarily to prison to complete their sentence. None remained unlawfully at large at the end of 2002.

In addition, there were 121 absconscions from open centres during the year. Details are in table 7.

Table 7 : Escapes and absconscions during 2002

	Escapes	Absconds	Total
Dóchas Centre	3	0	3
Portlaoise	1	0	1
Cork	1	0	1
Cloverhill	1	0	1
Wheatfield	1	0	1
Shelton Abbey	0	58	58
Loughan House	4	27	31
Shanganagh Castle	e	36	36
TOTAL	11	121	132



Wing in Arbour Hill Prison

Seizure of Drugs

A number of measures have been implemented in recent years to curtail the smuggling into and use of illegal drugs in the prison system. These measures include video surveillance, improved visiting/searching facilities and increased vigilance by staff. The introduction of screened visits in Cloverhill and the Midlands Prison and the erection of nets over the yards of Cork Prison and St Patrick's Institution have further strengthened this policy.

In addition to these security arrangements, new visiting procedures were implemented by the Governor of Mountjoy Prison aimed at further curbing supply. The new visiting procedures include provision whereby each prisoner is now required to supply the prison authorities with a list of up to 6 persons whom they wish to visit them. Excluding children and legal representatives, only those persons on this list and who have been approved by the Governor, will be permitted to visit the prisoner. In addition,

each visitor is now required to present photo identification confirming their identity. While these new procedures have met with some initial resistance, the Irish Prison Service is committed to extending them more widely in the prison system as part of the efforts to eliminate drug smuggling.

Suicides/Deaths in Custody

There were 4 suicides in custody during 2002. All of the prisoners were male. In a number of other instances, attempted suicides were prevented by the vigilance of prison staff. Three prisoners died of natural causes in custody in 2002.

Interim Parole Board

The Irish Prison Service continued to co-operate with the Interim Parole Board, which was established by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, on an administrative basis, in April 2001. The Board advises the Minister on the administration of long term sentences. The Board is fully independent of the Prison Service. The Board reviews (i) cases of eligible prisoners sentenced to 8 years or more but less than 14 years once half of the sentence has been served and (ii) cases of prisoners sentenced to 14 years or more or to a life sentence after 7 years has been served. Prisoners serving sentences for certain offences, such as the murder of a member of the Garda Síochána or the Prison Service in the course of their duty, are exempted from the process.

The Board does not review the case of any offender who indicates that he/she does not want their case considered by the Board. The number of cases dealt with by the board in the period from its establishment to 31 December 2002 is as follows

- 153 prisoners invited to participate in the Parole Board Process.
- 136 accepted the invitation and 17 declined the invitation.
- 10 inmates withdrew from the process and 5 were released by the Courts.
- Recommendations were made in 86 cases
- 35 cases were still in the process but had not reached "Recommendation stage".

Visit of the Council of Europe Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) visited Ireland between 20 and 28 May 2002. As part of that visit, the delegation (which comprised experts from Portugal, Latvia, Slovakia and Norway) visited Cork Prison, Cloverhill Prison and Mountjoy Prison and the Dóchas Centre. During their visit, the delegation, accompanied by a senior official from Irish Prison Service headquarters, met with management and staff of the institutions concerned and inspected prison accommodation, services and facilities. They also met with individual prisoners who had requested to see them. The Committee produced its report in late December 2002. At the time of writing the Government's detailed response is expected to be transmitted shortly to the CPT. The practice with previous reports is for the Committee to publish both the report and the response simultaneously.

Inspector of Prisons

In April 2002 the Honourable Mr. Justice Dermot Kinlen was appointed Inspector of Prisons and Places of Detention on an administrative basis. The Inspector has the following terms of reference:

"To -

- (a) Inspect and report, as the Inspector considers appropriate, to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform on prisons and other places of detention managed on behalf of the Department by the Irish Prison Service;
- (b) Report in particular on conditions in those institutions and on the regimes in place for prisoners and detainees;
- (c) Investigate and report on any specific issue referred to the Inspectorate by the Minister; and
- (d) Submit to the Minister an Annual Report on the activities of the Inspectorate."

By the end of 2002, the Inspector had undertaken inspections in three prisons, Cloverhill, Limerick and Portlaoise, which he intended to include in his first annual report to the Minister in 2003.

Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons

Twenty three applications were received in 2002 from prisoners in other jurisdictions to transfer to an Irish prison. Eighteen applications were received from prisoners in Irish institutions to transfer to other jurisdictions. Transfers outward were facilitated in 4 cases and inward transfers were facilitated in respect of 8 prisoners. Table 8: Transfers of prisoners effected in 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 under Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons.

Applications for Outward Transfer to:	1999	2000	2001	2002	Total
United Kingdom Northern Ireland Scotland Germany	6 4 1	10 5 1	11 9 2 1	9 6 2	36 24 4 3
Holland Spain Italy France	'	1 1	1 1	1	1 2 2 1
Total	12	18	25	18	73
Outward transfers effected to:	1999	2000	2001	2002	Total
United Kingdom Northern Ireland Netherlands	1 5 1	3	5 1	4	13 6 1
Germany			1		1
Total	7	3	7	4	21
Inward transfers applications received from:	1999	2000	2001	2002	Total
United Kingdom Isle of Man Spain Italy	21	31 1 1	26	20 1 1	98 2 1 1
Panama				1	1
Total	21	33	26	23	103
Inward transfers effected from:	1999	2000	2001	2002	Total
United Kingdom Isle of Man	11 1	10	4	8	33 1
Total	12	10	4	8	34



Care and Rehabilitation of Prisoners :

Services for Prisoners

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

New Regimes Directorate

The Director of Regimes was appointed in April 2002 and the Regimes Directorate was progressively established during the year. The Regimes Directorate supports a multifaceted approach to re-balancing the Service's custodial and care/rehabilitation functions. The aim is to help prisoners to develop their sense of responsibility and encourage attitudes and skills to assist them to return to society with the best chance of leading law abiding and self-supporting lives after release.

Work and Training

The Irish Prison Service places strong emphasis on the provision of vocational training for prisoners. Training activities are chosen to give as much employment as possible for those in prison and to give opportunities to acquire skills which will help them secure employment on their release. Some activities are also chosen with a view to providing products and services for the prisons. Prison workshops also engage in projects for the community. Workshop products include Braille publications, playground equipment, furnishings and computerised indices of heritage material. Work and training activities are organised in diverse areas such as laundries, kitchens, workshops and farming/horticulture.

Specialised industrial training is provided at a number of prisons. Courses in welding, machining, general engineering, electronics, introduction to industry, catering, industrial cleaning, printing and construction are provided to prisoners. Training activities are intended to operate in a manner which is complementary with education courses.

Work in support of the Special Olympics, initiated in 2001, continued throughout the year; 170 prisoners participated in the project between July and December 2002. The Special Olympics project was established at Arbour Hill, the Midlands Prison, Wheatfield Place of Detention and Mountjoy. By year end, the IPS was on target for producing a range of products required for the event in Summer 2003. These included all the podia required for all medal ceremonies, special equipment to stabilise wheelchairs in weight lifting competitions, bocee courts, 75,000 flags, 86,000 towels, welcome signs, score boards, equestrian gates, benches, flag poles and crowd control barriers.

The CONNECT Project

CONNECT is based primarily on the Government's policy of social inclusion. It is run by the Irish Prison Service in collaboration with the National Training and Development Institute (NTDI) of the Rehab Group. The project focuses on prisoners' transition from custody, through training, on to reintegration into the community and labour market participation. It operates in three institutions in the Mountjoy Complex - Mountjoy, the Training Unit and the Dóchas Centre.

Prevocational training programmes developed by CONNECT provide prisoners with the opportunity and encouragement to make well-informed choices about how to use their time in custody. An individualised planning system was developed to provide support and structure activities to help prisoners reach their vocational goals. CONNECT has extended the number of certified vocational training programmes and systems in the prisons. The project is also contributing to links between prisons and the wider community for training and other developmental and employment opportunities for ex-prisoners.

The planned roll-out of CONNECT to five further prisons during 2002 was put on hold to allow for



Braille Unit - Arbour Hill Prison

a period of consultation and review with key stakeholders. During the second half of 2002 significant effort was invested in this process by all parties. An important learning outcome from the process was that the IPS needs to develop a new organisational infrastructure in order to effectively support and sustain the multidisciplinary ethos of CONNECT. Another outcome was the recognition of the need to clearly position some strands of CONNECT more centrally within the delivering institution rather than locating them within the vocational training function.

Education Service

The Prison Education Service consists of a partnership between the Irish Prison Service and a range of educational agencies. Ten Vocational Education Committees make the largest contribution to, and are the mainstay of, the Prison Education Service.

Policy is drawn largely from the Council of Europe Recommendation and Report, Education in Prison (Strasbourg, 1990), The Management of Offenders, A Five Year Plan (1994) and the Strategy Statement for the Prison Education Service for 1999-2001.

The Department of Education and Science provided an allocation of 215 whole-time teacher equivalents to the prisons through the VECs in the academic year 2001/02 and 221.3 in the academic year 2002-03. This included provision for the summer months and also enabled special teaching arrangements where the prisoners are segregated (e.g., Portlaoise, Mountjoy, Wheatfield, Limerick, Cork).

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

- Public library services, especially via four fulltime librarians employed by Dublin Public Libraries;
- The Open University, which caters for about 80 prisoners each year on degree-level courses;
- The Arts Council, which provides writers' workshops and artists' workshops;
- Other third-level colleges, such as the National College of Art and Design, which is involved in

Portlaoise, the Midlands and the Training Unit.

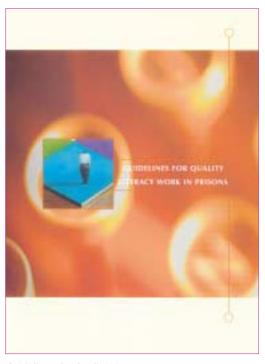
Day to day co-ordination of these services is the responsibility of the Co-ordinator of Education in the Irish Prison Service. Objectives, methods and course content are largely those of adult education. Set courses and examination work are but a part of prison education because of time restrictions, irregular intake and prisoners' special needs and interests. The emergence of FETAC accreditation has opened up new possibilities and this is now widely used in prison education. Full details of what is taught in prisons may be found in the Directory of Prison Education (see below).

In broad terms, courses may be classified as follows:

- Basic education, including literacy and numeracy.
- General subjects, e.g. English, History, Geography, Mathematics, Languages, Computers.
- Physical Education, Home Economics and Health Education.
- The Arts, e.g. visual arts, music, drama, creative writing, photography.
- Practical subjects, e.g. Woodwork, Metalwork, Horticulture.
- Courses that address particular problems or needs that prisoners have, e.g., pre-release courses, addiction awareness, parenting, group skills.

Participation in education varies with factors such as facilities, turnover of population and segregation; at the end of 2002, 54% of all prisoners were involved at some level.

A high degree of curriculum and teaching material development is essential in prison education. This is facilitated through extensive in-service support, covering internal and external courses for teachers and via a range of structures, including the Prison Education Council and "development workers" in areas such as the Arts and Physical Education.

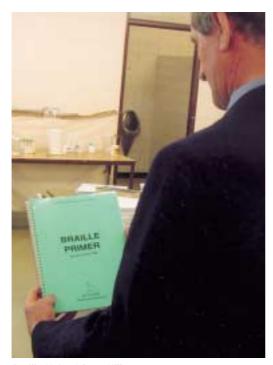


Guidelines for Quality Literacy

In November 2000 a proposed structural plan for the improvement of libraries in prisons, including new staffing arrangements, was submitted to the Irish Prison Service and agreed in principle at management level. It is hoped to proceed with the plan when resources permit.

Literacy work in prisons

The Prison Education Literacy Working Group developed Guidelines for Quality Literacy Work in Prisons, which was published in 2002. The purpose of the document is to offer guidelines for good practice, thereby enabling prison education units to reach and retain a larger number of prisoners with literacy problems. The Working Group reported that a significant minority of prisoners are unable to read simple words, are barely able to write their name and do not know their alphabet. The underlying aim of good adult literacy practice is to enable people to understand and reflect critically on their life circumstances, explore new possibilities and initiate constructive change. By accessing reading and writing skills



Braille Unit - Arbour Hill

students also develop an appetite for lifelong learning.

The Guidelines set targets for improvement in literacy in prisons in relation to

- The number of enrolments of prisoners with literacy difficulties and clearly defined access routes;
- · Retention;
- · Positive outcomes and
- Progress

Other developments in prison education

Several important developments are in train in prison education in line with both the IPS and Prison Education Strategy Statements. A committee established in 2001 to redraft the Strategy Statement for prison education for the years ahead and another committee, also established in 2001, to review the curriculum available in prisons continued their work during 2002 and are expected to produce reports in 2003, following wide consultation.

Further information on prison education may be found in a range of recent publications:

- The Directory of Prison Education, 2003
- Physical Education in the Irish Prison System: The Challenges Ahead
- Another Place: A First Anthology of Creative Writing from Irish Prisons
- Articles on aspects of Irish prison education published in 2001 and 2002 in the North American quarterly Journal of Correctional Education.

Copies of these publications may be obtained from the Co-ordinator of Education, IPS Prison Education Service, Floor 3, Block 5, Belfield Office Park, Beaver Row, Clonskeagh, Dublin 4.

Psychology Service

During 2002 the Psychology Service completed the formal negotiations for its transfer from the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform to the Irish Prison Service. The service was reorganised into a three tiered structure, consisting of one Head of Service, five Senior Clinical Psychologists and three Clinical Psychologists. This includes two new psychologists who joined the Service during 2002.

The Psychology Service fulfils various responsibilities within the Prison Service. As well as maintaining a commitment to the provision of a generic clinical psychology service for individual offenders, the Service has responsibility for the development of group programmes for particular offender groups; for a variety of training initiatives with Prison Officers aimed at enhancing the role of the Officer and involvement in the development of strategy, policy and protocol in areas significant to the operation of the prison system. The Service also supports and facilitates research projects, including the evaluation of interventions with offenders.

Distribution of Work

An overview of the distribution of work for the Psychology Service in 2002 is presented in Table 9 below: resettlement plans for the interim Parole Board and Prison management. Reports are also provided to the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform where required in respect of applications for repatriation under the Transfer of Prisoners Act 1995 and 1997.

Table 9 : Distribution	of Work of the	Psychology Service
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Generic Therapeutic Services for Offenders	for Offender	Work with Prison Officers	Operational, Strategic and Policy Development Work	Psychology Service Work	CPD	Research	Administration and Service Management
38.6%	17%	6.1%	11.1%	10.8%	11.8%	0.3%	4.3%

As in previous years the majority of the Service's work involved direct contact with offenders, either in individual casework or in the running of group programmes for offenders. These two categories of work accounted for 55.6% of the Service's time in 2002. The corresponding figure for 2001 was 56.6%.

Probation and Welfare Service

Probation and Welfare Officers are assigned to all prisons and places of detention in the State. Despite the many competing demands on the limited resources of the Probation and Welfare Service, during 2002 staffing level in the prisons and places of detention reached the highest ever number with a total of 49 Probation and Welfare Service staff assigned. This represents almost 17% of total Service staff and confirms the major commitment of the Probation and Welfare Service to its work in prisons and places of detention.

The Probation and Welfare Service in prisons and places of detention works with prisoners and, where possible their families, to reduce the likelihood of re-offending. With the support of Probation and Welfare Service resources and links in the community the Service seeks to facilitate through care and resettlement of prisoners on discharge from custody. The Service also provides reports on offenders including social background, risk and needs assessment and, where appropriate, recommendations and Parts of the Sex Offenders Act 2001 came into operation in 2002. Part 5 of the Act provides for the post release supervision of sex offenders. Probation and Welfare Officers in the community also supervise all life sentence prisoners on release and temporary release orders where supervision by the Service is a specified condition.

The Probation and Welfare Service is committed to multidisciplinary working and works in partnership with other services to provide Sex Offender Treatment, Thinking Skills and other programmes in prisons and places of detention. In addition, Probation and Welfare Officers provide offending behaviour, anger management, addiction, life sentence prisoner and other programmes in many locations.

During 2002 an additional specialist Probation and Welfare Service team was established as part of the Prison Based Drug Treatment Services initiative. This team provides programmes to address drug addiction and related offending in St Patrick's Institution, Dóchas Centre and Mountjoy Prison and also co-ordinates, with the other services and community agencies, the Drug Treatment Programme established in Mountjoy Prison.

The Probation and Welfare Service provides funding to over 70 community organisations and projects to provide training, accommodation and



Arbour Hill Kitchen

other services for offenders. These groups around the country provide employment placement, education and training, accommodation, drug treatment and other important support services and work closely with Probation and Welfare Service staff in prisons and places of detention to maximise access by prisoners to their services. The Probation and Welfare Service also facilitates community based agencies and services to maintain contact with prisoners through their sentences.

Homelessness and the lack of appropriate accommodation can increase the risk of reoffending by prisoners on discharge from custody. A specialist multi-agency accommodation directorate (the Homeless Offenders Strategy Team or 'HOST') was established during 2002, with the Probation and Welfare Service as the lead agency. HOST's role is to bring a strategic focus and direction to measures to address homelessness among offenders in the community and in custody, and to ensure that relevant projects proceed in a planned and co-ordinated way. The establishment of HOST is in line with the provisions of the Integrated Strategy on Homelessness, and the Homeless Preventative Strategy. It also reflects a number of the recommendations in the National Economic and Social Forum report (No. 22) on the Reintegration of Prisoners. Dublin City Council has seconded a staff member to the team which currently also comprises a Director (at Assistant Principal Probation & Welfare Officer level) and two administrative support posts.

HOST works in collaboration with the Irish Prison Service and other partners to ensure that the accommodation needs of offenders are addressed at national and local level in accordance with established policy, that offenders in custody as well as in the community have access as citizens to the full range of mainstream services and that measures required to reduce homelessness among this population are implemented.

Statutory and voluntary social housing providers play a crucial part in the provision of accommodation for those leaving custody and helping them reintegrate in the community. HOST, as well as working co-operatively with those



bodies, has undertaken a number of initiatives in its own right. These include securing units of transitional accommodation for ex-prisoners within mainstream provision, drawing up protocols and practice guidelines for referrals to social housing units, improving access to income maintenance and related financial supports, assisting voluntary bodies in the establishment of new housing initiatives for offenders, carrying out research on offender homelessness, encouraging best practice in prevention and working with the Irish Prison Service to progress transitional or 'halfway' accommodation projects for offenders leaving prison at a number of locations around the country.

In July 2002 Martin Tansey, Principal Probation and Welfare Officer, retired after a long and successful career in the Probation and Welfare Service. Sean Lowry was appointed Principal Probation and Welfare Officer.

Chaplaincy

A chaplaincy service is available in each Prison and Place of Detention. Full time Roman Catholic Chaplains are attached to all Prisons and Places of Detention in the Archdiocese of Dublin, in addition to Limerick, Castlerea, Portlaoise, Midlands and Cork Prisons. Part-time Roman Catholic Chaplains are attached to Fort Mitchel and Loughan House.

Chaplains of other Churches such as the Church of Ireland and Presbyterian Church attend the prisons on either a part-time or visiting basis as necessary. The needs of Muslim prisoners are met by local Muslim religious leaders.

The primary function of the Chaplaincy Service is to make religious services available to offenders. Chaplains also offer support to offenders and assistance in their human and spiritual development. The work involves close liaison with the other services in the prisons, with parochial clergy, offenders' families and outside agencies and attendance at meetings in the prisons to review individual prisoner's cases. Chaplains minister to the whole prison and are available to offenders and prison staff. At present the full-time Chaplains include ordained priests, non-ordained religious and one lay person. The chaplains submit an annual report, with recommendations, to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform. In their report for 2002 the chaplains dealt with human rights issues for prisoners and rehabilitation. The chaplains concluded that imprisonment should be used as a last resort and that it was a sad reflection on society that the poorer and more vulnerable members of society continue to form the greater part of the prison population.

Drug Treatment

During the year, the National Steering Group on Prison Based Drug Treatment Services was restructured to enable a more streamlined approach to developing a national policy, while maintaining a focus on advancing developments in the eastern region prisons. It meets quarterly to consider national policy issues. The national perspective involves all 16 prison institutions. Its subgroup, the Eastern Region Group, focuses on implementing the recommendations of the Steering Group's first report and ensuring that developments in drug treatment in eastern region prisons are consistent with the proposed national policy.

Recruitment of Staff

The First Report of the National Steering Group outlined specific posts required in order to deliver an adequate drug treatment service in prisons. The Senior Management Group, which is chaired by the Director General of the Irish Prison Service, was actively involved in recruiting Addiction Counsellors, who would be Health Board employees working in Dublin prisons. Interviews for the recruitment of two senior counsellors, to be based in the Northern Area Health Board and the South Western Area Health Board, were held late in 2002. Appointments are expected to be made in 2003.

The Senior Probation and Welfare post approved for the Drug Team in the Mountjoy complex was filled in May 2002. Two basic grade probation officers were appointed to the team in August and September 2002. The Probation and Welfare Service has been developing and delivering programmes in the Mountjoy complex since September 2002. These programmes focus on providing effective psycho-social support to those on methadone maintenance.

National Drug Policy

The Steering Group established a National Policy Development Group which, by year end, was at an advanced stage in drafting an Irish Prison Service Drug Policy. This new policy is intended to be consistent with the Programme for Government 2002 the Irish National Drug Strategy 2001-2008 and the WHO (Europe) Health in Prisons project -Prisons, Drugs and Society (2002). A draft Irish Prison Service Policy for the Toxicology Screening of Urine was also developed to an advanced stage. The rationale for employing toxicology screening is in an effort to provide a safe, secure environment for persons in custody and to identify those who may be in need of drug treatment, thus avoiding or reducing harm related to illicit drug use.

Drug Treatment Facilities

The National Steering Group continues to expand drug treatment in prisons, particularly in the eastern region. It adopts a multifaceted approach to the problem with substantial input from the health service, particularly the Eastern Regional Health Authority. The approach involves provision of detoxification, methadone maintenance, education programmes, an information forum, addiction counselling, drug therapy programmes and the operation of drug free areas. The Irish Prison Service is committed to regular review of harm reduction policies and practices. In the context of services provided in the Irish Prison Service, harm reduction refers to the reduction of harm through vaccination programmes, supply and demand reduction programmes, treatment for viral illnesses, drug free areas, substitution therapies, support programmes and other appropriate interventions. Multidisciplinary teams are involved in the delivery of drug treatment in prisons.

In addition to the drug free units that already existed, a new Drug Free Environment Unit was officially opened in Wheatfield Prison on 20 May 2002 and a second such unit opened in November 2002. There are sixteen places available in each unit, open to all offenders who volunteer to abide by the rules and regulations. Plans were advanced during the year for the opening of drug-free units in Mountjoy and Limerick Prisons.

An information forum is provided by the Education/Welfare Services to prisoners informing them of the risks posed by communicable diseases. Community based agencies visit prisons to provide support services and information, including individual counselling as required.

The Assistant Training Officer (Drug Treatment), appointed in October 2001, continued to deliver training programmes designed to enhance and further professionalise Prison Officers involved in interpersonal work with prisoners undergoing drug treatment. In attempting to identify best practice in the area of methadone as the main treatment option, he has visited community drug treatment centres in the Dublin area and arranged to talk with staff there in order to assess the training received and hopefully to have the same training available to the medical orderlies/nurse officers who are engaged in the dispensing of methadone in the Irish Prison Service.

The Co-ordinator of Drug Treatment Services (Prisons), appointed by the Eastern Regional Health Authority in February, 2002 has been involved in a pilot health and fitness initiative with prisoners to address healthy lifestyle and harm minimisation measures.

Community Links

The special linkages group, the Prison and Community Drugs Liaison Group, which was established in 2001, comprising the Governors from Mountjoy, St. Patrick's Institution, the Training Unit, Cloverhill and Wheatfield and voluntary and community, groups continues to meet. The Group works with people who have difficulties with addiction and their families. It produced a Directory of Voluntary and Statutory Groups in the Community Visiting the Dublin Prisons.



Excercise yard - St. Patricks Institution

Offender Programmes

Sex Offender Programme

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

The structured group programme for sex offenders is available in two prisons - Arbour Hill (running since 1994) and the Curragh (running since 2000). Offenders from any prison in the country may apply to take part in one of these programmes. The Sex Offender Programme is a cognitive-behavioural, offence-focused programme which aims to reduce, to the greatest extent possible, the risk of reoffending. This is achieved through enabling offenders gain increased control over their offending behaviour. In 2002, a further 16 offenders entered the sex offender programme. The Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform contracted the Clinical Psychology Department at University College Dublin to carry out a research project evaluating the sex offender programme. This research commenced in 1998 and is ongoing.

Sex offenders are also encouraged to take part in other group programmes and courses running in their prison, e.g., Group Skills, Pre-release programmes, Anger Management, Thinking Skills.

An important development in 2002 was, following a publicly advertised tender competition, the retention of the services of Dr Francesca Lundstrom, research consultant, to build on the foundation work she had already carried out on developing a sex offender programme to be delivered by multidisciplinary teams. This latest project entails reviewing and researching programme materials in other jurisdictions where high quality sex offender programmes are delivered and accredited to an approved standard, with a view to designing, collating and producing a full set of manuals for the delivery of the new programme. This work is due for completion in July 2003.

Thinking Skills Course

The Thinking Skills Course in run by multidisciplinary teams involving prison officers, teachers, probation and welfare officers and psychologists. The course is designed to provide a range of skills essential for effective problemsolving and interpersonal competence. In 2002, 32 offenders participated in Thinking Skills courses.

In smaller prisons, particularly those with a stable population, it is becoming evident that the level of demand is for one Thinking Skills Course per year. This is primarily due to the number of courses now available in these prisons, including anger management, group skills, pre-release programmes, etc. In this light, expansion of the Thinking Skills Course will focus on it's roll-out to further institutions in the coming years.

Healthcare Issues

Arising from the publication of the Report of the Group to Review the Structure and Organisation of Prison Health Care Services in 2001, a Prison Health Working Group was established in 2002 to facilitate the implementation of the report's recommendations. This group is composed of representatives of the Departments of Health and Children and Justice, Equality and Law Reform, along with the IPS and those health boards where prisons are located. It met on a number of occasions from March 2002. The initial focus of the Group was to look at primary care needs. A primary care subgroup of the main group was established to focus on this issue.

A core project undertaken during the later part of 2002 was the drafting of a set of Prison Healthcare Standards. In addition to seeking to define acceptable norms for provision and to establish various targets to assist in service development this process would assist in the review and codification of existing policy in the health care area. By the end of the year the draft standards were circulated to health care staff, prison management, etc., for consideration and it is intended to complete the development of these during 2003. Considerable work has been undertaken by the Healthcare Directorate in supporting the development of adequate and appropriate drug treatment services for prisoners. At a management level this includes participating in a variety of working groups seeking to address the issues associated with this matter, in particular the development of the National Prison Drug Policy referred to above. In addition, members of health care management have been involved in a variety of specific clinical issues, for example coordinating with community clinics to ensure continuity of methadone provision for prisoners on release.

Medical Services

Problems have continued to exist in relation to the recruitment of doctors in a number of locations. These difficulties are exemplified by the fact that, following the death of the doctor serving Portlaoise Prison in December 2001, the position was publicly advertised on three separate occasions in 2002 without a suitable replacement being found.

A claim for a major increase in remuneration for prison doctors is under discussion with the Irish Medical Organisation. This reflects the extent of competition in the medical labour market. The current contractual agreement with doctors fails to make adequate provision for appropriate accountability. This relates to a large extent to the fact that this contract, which is based on the concept of 'notional' as opposed to actual hours worked, is difficult to monitor satisfactorily.

Separate from the industrial relations process outlined above the Prison Health Working Group is reviewing the structural organisation of primary care services provided to prisoners and the feasibility of bringing these more in line with community norms. The provision of adequate primary medical care to prisoners will require a contractual and remunerative structure which both promotes recruitment and retention and enables a degree of accountability in keeping with what is increasingly deemed appropriate in similar professional work elsewhere.

Nursing in the Prison Service

Nurses were first introduced into the prison system in 1999. The introduction of qualified nurses has changed the health care focus to one which seeks to intervene and promote health. There is one management post, the Co-ordinator of Nursing, and 81 nurses working in 12 of the institutions under the auspices of the Irish Prison Service. (Table 10)

Table 10 : Assignment of Nursing and Medical Orderly Posts

Institution		No. of Medical Orderlies
Mountjoy Male	7	18
Dóchas	6	1
St Patrick's Institution		4
Training Unit	0	1
Cloverhill	20	0
Wheatfield	10	3
Midlands	18	0
Portlaoise		6
Castlerea	6	0
Shanganagh Castle		0
Loughan House	0	1
Shelton Abbey	0	1
Cork	0	8
Limerick		5
Fort Mitchel	0	6
Arbour Hill	2	5*
Curragh	6	0
Total	81	

* One Medical Orderly is on long-term secondment to Headquarters.

Recruitment and Retention

There continues to be a number of vacant nursing and medical orderly posts around the system. Interviews took place early in 2002 and 26 nurses were panelled. Recruit training courses took place in July and October, with 11 and 8 nurses, respectively, in each class. Nurses recruited in 2002 have trained separately from prison officers and receive specific training relevant to delivering optimum health care in a prison context. These two courses have been evaluated and the findings are under consideration.

The Prison Nurses Forum was convened early in 2002 with nurses representing each prison. These nurses were selected by their colleagues. The purpose of this group is to review practice in each institution with a view to creating a Clinical Nursing Guideline Manual and examine some of the issues pertaining to development of best practice policy relating to delivery of health care. This work is ongoing.

Continuing Professional Development

During 2002 the IPS facilitated nurses to undertake a Diploma in Practice Nursing in the Royal College of Surgeons Faculty of Nursing. Others nurses attended a Conference of Nurses Working in Substance Abuse, CPR Trainer course and some have pursued their degree in Nursing. The current Prison Nurse Training course now incorporates Phlebotomy training. It is envisaged that all nurses working in the IPS will receive this training and will carry out all blood testing in their local institutions.

Useful links have been established with Nursing Development Units at a national level, which can facilitate nurses partaking in regional health board training initiatives. These links are being fostered to ensure that nurses working in the IPS do not become deskilled and outdated.

Progress to date

Nurses are now involved at local level in many subcommittees.

Marrying prison practice with standard nursing practice is one of the major challenges for the service. Nurses have been instrumental in improving the dispensing of medication in prisons, in accordance with An Bórd Altranais regulations.

The nurses in all but two areas where nurses practice have successfully introduced a 'Kardex' system to record dispensing of medication. It is an objective of the nursing team to introduce this method of recording medication throughout the service. Health promotion is seen as one of the key areas where nurses can positively impact on prisoner health. There are a number of initiatives where nurses have or are in the planning stage of implementing programmes.

In the Curragh POD the nurses have done a patient profile exercise and have also done a sample health screen on the prisoners. It is planned to expand this initiative in the coming year. One of the nurses also has completed a stress management trainer's course and has implemented a stress management programme for the prisoners in that institution.

A health promotion week was run in Cloverhill, facilitated by the nurses. St. Patrick's Institution is also working closely with the nurses in implementing a smoking cessation programme.

Pharmacy

The post of Co-ordinator of Pharmacy Services was filled in May 2002, filling a vacancy in this position which occurred in the previous year.

The average cost per prisoner of pharmaceuticals in 2002 was approximately \in 640, ranging from \in 160 to \in 1,100, which was considerably higher than the corresponding figure for other prison services, and significantly higher than that for a similar population in the community.

Monitored Dosage System (MDS)

A pilot Monitored Dose System project was introduced in October, 2001 in two prisons where full nursing cover was in place. This system involves the dispensing of medication on foot of a doctor's prescription, on an individual patient basis, in a sealed blister-pack. This ensures that the prescriptions are monitored by the pharmacist and that all medication is correctly dispensed and labelled, with cautions/warnings etc. The medication is supplied in a form ready for administration. The level of stock required to be held in the surgery is reduced to a minimum and greater accountability of all stock should be possible.

These two pilots have been reviewed by the Coordinator of Pharmacy Services and a full report is due shortly. While this system represented a huge improvement on previous practice, it has not met all of the requirements and there are many issues that need to be further developed before this system could be expanded.

Stock Control and Purchasing

Good practice guidelines in relation to stock control and ordering have been issued, with emphasis on keeping levels to a minimum and returning unwanted stock for credit.

Following an audit of medication usage, stock-lists have been prepared for a number of prison surgeries, to assist in the stock control and ordering process. Guidelines also issued to all Governors regarding acceptable criteria for local purchasing and such purchases are constantly monitored.

Purchasing arrangements have been reviewed and significant improvements have been made in the purchase of certain products, while discussions are ongoing to ensure that the best possible price is obtained. An agreement has been reached with the Eastern Regional Health Authority in relation to a joint contract for the purchase of methadone when the contract is due for renewal, which is hoped to result in significant cost savings for the IPS.



Institutions :

Arbour Hill



Prisoner profile

There were 63 committals to Arbour Hill during 2002. The average and highest number in custody was 137.

Participation in educational activities

The participation rate in educational activities was over 80%. Of these, 3% of prisoners participated for less than 5 hours per week, 40% for 5-10 hours per week and 38% for 10 hours or more. Eight prisoners took subjects in the Junior Certificate examination, 12 took subjects in the Leaving Certificate examination and 14 studied Open University degree courses and postgraduate courses. Fifty prisoners attended FETEC accredited computer skills courses.

Prisoner Programmes

A number of programmes were organised throughout the year, as follows

Programme	Throughput
Thinking Skills	8
Group Skills	16
Anger Management	8
Sex Offender	8
Treatment	10
Pre-release	12

The Sex Offender Treatment Programme is now well established and accepted within the prison culture and environment and there was an Governor Mr Tom Somers Location Arbour Hill, Dublin 7

Profile

Arbour Hill is a closed, medium security prison for males aged 18 years and over, serving sentences of more than two years. It has a design capacity of 139. All cells have in-cell sanitation and piped TV.

increase in applications for the programme in 2002.

The Group Skills Programme was developed as a precursor to Thinking Skills and The Sex Offenders Therapy Programme with the objective of assisting individuals to develop the confidence and skills necessary for them to function within group based programmes. This course was fully subscribed and received with considerable interest and enthusiasm.

Vocational training

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

Tackling drug abuse

Arbour Hill is a relatively drug free prison and random urinalysis is carried out to support and maintain this position.

Support services

The Medical Officer (GP) attended at the prison five days a week and as required out of hours. Psychiatric, psychological, psychotherapy, ophthalmic, chiropody and dental services were available to all offenders; these services were well utilised during the year. The Probation and Welfare Service continued to work with prisoners in addressing offending behaviour or other deficits to reduce the likelihood of re-offending.

Interaction with the local community and voluntary groups

The prison continued to be well served throughout the year by the various agencies who provided support and counselling for offenders who wished to avail of these services, including the Guild of St Philip Neri, Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and the Samaritans.

Special Olympics

At the request of the organising committee, Arbour Hill undertook a major contract to produce, assemble and provide technical support for a total of thirty podiums and 16 Bocce courts. At year end, the contract was on schedule for completion in May 2003.

Other significant developments and events in 2002

 In September, a one man show on the works of Robert Service was attended by almost all the prisoner population; additionally a number of speakers addressed particular groups in the education unit during the year.

- In a sponsored event a number of prisoners raised €1,000 for a YMCA Hostel for the homeless
- The Suicide Awareness Group continued to hold regular meetings during the year
- The spiritual needs of inmates were attended to by the Catholic Chaplain, Church of Ireland Chaplain and visiting Minister of the Christian Churches throughout the year.
- Temporary release was granted to offenders for resocialisation purposes shortly prior to discharge

Castlerea Prison



Prisoner population profile

The total number of committals to Castlerea Prison during 2002 was 1,145, of which 764 were convicted and 381 were on remand. The average number in custody was 193 and the highest number in custody was 213. The average number on temporary release was 2.

Participation in educational activities

On average, 43% of prisoners were involved in educational courses, with 10% of these participating in State run examinations.

Prisoner Programmes

Group programme were provided as follows - pre-release programmes, cognitive behavioural therapy, support groups for prisoners receiving assistance within the prison setting, Alternative to Violence programme, listener scheme, employability advice to prisoners and placements services for prisoners on release. In addition, the following individual programmes and supports were provided - person centred counselling, adult counselling service, prioritised intervention by the Probation and Welfare Officer in cognitive behaviour, addiction counselling and focus on resettlement.

Mr Dan Scannell

Location Harristown, Castleres Co. Roscommon

Profile

Governor

Castlerea Prison is a committal prison for male offenders aged 17 and over for the geographical region of Connacht and counties Longford, Cavan and Donegal.

The accommodation is divided into two sections, the main cellular block which has a design capacity of 146 and a bed capacity of 170 and the Grove area, which provides domestic type accommodation for 36 prisoners.

Vocational training and employment

Most prisoners, both remand and convicted, were gainfully employed during 2002. The following vocational training programmes were provided:

- Leonardo Catering course
- Safe Pass for use in the construction industry
- Forklift Driving course
- Wood carving
- Stone carving
- Leisure and fitness qualifications
- Certified horticultural courses

Other significant developments and events in 2002

- On 1 November Mr Terry Waite, former Beirut hostage, visited the prison with the Warrington Male Voice Choir
- The Inspector of Prisons, the Honourable Mr Justice Kinlen, visited the prison in July
- The chaplaincy services of all denominations continued to provide spiritual and emotional support to prisoners

- Voluntary agencies, e.g., Samaritans, Narcotics
 Anonymous and Alcoholics
 Anonymous continued to visit
 the prison and engage with a large number of prisoners
- In partnership with the Western Health Board prisoners who have been victims of abuse received psychological assistance from four therapists who visited the prison on a weekly basis

Cloverhill Prison



Prisoner population

The daily average number in custody was 386. A total of 4,336 prisoners were committed to Cloverhill Prison during the year; 56% were remand prisoners, 17% were sentenced and 17% were awaiting trial.

Participation in educational activities

Three prisoners studied with the Open University in 2002. Construction of a new education facility continued during the year.

Prisoner Programmes

Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous visited the prison weekly, 5-10 prisoners availed of meetings per week.

Tackling Drug Abuse

Prisoners with a drug problem are housed in 'B' Division where a Detox programme is in operation. On average 25 prisoners go through this programme at any one time. There is also a Methadone maintenance programme and on average 60 prisoners are accommodated daily. There is also a Drug Free Division.

Improvements continued to be made to the security of the visiting area to prevent drugs being passed to prisoners during visits. Measures to tackle supply of drugs within the prison included screened visits, x-ray machine at reception, random

Governor

Profile

Mr. William Kane (Mr John Brophy retired June 2002)

Location Cloverh

Cloverhill Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

Cloverhill Prison is a remand, medium security prison for male adult and sentenced prisoners. The prison has accommodation for 456 prisoners in a combination of single, double and triple cells.

and general searches, upgrading of visiting boxes and visitor information.

Other significant events, initiatives and developments in 2002

- The Council of Europe Committee for Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment visited the prison on 24 May 2002
- The Inspector of Prisons carried out an inspection at Cloverhill over November-December
- There were three deaths in custody, one from natural causes, one suspected suicide and one suspected accidental overdose;
- An armed incident took place in Tallaght Hospital involving an unsuccessful attempted escape of a prisoner under escort
- The library was officially opened on 27 November 2002. There were 6,572 visits to the library during the year. On average, 126 prisoners used the library each week. A multicultural service was introduced within the Library
- An average of 100 prisoners who are in custody in Cloverhill or other institutions attended Cloverhill Courthouse

each weekday. These were managed by approximately 10 staff.

- The prison kitchen received the Q Mark and Excellence of Ireland award in Hygiene, with full marks
- There is a full time Doctor and Nursing staff supported by visiting Psychiatrist, Dentist and other ancillary services available to prisoners as required. The Psychiatrist visits on an almost daily basis and dental services increased from two to three times per week
- There were two Health and Fitness weeks for Prisoners. A Health Awareness Programme was started for prisoners that included all aspects of health and hygiene
- The Probation Service continued their role in maintaining the links between prisoners, their families and the community at large
- The Chaplains provided a full range of religious services to prisoners during the year. Murals of the representative symbols of other major religious groups were provided on the wall of the Prison Chapel
- A number of recommendations from the Suicide Awareness Committee were implemented

during the year

- The new Oracle Financial System was introduced and PRIS was deployed into all areas of the Prison
- Interaction with the community included weekly visits from Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and the Samaritans, tours for local schools and an 'old folks' party
- Anti-racism week took place and anti-racism policy was developed

Cork Prison



Prisoner profile

The daily average number in custody was 267. During the year a total number of 1,542 prisoners were committed to Cork Prison. They included some difficult and disruptive prisoners who had been deprived privileges in other prisons and institutions.

Participation in educational activities

The City of Cork VEC allocated 19.1 full time teacher equivalents to the prison during 2002. A total of 156 prisoners attended classes weekly. Of these, 33 participated for less than 5 hours per week, 66 for 5-10 hours and 57 for more than 10 hours per week. Thirty-five prisoners took subjects in the Junior Certificate, 3 took Leaving Certificate subjects, 3 took Open University courses and 93 sat for NCVA qualifications. One hundred and eighteen prisoners availed of basic numeracy and literacy education.

The prison library continued to operate seven days a week and was well attended. There were 190 visits to the library on a weekly basis and 9,700 visits in all during the year.

Prisoner Programmes

A number of programmes aimed at tackling offending behaviour were provided in 2002, as follows:

Governor

Mr Frank McCarthy (since replaced by Mr Seán Quigley)

Profile

Location Rathmore Road, Cork

Cork Prison is a medium security, closed prison for males aged seventeen and over, serving sentences up to life. It is the committal prison for counties Cork, Kerry and Waterford. The prison has a design capacity of 150. Very few offenders can avail of single cell accommodation and there is no in-cell sanitation in most of the prison. Overcrowding continues to be a serious problem.

Programme	Throughput
Thinking Skills	8
Post release services	16
Smoking cessation	8
Addiction counselling	8

The Dillon's Cross project provides counselling, advice and training for the partners of prisoners in custody. Courses are available in computers, personal development, crafts and skills, childcare and health education. Offenders take part in parallel courses in the prison.

The prison does not have a purpose built gymnasium, the temporary one with loose equipment was full to capacity seven days a week.

Vocational training and employment

Computer training was provided to 7 prisoners and 18 prisoners completed Chemical Awareness Training.

Employment is not available for all prisoners but those who can be facilitated are assigned to areas considered suitable for them. The main areas are catering, cleaning, grounds work and general maintenance. Many are also employed in the manufacturing area of the prison. This includes joinery, laundry and the production of shirts, T-shirts and underwear.

Tackling drug abuse

A separate Drug Free area is not possible due to the present design of the prison and shortage of facilities. The policy is to ensure that the entire prison remains relatively drug free. It is difficult to get drugs into the prison because of the regime in place. Netting over the yard was upgraded in 2002. CCTV is also installed in appropriate areas. There is no physical contact allowed on visits. All laundry is done inhouse and staff maintain constant vigilance.

Two Addiction Counsellors work full-time in the prison, sponsored by the local Drugs Task Force. They link up with outside services ensuring continuation of treatment on release. The position of Post-release Service Co-ordinator was established on a pilot basis and funded through the Local Drugs Task Force. The Co-ordinator liaises with voluntary and statutory services providing information and assistance to prisoners for release - to facilitate their reintegration to the Community

Interaction with the Local Community & Voluntary Groups

The prison has developed links with local community and voluntary groups that provide training and employment for exprisoners and prisoners on temporary release, e.g.,

- The Northside Community Enterprises
- The Churchfield Community
 Trust
- The Grattan Street Probation
 Project
- The Cork Auto Project
- Treo Probation and Welfare
 Project

Other organisations visiting the prison include FÁS, the Department of Social Welfare (Job Facilitator), Citizens Information, Community Welfare Officer and Cork City Council (Outreach Housing Officer). A Resettlement Officer from Cork Simon Community attends regularly to develop links with individual prisoners who may be homeless upon release. The Samaritans, Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Legion of Mary, St Vincent De Paul, Gamblers Anonymous and the Bridge Co-op continued to give valuable service throughout the year.

The Prison Encounter Scheme is a multidisciplinary attempt to divert young people from criminal activity. Youths who have come to the attention of the Gardaí by their criminal activities visit the prison.

Other significant events and developments in 2002

- The Inspector of Prisons visited the prison in May
- The Council of Europe Committee for Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment visited the prison in May
- Staff foiled an attempted escape by a high profile prisoner from Cork Circuit Court on 11 February 2002
- On 12 December 2002, the Director General of the Irish Prison Service opened the Annual Art Exhibition. The prisoners exhibited their work and sold it to the invited guests. Half of the proceeds went to charity
- Bishop John Buckley celebrated Mass on Christmas Day
- The Chaplains continued to provide for the spiritual wellbeing of prisoners
- Medical, dental, psychiatric and psychological services were provided
- Fully equipped Kitchen Units were manufactured within the Prison and supplied and fitted in the North Presentation Primary School
- Various wooden signs were manufactured and presented to the Attention Deficit Disorder Support Group in Blackrock

Curragh Place of Detention



Prisoner population

The daily average number of prisoners in custody was 92, a decrease of 7 compared to 2001. The total number of committals for the year was 47.

Participation in educational activities in 2002

A total of 75% of the prisoner population participated in educational activities - 11% for less than 5 hours per week, 31% for 5-10 hours and 33% for more than 10 hours per week. Two prisoners sat for subjects in the Leaving Certificate, five studied with the Open University and 20 undertook other accredited courses. Approximately 15% of the prisoner population received basic literacy and numeracy training, more than 40% attended IT skills courses; 21 prisoners successfully completed City and Guilds courses in IT.

The average number using the library weekly was 63, with a total of 3,284 visits made to the library during the year.

Prisoner Programmes

The following programmes were provided:

Programme	Throughput
Thinking Skills	8
Sex Offender Treatment	7
Pre-release	18
Group Skills	20

Governor

Mr Joe McDermott (Mr Liam Dowling replaced Mr McDermott in September 2002; Mr Dowling has since been replaced by Mr Sylvester Salley)

Location Curragh, Co. Kildare

Profile

The Curragh Place of Detention is a closed, medium security, noncommittal institution for adult males. Its population is mainly sex offenders aged 30 years and over. It is a former military detention centre and has a design capacity of 68.

Other significant events in 2002

- The Inspector of Prisons visited the prison in May
- The prison kitchen received the Q mark award and hygiene mark from CERT
- · The new Gym was opened and a project involving the painting of a mural in the gym was completed by teaching staff and prisoners
- · Alcoholics Anonymous, the Guild of St Philip Neri, the Samaritans and St Vincent De Paul continued to visit the prison regularly
- The Hugh Leonard play, 'Da', was staged in December
- The Curragh POD was presented with a HSA certificate for participation in European Safety Week
- The Indexing Project, to computerise the school attendance records of the city of Dublin, continued
- · Newly refurbished toilet and shower facilities were provided for prisoners on C1 & C2.

Dóchas Centre



Prisoner Profile

The daily average number in custody was 88; the highest number was 102.

Participation in educational activities

Approximately 77% of the prisoner population participated in educational activities; 23 prisoners participated for 5-10 hours per week and 49 for more than 10 hours. Ten prisoners took subjects in the Junior Certificate examination, 1 took Leaving Certificate subjects and 101 availed of other accredited courses. The throughput for ECDL was 35: 37 did NCVA courses and 4 studied for Pitmans Certificates. An average of 7 prisoners used the library daily.

Tackling drug abuse

Two houses are designated as drug free. Measures to tackle drug abuse include drug assessments, counselling and advice and referral to residential drug rehabilitation, community drug programmes or individual counselling.

Prisoner Programmes

Life Skills Group was conducted by the Probation and Welfare Service.

Governor Ms Kathleen McMahon

Location North Circular Road, Dublin 7

Profile

The Dóchas Centre is a closed, medium security prison for women. It is a purpose built, modern prison, with accommodation for 80 women in seven separate houses within the complex.

Vocational training/ employment

The following programmes were provided:

Programme	Throughput
CONNECT FÁS Hairdressing Course	16 19
FÁS Industrial Training course	13
FÁS Industrial Cleaning course	4
Kitchen Course	17

Other significant events and developments

- The Council of Europe Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment visited the prison in May
- The Inspector of Prisons met with the Management Group of the Centre
- The Dóchas Centre was the Excellence Ireland Industrial Catering winner in 2002
- Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Coolmine Centre and community groups continued to visit the prison
- Mass was televised on Christmas Eve
- Drama 'The Factory Girls' was produced

- Fashion show and art exhibition were organised
- Events were organised for National AIDS day
- Sporting activities were organised
- Christmas party was organised for children of prisoners

Fort Mitchel Place of Detention



Prisoner population

The average daily number of prisoners in custody during 2002 was 84, with a further 1.56 on temporary release. Temporary release was granted to 41 prisoners for various reasons.

Participation in educational programmes

Approximately 86% of prisoners participated in educational activity; 20% participated for less than 5 hours per week, 33% for 5-10 hours and 33% for more than 10 hours per week. Nine prisoners sat for subjects in the Junior Certificate examination, 48 sat for other accredited courses, e.g., NVCA, while 40 received basic literacy and numeracy education. The throughput for basic computer courses was 57.

There were approximately 1,200 visits to the library by prisoners during the year, with an average of 25 using the library on a weekly basis.

Prisoner Programmes

A number of programmes were organised throughout the year, as follows:

Programme	Throughput
Pre Release Programme	37
Post Release Employment Program	8 I me
Smoking Cessation Programme	10

Governor Mr Finbar O'Leary Location Spike Island, Cork Harbour

Profile

Fort Mitchel is a closed, medium security place of detention for young adult males. It has accommodation for 102 prisoners in 4 person and single cells, with in-cell sanitation.

Drug Awareness45Anger Management28Thinking Skills8Parenting & Childcare8

Tackling Drug Abuse

The Prison approach is covered by CCTV. CCTV is also used in the waiting room and visiting area. Staff vigilance is important in detecting illegal substances and every effort is made to keep the prison drug free.

Other significant events in 2002

- A variety of visitors and speakers visited the Prison during the year to give prisoners interesting talks and access to community involvement
- John Spillane gave a series of successful song writing workshops over nine days
- An Artist worked with a large group of prisoners for ten days on Ceramics
- A high standard play was produced which was well received
- Other visiting speakers spoke on a number of subjects including housing, welfare and employment and pre-release courses

- Items created by inmates of this institution were displayed at the Mallow Garden Festival; most items were sold and all proceeds went to the Post Release Project
- A repeat of the charity run for the Chernobyl Children's Project took place inside the Prison walls to raise money for the Project. A substantial sum of money was raised and in the summer twelve of the Chernobyl children visited the Prison
- The new Kitchen and Administration Block were opened in February. A number of other areas were refurbished.

Limerick Prison



Prisoner population

The average daily prisoner population was 187, with an average of 25 on temporary release.

Participation in educational activities

Overall, 59% of the prisoner population participated in educational activities; 18 attended for less than 5 hours per week, 27 for 5-10 hours and 65 for more than 10 hours per week. The throughput for basic literacy and numeracy education was 40; 5 prisoners sat for subjects in the Junior Certificate examination, 9 for Leaving Certificate subjects; 3 took Open University examinations; 40 prisoners did IT skills courses and 39 did other accredited courses.

Library facilities were availed of by 32 prisoners weekly, with 1660 visits to the library during the year.

Prisoner programmes

A number of prisoner programmes were provided, as follows:

Programme	Throughput
Anger Management	36
Pre Release	18
Alcohol & Drug Awareness	40
Parenting	40
Alternative to Violence	12

Governor Mr Patrick Laffan

Location Mulgrave Street, Limerick

Profile

Limerick Prison is a closed, medium security prison for men and women aged 17 years and over, serving sentences up to life. It is the committal prison for Limerick, Tipperary and Clare for men and for all six Munster counties for women. It has a design capacity of 145 (133 male and 12 female. Young persons of both genders between the ages of 15 and 17 can be committed to Limerick Prison if the committing Court formally certifies the young person as 'incorrigible'.

Training Programmes

Programme	Throughput	Accredited
Dish Washing	15	Yes
Foundation Hygiene	4	Yes
Safety Awareness	6	Yes
Leonardo Course - Catering	6	Yes
Basic Sewing/Garment Making	6	Yes

Tackling Drug Abuse

The new C wing under construction will be designated as a Drug Free Unit. Measures to tackle supply of drugs include nets covering exercise yards, CCTV, random searching, screened visits, random urinalysis and staff vigilance. Methadone maintenance is not available at Limerick Prison, 55 prisoners availed of detox during the year. A number of meetings took place during 2002 with the Mid-Western Health Board to improve Drug Counselling Services to the Prison and commence preparations for the introduction of a Drug Free Unit in the C Unit in early 2003. A trained substance abuse counsellor provides a voluntary service for prisoners who request help to deal with their addiction problems.

Interaction with the community

Organisations that provide support to prisoner's or their families during sentence or post release continued to visit the prison, e.g., St. Vincent de Paul, the Samaritans, Alcoholics Anonymous, The Bedford Row Project, Adult Counselling Service. In addition, organisations that cater for young people currently involved in criminal activity or at risk of becoming so involved visited.

Other significant developments and events in 2002

- Judge Dermot Kinlen, Inspector of Prisons and Places of detention visited Limerick Prison on 30 April 2002
- The Inspector of Prisons and his team conducted an inspection of the prison and facilities in November 2002
- Reconstruction of replacement four storey C wing, commenced in 2001, continued
- The newly refurbished E Wing was opened and

commissioned in November 2002. This is a compact unit with a design capacity for 12 female prisoners. All the cellular accommodation is of a modern design and contains in-cell sanitation as an integral part

- Work continued on the development of the Main Gate area
- Clé Irish Book Publishers, presented €4000 worth of books to Limerick Prison Library. This arose from a competition run in conjunction with RTE Radio
- The Prison Kitchens were successful in retaining the Excellence Ireland Hygiene Award for 2002
- Violence directed at Limerick Prison staff developed in a new direction in February 2002. A number of staff members had their homes maliciously damaged and a suspect device found in the front garden of an officer's home had to be dealt with by the relevant authorities
- A prisoner died in the Regional Hospital in April from a Pulmonary Embolism
- Satisfactory progress was made in implementing the Business Plan for 2002
- Five psychotherapists provide a counselling service to prisoners who are identified as requiring specialised help to overcome problems that are impeding their growth in the Prison and which may have contributed to their offending behaviour i.e., family abuse, emotional difficulties, phobias etc.

Loughan House



Prisoner population

The daily average prison population in 2002 was 70, with an additional 15 prisoners on temporary release. A total of 540 prisoners were transferred to Loughan House during the year.

Participation in educational activities in 2002

A total of 270 prisoners participated in educational activities during the year. Of these, 5% attended for less than 5 hours per week, 90% for 5-10 hours and 5% for more than 10 hours.

The CAIT Project was opened by the then Minister for Public Enterprise, Ms Mary O' Rourke T.D., on 20 March 2002. The project comprises two fully equipped computer Open Learning Centres.

An average of 30 inmates used the library weekly.

Prisoner Programmes

The following programmes were provided during 2002:

Programme	Throughpu
Pre and Post Release	270
Parenting	30
STD's	23
Educational Guidance Service	270
FETEC Foundation Modules	30
IT courses	212
ECDL	3

Governor

Mr John O'Brien (since replaced by Mr Derek Brennan Profile

Location Blacklion, Co. Cavan

Loughan House is an open Place of Detention for convicted male offenders aged 18 years and over, who are transferred from other institutions. The bed capacity is 85 and sleeping accommodation is mainly single and double bedrooms.

Tackling Drug Abuse

Loughan House aspires to drug free status. This is maintained by appropriate urinalysis testing.

Interaction with the local community

A linkage with the Kazelain Centre in Sligo town was initiated and the Centre provided accommodation for some exprisoners on their release from Loughan House.

An average of six prisoners work locally. The type of work ranges from farm labouring, poultry care and basic construction work.

The prison Gym and sports facilities are used by a number of groups from both sides of the border. The Blacklion day care centre have a midday meal for their senior citizens every Tuesday, the Centre supplies the food which is cooked in Loughan House. A number of prisoners were involved in clean up projects of the local cemetery and road sides.

Other significant developments in 2002

- The new handball alley was put in use in June 2002
- Phase one of the Pilot Environmental Management System Scheme commenced with the upgrading of the sewage treatment plant, the installation of a new sewer line and a separate surface

water line, a very important initiative due to the proximity of Loughan House to Lough McNean

- A prisoners' rest room and a changing room for staff and prisoners were added to the kitchen complex
- Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous visited weekly.

Midlands Prison



Prisoner population

The prison population continued to increase, with a gradual intake of committals from other prisons. A total of 987 prisoners were committed to the prison during the year. The daily average number in custody was 375, with 357 prisoners in custody on Christmas Day. Christmas parole was granted to 20 prisoners for selected periods of two to five days. Temporary releases were approved for individual prisoners taking up full time employment, securing residential placements for treatments or for family related reasons.

Participation in educational activities

There are 25 full time teachers assigned to the education unit at the prison. On average 79 prisoners attended classes daily. The school completed its first academic year in 2002 and participation levels increased, with a participation rate of 60% in May 2002. The participation rate for less than 5 hours per week was 27.5% of the prisoner population; 14% participated for 5-10 hours per week and 12% participated for more than 10 hours per week.

Literacy provision was prioritised and 66 prisoners undertook basic numeracy and literacy education. Twenty-six prisoners took subjects in the Junior Certificate and 15 took subjects

Governor

Mr John O'Sullivan

Location

Profile

Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

The Midlands Prison is a closed, medium security prison for males aged 18 years and over, serving sentences up to life. The prison has a design capacity of 515 places, mainly in single cell accommodation, with a small number of triple cells.

in the Leaving Certificate. Six prisoners studied with the Open University, 50 prisoners took computer literacy courses. Fifty prisoners undertook FETEC accredited courses. In addition, two prisoners took examinations in Solo Acting with the Leinster School of Communications.

New library facilities were put in place.

Participation in work/training activities

Prison Industrial staff combine with the education unit to provide and develop programmes to certification levels on FAS Integrated Assessment standards, which allows the offender to gain certificates at his own pace. Recognised certification programmes are in place in all workshops. The Kitchen and Laundry are now approved as recognised training centres for certification.

In the year 2002 a total of 173 candidates were awarded certificates in the following:

Prisoner Programmes

Programme	Throughput
Caring for Children ¹	10
Skills for Living ²	40
Life Skills ³	34
Pre-release	24

1. This course is accredited by FETEC. It commenced in the latter quarter of 2002 and will be completed in 2003.

- 2. This course is targeted at inmates who are within 6 months of release from prison, with emphasis on the purchase of healthy foods and budgeting.
- 3. The Life Skills programme aims to get prisoners focussed on what training or education programmes they could undertake on release.

Tackling drug abuse

The policies in relation to maintaining a drug free environment were enforced throughout the year. Efforts to reduce the supply of drugs into the prison included the use of video cameras, improved searching facilities, provision of voluntary urine sample testing, screened visits, staff vigilance

Course	Duration	Throughput
Building skills	16 weeks	12
Metal work	20 weeks	20
Carpentry	20 weeks	20
Computers	16 weeks	16
Industrial Cleaning	16 weeks	6
Horticulture	30 weeks	14
Kitchen	25 weeks	20
Laundry	16 weeks	14

and the assistance of the local Gardaí. A number of visitors were arrested at the prison and later charged by the Gardaí for being in the possession of drugs or attempting to pass drugs into the prison. Efforts were also underway at the end of the year to secure an area used to throw drugs into the prison.

Other significant developments and events in 2002

- A production of 'Costa Lads', written by Paul Walker, was presented in June 2002.
- The Kitchen was awarded the Excellence Ireland Hygiene Award in June 2002
- The long standing problems with the ventilation airflow to the cells and throughout the prison led to tension amongst the prisoner population during the Summer months. Remedial work commenced at the end of November.
- The Audio Visual locking system for a number of gates remained decommissioned throughout the year and these gates were operated manually. Work to rectify the difficulties encountered is ongoing.
- The Linkage Programme is referral-based placement service run by the Probation and Welfare service. An offender who is approaching the end of sentence is considered for a work or training placement. Linkage endeavours to match an offender with a job or training course on release
- Construction work on the dental surgery, pharmacy, main walkway entrance and covered walkways was completed during the year.

- Installation of a prisoners' telephone system and PC linkage was completed
- Medical services and care were provided by the Prison doctors. Dental services to prisoners were provided two days per week
- One Senior Probation and Welfare Officer and 3 Officers are now attached to the prison
- Two Catholic Chaplains provided full-time pastoral care and were available to support both prisoners and their families when required.
- The prison's Visiting Committee met each month and were available to any prisoner who wished to see them.
- Contact with a range of community based services continued with regular visits from Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, St.
 Vincent De Paul, the local Citizens' Advice Bureau and Alternative to Violence staff.
- There were two protests by prisoners in relation to local issues, searches and visiting control. Both were addressed without incidents developing.

Mountjoy Prison



Prisoner population

The average number of prisoners was 441, with a maximum of 473 and a minimum of 386 at Christmas time.

Participation in educational activities

Forty-five percent of the prisoner population participated in educational activities, 45% of those participating did so for 5-10 hours per week and 24% for more than 10 hours. Basic literacy and numeracy education was undertaken by 150 prisoners, 14 prisoners sat for subjects in the Junior Certificate, 5 did Leaving Certificate subjects, 7 studied with the Open University, 75 did other accredited courses and 20 did ECDL/Mous IT skills courses.

An average of 195 prisoners availed of the library facilities on a weekly basis.

Vocational training and employment

The following accredited training courses were provided:

Course	Throughput
Industrial Sewing	6
Welding	7
Carpentry	6
Computers - ECDL	15
Equal Skills Course - Computers	32
Leonardo Kitchen/ Catering course	12
Web Design	4

Governor

Mr John Lonergan

Location North Circular Road, Dublin 7

Profile

onergan Nc

Nor in Circular Road, Dubli

Mountjoy Prison is a closed, medium security prison. It is the main committal prison in the State for males aged 18 years and over serving sentences up to life. It is a purpose-built prison with a design capacity of 547.

Prisoner Programmes

A number of programmes were organised throughout the year, as follows:

Programme	Throughput
Connect Project	34
Parenting Course	34
Offending Behaviour	15
Anger Management	20
Pre-release All	orisoners
	due for
	release
Drug Treatment	43
Programme	
Drug Awareness	24
Programme	
Alcohol Awareness	6
Programme	
Lifer/Long-term Grou	p 20
Reintegration/	43
Homelessness	
Medical Unit Drug	52
Therapy Course	

Tackling drug abuse

A daily average of 140 prisoners were on methadone maintenance and 129 availed of detox facilities. Measures to tackle supply of drugs in the prison included new visiting arrangements and upgraded CCTV. Fifty two prisoners graduated from the Medical Unit 7 week Drug Therapy course facilitated by the Prison in conjunction with the Probation and Welfare Service and outside voluntary agencies.

Interaction with the community

Weekly Alcoholics Anonymous

and Narcotics Anonymous meetings were held in the prison. The Work Party completed the Matt Talbot Community Trust building project in Ballinascorney which was opened by Mr Michael McDowell, T.D., Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform. The annual drama production, 'The Field', was staged for a week to a public audience. The Medical Unit produced and performed "Brothers of the Brush" to a local audience and prisoners also took part in 'The Factory Girls' staged at the Dóchas Centre.

Other Significant developments and events in 2002

- The Council of Europe Committee for Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment visited the prison in May
- Mountjoy won the "H" Mark from Excellence Ireland in the main kitchen and the Medical Unit kitchen
- Training Excellence Award from the Institute of Cleaning Science was obtained for a second year
- TVs were installed in the Medical Unit and Basement area

Portlaoise Prison



Prisoner population

The daily average number in custody in 2002 was 137, with a further 3 on temporary release. A large number of prisoners were convicted for subversive type offences.

Participation in educational activities

A total of 49% of prisoners participated in educational activities for 5-10 hours per week and 7% for more than 10 hours per week. Seven prisoners sat for subjects in the Junior Certificate and 3 in Leaving Certificate examinations, 9 prisoners studied with the Open University and 43 undertook other accredited courses. The throughput for basis literacy and numeracy education was 39, and 31 availed of ECDL and FETEC IT skills courses.

Prisoner Programmes

The following programmes were provided during the year:

Programme	Throughput
Cognitive Skills	7
Anger Management	25
Alcohol and Drug Awareness	25
Smoking Cessation	20

Tackling Drug Abuse

Detox and Methadone Maintenance programmes are available.

Governor

Mr William Donoghue (since replaced by Mr TJ Walsh)

Profile

Location Portlaoise, Co. Laois

Portlaoise Prison is a high security, closed prison for males aged 18 years and over, serving sentences up to life. The prison has a bed capacity of 203 but operates below capacity for security/operational reasons.

Other significant events and developments during the year

- The Inspector of Prisons carried out an inspection of Portlaoise during November-December
- Approximately 80 prisoners used the library on a weekly basis, involving a total of about 3,800 library visits annually
- Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous visited the prison regularly
- A number of events were organised during the year, including German, French and Irish Cultural Weeks, visiting speakers and writers, book club and visiting soccer and Gaelic teams
- Dramas, art exhibitions and traditional music workshops were organised with an art exhibition taking place during the Laois Arts Festival
- A Waste Management Project was introduced

Saint Patrick's Institution



Prisoner population and profile

The average daily number in custody was 179, the highest number in custody was 223 and the lowest number was 135. A total of 1,158 prisoners were committed to St Patrick's during 2002. There were 246 temporary releases granted during the year. Three boys aged under 16 were committed to the Institution on foot of a High Court Order, 2 of whom were directly transferred from the Court to juvenile detention centres.

Participation in educational activities in 2002

Over 63% of prisoners participated in educational activities in 2002; of these 7.5% participated for less than 5 hours per week, 11% for 5-10 hours and 45% for more than 10 hours per week. Twenty prisoners sat for subjects in the Junior Certificate examination and 3 sat for Leaving Certificate subjects. In addition, 10 sat for examinations for other accredited courses. Basic literacy and numeracy education was provided for 210 prisoners and 105 attended Introduction to Computer classes.

Certificates were awarded to prisoners in Communication (4), Art and Design (1), Painting (1), Drawing (1), Health Related Fitness (7) and Mathematics (5).

Governor Mr Seán Lennon

Profile

Location North Circular Road, Dublin

St. Patrick's Institution is a closed, medium security place of detention for males aged 16 to 21 years of age, serving sentences up to life. It had a design capacity of 217. As a result of building alterations to implement the Government decision regarding the detention of 14-15 year olds the total cell occupancy in St. Patrick's Institution was reduced to 197 during 2002.

There were 14,915 visits to the library during the year, with 287 prisoners availing of the library on a weekly basis.

Vocational training

Training courses in the catering area had a throughput of 80 prisoners in 2002; of these, 32 received accredited training. Gym certificates were awarded to prisoners in Basic Soccer Skills (16), Introduction to Gym Training (12) and Strength and Aerobic Training (9).

Prisoner Programmes

Prisoners availed of a number of programmes mainly aimed at addressing offending behaviour, as follows:

Programme	Throughput
Anger Management	6
Alcohol Awareness	36
Handling Conflict	6
Positive Sentence	69
Management	
Pre-release Relapse	21
Prevention workshop for Christmas Release	
	~ 4
School Pre-release	24
Programme	
Physical Education/Gy	/m 55 (Daily)

Tackling Drug Abuse

The Drug Free Division continued to operate in a multidisciplinary approach in conjunction with the Plenary Committee, which advises the Governor on its operation. It catered for 445 prisoners in 2002. Methadone Maintenance was provided for 25 prisoners and 26 prisoners availed of detox programmes. One to one drug focus work with the Probation and Welfare Officer was provided for 120 prisoners. Measures to tackle supply of drugs included protective nets over exercise yards, screened visits, banning of visitors caught bringing in drugs, no physical contact during visits and warning signs in waiting and visiting areas.

Interaction with the local community and voluntary groups

As part of St. Patrick's links with the community and voluntary organisations, a large number of groups continued to visit prisoners, which has led to successful placements on release from the Institution. There were 96 scheduled tours of the prison organised through Coping On, Youthreach, Health Boards, external Probation and Welfare Officer and various schools around the country. The gym and physical education areas were used by a number of football clubs and other youth organisations.

Other significant developments and events in 2002

 In April 2002, the Government decided to assign accommodation to provide a new education facility for twenty 14-15 year olds within St. Patrick's Institution. The B Division was temporarily closed to facilitate this building work. At the end of 2002, this building project was nearing completion.

- Members of the Irish Association for the Study of Delinquency visited St.
 Patrick's Institution on an information gathering tour. The members met with staff and inmates as part of their visit
- The Annual Health and Fitness Week for staff and inmates took place in July. Talks on Health and Fitness, Diet & Healthy Eating, Stress, etc., and sporting events were undertaken which were well attended and enjoyed by all.
- The inaugural 'National Challenge Award from The President of Ireland to Young People' (GAISCE) in the Irish Prison Service, for inmates, was piloted by St. Patrick's Institution. These awards were successfully completed in November by four inmates. The awards were presented by Mr. Brian Lenihan T.D., Minister for State with special responsibility for Children.
- Using a multidisciplinary/ Partnership approach, St.
 Patrick's Institution continued to embrace its local Business
 Plan by achieving realistic targets set out for 2002.
- In 2002, the kitchen was successful in passing the Hygiene/Food Safety Audit.
- The Suicide Awareness Group met regularly during the year.
 A significant factor in 2002 was the reduction of selfinflicted injuries recorded in comparison to 2001. It has been noted by the Group that the introduction of televisions in cells and the availability of

phone calls contributed to this decline.

- The Visiting Committee held formal meetings throughout the year. During the year, the Committee dealt with requests and complaints made by inmates and assisted in resolving these where possible.
- The Catholic Chaplain, Church of Ireland Chaplain and visiting Minister of the Christian Churches took care of the spiritual needs of the inmate community.
- The medical officer, in conjunction with the medical team of nurses, medical orderlies, psychiatrist and psychologist, provided an excellent medical service for the inmates throughout the year. Other backup services were ophthalmic, chiropody and dental. The overall health of the population during the year was good.
- All inmates, including remands, were contacted on committal by the Probation and Welfare Service in St. Patrick's Institution; 95% of them engaged with the service. During the year Alcohol Awareness Courses (4 groups) were undertaken. On completion of the course participants were awarded a Certificate of Completion.

Shanganagh Castle



Governor Mr John Quigley

Profile

Location Shankill, Co. Dublin

Shanganagh Castle was an open centre for male juvenile offenders aged 16 to 21 years of age. It had a bed capacity of 60 in dormitory style accommodation.

Prisoner profile

The highest number in custody in Shanganagh Castle during 2002 was 40. The daily average number in custody was 23, with three offenders on temporary release.

Tackling drug abuse

Offenders transferred to Shanganagh Castle had to be drug free and random urine analysis was carried out to maintain its drug free status

Closure of Shanganagh Castle

Following a decision by the Government in November 2002, Shanganagh Castle was closed as a Place of Detention with effect from 20 December 2002. There were sixteen prisoners in custody in Shanganagh at that time- fourteen were transferred to other institutions and the remaining two prisoners, who had imminent release dates, were granted full release. As far as possible staff were facilitated with alternative employment at other institutions.

Shelton Abbey



Prisoner population

A total of 348 prisoners were transferred to Shelton Abbey during 2002. The average daily number in custody was 47, with 13 on temporary release. Prisoner numbers were reduced during major building renovations which commenced in 2001 and were completed in April 2002. On completion of the work the numbers in custody were increased to the maximum number of 58.

Participation in educational activities in 2002

The participation rate in educational activities in 2002 was 73%; 5% of the prisoner population participated for less than 5 hours per week, 20% for 5-10 hours per week and 48% for more than 10 hours per week. Two prisoners studied with the Open University and 35 studied for other accredited courses. Basic numeracy and literacy education was provided for 134 prisoners and 15 prisoners undertook Commercial Examination Board IT skills courses

Tackling Drug Abuse

Offenders transferred to Shelton Abbey are drug free and random urine analysis is carried out to maintain the drug free status.

Governor Mr Martin Corrigan

Profile

Location Arklow, Co. Wicklow

Shelton Abbey is an open detention centre for male offenders from 19 years of age upwards. Prisoners are sent from closed prisons to finish their sentence. Long term prisoners are sent to Shelton Abbey to prepare them for release. Sleeping accommodation is mainly in dormitories, with a bed capacity of 58.

Other significant developments in 2002

- The library was opened late in 2002 following renovations
- Alcoholics Anonymous meetings took place in the institution on a weekly basis and were well attended
- Timber was prepared and distributed to local people in need, on behalf of St Vincent de Paul
- The kitchen achieved the Q award for hygiene in 2002
- Sleeping accommodation was greatly improved in the course of renovation work

Training Unit



Prisoner population

A total of 309 prisoners were transferred to the Training Unit during 2002. The highest number in custody was 94, with a daily average of 91. Twenty offenders were on full temporary release and 76 were given daily temporary release for employment purposes. Christmas temporary release was given to 45 prisoners.

Participation in educational activities in 2002

Approximately 45%-50% of prisoners participated in educational activities during 2002; 10 prisoners participated for less than 5 hours per week, 22 for 5-10 hours and 30 for more than 10 hours per week. Ten prisoners sat for subjects in the Junior Certificate examination, 6 took subjects in the Leaving Certificate and 8 studied with the Open University. Forty-six prisoners received basic numeracy and literacy education and 68 prisoners did Computer Studies. Library facilities were availed of by 22 prisoners weekly.

Governor

Profile

Mr. John O'Hara (since replaced by Mr. John O'Brier Location Glengariff Parade, Dublin 7

The Training Unit is a semi-open, low security prison for males aged 18 years and over, serving sentences up to life. Long sentence prisoners are normally nearing the end of their sentence. The prison has accommodation for 94 prisoners in single rooms.

Vocational training

The following vocational training courses were provided:

Course	Throughput	Accredited
Photography	30	No
Music	45	No
Computer Studies	54	Yes
Arc Welding	1	Yes
MIG welding	1	Yes
Electronic Circuits and Component	s 3	Yes
Electronic systems	2	Yes
Electronic servicing	2	Yes
Electronics level 1	2	Yes
MCS Workshop 7261	11	Yes

Prisoner Programmes

The following prisoner programmes were provided:

Programme	Throughput
CONNECT Introductor Course	y 137
Addiction studies	41
Pre-release	30
Parenting	27
Smoking cessation	86

Tackling drug abuse

The Training Unit is a drug free prison. Its drug free status is supported by random urinalysis.

Other significant developments and events in 2002

 'Innervisions', an exhibition of photographs of Mountjoy
 Prison by Training Unit
 Photography students, was held in the Central Library in the ILAC Centre and toured other Dublin City libraries

- 'Lifelines', an exhibition of paintings by Training Unit art students, was held in the OPW Head Office, St. Stephen's Green and featured on RTE television's art programme 'The View'
- The end of year visual arts exhibition successfully showed the volume and quality of the output of art and photography students
- The annual Health and Fitness Week provided a promotional platform for healthy living and included lectures, demonstrations an workshops
- The annual public speaking event involving students from the Training Unit and students from CDVEC Colleges continued to be popular.

Wheatfield Prison



Prisoner population

There were 506 committals in 2002. The daily average number in custody was 368.

Participation in educational activities in 2002

The participation rate in educational activities was 67%. Forty prisoners attended classes for less than 5 hours per week, 75 attended for 5-10 hours per week and 134 for more than 10 hours per week. Twenty-two prisoners sat for subjects in the Junior Certificate examination, 12 took subjects in the Leaving Certificate, 22 took subjects with the Open University and 47 undertook other accredited courses. The throughput for basic numeracy and literacy was 120 and 32 prisoners did NCVA foundation IT skills courses and FCDL

Library facilities were used by 150-200 prisoners weekly, with 6,535 visits to the library during the year. A wide range of programmes and activities were undertaken by the Library Service. Governor Mr Edward Whelan

alan

Location Cloverhill Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

Profile

Wheatfield prison is a closed, medium security prison for male prisoners on remand and serving sentences up to life. The design capacity of the prison is 320, the bed capacity was 378 on 31 December 2002.

Vocational training

A range of vocational training courses were provided as follows:

Course	Throughput	Accredited
Construction	18	No
Welding	20	No
Catering	18	Yes
Computers	25	Yes
Safety	8	Yes
Joinery	20	No
Painting and Decorating	20	No
Design	7	No
Laundry	5	No

Prisoners were also engaged in a number of activities for the Special Olympics.

Tackling Drug Abuse

Two drug free units opened during the year. Three prisoners on average were on detox and 88 on average on methadone maintenance during the year. Drug Awareness and Drug Education Programmes were provided. Measures to tackle supply included increased surveillance on visits and other modes of trafficking and increased use of CCTV.

Interaction with the local community and voluntary groups

Prisoners were involved in projects for Peamount Hospital, CARI, MS Ireland, Inner City Projects, Residential Centres for Children, to Russia with Love and a number of smaller projects for other organisations. Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, Samaritans and the Guild of St Philip Neri visited the prison on a regular basis.

Other significant developments and events in 2002

- The Ministers for Justice Equality & Law Reform, Mr. McDowell T.D., and his predecessor, Mr. O'Donoghue T.D., visited on separate occasions
- The Inspector of Prisons, Mr. Justice Dermot Kinlen visited the prison
- Offenders and staff participated in a pilot Training Programme on Multiculturalism in Irish Prisons
- The Excellence Ireland Category Award for Hygiene was received (Best in class

nation-wide and runner up for the Supreme Hygiene Award)

- The prison received a major award for General Safety from the National Irish Safety Organisation
- ISO Status (International Standards Organisation) was obtained for the catering operation.
- The Gilbey Award for Catering was received
- A new Administration /Staff Quarters building was completed
- Other notable events were two sessions of Dog Training attended by 36 prisoners, two sessions of Model Ship Making attended by 27 prisoners, talk and slide show on Endangered Animals with Dublin Zoo attended by 47 prisoners, two sessions with local author Neville Thompson attended by 24 prisoners and Managing Your Stress attended by 8 prisoners
- Offenders produced a CD in aid of Focus Ireland titled 'On the Streets'.

Prisoner Programmes

The following programmes were provided:

Programme	Throughput
Group Skills Alternative to Violence Parenting Alcohol & Drug awareness Reintegration/Homelessness	Two courses completed Six courses completed Two courses completed One course completed As part of H.O.S.T. Programme two ex-prisoners were placed in hostel accommodation.
Smoking cessation Meditation Personal Development (Enneagram) Programme	Six workshops - Total of 64 offenders Continuous Two courses - Segregation offenders only
Personal Development (Dreams) Programme	Eight sessions - Segregation offenders only
Assertiveness Training & Personal Development	Twelve Courses - Total of 93 offenders
Chess Programme	Three evenings per week, 5 - 10 offenders
Start Your Own Business	Ten Sessions
Wheatfield Indexing Programme	Computerisation of Dublin School Registers.
Safety Programme	All offenders trained in manual handling techniques.



IRISH PRISON SERVICE



Human Resources :

The Irish Prison Service continued to invest additional resources in its human resource management function in 2002 in the interest of providing a better quality service to management and staff at central and local levels.

The additional resourcing was achieved mainly by strengthening the staffing complement of the Human Resources Directorate which was put in place at Prison Service Headquarters in 2001. By-end 2002, the Directorate was operating at full-strength and provided a comprehensive service in all relevant areas of HR management. In addition, a special section was in operation within the Directorate to take forward the Service's Strategic Effectiveness Programme (STEP) which aims to introduce new staff attendance and deployment arrangements in prisons which will not be dependent on overtime working.

The two priority areas of human resource management in 2002 were:

- maintenance of staffing levels, especially in the core operational areas of the prisons and places of detention through recruitment, promotions, inter-institution transfers and ongoing attention to staff attendance
- advancement of the STEP process to effect much needed flexibility in staffing and deployment

Recruitment and Promotion Competitions

Prison Service Grades

The majority of staff of the Irish Prison Service are members of Prison Service grades assigned to prisons and places of detention. Following the completion of a recruitment competition in November 2001, the HR Directorate and the Prison Service Training Centre, with support of line management, inducted, trained and assigned an additional 192 Prison Officers and 19 Nurse Officers during 2002.

The full training course for recruits is of 9 weeks duration at the Prison Service Training Centre in

Portlaoise. On successful completion of the programme these recruits were assigned to operational posts in the institutions. The prison to benefit most from the assignment of these recruits was Portlaoise Prison in November 2002, when a total of 16 trained officers were transferred there from other prisons and replaced by the new assignees.

Promotion competitions were organised in 2002 by the Human Resources Directorate to fill vacancies arising. There were 602 applications from staff in the institutions for vacancies in Prison Service grades. Panels of suitable candidates were established on foot of competitive interviews and appointments made as soon as possible after positions fell vacant. Particulars of all posts filled in 2002 are given in Table 11.

Table 11: Prison Staff Appointments

Grade	Appointments
Governor 1	2
Governor 2	1
Governor 3	2
Deputy Governor	5
Assistant Governor	5
Assistant Governor (Works)	1
Clerk 1	9
Clerk 2	56
Chief Trades Officer 1	5
Chief Trades Officer 2	2
Chief Officer 2	4
ACO	45
ACO (Detail)	2
IS	7
PO (Trades)	9
Total	155

Among the 2002 promotions were five promotions in the Governor Grade. Mr William Kane was appointed Governor I and assigned to Cloverhill Prison following the retirement of Governor John Brophy. Mr Sean Lennon was also promoted to Governor I and continued to serve in St Patrick's Institution on upgrading of the Governor post there. Mr Joseph McDermott was appointed Governor II and assigned to Cloverhill Prison. There were two promotions to Governor III. Mr Liam Dowling was assigned as Governor III in charge of the Curragh Prison and Ms. Kathleen McMahon was appointed Governor at the Dóchas Centre. Ms McMahon is the first female Governor in the Irish Prison Service.

Table 12 gives details of staff in prison service grades at 31 December 2002

Table 12: Prison Service grades serving at 31December 2002

Grade	Nos. serving in each grade
Governor 1	6
Governor 2	13
Governor 3	3
Deputy Governor	14
Deputy Governor (Works)	1
Assistant Governor	22
Assistant Governor (Works)	3
Inspector of Works	4
Chief Officer 1	8
Chief Trades Officer 1	7
Clerk 1	29
Chief Officer 2	33
Industrial Manger	5
Chief Trades Officer 2	15
Industrial Training Instructor 2	15
Clerk 2	106.5
Assistant Chief Officer	250
Industrial Supervisor	30.5
Prison Officer (Trades)	109
Prison Officer	2,451.5
Assistant Industrial Supervisor	63
Doctor	12.07
Head Chaplain	1
Chaplain (full time)	17
Chaplain (part time)	7
Nurse Officer	78
Assistant Training Officer (Drugs)	1
Staff Cook	4
Total	3,308.57

Prison Service Headquarters

Staff in Prison Service Headquarters comprise mainly members of General Civil Service grades as well as Prison Service grades and professional staff. The Irish Prison Service provides a HR service for all of these staff, including members of General Service grades who are on secondment from the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform.

There were a total of 32 appointments/ assignments to Headquarters positions in 2002, including appointments to a number of senior posts (see Table 13).

Table 13: Prison Service HeadquartersAppointments

Grade	Appointments
Director	2
Deputy Director	1
Head of Psychology	1
Psychologist 1	3
Assistant Director	2
Manager	2
Deputy Manager	6
Assistant Manager	9
Staff Officer	6
Total	32

In April, 2002, Ms Marieva Coughlan was appointed to the new post of Director of Regimes following a civil service-wide competition. Prior to her appointment Ms Coughlan was a member of the Psychology Service and was assigned to St Patrick's Institution. In May, 2002, Mr John Brosnan was appointed Director of Corporate Affairs, following competitive interview. Mr Brosnan was previously a member of the Prison Service Transition Team which had managed the transition of the Service to agency status in 2001. The filling of these two Director posts was significant in that it completed the appointment of the Service's full cadre of six Directors.

Details of IPS Headquarters staff at 31 December 2002 are at table 14.

Table 14: IPS Headquarters staff at 31December 2002

Director General1Director6Deputy Director8Assistant Director4Manager16Deputy Manager26Assistant Manager22.5Staff Officer7.5Clerical Officer25Service Officer3Co-ordinator of Work and Training1Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24Pharmacist1	Grade	Nos. serving in each grade
Deputy Director8Assistant Director4Manager16Deputy Manager26Assistant Manager22.5Staff Officer7.5Clerical Officer25Service Officer3Co-ordinator of Work and Training1Co-ordinator of Education1Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Director General	1
Assistant Director4Manager16Deputy Manager26Assistant Manager22.5Staff Officer7.5Clerical Officer25Service Officer3Co-ordinator of Work and Training1Co-ordinator of Education1Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Director	6
Manager16Deputy Manager26Assistant Manager22.5Staff Officer7.5Clerical Officer25Service Officer3Co-ordinator of Work and Training1Co-ordinator of Education1Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Deputy Director	8
Deputy Manager26Assistant Manager22.5Staff Officer7.5Clerical Officer25Service Officer3Co-ordinator of Work and Training1Co-ordinator of Education1Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Assistant Director	4
Assistant Manager22.5Staff Officer7.5Clerical Officer25Service Officer3Co-ordinator of Work and Training1Co-ordinator of Education1Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Manager	16
Staff Officer7.5Clerical Officer25Service Officer3Co-ordinator of Work and Training1Co-ordinator of Education1Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Deputy Manager	26
Clerical Officer25Service Officer3Co-ordinator of Work and Training1Co-ordinator of Education1Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Assistant Manager	22.5
Service Officer3Co-ordinator of Work and Training1Co-ordinator of Education1Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Staff Officer	7.5
Co-ordinator of Work and Training1Co-ordinator of Education1Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Clerical Officer	25
Co-ordinator of Education1Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Service Officer	3
Co-ordinator of Nursing1Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Co-ordinator of Work and Training	1
Head of Psychology1Psychologist Grade 14.5Psychologist Grade 24	Co-ordinator of Education	1
Psychologist Grade 1 4.5 Psychologist Grade 2 4	Co-ordinator of Nursing	1
Psychologist Grade 2 4	Head of Psychology	1
	Psychologist Grade 1	4.5
Pharmacist 1	Psychologist Grade 2	4
	Pharmacist	1
Total 132.5	Total	132.5

Staff Transfers

HR staff, with the assistance of prison line management, arranged some 205 transfer assignments to meet operational requirements and to facilitate staff transfer requests.

Staff Attendance Patterns

Traditionally the level of sick leave in the Prison Service has been a focus of attention. In 2002, ongoing discussions with staff representatives contributed to a review of this area where high levels of absence persist.

In examining this issue a number of points should be borne in mind. Firstly it must be emphasised that the majority of Prison Service staff do not resort to excessive sick leave absence. It is also the case that some absences on sick leave arise following staff injuries on duty, an unfortunate feature of prison service employment which the Prison Service, in consultation with staff, seek to minimise. In addition, the scale of overtime work demands and the inherent stresses of the prison environment may also contribute to higher sick absence levels than are experienced in other employments.

In the past sick absence in the Prison Service has been measured on the same basis as most other public service employments by reference to the duration of sick absences. This measure may have the effect of inflating the level of absence in prison employment, where staff are generally rostered for an 11-hour day on a 3 or 4 day week, rather than on the traditional 5 day week basis. This has the effect of including in the measure of such absences 3 or 4 days periods in



Minister for Justice, Equality & Law Reform, Michael McDowell T.D. launching the IPS Charity Cycle of Ireland 2002



Guard of Honour - Wheatfield Prison

each week when the prison officer concerned would have been rostered off duty and not due to attend for work. In the case of other public service employments where a standard 5 day working week applies the duration measure would only include 2 days where the staff member would not be due to attend for work.

However, notwithstanding these considerations, the level of sick leave in the prison service during 2002 continued to increase and accordingly represented a significant contributory factor to the Service's high overtime costs, due to the need to replace such staff. In the circumstances, the Irish Prison Service has reviewed its policy on the management of attendance and engaged in discussions with line management and staff aimed at reducing the scale of sick leave absence. In this regard the Prison Service is obliged to respond to its current sick leave difficulties by the appropriate application of the agreed Civil Service arrangements which govern this issue. This policy includes provision of necessary staff supports for incidences of sick absence, including paid leave and access to a confidential Employee Assistance Service. In addition, a systematic review process has been put in place to identify cases where resort to excessive sick absence may arise without due cause.

Strategic Effectiveness Programme (STEP)

SORT /STEP refers to the ongoing process of change to address identified deficiencies in the operation of the Prison Service, particularly the increasing dependence on overtime working.

The process began with the Report of the Prison Service Operating Cost Review Group in 1997 which led to a comprehensive analysis of the working and organisational arrangements in all prisons and places of detention by a Staffing and Operations Review Team (SORT). The Strategic Effectiveness Programme (STEP) is the mechanism through which the necessary change recommended by SORT was progressed on a partnership basis with staff interests. Implementation of the SORT recommendations would involve fundamental change in the delivery of custodial and other prison services, including the elimination of the current overtime culture. Intensive discussions on SORT/STEP continued with staff up to July 2002 and considerable preparatory work was done on how change could best be approached. Subsequently, management set about drawing together the constituent elements of a framework proposal and preparing detailed costings which were the subject of discussions with the Department of Finance over late Summer and early Autumn. In September, 2002 management submitted a framework proposal to the Department of Finance for consideration. Certain clarifications were sought and modifications made over the ensuing weeks. By year-end the submission was still the subject of ongoing consideration in the Department of Finance but the expectation was that the Service would be in a position, early in 2003, to present a framework proposal to staff which would form the basis for future negotiations with staff

interests on a comprehensive programme of change.

Electronic Time Recording System

Electronic Time Recording arrangements have been in place in the Prison Service for some time. Following discussions under the PCW agreement it was agreed that an updated system could be put in place. A number of difficulties arose in relation to the operation of the proposed new System which could not be resolved between management and the Prison Officers' Association. These difficulties related to the practicality of locally agreed practices and their compatibility with the overriding necessity for good management.

The services of a mediator were employed to facilitate resolution of differences between management and staff on this issue. During the year the mediator secured agreement on a memorandum of understanding on a way forward. Subsequently clarification has been sought on some outstanding issues and IT requirements arising are under review. It is now proposed to proceed with implementation during 2003.

Health and Safety

Constant attention to Health and Safety is essential to effective management and operation of all prison service facilities. During 2002, three meetings were held for Health and Safety Coordinators and one for Health and Safety Representatives. Several meetings with the Prison Officers' Association were also held on health and safety issues and individual prisons held regular Safety Committee meetings.

The asbestos removal programme in prisons was completed in 2002 and an asbestos health screening programme is in place for all staff who wish to avail of it. The State Claims Agency took over the handling of all personal injury claims in relation to Health and Safety issues from the end of 2001 and now work closely with the Safety Coordinators.

The Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Construction Regulations 2001 require that all personnel working on construction sites from 01/01/02 must have completed a Safe Pass course. As a result of this new legislation 98 prison staff, primarily trades personnel, received the FÁS accredited Safe Pass Training.

Also Safety Standards were developed for Armed Escorts, Dirty Protests, Hazardous Substances, Linescan X-ray Equipment and Working Alone. Congratulations to Wheatfield Place of Detention on winning the NISO award.

Retirements

Forty six members of staff retired from the Prison Service during 2002. Details of staff retired, by grade, is set out in the following table. The Irish Prison Service wishes all concerned a long and happy retirement.

Table 15: Staff retired by grade during 2002

Grade	Number
Governor 1	2
Governor 2 (Works)	1
Deputy Governor	3
Assistant Governor	1
Clerk 1	1
Clerk 2	5
Assistant Chief Officer	10
Chief Trades Officer 1	1
Chief Trades Officer 2	1
Industrial Training Instructor 2	1
Industrial Supervisor	1
Prison Officer	18
Prison Officer Trades	1
Total	46

Irish Prison Service Training Centre

The primary role of the Prison Service Training Centre is to provide high quality training services which meet the need of those working within the organisation and ensure a high standard of service delivery. Training provided during 2002 included the following:

- 211 recruit officers (159 males and 52 females) received induction training. These included 19 nurse officers and 6 trades officers;
- Newly appointed Assistant Governors completed a purpose designed Management Development Training Programme to meet their needs in their new role;
- Training was provided for all clerical personnel in the new Information Technology systems;
- First Aid training was provided for Medical Orderlies;
- Critical Incident Management Training included hostage incident commander's course for all new Assistant Governors, hostage incident commander's course for Chief Officers, thermal arc cutting re-certification and Control and Restraint Instructors course;
- Health & Safety Training included ongoing training for Safety Representatives, training for newly appointed Safety Co-ordinators, Safe Pass course for all trades staff and scaffolding course for trades staff;
- Clerical training was provided for newly appointed assistant clerks and financial training was provided for Clerk 1s;
- Basic Cooking Skills course and H.A.C.C.P training was provided in the catering area;
- Continuous developmental training took place for all grades, with many staff taking individual courses and programmes.

Employee Assistance Programme

The Prison Service operates an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) - the purpose of which is to provide appropriate support where either work or personal difficulties impact negatively on the functioning capacity of an employee. A Staff Support Officer (SSO) is responsible for attending to the needs of staff as comprehended by the Employee Assistance Programme. This is a part-time position. Time and facilities are provided as agreed under existing EAP arrangements. The SSO's liaise with two fulltime Welfare Officers. An Advisory Committee, comprised of representatives from Human Resources Directorate, the Governors Group, the Prison Officers' Association and the Welfare Officers, provides operational direction for the EAP Programme. During 2002 this Committee met on four occasions. The issue dominating Advisory Committee meetings during this period related to the adoption of agreed revised competition criteria for future Staff Support Officer appointments. The final resolution adopted included changes in eligibility criteria on union committee membership, the introduction of a mandatory skill training requirement and a reduction in the qualifying service required for applicants.

Other issues considered by the Advisory Committee during the year included the strategy statement review group report, management survey on Employee Assistance needs, bullying and harassment policy updates, a Prison Service Benevolent fund, arrangements for the introduction of revised Employee Assistance Programme guidelines and Critical Incident Protocol distribution throughout the service. The committee was concerned with difficulties in maintaining a Staff Support Officer complement in each institution in the context of movement of Staff Support Officers.

The Advisory Committee undertook a service wide distribution of revised Employee Assistance Programme guidelines to improve awareness of the scheme generally and to increase utilisation among staff and management.





Estate Management



Construction work at St Patrick's Institution

The Prison Building and Refurbishment Programme continued throughout the year with a variety of projects to improve accommodation and facilities at prisons and places of detention. The following capital projects were underway or completed during 2002.

Limerick Prison

Refurbishment of the "E" wing was at an advanced stage at year-end and was expected to be completed in early 2003. The refurbished wing will provide 10 single cells for women prisoners, providing enhanced accommodation with integral sanitation and modern windows which maximise day light and afford good ventilation. The refurbishment work includes provision of recreation, education and dining facilities.

Work is well under way on the new "C" wing, this project also includes a new gatelock/control unit and visitor's facilities and is due to be completed by end 2003. The new block will provide accommodation for 85 offenders as well as administration facilities. In-cell sanitation and TV points will also be provided.

Portlaoise Prison

Stage 1 of the major refurbishment programme for the prison commenced with work on the services and drainage system. This will be followed by the new gatelock /visitors/ administration building in January 2003. Construction continues on the provision of new accommodation for the Army and expected completion date is June 2003. This new accommodation will comprise modern spacious dormitory-type accommodation with kitchen and separate dining facilities. A new gym has been provided also.

St. Patrick's Institution

The Government decided on 17 April 2002 that an existing prison, or part of a prison, would be designated to accommodate serious young male offenders aged from 14 years up to 16.

This was proposed as an emergency, temporary measure to deal with concerns regarding the lack of appropriate facilities for such young people. Responsibility for the provision of such facilities normally lies with the Department of Education and Science.



Construction work at Cloverhill

The Irish Prison Service gave priority attention to all necessary measures required to implement the Government Decision. An area of St Patrick's Institution was identified as suitable for adaptation to provide self-contained living, education, counselling, recreation, etc., accommodation for offenders under sixteen years of age. A Regimes Implementation Committee was established to plan and develop the regime to be put in place and the statutory obligations of the Irish Prison Service in operating a new facility for children at St Patrick's Institution were examined in detail. Widespread consultations took place with various stakeholders and experts in the area. Construction work involved the refurbishment of "B" wing and the construction of a new work/education facility. These facilities were designed so as to be adaptable for other purposes if and when the need should arise. Work was well advanced at end 2002 with completion expected early in 2003.

The capital cost of providing a Special School -€9m was met from the existing capital allocation for 2002.

Cloverhill Prison

In addition to the on-wing education facilities, construction commenced on an additional facility for education and recreational purposes in a single building together with an enlarged gymnasium. Completion is expected in early Summer 2003.



Wheatfield Prison

Work continued on the provision of a new laundry/paint shop/enlarged metal workshop. The laundry will cater for the needs of Wheatfield and Cloverhill Prisons. Overall this project will provide work for up to 80 offenders from both Wheatfield and Cloverhill.

Castlerea Prison

A new roadway, car park and roundabout was built between the public entrance (beside Castlerea railway station) and the Prison perimeter.

A remand Courthouse was constructed outside the wall of the Prison, with a new pre-Court holding area for offenders built inside the Prison but adjacent to the gatelock area.

A new prisoners' visitors facility was constructed at the "Grove "area, as well as two new houses to provide additional prisoner accommodation.

Fort Mitchell (Spike Island)

A new modern kitchen was constructed

Loughan House

Construction of a separate foul sewer commenced in July 2002 with the laying of approximately 1.5 km of new sewerage line, connecting into all existing discharges at Loughan House. It provides for the separation of surface water from foul water and the separate discharge of same to Lough McNean. Work was completed late 2002.

Shelton Abbey

The third and final phase of the major structural refurbishment of the Abbey commenced in early 2002 and was completed in May 2002. This work included rewiring, installation of central heating, decoration throughout the institution and the provision of a new kitchen. The replacement of pitched roofs throughout the abbey as well as repair and reinstatement of stone work were also undertaken

Virtual Private Network

Work commenced on the provision of a symphony Virtual Private Network for the Prison Service phone system. The new network is designed to cater for a high usage phone service between all our institutions which will be a cost effective alternate to leased lines. The network is due for completion in 2003.



Finance and Information Technology :

Financial review

Dáil Éireann voted a total of €311, 864,000 for prison and probation and welfare services in the Prisons Vote 2002 (Vote 21). This provision was increased to €331,864,000 by means of a Supplementary Estimate of €20m approved by Dáil Éireann in December 2002.

Excluding the provisions in the Vote for the Probation and Welfare Service (subheads E and F of Vote 21), the voted provision in 2002 for the Irish Prison Service was €299,744,000.

The total spend by the Irish Prison Service in 2002 was \in 300,114,000. This represented an increase of 12% over the equivalent expenditure in 2001 (\in 267,518,000). Particulars of the 2002 Provisions and Expenditure are set out in Table 16.

Pay and overtime continue to account for nearly 70% of all spending by the Irish Prison Service. Overtime increased to €59.3m in 2002 from €55.3m in 2001. These figures reflect the manpower-intensive nature of prison services. It also highlights the need to control pay and overtime costs in the interest of overall financial control. This is a matter which is relevant to the SORT/STEP process referred to in the Human Resources chapter of this report.

Apart from pay, the most significant area of expenditure is capital spending. Capital investment has been significant in providing 1,200 additional prison places, significant refurbishment of prison accommodation and provision of IT infrastructure and systems especially the Prisoner Records Information System (PRIS) - in recent years. Particulars of

Table 16: Expenditure & Income for the Year 2002

	2002 Provision*	2002 Expenditure #
	2002 1100131011	
Current Expenditure	€000	€000
Payroll Costs (Including Overtime)		
Administrative Expenses		
Postal & Telecommunications Services		
Office Supplies		
Consultancy Services		
Building Maintenance & Rental		
Manufacturing & Farm Expenditure		
Education Expenditure		
Grant to Prison Officers Medical Aid Society		
		256,509
Capital Expenditure		
Buildings & Capital Work		
Computer & IT Equipment		
	42,088	43,605
Total Expenditure for Prison Service	299,744	300,114
Probation & Welfare Service Expenditure	33,258	32,427
Vote 21 Gross Expenditure	333,002	332,541
Appropriations in Aid (Receipts)	1,138	1,327
Vote 21 Net Expenditure	331,864	331,214

Provision and Expenditure under the Prison Service Vote (Vote 21) for the Year 2002

* Inclusive of the Supplementary Estimate of €20m. # These figures are subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General.

2002 construction projects are given in the chapter on Estate Management. IT developments in 2002 are covered later in this chapter.

Financial Management

Cost of keeping a Prisoner

The average cost of keeping a prisoner in custody during the calendar year 2002 was €84,750. The break down, by institution, is shown in Table 17.

Table 17: Cost of keeping a prisoner, by institution, in 2002

Prisons and Places of Detention	Cost per prisoner (€)
Arbour Hill Castlerea Cork Cloverhill Curragh Fort Mitchel Limerick Loughan House Midlands Mountjoy (including Dóchas Centre) Portlaoise	
Shanganagh Castle Shelton Abbey St Patrick's Training Unit Wheatfield	

The average cost of keeping an offender is calculated by averaging out the current running costs of the prisons and places of detention against the average number of offenders in those institutions during 2002. These costs include certain items which are fixed no matter what the number of offenders in custody, e.g. staffing numbers, utilities, etc. All headquarters and central service costs are allocated over the prison establishments for the purpose of this calculation. Capital expenditure is excluded from the calculation.

New Financial Accounting and Management Information System

During 2002, work continued on the development and implementation of the Oracle Financial System to meet the needs of the Irish Prison Service. The new financial system includes the following modules:

- General Ledger
- Accounts Payable
- Procurement and Purchase Order Processing
- Inventory Control
- Fixed Assets Management

The new financial system was rolled-out to Wheatfield and Cloverhill prisons during 2002. It is planned to roll-out the system to remaining prisons, on a prison by prison basis, during 2003.

Central Purchasing Unit

In 2002, a Central Purchasing Unit (CPU) was established to oversee the strategic development and enhancement of procurement functions within the Irish Prison Service. The aim of the CPU is to establish best practice models in relation to purchasing and stock control across the Service, and to liaise with the Government Supplies Agency and the Office of Public Works to ensure that the best practice models are applied uniformly across all contracts entered into on behalf of the service.

The CPU was assigned nine staff in 2002, headed by a newly appointed Assistant Director, with responsibility for procurement. A Procurement Liaison Group, consisting of representatives from all prisons and from the CPU, was established with a view to co-ordinating the procurement role of the Service and identifying methods by which the procurement function may be improved in real terms.

During 2002, the CPU ran EU tender competitions for the supply of milk, foodstuffs and gym equipment to the Irish Prison Service. Prior Indicative Notices were also placed for the supply of photocopiers and the provision of a laboratorybased urinalysis testing service with the intention of awarding contracts in 2003. The CPU will examine items which are regularly procured by all areas of the Service, with a view to rationalising the procurement function relating to such items and ensuring that value for money is attained, through the standardisation of products and the achievement of economies of scale.

Payroll Functions

The Irish Prison Service payroll includes payment of basic pay, allowances and overtime. The Finance Division of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform based in Killarney is responsible for the payment functions. An IT project to link the new time and attendance system in the prisons directly to the payroll system in Killarney continued during 2002. This will have obvious efficiency savings when completed.

Payments to members of the Prisons Authority Interim Board

The Chairman received gross remuneration of €15,286.86 in 2002 in respect of his chairmanship of the Prisons Authority Interim Board. Other Board members received gross remuneration of €10,157.90 in 2002 in respect of their membership of the Interim Board. As full-time, salaried public servants, four members of the Interim Board were not remunerated in respect of their membership of the Interim Board.

Compensation Awards and Criminal Injuries Tribunal

The total expenditure on compensation payments was \in 3.164 million in 2002 divided between the Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal Scheme and civil compensation cases.

The Criminal Injuries Tribunal operates independently of the Irish Prison Service. However the Irish Prison Service funds any award made by the Tribunal to prison officers as a result of criminal injuries incurred in the course of their duty. The total expenditure in respect of Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal cases in 2002 was $\in 2.2$ million.

The State Claims Agency (SCA) has taken responsibility for the management and disposal of all claims initiated after 1 January, 2001. The

Irish Prison Service Claims Unit continues to manage cases initiated before 1 January 2001 and liaises with the SCA in relation to the management of cases handled by the SCA.

The total expenditure in respect of Civil Compensation Claims cases in 2002 was €953,000 of which €230,000 was in respect of SCA settlements. The proactive approach taken by the Irish Prison Service Claims Unit, together with considerable assistance from local management and the involvement of the SCA, ensured that the level of expenditure was kept to a minimum and that, for the second year running, expenditure was kept within the allocated budget for civil claims.

Information Technology

The Irish Prison Service IT Programme, which commenced in late-1998 from what was virtually a "green field" site with little IT infrastructure or systems in the prisons, has made significant progress to date.

There has been significant investment in IT to provide the critical operational systems required to run a modern Prison Service and almost all areas of prison administration have been addressed. The Prison Service has become a substantial IT operation with up to 3,200 users and more than 1,200 PCs in 21 locations around the country. All parts of the Prison Service are now connected by a Wide Area Network which provides a platform for service-wide data and information systems as well as electronic communications.

The most significant IT system implemented to date is the Prisoner Records Information System (PRIS). This system is operational in all prisons since 2001 and provides, for the first time, a comprehensive means of recording and sharing information about the prison population. It is expected that this system will, over the coming years, provide a valuable source of statistical information in relation to trends in the composition of the prison population and will act as an aid to policy-making. During 2002, PRIS was significantly enhanced to provide enriched functionality to the Irish Prison Service. The Time and Attendance system, implemented during 2001, was enhanced during 2002.

A computerised Prisoner Medical Records System was developed for doctors, nurses and other medical staff working within the Irish Prison Service. This commenced during 2001 and continued during 2002, with plans for full implementation by mid-2003.

A Financial Management system commenced rollout to the major prisons towards the latter half of 2002 with plans for a full roll out to all major prisons by 2003.

To ensure business continuity and a quality service, an IT System support team was put in place in 2001 following an EU procurement process. This service provides high quality user support to all prison sites using a combination of the contracted IT support team and Prison Service IT staff.

Significant progress was also achieved in 2002 in the following areas :

- The new Irish Prison Service HQ premises in Clondalkin, Dublin 22 was fully equipped and added to the IPS Wide Area Network;
- A significant number of IT document management systems were put in place;
- A substantial amount of new IT equipment and infrastructure were deployed;
- A total upgrade of the prisons operating systems to Windows 2000 was completed.



IRISH PRISON SERVICE



Corporate Development :



Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Michael McDowell T.D., with Director General and Directors at the new Irish Prison Service Headquarters.

New Headquarters

The new Prison Service Headquarters at Monastery Road, Clondalkin was officially opened by the then Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr John O'Donoghue, T.D., on 26 February 2002.

In his address, the Minister said that the opening of the new headquarters was a concluding step towards a proper headquarters structure and agency status for the Prisons Service - a process which began when he appointed the Prisons Authority Interim Board in April 1999. The Minister emphasised the significant guidance provided by the Prisons Authority Interim Board whose members are drawn from a broad spectrum of professional, community and business backgrounds. The Minister went on to say that the way we treat people in custody is a litmus test for the state of civilisation in society. He said that the public expects a firm but fair prison system which respects the individual dignity of persons in custody but which also works actively to rehabilitate offenders in the interests of justice and a safer society.

The Chairman of the Prisons Authority Interim Board, Mr Brian McCarthy, also spoke at the opening ceremony. He said that the opening of the new Headquarters was a powerful symbol of the transition of the prison service to independent status. He said that the building would be a headquarters for all members of the Prison Service, not just those who will work there on a daily basis. He paid tribute to all involved in making the new Headquarters a reality and wished the Director General and all the staff of the Prison Service every success in their use of this new facility. The Chairman thanked the Minister for his enthusiasm and commitment to the prison service during his term of office.

Following his appointment as Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Mr Michael McDowell, T.D., visited the IPS Headquarters on 21 June 2002. He met the Director General and Directors and was given a presentation on the Service's approach to key current issues. This meeting was followed by visits to Wheatfield and Cloverhill prisons.

Consolidating agency status

The Irish Prison Service has operated as an executive office of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform since November, 2001. The focus of the Service's corporate development in 2002 was on consolidating its agency status by resourcing its headquarters Directorates, ongoing development of new working relationships with the Department and building new corporate management systems - especially business planning - within the Service.

Headquarters Directorates

Seven new Directorates were put in place at Prison Service Headquarters in 2002. They are:

- Corporate Affairs
- Estates
- Healthcare
- Human Resources
- Finance and IT
- Operations and
- Regimes

The resourcing of these new Headquarters Directorates, including the filling of all outstanding senior headquarters vacancies, enabled the Service to develop much needed corporate development through new policy, management and co-ordination systems. For instance,

- the significant strengthening of the HR function led to acceleration of the SORT/STEP process in the interest of developing a more flexible service not dependent on overtime working;
- the Operations Directorate was better resourced to cope with the additional demands consequent on the 32% expansion in the average daily prisoner population from 2,422 in 1997 to 3,163 in 2002
- the establishment of the Regimes Directorate enabled a new focus on care and rehabilitation services supported by crossdisciplinary fora aimed at improving service delivery;
- the finance function was considerably enhanced by the appointment of two professional accountants as Director and Assistant Director

of Finance. In addition, a new Central Purchasing Unit was put in place to achieve economies of scale and greater value for money generally through more streamlined procurement processes;

- the Healthcare Directorate was enabled, for the first-time, to address the issues of healthcare standards, pharmacy services and medical costs in the prison system, as well as professional co-ordination of nursing services
- the public service modernisation programme was extended to prisons through the initiation of strategic planning involving the preparation of Business Plans for each headquarters Directorate and each prison and place of detention; and
- new capital projects were initiated in the areas of video-link and more cost effective voice communications between all prison service locations via a virtual private telephone network.

The Directorates were staffed by secondment of personnel from the Prisons Division of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform and the filling of newly approved headquarters posts by General Service, Prison Service and Professional grades. Allowing for casual vacancies, all Headquarters Directorates were operating at full staffing levels at end-2002. Particulars of headquarters staffing are given in the Human Resources chapter of this Report.

Corporate Relationships

Following on its new executive agency status, the Irish Prison Service established new corporate relationships in 2002 within the broader Justice and Equality sector.

The Director General represented the Service at meetings of the Justice and Equality Sector Steering Group, a senior-level management forum which brings together the heads of all agencies in the sector under the chairmanship of the Secretary General of the Department. In addition, the Director General, in co-operation with the Chief Executive of the Courts Service, instituted a programme of biannual meetings to discuss and progress matters of mutual interest. At headquarters Directorate level, new arrangements were agreed with the Department in regard to two-way management and coordination of information. This involved ongoing enhancement of systems put in place to handle parliamentary questions, correspondence, freedom of information requests and ministerial briefing.

Business Planning

The Irish Prison Service completed its first cycle of business planning in 2002. As part of the Strategic Management Initiative, Business Planning involves the preparation and implementation of annual Business Plans within the three year time frame of the organisation's Strategy Statement. In effect, Business Plans represent an elaboration of the objectives of the Strategy Statement and the means to pursue their implementation.

The Irish Prison Service published its Strategy Statement 2001-2003 in October, 2001. By January 2002, each headquarters Directorate and Institution had drawn up a business plan incorporating relevant strategies and targets under the seven major objectives of the Strategy Statement. In all, twenty-six Business Plans were prepared, i.e.,

- 17 institutions
- 7 Directorates
- 1 Training Centre
- 1 Building Services Division

Implementation of the Business Plans was monitored throughout the year and the Prisons Authority Interim Board received updates on developments. As well as embedding the business planning process as a management tool, good progress was recorded across all seven objectives of the Strategy Statement. The benefits of business planning were identified as follows:

- · Planning is placed on a more structured basis
- There is a clearer view of future business direction and the Service's priorities

- · Management is proactive rather than reactive
- The process is rewarding in affording staff at all levels and across the various disciplines an input to shaping future direction

A review of progress under each objective of the Service's Strategy Statement 2001-2003 is included in the following chapter of this Report

Corporate communications

Parliamentary Questions

The Irish Prison Service provided material for reply to 109 Parliamentary Questions in 2002. The following table gives a breakdown by headquarters Directorate:

Directorate	No. of PQs
Corporate Affairs	41
Estate Management	13
Operations	17
Human Resources	8
Finance	6
Healthcare	8
Regimes	16
Total	109

Freedom of Information

The Irish Prison Service handled a total of 233 requests under the Freedom of Information Act 1997 and 35 appeals under the Act in 2002. The following table (overleaf) gives a breakdown of the areas covered by FOI requests:

Directorate	Requests	Appeals	
Human Resources	112	23	
Operations	92*	10	
Healthcare	15	0	
Corporate Affairs	6		
Estate Management	2	0	
Finance/Information Technology			
Regimes	3	0	
Total	233	35	

* Note

Of the 92 requests dealt with by Operations, 17 were also dealt with by Healthcare and 1 by Regimes. These figures are not reflected in the total given for each Directorate in the table above.

Press Queries

The Press and Information Office manages the Service's media activities with the press, the research community and the general public. It also provides advice to other Directorates in relation to various communication activities. In the year under review the Press Office responded to a considerable volume of enquires on a 24 hour, seven day basis. This level of activity reflects the growing media interest in criminal justice matters in general and the appointment of crime correspondents in the print and broadcast media.

The Press and Information Office is responsible for the Service's website and also produces the newsletter, Irish Prison Service News.

Prisoner Based Research Ethics Committee

The Prisoner Based Research Ethics Committee was established by the Prisons Authority Interim Board to promote, encourage, support and disseminate ethically-based and appropriate research within the Irish Prison Service. The membership of the Committee is as follows:

Professor Patricia Casey (Chairwoman)	Prisons Authority Interim Board
Ms Margaret Donnelly	Former Governor, England and Wales Prison Service
Ms Janet Dempsey	Psychologist
Dr Enda Dooley	Director of Healthcare, Irish Prison Service
Dr Maura O'Sullivan	Psychologist, Irish Prison Service
Ms Frances Nangle	Co-ordinator of Nursing Service, Irish Prison Service
Governor Tom Somers*	Regimes Directorate, Irish Prison Service
Fr Feargal McDonough,	Head Chaplain, Irish Prison Service
Ms Anne Costelloe	Assistant Supervising Teacher, Mountjoy Prison

* Governor Somers was replaced by Governor John Dooley during 2002. Governor Dooley was replaced by Governor Liam Dowling in 2003.

The Terms of Reference of the Committee are:

- To examine all proposals for research involving prisoners from external and internal sources and to recommend to the Irish Prison Service authorisation, rejection or modification of any such proposals insofar as adherence to ethical standards is concerned. In this regard the committee shall ensure that research proposals meet the following criteria:
- Research proposals respect the civil, social and human rights of prisoners;
- Personal confidentiality is maintained as a general principal

- Informed consent is sought and clearly obtained from prisoners who participate in research studies;
- It is made clear to prisoners that participation is voluntary, that consent can be withdrawn at any time, that participation will have no negative or positive impact on their sentence and that refusal to participate will have no negative implications;
- Research proposals satisfy accepted ethical standards in regard to research methods and procedures, record keeping and publication;
- Research proposals provide for the research to be carried out by suitably competent personnel;
- The research methods proposed are valid, reliable and capable of answering the research question;
- Research will contribute to the offender related knowledge base and/or have the intent or reasonable probability of leading to improvements in the custody, care or rehabilitation of prisoners;

- Research will contribute to the knowledge base affecting the reduction of crime and its effects;
- Proper arrangements are made for the secure maintenance of confidential data collected in the course of research;
- 2. To advise the Irish Prison Service on the formulation of policy, procedures and guidelines for research involving prisoners.
- 3. To review, at the request of the Irish Prison Service, ongoing research projects involving prisoners insofar as adherence to ethical standards is concerned.

The Committee met on five occasions in 2002. The early meetings focused on agreeing procedures and a pro forma application form for research applicants. In the course of the year, the Committee considered a total of thirteen research proposals from a variety of sources, mainly students and academics, of which five were approved.

Headquarters Directorates

Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform

Prisons Authority Interim Board Secretary General, Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform



Brian Purcell Operations Directorate Custody of Prisoners Management of the prisoner population



Denis O'Neill Estates Directorate Capital Projects Estate Maintenance Utility Management



John Conlan Finance and I.T. Directorate Financial Management Central Purchasing Unit Information Technology



Seán Aylward Director General



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



Dr. Enda Dooley Healthcare Directorate Prisoner Healthcare Co-ordination of Nursing Prisons Pharmacy



Brian Fitzpatrick Human Resources Directorate Human Resource Management Training and Development Industrial Relations



John Brosnan Corporate Affairs Directorate Board Secretariat Strategic Planning Press & Information





Implementation of the Irish Prison Service Strategy Statement 2001-2003

OBJECTIVE 1: Custody of Prisoners Committed by the Courts

STRATEGY	Progress made to end 2002
1. Maintain control and order in the prison system	The Working Group on proposals for integrated use of prison spaces has been amalgamated with the Scoping Group on Positive Sentence Management (see Strategy 11).
	A Permanent Working Group, comprising senior management, has been set up to address issues in relation to the management of disruptive offenders as they arise.
2. Ensure safe custody of prisoners	The Working Group on standard arrangements for recording assaults in the prisoner population completed its task. Development of an IT system to support recording and compilation of statistics is on-going.
	Security Committees continue to operate in each institution for the purpose of auditing local security arrangements and reviewing security-related incidents as necessary.
	Operations Directorate continued to work on the preparation of security guidelines.
3. Provide appropriately secure custody for prisoners	Security reviews completed in all institutions and position is generally satisfactory. Upgrades of CCTV facilities to be carried out in a number of cases as financial resources permit.
	The Prisoner Records Information System (PRIS) facility is in place to generate a prisoner profile for use on prisoner escorts.
 Manage the custodial function so that it supports positive prison regimes 	Provision is made in the Business Plans of all institutions for maximum take-up of places in education and training programmes. This is being pursued through multi-disciplinary approaches, including co-timetabling of education classes and workshop training.
5. Plan to meet emergency situations (fire, hostage-taking, riot)	Annual Business Plans provide for review of institutions' emergency plans. There are continuing good liaison arrangements with local Fire Chiefs. Fire Brigade Personnel have visited all institutions and are familiar with the layout of buildings and access to fire hydrants. Breathing Apparatus drills are carried out daily and evacuation drills are also carried out.

OBJECTIVE 2: Caring for Prisoners

STRATEGY	Progress made to end 2002	
Strategy 5 continued	Control and Restraint training carried out, subject to resource constraints. Counter hostage-taking plans are in place.	
	Preparation of a video of each prison for reference in emergency situations was deferred pending identification of funding.	
 Provide for the personal well-being of prisoners 	A comprehensive draft Drugs Policy document was developed for consideration by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform.	
	In addition to the Drug Free Units that already existed, a Drug Free Environment Unit was officially opened in Wheatfield in May 2002. A second unit opened in November. Plans were also advanced during the year for the opening of Drug Free Units in Mountjoy and Limerick Prisons Other prisons continued to pursue policies aimed at tackling drug abuse.	
	New visiting arrangements were introduced in Mountjoy in November, 2002. These new arrangements are helping to reduce the supply of drugs into the prison. It is intended to extend the new arrangements to other institutions.	
	Multi-Disciplinary Suicide Awareness Groups are in place at all institutions. The number of prisoner deaths from non-natural causes in 2002 was 4. The corresponding figures for 2000 and 2001 were 9 and 1 respectively.	
7. Help prisoners maintain their relationship with family and the community	Saturday and Sunday visits are in place in the Dóchas Centre. More general availability of weekend visits will have to await implementation of the SORT/STEP recommendations.	
	The programme-controlled prisoner telephone system, that allows each prisoner free telephone contact to nominated telephone numbers, is in operation in most closed prisons. Prisoners continued to be assisted in keeping in touch with the wider community through access to television, radio and newspapers. Televisions are now more widely available in cells. Newspapers can be purchased from prison shops and are available in the libration	

and are available in the libraries.

OBJECTIVE 2: continued

STRATEGY Progress made to end 2002 8. Ensure medical and psychiatric care for The joint IPS/Health Board Group is continuing to prisoners to a standard consistent with that pursue implementation of the recommendations which applies in the community generally of the report of the Prison Healthcare Review Group. Medical care standards are being developed in consultation with interested parties. It is hoped to have the standards in place in 2003. The pharmacist vacancy was filled in May, 2002. The pilot pharmacy schemes at Cloverhill and the Dóchas Centre continued to operate. The pilots will be evaluated in 2003. Prison-based services continue to liaise with GP's, hospitals and drug treatment clinics in the wider community. A major review of prisoners with mental health problems is being carried out by the Director of the Central Mental Hospital. The results of this review will guide future care in this area. 9. Respect and uphold the rights and The Irish Prison Service reviewed draft Prison entitlements of prisoners Rules and provided detailed observations on them to the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. The preparation of a service-wide information booklet for prisoners will commence when the new Rules are agreed. Two-way sharing of information with prisoners at time of committal will be considered in the context of Positive Sentence Management. 10. Provide quality care for prisoners consistent A draft IPS Customer Service Plan 2004-2006 with community standards includes standards for prisoner care consistent with a humane prison regime. A Multi-Disciplinary Working Group on Care Standards will be convened in September, 2003. Funding has been secured for a survey of staff and prisoners' views on prisoner care and other matters. It is hoped to conduct the survey in late-2003/early-2004. The survey will be along the lines of similar surveys which have been

conducted in the Scottish prison system for a

number of years.

OBJECTIVE 3: Promoting Rehabilitation and Integration

STRATEGY	Progress made to end 2002
11. Elaborate positive sentence management	A Scoping Group on Positive Sentence Management has been convened. The Group expects to report in November, 2003.
	Indications are that the participation rate in education continues to be high by international standards. Statistics on participation rates in 2002 and educational programmes are given in the Institutions chapter of this Report.
	The review of the education curriculum continue and is due for completion in 2003.
	The implementation of the recommendations of the report of the Physical Education Developme Group (PEDG) continued in 2002. An action pla will be drawn up in 2003 to progress implementation of the recommendations.
	The planned roll-out of CONNECT to five further prisons during 2002 was put 'on hold' to allow for a period of consultation and review with key stakeholders. The consultation/review proces was well advanced at end 2002. It is planned resume roll out of the project in 2003.
	The recommendations made to date by the Prison-based Drug Treatment Review Group are being implemented on an on-going basis. A Drugs Service Co-ordinator from the Eastern Region Health Authority and a Senior Probation and Welfare Officer assigned to Drug Treatmen are in place at Mountjoy Prison. An Assistant Governor appointed as Training Officer for Drug Treatment delivers training programmes for Pris Officers working with prisoners undergoing drug treatment.
	There is now extensive methadone maintenance for prisoners in the Dublin area.

Two full-time Addiction Counsellors funded by the local Drugs Task Force are working in Cork Prison.

OBJECTIVE 3: continued.

STRATEGY	Progress made to end 2002
12. Develop and maintain activity programmes for prisoners	The proposed structural plan to improve prison library services was agreed in principle at management level and will be implemented as resources permit.
	There is very considerable interaction between prisoners and voluntary and statutory services based in the wider community. Prisoners are also involved in workshop projects for charities, hospitals and people with learning disabilities. By year end, the IPS was on target for producing a range of products required for the Special Olympics in Summer 2003.
13. Address offending behaviour	Current multi-disciplinary programmes addressing offending behaviour include Thinking Skills, Anger Management, Sex Offender Treatment Programme, Lifers and Long-Termers Programme, Offending Behaviour Programme and addiction programmes. Particulars of programmes provided in 2002 are given in the Institutions chapter of this Report.
	A Research Consultant was retained to continue the work already carried out on developing a sex offender programme to be delivered by multi- disclipinary teams. The work also entails the production of a full set of manuals for the delivery of the new programme and is due for completion in 2003.
14. Evaluate effectiveness of prisoner programmes	Local reviews of programmes are on-going at institution level with a view to promoting best practice.
	A Working Group is considering the feasibility of the accreditation of prisoner programmes. As a first step, the Group is focusing on a peer review of the Thinking Skills Programme.
	The external long term review of the Sex Offender Programme is continuing.

Objective 4: Managing Human Resources

STRATEGY	Progress made to end 2002
15. Maintain satisfactory industrial relations	Discussions continued with the Prison Officers' Association on procedures for minimum cover. The Irish Prison Service provided all necessary
16. Human resource management	co-operation to the Benchmarking Body. PMDS is in operation at Prison Service Headquarters. Discussions have commenced with staff representatives in regard to certain aspects relevant to extension of PMDS to prison grades. PMDS training in the Prison Service will be taken forward in the context of an Action Plan under Sustaining Progress. HR support is in place for all staff who transferred from the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform to the Irish Prison Service Headquarters.
	Discussions continued with the POA on a new attendance policy. Discussions designed to achieve implementation of the policy on bullying and harassment are expected to conclude shortly. The policy will be in place in 2003.
17. Promote partnership arrangements in the Irish Prison Service	A Prison Service Partnership Committee is in place. The focus in 2003 will be on implementation of the Service's Action Plan under 'Sustaining Progress'.
	Local Partnership Committees (LPC's) are in place at St Patrick's Institution and the Dóchas Centre. Further LPC's will also be established in 2003.
	While formal local partnership structures are not in place in all institutions, a partnership approach is the preferred method of both management and staff in progressing key business areas.
18. Recruitment, promotion and retention of staff	The terms and conditions of staff transfer from the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform to the Irish Prison Service continued on the basis of the Draft Agreed Note.

OBJECTIVE 4: continued.

STRATEGY	Progress made to end 2002
Strategy 18 continued.	All new Director and senior posts at Prison Service Headquarters were filled in 2002.
	Interviews for the recruitment of Prison Officers were conducted in 2002. A recruitment competition for a Psychologist was also successfully conducted.
	A revised assessment form for promotion for all grades is under consideration.
	A review of competency-based promotion continues to be 'on-hold' pending the outcome of a court case relating to the 2001 ACO promotion competition.
	A new three-tier structure was introduced for the Psychology Service.
19. Staff training and development	A new 'Command Course' was introduced in 2002 for Assistant Governors and Chief Officers to help manage hostage-taking situations. A Working Group is devising a new Deputy Governor Development Course.
	Discussions continued with the Institute of Public Administration on the development of a training programme in financial management. It is expected that a programme will be in place in 2003/4.
	New training programmes are in place for staff newly-promoted to Clerk II and Chief Officer.
	The research project aimed at promoting cultural awareness, communication and racial equality was completed on target in 2002.
20. Greater flexibility/responsiveness	The SORT/STEP process was accelerated through intensive discussions with staff. A framework proposal was prepared by management and forwarded to the Department of Finance for consideration. It was expected that the IPS would be in a position to present a framework proposal to staff early in 2003.

OBJECTIVE 4: continued.

STRATEGY	Progress made to end 2002
21. Staff health and safety	Discussions continued with the Safety Auditor in relation to his draft report following on the review of safety statements.
	Discussions continued with the Department of Finance on the establishment of an Occupational Health Unit.
22. Maintain and develop welfare and support services to staff	The information booklet on Staff Welfare and Support Services and the Critical Incident Protocol were published and distributed in 2002.
	Work also continued on the development of Employee Assistance delivery standards and it is expected that this process will be finalised in 2003.

OBJECTIVE 5: Estate and Facility Management

23. Implement the Prison Service Accommodation Programme	Refurbishment of Limerick Prison continued in 2002 with works to the 'E' Wing. Work on the new 'C' Wing is due to be completed by the end of 2003.					
	Stage 1 of the major refurbishment programme for Portlaoise Prison commenced with work on the services and drainage systems. Work continued on the provision of new accommodation for the Army with an expected completion date in the latter part of 2003.					
	New school and accommodation facilities will be available in 2003 for 16 and 17 year old boys at St. Patrick's institution.					
	Other works undertaken were at Cloverhill, Wheatfield, Castlerea, Fort Mitchel, Loughan House and Shelton Abbey.					
24. Continue to develop modern prison technological supports in meeting operational needs	New advanced locking systems are being provided as part of on-going major construction works at prisons (see Strategy 23). An international seminar on Advanced Locking Systems was held at the Midlands Prison in May 2002.					

OBJECTIVE 5: continued.

STRATEGY	Progress made to end 2002
Strategy 24 continued	The policy document on use of CCTV in prisons will be completed in November, 2003.
25. Contribute to improvement of the environment taking into account relevant statutory and non-statutory requirements	The Waste Management Policy document will be published by end 2003.
	The asbestos removal programme in prisons was completed and an asbestos screening programme is in place for all staff who wish to avail of it.
	An implementation strategy has been agreed to give effect to the recommendations of the Fire Vulnerability Study. The revised target implementation date is end 2003.
26. Review the provision of maintenance for the prison estate, including plant and equipment, in relation to standards and procedures for service delivery	This Strategy was under review as of end 2002.

OBJECTIVE 6: Corporate Development

27.	Manage the transition of the Prison Service to statutory, independent agency status	New management structures for the Prison Service are in place, appointments made to all senior headquarters posts and liaison/reporting arrangements are in place on foot of agreement with the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform.
28.	Implement the Strategic Management Initiative in the Prison Service	Business Plans for all institutions and Headquarters Directorates were completed for 2002. Implementation of the Plans was monitored on a regular basis. Preparation of the 2003 Business Plans commenced. Work continued on the preparation of a Customer Service Plan incorporating a Customer Service Charter. The Plan is expected to be completed and published in 2003.
29.	Improve internal and external communications	The Prison Service website (www.irishprisons.ie) continues to be updated on an on-going basis. All Prison Service reports are published on the website.

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OBJECTIVE 6: continued.

STRATEGY	Progress made to end 2002					
30. Adopt a corporate business approach	A Draft Service Level Agreement with the Probation and Welfare Service was prepared. It is expected that a final text will be agreed in 2003.					
	Corporate Identity was included in the brief of the Communications Working Group.					
	A Prison Service Report for 1999/2000 was published in July, 2002. The 2001 Report was with the printers at end 2002.					
31. Support the development of penal policy	A Research Policy Group was established in September, 2002.					
	5					
	5					
	September, 2002.					

OBJECTIVE 7: Effective and Efficient Resource Management

32. Ensure greater organisational flexibility	SORT/STEP process was prioritised - see strategy 20.							
	A Central Purchasing Unit was established to develop and enhance procurement functions and deliver economies of scale for the Irish Prison Service.							
33. Exploit the full benefits of information technology	The core Prisoner Records Information System (PRIS) is operational in all prisons since 2001. During 2002, the system was significantly enhanced to improve functionality.							
	Roll out of the Medical Records System continued during 2002 with plans for full implementation by mid 2003.							

OBJECTIVE 7: continued.

STRATEGY	Progress made to end 2002
Strategy 33 contunued.	The Time and Attendance System implemented in 2001 was enhanced during 2002.
	Continued investment and up-grading took place in the IT infrastructure for the Irish Prison Service. An IT System support team was put in place following an EU procurement process.
	A contract for the implementation of a new HR system was awarded in late 2002. It is expected that work on the system will be completed in 2003.
	An extensive facelift for the Prison Service website is expected to be completed in 2003.
34. Improve prisoner escort arrangements	The feasibility of using video-link between prisons and courts continued to be examined in consultation with the Courts Service.
35. Improve financial management	Cost centre-based financial reporting is now in place. Some refinements are being made on an on-going basis. Expenditure incurred by each institution and HQ Directorate can now be tracked.
	The new Financial Management System - Oracle Financials - went live on a pilot basis in Wheatfield and Cloverhill prisons during 2002. The system will be rolled out to remaining prisons in 2003.
	IT links are in place to facilitate access to the Financial Management System at the Department's Finance Division in Killarney
	Work continued on upgrading financial information for the purpose of making preparations for the proposed Devolved Budgetary Framework.



Appendices

Appendix 1

Age Groups classified by Sentence Length

AGE GROUP	SENTENCE LENGTH										
	<3 mths	3 to <6 mths	6 mths to <1 yr	1 to <2 yrs	2 to <3 yrs	3 to <5 yrs	5 to <10 yrs	10 yrs plus	Life	Total	
15 to <17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
17 to <21	7	14	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	30	
21 to <25	26	20	22	2	1	2	0	0	0	73	
25 to <30	27	15	12	6	3	3	0	0	0	66	
30 to <40	35	21	6	4	4	1	0	0	0	71	
40 to <50	33	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	38	
50 plus	11	4	2	3	0	1	2	0	0	23	
TOTAL	139	74	52	19	8	7	2	0	0	301	

MALE AGE GROUP

SENTENCE LENGTH

	<3 mths	3 to <6 mths	6 mths to <1 yr	1 to <2 yrs	2 to <3 yrs	3 to <5 yrs	5 to <10 yrs	10 yrs plus	Life	Total
15 to <17	2	6	6	4	7	1	0	0	0	26
17 to <21	203	158	181	140	43	31	9	1	1	767
21 to <25	326	186	258	131	51	69	34	3	2	1060
25 to <30	355	183	179	84	45	47	51	1	3	948
30 to <40	477	194	235	88	41	53	42	6	4	1140
40 to <50	258	71	82	25	15	16	11	4	0	482
50 plus	149	51	36	23	11	17	19	3	3	312
TOTAL	1770	849	977	495	213	234	166	18	13	4735

Offences Classified by Age Group

FEMALE

OFFENCES	AGE GROUPS							
	15 to <17	17 to <21	21 to <25	25 to <30	30 to <40	40 to <50	50+	Total
Group 1: Offences Against the Person								
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Offences								
Against the Person	0	5	13	3	8	3	4	36
Total Group 1	0	5	13	3	8	3	4	36
Group 2: Offences Against property with Violence	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	4
Group 3: Offences Against property without Violence	0	6	17	23	6	3	1	56
Group 4: Other Offences								
Drug Offences	0	2	2	3	6	0	6	19
Road Traffic Offences	0	1	16	16	19	13	2	67
Other	0	14	25	20	31	19	10	119
Total Group 4	0	17	43	39	56	32	18	205
Total	0	30	73	66	71	38	23	301

MALE

OFFENCES	AGE GROUPS								
	15 to <17	17 to <21	21 to <25	25 to <30	30 to <40	40 to <50	50+	Total	
Group 1: Offences									
Against the Person									
Murder	0	1	2	3	4	0	3	13	
Manslaughter	0	1	2	2	0	1	1	7	
Sexual Offences	0	3	7	8	25	15	44	102	
Other Offences									
Against the Person	2	97	129	106	130	47	15	526	
Total Group 1	2	102	140	119	159	63	63	648	
Group 2: Offences Against property with Violence	3	54	59	63	51	13	6	249	
Group 3: Offences Against property without Violence	2	25	69	63	52	18	12	241	
Group 4: Other Offences									
Drug Offences	2	25	69	63	52	18	12	241	
Road Traffic Offences	5	244	323	272	326	146	65	1381	
Other	6	182	295	288	383	203	154	1511	
Total Group 4	13	451	687	623	761	367	231	3133	
Total	26	767	1060	948	1140	482	312	4735	

Offences Classified by Sentence Length

AGE GROUP			SENTEN	CE LENG	тн					
FEMALE	3mths	3 to <6 mths	6mths to <1yr	1 to <2yrs	2 to <3yrs	3 to <5yrs	5 to <10yrs	10 yrs plus	Life	Total
Group 1: Offences										
Against the Person										
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Offences										
Against the Person	7	13	12	1	1	2	0	0	0	36
Total Group 1	7	13	12	1	1	2	0	0	0	36
Group 2: Offences Against property with Violence	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
Group 3: Offences Against property without Violence	17	16	14	6	2	1	0	0	0	56
Group 4: Other Offences										
Drug Offences	0	4	4	4	2	3	2	0	0	19
Road Traffic Offences	48	14	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	67
Other	67	24	19	5	3	1	0	0	0	119
Total Group 4	113	43	27	11	5	4	2	0	0	205
Total	139	74	52	19	8	7	2	0	0	301

MALE AGE GROUP

SENTENCE LENGTH

MALE	3mths	3 to <6 mths	6mths to <1yr	1 to <2yrs	2 to <3yrs	3 to <5yrs	5 to <10yrs	10 yrs plus	Life	Total
Group 1: Offences Against the Person										
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	13
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	1	0	7
Sexual Offences	0	2	12	23	16	25	21	0	0	102
Other Offences										
Against the Person	76	123	172	77	28	24	25	1	0	526
Total Group 1	76	125	184	100	45	51	49	5	13	648
Group 2: Offences Against property with Violence	12	20	60	50	34	43	27	3	0	249
Group 3: Offences Against property without Violence	136	146	206	135	43	29	10	0	0	705
Group 4: Other Offences										
Drug Offences	30	24	52	30	28	39	33	5	0	241
Road Traffic Offences	686	284	269	78	23	25	14	2	0	1381
Other	830	250	206	102	40	47	33	3	0	1511
Total Group 4	1546	558	527	210	91	111	80	10	0	3133
Total	1770	849	977	495	213	234	166	18	13	4735

Counting Rules and Recording Practice

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

Counting of Committals

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

Recording of Offences

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

Age of Offenders

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

Guide to Table Headings

In Tables relating to age, the age range is indicated as 15 to <17, 17 to <21 etc. The convention used is that, for example, '15 to <17' means aged from 15 years and no days up to and including 16 years and 364 years old, '17 to <21' means aged from 17 years and no days up to and including 20 years and 364 days.

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

Offence Classifications

This Report classifies 1,500 offences in four Groups i.e. Offences against the person, Offences against property with violence, Offences against property without violence and Other Offences. Particulars of offences included in each group are available from the Corporate Affairs Directorate, Irish Prison Service, Monastery Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22; tel: 01-4616014; e-mail: info@irishprisons.ie.



Irish Prison Service

Monastery Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 Telephone: 01 461 6000 Fax: 01 461 6027 Email: info@irishprisons.ie www.irishprisons.ie

Seirbhís Phríosúin na hÉireann

Bothar na Mainstreach, Cluain Dolcain, Baile Átha Cliath 22 Teileafón: 01 461 6000 Facsuimhir: 01 461 6027 Ríomhphoist: info@irishprisons.ie www.irishprisons.ie

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