

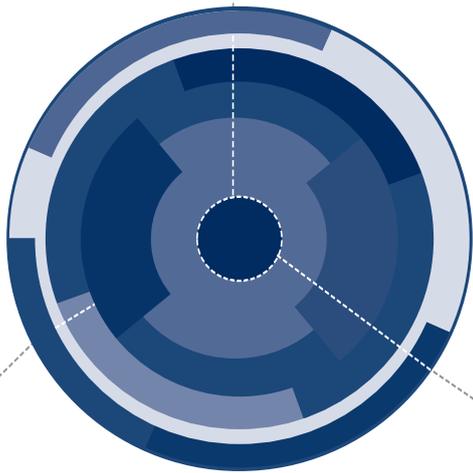
IRISH PRISON SERVICE

● ● ● ● ANNUAL REPORT
2005



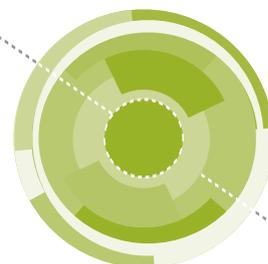
MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE IRISH PRISON SERVICE IS TO PROVIDE SAFE, SECURE AND HUMANE CUSTODY FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE SENT TO PRISON. THE SERVICE IS COMMITTED TO MANAGING CUSTODIAL SENTENCES IN A WAY WHICH ENCOURAGES AND SUPPORTS PRISONERS IN THEIR ENDEAVOURING TO LIVE LAW ABIDING AND PURPOSEFUL LIVES AS VALUED MEMBERS OF SOCIETY.

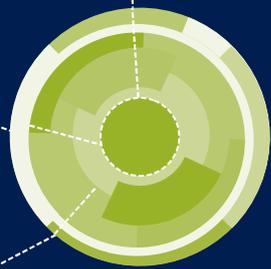
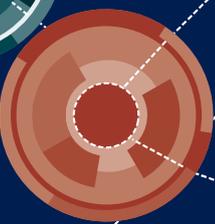
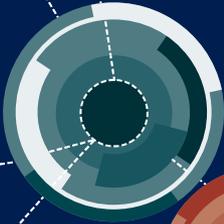
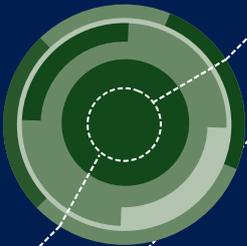


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PRISONS AUTHORITY INTERIM BOARD



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON ACTIVITIES DURING 2005

THE IRISH PRISON SERVICE WILL RECORD 2005 AS A YEAR OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGE AND NEW HORIZONS IN THE STATE'S DEVELOPMENT OF A MODERN AND RESPONSIVE PRISON SYSTEM. THE PRISONS AUTHORITY INTERIM BOARD HAS BEEN VERY PLEASED TO PLAY ITS PART DURING THE YEAR IN HELPING TO LEAD, SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE CHANGE IN THE PRISON SYSTEM.



BRIAN MCCARTHY
CHAIRMAN

The five meetings of the Interim Board during 2005 concentrated on the critical change programmes under way or planned in the Irish Prison Service. The Interim Board allocated significant time to advancing agreement on the Proposal for Organisational Change, the Prisons Capital Programme - especially the replacement of prisons on the Mountjoy Campus - and the implementation of sound financial management in controlling prison costs. The Prison Service must succeed in these key areas if it is to establish the platform for development of custody and care to the standards expected of a truly modern and efficient prison service.

The Interim Board was also concerned during the year to address the implications of decentralisation of the Prison Service Headquarters to Longford. In particular, the Board was concerned about the anticipated major haemorrhage of experienced headquarters staff in the run-up to decentralisation. Board members wished to be re-assured that staff turnover could be managed without undue impact on the proper management and administration of the Service, especially management of the Service's major change programmes.

ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

The Interim Board welcomed the agreement reached between prison management and the Prison Officers' Association on the comprehensive change package contained in the Proposal for Organisational Change.

While the negotiation process was both protracted and difficult, Board members noted the purposeful commitment shown by prison management and staff in working together in the initial phase of implementing agreed change. On behalf of all Board members, I would like to pay tribute to all those involved on both the management and staff sides in bringing the programme to implementation stage. They have contributed enormously to modernisation of their Service.

The task of implementing all aspects of the Proposal is both onerous and demanding. It will require continuing commitment and determination in overcoming the inevitable issues that will arise as new systems are rolled-out. The Interim Board will remain in close touch with developments.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Interim Board closely pursued the purchase in 2005 of the 150-acre site at Thornton, County Dublin to facilitate replacement of the prisons on the Mountjoy Campus. Board members have strongly advocated the provision of replacement prisons on a green-field site. They commend the Irish Prison Service and the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform on securing Government approval to this course.

Board members remain firmly of the view that construction of the new facilities needs to commence with all possible speed in order to bring an end to the deplorable conditions in which prisoners are currently housed in Mountjoy Prison. The Interim Board as a whole, and its Capital Sub-Committee in particular, will continue to press for all possible momentum in the on-going planning and tendering processes.

The Interim Board through its Capital Sub-Committee continued to seek advancement of other significant prison projects in 2005. The most significant of these was the proposed new prison facility on Spike Island to replace Cork Prison. The Board was disappointed at the delay encountered in acquiring the land needed to build a bridge to the island but looks forward to conclusion of the negotiations in 2006. The Board was pleased with progress on two projects at construction stage - the provision of new education, medical and other facilities at Limerick Prison and the replacement of prison accommodation at Portlaoise Prison.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Sound financial management is essential if overall prison costs are to be controlled in the interest of diverting a greater proportion of the prison budget towards improving prisoner services and facilities. The Interim Board

continued to closely monitor Prison Service expenditure in 2005 and was pleased that significant progress was again made in capping prison costs - notwithstanding increased cost rates attributable to pay increases under Sustaining Progress. Further progress in controlling costs should be apparent in 2006 as the cost saving measures of the Proposal for Organisational Change are implemented and as design of the new prison complex at Thornton opens up greater scope for operational efficiencies.

DECENTRALISATION

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

Decentralisation was a standing agenda item for each Board meeting during 2005 and will remain so until the Interim Board is satisfied that all possible measures are in place to mitigate the negative impacts of re-location. In this regard, Board members are heartened that the Prison Service has succeeded in attracting very able and qualified people who are willing to move to Longford. Members also welcome the success of the process recording initiative in the interest of preserving corporate memory as experienced staff transfer to other civil service posts.

MENTALLY-ILL PRISONERS

In its 2004 Annual Report the Interim Board outlined its concern at the delays experienced in accessing care for prisoners at the Central Mental Hospital (CMH). The Board notes the progress made both in improving staffing arrangements and facilities at the CMH but remains concerned that still more needs to be done to get admissions up to the required level. While the decision to set aside part of the site at Thornton for a possible new CMH facility could hold out the prospect of transforming the situation, the Board considers that further improvements should be possible in the interim by way of improved prisoner access to in-patient treatment at the existing hospital facility in Dundrum. This is a matter to which the Interim Board intends to devote continuing attention.

DRUGS POLICY

The Board welcomed the Minister's proposals for a new drugs policy for prisons, including a commitment to introduce mandatory drug testing, physical barriers to prevent the supply of drugs to prisoners and measures to reduce prisoners' demand for drugs and further implement treatment options.

SUSTAINING PROGRESS

The Interim Board was pleased to note that the progress recorded in the two reports submitted in 2005 by the Irish Prison Service to the Performance Verification Group for the Justice and Equality Sector was sufficient to merit payment of salary increases to all staff under Sustaining Progress.

REMUNERATION SUB-COMMITTEE

The Remuneration Sub-Committee of the Interim Board again reviewed the performance of the Director General against set targets in accordance with the terms of the Scheme of Performance Awards for Chief Executives of Non-commercial State Sponsored Bodies. The Sub-Committee's recommendation for the year 2005 took account of the strong personal contribution made by the Director General in advancing change in 2005.

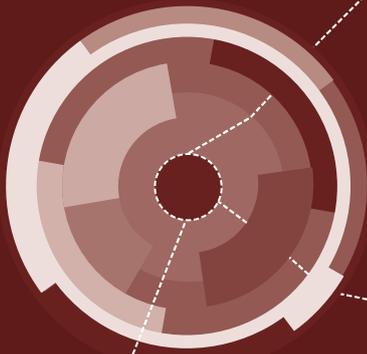
STATUTORY BOARD

Finally, on behalf of Board members, I wrote to the Minister in May 2005 again expressing concern at the delay in establishing the Board on a statutory basis. In reply the Minister indicated that work had commenced on a major Prison Service Bill but that he did not see a window of opportunity to progress matters in the immediate future in light of his heavy legislative programme of 30 separate bills and the need to give priority to the then Garda Síochána Bill and the Criminal Justice Bill. While acknowledging the burden of the current legislative programme and Minister's appreciation of their contribution to development of the Irish Prison Service, Board members would wish to have a more definite commitment at the earliest possible time on the prospects of legislating for a statutory Board.

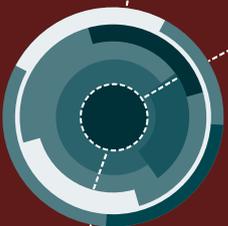
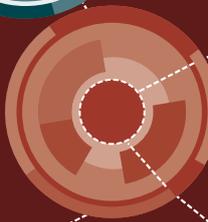
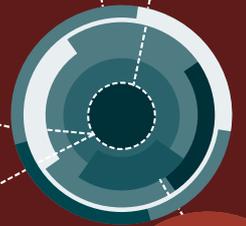
Brian McCarthy
CHAIRMAN
 Prisons Authority Interim Board



OVERVIEW - 2005 STATISTICS AT A GLANCE



INTRODUCTION



TO: THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND LAW REFORM, MR. MICHAEL MCDOWELL, T.D.

MINISTER, I AM PLEASED TO TRANSMIT TO YOU THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE IRISH PRISON SERVICE FOR 2005.



BRIAN PURCELL
DIRECTOR GENERAL

ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

The overwhelming acceptance by prison staff of the Proposal for Organisational Change in August 2005 heralded a new era of change in the Irish Prison Service. The proposal sets out a broad programme of structural and operational change aimed at delivering a more efficient, responsive and cost effective service.

By the end of 2005 considerable progress had been made in implementing the change programme. The annualised hours attendance system was in place in four prisons, the new centralised Prison Service Escort Corps was performing co-ordinated escorts in new multi-cellular vehicles and new electronic locking systems and CCTV had replaced staff on prison gates and other security posts. At the time of writing, the annualised hours system is in operation in all institutions and considerable progress is being made in implementing all other aspects of the change programme.

I would again like to pay tribute to both management and staff representatives who worked tirelessly through the long and complex process of negotiating the Proposal for Organisational Change and who have demonstrated continuing commitment and resourcefulness in its early implementation.

PRISONER NUMBERS

Most prisons continued to operate at or close to capacity in 2005. The proposed replacement of some of the older prison accommodation, in particular the prison facilities at the Mountjoy complex, will cater for the demands of a growing prison population as well the provision of quality prison facilities.

Overall committal numbers in 2005 (10, 658) were virtually identical to the previous year. While the number of sentenced committals also showed little change (5,088), there was a reversal in 2005 of the previous trend of declining numbers of one to two-year sentences. There was a small reduction in the overall average daily prisoner population - 3,151 as against 3,199 in 2004 - and a significant decrease in the average number of persons who were on temporary release - from 286 in 2004 to 164 in 2005.

DECENTRALISATION

During 2005 the Irish Prison Service took a number of steps to prepare for relocation of its headquarters to Longford under the Government's Decentralisation Programme.

By year-end, OPW had engaged a contractor to construct the headquarters building and about half of all decentralising staff were in post. In all, decentralisation commitments are now to hand in respect of over four-fifths of all headquarters posts. There is every reason to expect that a full complement of decentralising staff will be in place by end-2006.

The Prisons Authority Interim Board continued to be concerned about the high level of turnover of headquarters staff as the Service proceeds with preparations for decentralisation. I have assured the Board that staff transfers into and out of Prison Service Headquarters are being managed as far as possible on a phased basis and that the unavoidable loss of corporate memory is being mitigated by way of a number of measures, including team-working and detailed recording of work processes.

I am satisfied that, on the basis of progress made in 2005, the Irish Prison Service can meet its target of relocating to Longford in early 2007.

RETIREMENTS

A total of 105 Prison Service staff retired during the year. Among those who retired was Governor William Kane who gave distinguished service over many years at a number of institutions and most recently at Cloverhill Prison. Another prominent retiree in 2005 was Deputy Governor Jim Petherbridge, whose knowledge, expertise and dedication to duty at Mountjoy Prison is already legendary in the Prison Service. I would like to wish them and all our colleagues who retired in 2005 a long and happy retirement.

Brian Purcell
DIRECTOR GENERAL

Brian McCarthy - Chairman



Mairead Ahern



Brian Purcell - Director General



Jim O'Hanrahan



Anne Counihan



Tom Hoare



Jerry Kiersey



Jimmy Martin



Governor Frank McCarthy



Kathleen O'Neill



Michael O'Shea



Michael Whelehan



BOARD MEMBERS



CUSTODY OF PRISONERS

CUSTODY OF PRISONERS

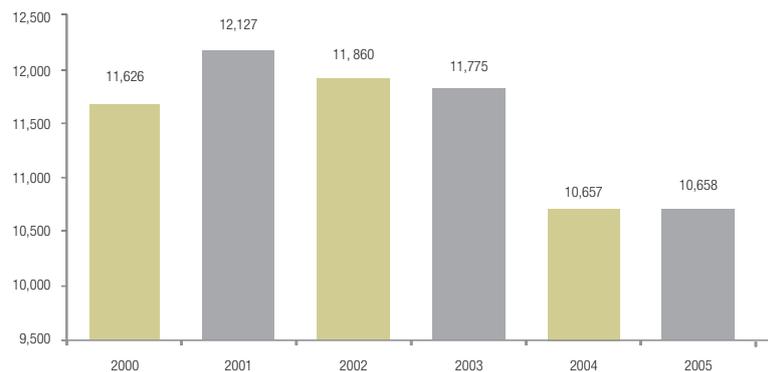
THIS REPRESENTS A LARGELY UNCHANGED POSITION AS COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS YEAR WHEN COMMITTALS TOTALLED 10,657 AND INCLUDED 5,064 COMMITTALS UNDER SENTENCE.

COMMITTALS

There was a total of 10,658 committals to prison in 2005, comprising 5,088 committals under sentence, 4,522 committals on remand/for trial, 951 committals under immigration law and 188 other committals. This represents a largely unchanged position as compared with the previous year when committals totalled 10,657 and included 5,064 committals under sentence.

The 951 committals under immigration law represent a further reduction in such committals as compared with previous years - down 9% on 2004 and down 54% since 2003. These reductions correspond with significant reductions in asylum applications during the period.

Figure 1: Committals to prison, 2000- 2005



PERSONS COMMITTED IN 2005

A total of 8,686 persons accounted for the 10,658 committals to prison in 2005. This represents a decrease of 134 (1.5%) as compared with 2004, mainly attributable to the fall in the number of persons detained on immigration matters.

Given the fall in the number of persons sent to prison in 2005 and the virtually identical total number of committals as compared with 2004, it can be deduced that there was a small increase in the average number of committals per person in 2005.

About 90% (7,780) of persons entering prison in 2005 were male and 10% (906) were female. In excess of 68% (5,327) of the males and about 73% (657) of the females were aged between 21 and 40 years.

Table 1: Age and gender of persons committed to prison in 2005

	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
15 - <17	1	43	44
17 - < 21	106	1,123	1,229
21 - < 25	192	1,650	1,842
25 - < 30	224	1,663	1,887
30 - < 40	242	2,014	2,256
40 - < 50	109	890	999
50+	32	397	429
Total	906	7,780	8,686

COUNTY AND COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

The wide geographical spread of addresses given by persons who entered prison in 2005 is similar to previous years. The number of persons who gave a Dublin address on committal was down 1.7% to 3,478. Cork and Limerick addresses were given by 9.4% and 4.8% of persons respectively. Some 103 different countries of origin were indicated.

A total of 2,185 persons (25%) sent to prison in 2005 indicated they were non-nationals compared with 1,804 (20%) in 2004. This is an unexpected rise at a time when immigration-related detentions are falling. It is attributable to an increase in the number of non-nationals committed on remand. The number of non-nationals committed under sentence was up by only 50 to 411 in 2005. The proportion of non-nationals in the daily average prisoner population remained relatively low.

Figure 2: Home address by county given by persons committed in 2005

	TOTAL
Antrim	68
Armagh	13
Carlow	48
Cavan	78
Clare	123
Cork	815
Derry	25
Donegal	107
Down	17
Dublin	3,478
Fermanagh	13
Galway	289
Kerry	160
Kildare	199
Kilkenny	65
Laois	94
Leitrim	12
Limerick	415
Longford	72
Louth	174
Mayo	141
Meath	137
Monaghan	87
Not Stated	581
Offaly	92
Outside Country	471
Roscommon	45
Sligo	69
Tipperary	180
Tyrone	12
Waterford	207
Westmeath	134
Wexford	121
Wicklow	144
Total	8,686

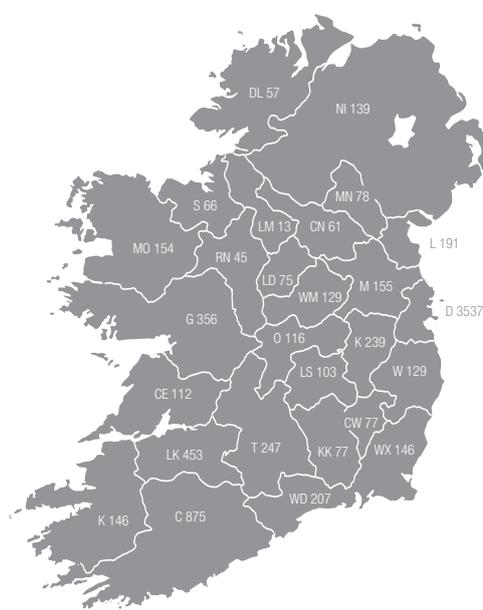


Table 2: Nationality as given by persons committed in 2005

	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
Irish	562	5,939	6,501
E.U.	29	234	263
Other European	154	912	1,066
Asian	54	203	257
African	68	357	425
North American	3	10	13
Central/South American	18	82	100
Austral/Asian	3	3	6
Not Recorded	15	40	55
Total	906	7,780	8,686

COMMITTALS UNDER SENTENCE

There were 5,088 committals under sentence in 2005, compared with 5,064 in 2004. Males accounted for 4,686 (92 %) of these committals. The number of females committed under sentence was 402.

Table 3 profiles the age of offenders classified by sentence length. Table 4 profiles the principal offence that gave rise to each committal, classified by sentence length. Table 5 profiles the principal offence classified by age of offender. Further profiles, by gender, are included in the Appendix to this report.

SENTENCE LENGTH

Changes in the profile of sentences handed down by the courts can impact significantly on the size of the average daily prisoner population. While sentence patterns in 2005 were broadly similar to those of previous years, there were some notable changes. In particular, the number of sentences of more than one year was up 35% to 1,144 in 2005 as compared with 845 in 2004. At the same time, the number of sentences of less than one year fell from 4,219 to 3,944, a reduction of 7%.

The most striking change in respect of sentence length occurred in the category of 1 to 2-year sentences. Here there was major reversal of the pattern of declining numbers in recent years (518 in 2001, 514 in 2002, 402 in 2003 to 283 in 2004) by way of an increase to 465 in 2005. There was also a sizeable increase (39%) in committal numbers in the 2 to 3-year sentence category as compared with 2004. The trend of increased numbers of committals for ten years and more was sustained with 35 such committals (30 in each of the years 2003 and 2004).

There were seventeen life sentence committals in 2005, down 13 as compared with 2004. This was expected given the progress made in 2004 in eliminating the backlog of cases before the Central Criminal Court and the status of applications for inward transfer under the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons.

Overall, there was an increase of 15% in average sentence length in 2005 - up from 263 days in 2004 to 303 days in 2005. This is a significant increase. It mainly reflects the reversal of the trend of reducing numbers of one to two-year committals. By way of impact, this will almost certainly result in a higher average daily prisoner population in 2006. It also indicates that the general trend of longer sentences, which has been discerned in recent years, is continuing. The IPS anticipates that this trend will be maintained in future years and will result in a need for additional prison places.

COMMITTALS BY AGE GROUP

As in previous years, persons aged between 21 and 40 years (3,390 or 67%) accounted for the majority of committals under sentence in 2005.

The number of persons under 21 years of age committed under sentence in 2005 was 809, down from 944 in 2004. This maintains the reduction in the number of committals of young people, which has been a feature of IPS annual reports for some years. It is not clear what precise factors are driving the reductions. However, one of these is likely to be the greater variety of alternatives to custody that are now available.

Persons aged over 40 years of age accounted for 889 committals under sentence, a 9% increase on 2004 (819). While still relatively small this age group has been assuming increasing prominence as a proportion of total committal numbers. Some 633 of the committals in this age group in 2005 were in respect of offences other than offences against a person or property. A wide range of offences is involved with the larger numbers involving road traffic offences (237) and public order offences (111).

COMMITTALS BY OFFENCE GROUP

The Irish Prison Service uses four Offence Groups to categorise, by principal offence, the numbers of persons committed to prison under sentence (see Table 5).

There were 689 sentenced committals in 2005 in respect of Group 1 offences (Offences against the Person), a reduction of 181 as compared with the previous year. The reduction is accounted for by the fall in the number of committals for assault which was higher than normal in 2004. There was also a reduction in the number of committals for murder (mandatory life sentence), mainly reflecting progress in eliminating the backlog of cases before the Central Criminal Court.

The total number of sentenced committals for crimes against property - 1,284 - is marginally down on 2004 (1,312). Only 7% of those committals were 'Group 2' offences (Offences against Property with Violence). The vast bulk (93%) were 'Group 3' offences (Offences against Property without Violence).

Once again, the largest proportion (61%) of sentenced committals in 2005 was in respect of Group 4 - Other Offences. Of the 3,115 committals in this category, 1,357 were committals for road traffic offences, more than half of which were for terms of less than three months. There were 281 committals for drug offences, fifteen of which were for 10 years or more.

Table 3: Sentence length by age of offender in 2005

	< 3MTHS	3-6 MTHS	6MTHS- 1YR	1-<2 YRS	2-<3 YRS	3-<5 YRS	5-<10 YRS	10YRS+	LIFE	TOTAL
15 - <17	-	1	11	3	2	2	-	-	-	19
17 - < 21	200	175	202	99	52	33	21	5	3	790
21 - < 25	367	257	245	112	69	43	27	4	3	1,127
25 - < 30	390	197	202	104	48	54	30	5	3	1,033
30 - < 40	515	251	209	94	50	54	40	12	5	1,230
40 - < 50	317	101	71	34	24	27	12	5	3	594
50+	173	38	22	19	14	12	13	4	-	295
Total	1,962	1,020	962	465	259	225	143	35	17	5,088

Table 4: Offence by Sentence length of offender in 2005 (2004 figures in parenthesis)

	< 3MTHS	3-6 MTHS	6MTHS- 1YR	1-<2 YRS	2-<3 YRS	3-<5 YRS	5-<10 YRS	10YRS+	LIFE	TOTAL
GROUP 1										
Offences against the Person										
Murder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	17
	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1)	(28)	(30)
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	1	1	7	-	-	9
	-	-	-	-	(6)	(10)	(3)	-	(19)	-
Sexual Offences	1	1	8	10	24	21	24	4	-	93
	(1)	(1)	(12)	(13)	(15)	(20)	(23)	(5)	(1)	(91)
Other Offences										
against the Person	75	142	134	106	39	48	18	8	-	570
	(123)	(280)	(229)	(84)	(43)	(52)	(19)	-	-	(830)
Total Group 1	76	143	142	116	64	70	49	12	17	689
	(125)	(281)	(241)	(97)	(58)	(78)	(52)	(9)	(29)	(970)
GROUP 2										
Offences against										
Property with violence	2	7	19	15	17	15	8	1	-	84
	(21)	(21)	(59)	(23)	(26)	(19)	(9)	(4)	-	(182)
GROUP 3										
Offences against Property										
without violence	217	285	381	171	70	-	48	25	3	1,200
	(257)	(290)	(392)	(95)	(47)	(36)	(10)	(3)	-	(1,130)
GROUP 4										
Other Offences										
Drug Offences	49	44	57	37	22	29	28	13	-	279
	(44)	(45)	(56)	(15)	(29)	(40)	(35)	(14)	-	(278)
Road Traffic Offences	714	332	220	67	14	7	3	-	-	1,357
	(726)	(3610)	(176)	(23)	(5)	(4)	(1)	-	-	(1,296)
Other	904	209	143	59	72	56	30	6	-	1,479
	(827)	(198)	(99)	(30)	(22)	(23)	(9)	-	-	(1,208)
Total Group 4	1,667	585	420	163	108	92	61	19	-	3,115
	(1,597)	(9,604)	(331)	(68)	(56)	(67)	(45)	(14)	-	(2,782)
Grand Total	1,962	1,020	962	465	259	225	143	35	17	5,088
	(2,000)	(1,196)	(1,023)	(283)	(187)	(200)	(116)	(30)	(29)	(5,064)

Table 5: Offence group by age of offender

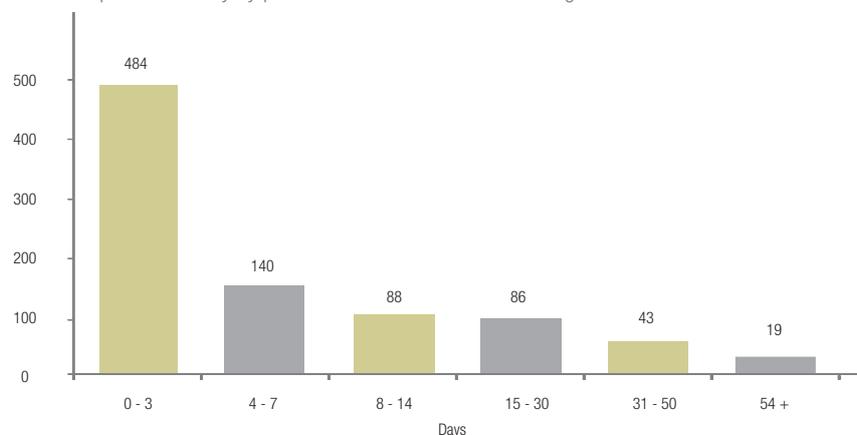
	15-<17	17-<21	21-<25	25-<30	30-<40	40-<50	50+	TOTAL
GROUP 1								
Offences against the Person								
Murder	-	3	3	3	5	3	-	17
Manslaughter	-	2	-	3	3	-	1	9
Sexual Offences	-	8	6	10	12	23	34	93
Other Offences against the Person								
	3	121	146	95	136	53	16	570
Total Group 1	3	134	155	111	156	79	51	689
GROUP 2								
Offences against Property with violence								
	-	16	20	20	19	7	2	84
GROUP 3								
Offences against Property without violence								
	12	246	293	267	275	79	28	1,200
GROUP 4								
Other Offences								
Drug Offences	-	35	70	73	76	18	7	279
Road Traffic Offences	3	176	325	305	311	165	72	1,357
Other	1	183	264	257	393	246	135	1,479
Total Group 4	4	394	659	635	780	429	214	3,115
Grand Total	19	790	1,127	1,033	1,230	594	295	5,088

The reduction in the numbers of persons detained under immigration law in 2005 was concentrated among those who spent relatively longer periods of time (i.e. >14 days in custody).

PERSONS DETAINED UNDER IMMIGRATION LAWS

In 2005, 860 persons of all persons who entered the prison system were immigration detainees, a reduction of 86 persons (9%) on 2004. The reduction was concentrated among detainees who spent periods in excess of 14 days in custody. It reflects a continuing fall off in the number of asylum applications received in the State. (Statistics published by the Refugee Applications Commissioner indicate that there was a reduction of 9% in the number of asylum applications in 2005 (4,323). The indications are that the reduced level is likely to be maintained or possibly fall further in future years.

Figure 3: Time spent in custody by persons committed under the Immigration Acts in 2005



NUMBER OF PRISONERS IN CUSTODY

Most prisons operated at or near full capacity in 2005. The overall daily average number of prisoners in custody for 2005 was 3,151, a slight decrease (1.5%) on 2004 (3,199). The average number of female offenders in custody during 2005 was 103, a 6% increase on 2004.

Table 6 following shows the average custody figures for each institution in 2005. The average total number in the system, which is a combination of the prisoners in custody (3,151) and those on temporary release (164), was 3,315.

Table 6: Daily average number of prisoners per institution (2005)

INSTITUTION	BED CAPACITY	AVERAGE NO IN CUSTODY	% BED CAPACITY	NO.ON TR	TOTAL SEX OFFENDERS (IMMIG. WARRANT)	NON NATIONALS	TOTAL
Mountjoy (m)	480	488	102	46	2	0	534
Mountjoy (f)	85	87	102	16	1	2	103
St Patrick's	217	187	86	8	4	0	195
Cork	268	257	96	26	10	1	283
Limerick (m)	275	253	92	5	5	0	258
Limerick (f)	20	15	75	6	0	0	21
Castlereagh	206	210	102	2	22	0	212
Cloverhill	433	391	90	4	1	13	395
Wheatfield	373	360	96	8	56	1	368
Portlaoise	188	121	64	1	0	0	122
Arbour Hill	140	138	99	0	84	0	138
Training Unit	96	93	97	7	0	0	100
Midlands	449	426	95	7	82	0	433
Loughan House	97	74	76	7	0	0	81
Shelton Abbey	56	51	90	21	0	0	72
Daily average for all institutions							
	3,356	3,151	94%	164	267	17	3,315
Female prisoners only							
Mountjoy (f)	85	87	103	16	1	2	103
Limerick (f)	20	15	75	6	0	0	21
Daily average for female prisoners							
	105	102	98	22	1	2	124

TEMPORARY RELEASE

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

The average number of persons serving sentences who were on temporary release during 2005 (164) represented 5% of the average total number of prisoners in the system. This represents a significant decrease on the previous year's figure of 286. Prisoners may be on a structured temporary release programme, often under the direct supervision of the Probation and Welfare Service. Prisoners may also in certain circumstances receive 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

There were three escapes from prisons in 2005, all from the Dochas Centre, the Mountjoy female prison. In addition, six prisoners escaped from the custody of prison officers while outside the confines of a closed institution, in general while the prisoners were either attending court or receiving medical treatment. There were a number of attempted escapes during the year which were unsuccessful largely due to the vigilance of escort staff.

A total of 81 prisoners absconded from custody i.e. from an open centre or while on accompanied outings with an officer, the Prison chaplain or other support services, such as the Probation & Welfare Officer. Forty-nine of the abscondee were returned to custody by year-end.

SUICIDES/DEATHS IN CUSTODY

There were eight deaths in custody in 2005. Inquest verdicts were returned in four cases (natural causes, death by misadventure, open verdict and accidental death). Initial indications suggest that two of the other four deaths may have been by way of suicide. In a number of other instances, attempted suicides were prevented by the vigilance of prison staff.

Table 7: Escapes and Absconds from custody

	ESCAPES	ABSCONDS	TOTAL	STILL AT LARGE (31.12.05)
Castlerea	1	0	1	0
Cloverhill	0	1	1	0
Dochas Centre	3	2	5	0
Limerick (Male)	1	0	1	0
Loughan House	0	32	32	19
Mountjoy	2	0	2	0
Portlaoise	1	0	1	0
Shelton Abbey	0	38	38	10
Training Unit	0	6	6	2
Wheatfield	1	2	3	1
Total	9	81	90	32

INTERIM PAROLE BOARD

The Interim Parole Board, which is an independent nine-member body, advises the Minister on the administration of long-term sentences. The Board, by way of recommendation to the Minister, advises of the prisoner's progress to date, the degree to which he or she has engaged with the various therapeutic services and how best to proceed with the future administration of this sentence. The decision-making authority remains with the Minister.

During 2005 over 100 prisoners cases were referred to the Board as compared to 43 cases in 2004. Sixty-six prisoners accepted the invitation to participate in the review. During the year the Board made 46 recommendations to the Minister, who accepted the full recommendations in the majority of cases. In addition, to dealing with the 100 or so new referrals, 54 cases, at various stages of the review process, were carried forward from 2004 and some 34 cases were scheduled for a second or subsequent review.

During 2005, the Probation and Welfare Service prepared assessment and home circumstances reports for the Parole Board in respect of eligible participating prisoners. Probation and Welfare Service assessment and home circumstances reports are important elements in the Parole Board's case consideration process.

The reports provide detailed information and assessments on the prisoner, his/her background, offending, personal circumstances, victim and community issues, and the prisoner's time in custody. The reports identify and interpret issues and the risks to be addressed before and after release and contribute towards the making of effective decisions and recommendations to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform by the Parole Board. Details of the reports are outlined in Table 8.

Table 8: Probation & Welfare Service Reports to the Parole Board 2005

PAROLE BOARD CASE REVIEW	PROBATION & WELFARE SERVICE REPORTS	PROBATION & WELFARE SERVICE HOME CIRCUMSTANCES REPORTS	TOTAL
First	42	26	68
Second	19	5	24
Third	5	2	7
Fourth	4	1	5
Fifth	0	0	0
Total	70	34	104

CONVENTION ON THE TRANSFER OF SENTENCED PERSONS

The Council of Europe Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons provides a mechanism whereby non-nationals serving sentences in Ireland may apply to serve the remainder of their sentences in their own countries and, similarly, Irish persons who are imprisoned overseas may apply to serve the remainder of their sentences in Ireland. The policy of the Convention is to overcome the difficulties posed for prisoners serving sentences in foreign jurisdictions, for example, absence of contact with relatives and differences in languages and culture. In this regard, it has been established Government policy that, whenever possible, prisoners

should be permitted to serve their sentences close to their families. During 2005, there were 5 inward transfers from other jurisdictions and 3 outward transfers. All of the transfers were from/to the United Kingdom as can be seen from Table 9. (Opposite page)

INSPECTOR OF PRISONS AND PLACES OF DETENTION ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF PRISONS AND PLACES OF DETENTION

The Inspector of Prisons and Places of Detention submitted his third Annual Report to the Minister in April 2005.

The final section of the report contains a summary of recommendations. This includes recommendations relating to prison conditions and also other more-broadly based policy recommendations that are beyond the remit of the Irish Prison Service such as establishment of a statutory Prisons Inspectorate and a statutory Probation and Welfare Service, contracting for a privately-operated prison and appointment of an Ombudsman for Prisoners. The following observations relate to the more significant of the Inspector's recommendations on prison conditions and services.

ST PATRICK'S INSTITUTION

The Inspector recommends that St Patrick's Institution be closed and replaced elsewhere.

The Irish Prison Service fully agrees that St Patrick's is no longer a suitable setting for custodial and care services for young people. The outdated buildings and close confines of the site militate against delivery of the kind of modern regime and imaginative programmes that the Governor and his team at St Patrick's would wish to have in place.

The only sustainable solution is to close St Patrick's and provide new accommodation and facilities suited to the needs of its young people. The Irish Prison Service is doing all it can to accelerate the closure of the Institution and, indeed, the Mountjoy campus as a whole. This will be facilitated by development of the new prison complex at Thornton within the shortest possible time frame.

The Irish Prison Service acknowledges that it will take time to plan and construct the new facilities at Thornton and that there is a need for short-term action to benefit the young people now at St Patrick's. To this end, the necessary resources are being put in place to re-open the Institution's newly-renovated workshops and to bring the new school into full operation so as to facilitate greater access to modern education and vocational training programmes.

SEPARATE CUSTODY FOR CHILDREN

The Inspector recommends that children be kept in totally separate accommodation well away from prisons. The Inspector also recommends that remand prisoners be held separately from sentenced prisoners.

The Irish Prison Service concurs with these recommendations. Unfortunately, however, implementation is constrained by the current limitations on prison places. The ultimate solution lies in bringing new prison accommodation into operation at the Thornton site. Planning for that development is proceeding on the basis that there will be separate accommodation on the site for all boys under eighteen years of age. In the longer term, all under-18s will be transferred to the custody of the new Youth Justice Service in accordance with decisions already taken by the Government. The Thornton development will also facilitate separation of remand and sentenced prisoners.

Pending provision of the new accommodation at Thornton, it is hoped in 2006 to go some way towards providing separate custody for under-18s at St Patrick's Institution. The intention is to use separate facilities in 'B' Wing to accommodate forty-four boys under eighteen years of age away from older prisoners. This would result in separate accommodation being achieved for about three-quarters of all under-18s in custody.

MENTALLY-ILL AND PRISONERS WITH PERSONALITY DISORDERS

The Inspector also raised concerns about persons with personality disorders being sent to prison.

Mental illness and personality disorders comprise a broad range of individual conditions which vary considerably in the nature and extent of their impacts on the person. In many cases, a person who is mentally ill or has a personality disorder can be managed within the prison system with continuing care being provided as appropriate from psychologists and visiting psychiatrists. There are, however, cases where mentally ill prisoners need in-patient psychiatric care and real difficulties have arisen in securing timely access to such care for individual prisoners.

Table 9: Prisoner applications for transfer and transfers effected to other jurisdictions 2001 – 2005

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR INWARD TRANSFERS	2001	200	2003	2004	2005	TOTAL
United Kingdom	26	20	14	11	17	88
USA	-	-	1	1	-	2
Isle of Man	-	1	-	-	-	1
Italy	-	1	-	-	-	1
Holland	-	-	1	-	-	1
Panama	-	1	-	-	1	2
Japan	-	-	-	1	-	1
Australia	-	-	-	1	-	1
Trinidad & Tobago	-	-	-	1	-	1
Spain	-	-	-	-	2	2
Total	26	23	16	15	20	100
Inward transfers effected from:						
United Kingdom	4	8	8	5	5	30
USA	-	-	-	1	-	1
Panama	-	-	-	1	-	1
Total	4	8	8	7	5	32
Application Received for						
Outward Transfers	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total
United Kingdom	11	9	12	10	11	53
Northern Ireland	9	6	2	-	1	18
Scotland	2	2	2	-	-	6
Germany	1	-	-	-	-	1
Netherlands	1	-	4	-	1	6
Spain	1	-	-	-	-	1
Portugal	-	-	1	-	-	1
Italy	-	1	1	-	-	2
Albania	-	-	-	1	1	2
Total	25	18	22	11	14	90
Outward transfers Effected to:						
United Kingdom	5	4	7	4	3	23
Northern Ireland	1	-	-	-	-	1
Scotland	1	-	-	-	-	1
Germany	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total	7	4	7	4	3	25

The Irish Prison Service welcomes the commitment of additional resources to the Central Mental Hospital with a view to improving access for prisoners to its facilities and care. The Service also welcomes the Government decision to provide a new Central Mental Hospital as a separate development on the site purchased at Thornton, Co. Dublin for the replacement of the Mountjoy Complex. The new Hospital would be proximate to the major prison complexes in the Dublin area and should assist greatly in meeting the in-patient psychiatric needs of prisoners. Pending the provision of the new facility, the Prisons Authority Interim Board will continue to pursue improved prisoner access to the existing Hospital in Dundrum.

REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES

The Inspector is critical of the extent of rehabilitation programmes available for prisoners and referred readers to his reports on Cork Prison and St. Patrick's Institution.

The considerable investment in prisoner programmes in 2005 is evident in later chapters of this annual report. In particular the chapter on 'The Institutions' sets out the programmes provided last year at each individual institution. While it is acknowledged that financial constraints impacted on programme participation in 2005, it is still the case that there have been significant improvements, especially by way of excellent facilities provided at newer prisons, in recent years.

Further improvements in prisoner access to programmes should be possible as implementation of the Proposal for Organisational Change proceeds. For instance the change programme provides for an almost doubling of the number of Assistant Industrial Supervisors in prison workshops from fifty to ninety-three. Other measures, including measures to achieve greater prisoner participation in the sex offender programme are currently being examined.

The Inspector can rightly point to Cork Prison and St Patrick's as examples of locations where there is a deficit of prisoner programmes. As already indicated measures are being taken to bring about immediate improvements at St Patrick's but the ultimate solution in relation to older institutions such as Cork and St Patrick's is the complete replacement of those institutions with modern facilities incorporating new, purpose-built accommodation for prisoner programmes. This is the course being taken by the Irish Prison Service.

PRISON SERVICE BUDGET

The Inspector recommends the engagement of an external group to examine and assess the whole prison budget for efficiency, transparency and value for money.

The Irish Prison Service is financed exclusively from the Prison Vote, which is voted annually by Dáil Éireann. Expenditure on the Vote is audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General and is subject to scrutiny by Dáil Éireann, including scrutiny by the Public Accounts Committee. In addition, there is provision for independent expenditure reviews on particular areas of expenditure under the vote. A public tender competition is currently under way for a review of the Service's capital expenditure.

Accordingly, mechanisms are already in place for oversight of prisons-related expenditure. The Irish Prison Service co-operates fully with all the relevant oversight bodies.

PRISON INSPECTIONS 2005

In addition to publishing his Annual Report during 2005, the Inspector of Prisons published reports on his visits to St. Patrick's Institution, Mountjoy, The Dóchas Centre, the Training Unit, Cork Prison, the Midlands Prison and Castlerea. These reports raised a number of issues. The position in relation to the more significant of those recommendations is as follows.

ST PATRICK'S INSTITUTION

The Inspector expressed concerns about allegations of fights in the exercise area in St. Patrick's Institution. Given that so many inmates of St Patrick's are detained there on foot of convictions involving crimes against the person, it is to be expected that some of them will be apt to engage in violent behaviour. However, the Irish Prison Service takes very seriously its responsibility to ensure safe custody and care of all prisoners, including young people detained at St. Patrick's Institution. The Governor and his staff are well aware of the potential for violence and bullying in the Institution and take all steps that they can to ensure that it does not occur.

The reasons underlying bullying and violent behaviour vary from case to case. Proper investigation requires a knowledge of the identity of the victim and the times at which there was evidence of bullying or indications that it was taking place. The Governor at St Patrick's has indicated that attempts to bring drugs into the Institution have led to incidents of violence and bullying. Prior to erection of new netting over the exercise yard, drugs thrown over the boundary wall landed on the old netting and prisoners managed to dislodge some of them. Any drugs recovered were distributed to other prisoners in the yard. A number of prisoners have, in the past, been bullied into retrieving drugs (and running the risk in the process of disciplinary action being taken against them). This bullying scenario has been ameliorated, however, since the erection of the new, closer weave netting from which it is much more difficult to dislodge drugs.

As a further measure to deter drug-related bullying the Governor introduced a new system of visits which allows the prisoner to nominate four people to visit him. These visitors must produce photo identification when they present themselves to the Institution. The intention is to use this system to prevent any prisoner being bullied into taking visits from someone he does not know who may attempt to pass drugs to him.

CORK PRISON

The inspector was 'gravely concerned' about allegations by prisoners that the Prison Doctor in Cork Prison was disrespectful in his dealing with them. The Inspector put the allegations to the doctor who rejected them.

Arising from the Inspector's report, the Director of Healthcare in the Irish Prison Service has since raised the allegations with the Prison Doctor. The doctor utterly refuted the allegations outlined and was adamant that all prisoners were dealt with by him in a timely and effective manner. The Director has reported that he has no

evidence from management, staff, or prisoners that would confirm the allegations made.

The promulgation of the IPS Healthcare Standards in September 2004 will assist in clarifying acceptable standards of healthcare provision and behaviour towards prisoners. There is provision for independent audit of the standards in 2006.

MOUNTJOY PRISON

In his report of a revisit to Mountjoy Prison the Inspector expressed concern that toilets and shower facilities on 'A' Wing had not been renovated as per recommendations in the report of his earlier visit. The position is that these renovations were undertaken in early-2006 and are currently being completed.

It should be also noted that refurbishment of toilet facilities in the 'C' and 'D' Divisions and on the 'A1' landing were completed in 2005. TVs are provided in all cells in Mountjoy and in all other prisons. The cladded cells at the prison were replaced with new safety observation cells in 2005. Each of those cells is equipped with a call-bell. Replacement of the electricity generator at the prison was considered but was found to be cost prohibitive. It was decided to divert non-essential services to ensure that the generator would be sufficient to meet security and other essential services in the prison.

DÓCHAS CENTRE

While there is a requirement for additional prisoner accommodation at the Dóchas Centre, it is not currently proposed to proceed with the proposed conversion of the existing locker room and offices in light of the decision to re-locate to Thornton.

CASTLEREA

The Inspector recommended that the Irish Prison Service proceed with its plans to appoint a psychologist to Castlerea Prison and obtain assistance from Roscommon County Council in the operation of the prison's library.

The Irish Prison Service has sought to fill the vacancy for psychologist through recruitment but, unfortunately, the only successful candidate who expressed an interest in being based at Castlerea declined the offer of the post. A further recruitment competition to fill the post is now under way. In the event that the post cannot be filled from this competition, consideration will be given to securing the services of a psychologist on a sessional basis.

In May 2005 an advertisement was placed in the national press for the post of Assistant Librarian at Castlerea Prison through Roscommon County Council. An industrial relations dispute arose within the Council as to whether the post should be filled by way of open or confined competition. The dispute was referred to Labour Court which recommended that consultation should take place between the parties. The matter is still under discussion.

TRAINING UNIT

The Inspector recommends that the IT-based sentence calculation programme be checked for accuracy in calculating prisoner' sentences in light of alleged errors in calculating discharge dates which resulted in such dates having to be calculated manually.

The Irish Prison Service is satisfied that the programme has been rigorously tested and should deliver accurate discharge dates where all data is entered correctly. The Governor of the Training Unit has been asked to ensure that any further concerns in this matter are immediately brought to the notice of the Director of Operations for investigation.

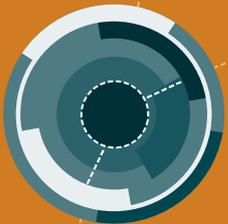
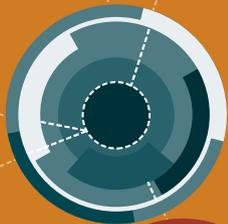
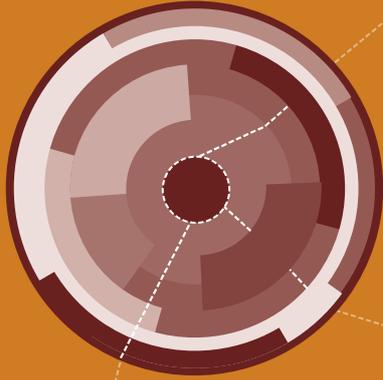
MIDLANDS

The Inspector raised a number of issues in regard to medical facilities.

The Irish Prison Service notes the Inspector's proposal that a second doctor's surgery be provided at the prison. This will be considered in the context of planned improvements generally to the medical area. The provision of accommodation for a dental x-ray machine, which is recommended by the Inspector, is also being considered. This will require a specialist-build for health and safety reasons.

The Inspector also recommended review of the maintenance contract for dental equipment at the prison.

CARE AND REHABILITATION OF PRISONERS



CARE AND REHABILITATION OF PRISONERS

THE IRISH PRISON SERVICE AIMS TO PROVIDE A RANGE OF CARE SERVICES TO PRISONERS TO A STANDARD COMMENSURATE WITH THAT OBTAINING IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY. THESE SERVICES INCLUDE MEDICAL, DENTAL, PSYCHIATRIC, PSYCHOLOGICAL, EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, WORK, WELFARE, SPIRITUAL, COUNSELLING AND RECREATIONAL SERVICES. THESE SERVICES ARE IMPORTANT IN SUSTAINING PRISONERS' PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, HELPING THEM COPE WITH IMPRISONMENT, ENCOURAGING POSITIVE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PREPARING PRISONERS FOR REINTEGRATION INTO SOCIETY FOLLOWING RELEASE.

There was continuing high demand for prisoner care services in 2005. Services continued to be provided to the maximum extent possible commensurate with available resources. However, the IPS acknowledges that the budgetary restraint measures introduced in 2004, against the backdrop of the industrial relations situation, continued to impact on the level of some services to prisoners even though every effort was made by the prison authorities, and the service providers, to minimise the difficulties involved. While effects on services varied from institution to institution, it generally involved more limited access to libraries, gyms, workshops and prison visits.

Implementation of the Proposal for Organisational Change as agreed with the Prison Officers' Association has heralded a new situation. New organisational and working arrangements should not only restore but enhance prisoner regimes in the years ahead, particularly in terms of improving access to services, the availability of better facilities, and making more productive use of out-of-cell time for prisoners.

PRISON EDUCATION SERVICE

Education is delivered in prisons by way of a partnership between the Irish Prison Service and a range of educational agencies. During the academic year 2005/06, the Department of Education and Science provided an allocation of 210 whole-time teacher equivalents to the prisons. This included provision for the summer months and also enabled special teaching arrangements where prisoners are segregated (e.g. Portlaoise, Mountjoy, Wheatfield, Limerick, Midlands, Castlereagh and Cork). Some 202 full-time equivalent posts were activated, with the balance to be activated in 2006 with the opening of the new Education Unit at Cloverhill Prison.

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

- The Open University, which now caters for close to 100 prisoners annually on degree-level distance education courses;
- The Arts Council, which provides writers' workshops and artists' workshops;
- Other third-level colleges, such as the National College of Art and Design, which is involved in Portlaoise, Midlands and Training Unit prisons.
- In addition, four full-time librarians, employed by Dublin Public Libraries, work in prisons in the Dublin area.

The curriculum is largely based on adult education. Set courses and examination work are only a part of prison education due to the high population turnover of most prisons. The emergence of FETAC accreditation has opened up new possibilities, which are now widely used in prison education.

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATION IN PRISON

Participation in education generally varies with factors such as access, facilities, turnover of population and segregation. At the end of 2005, 51% of all prisoners were involved in some education. More than half of these, (i.e. 27% of the total prison population), were intensively involved, i.e. for more than 10 hours per week of classes (this figure was 24% in 2004). Such an overall level of involvement in education whilst in prison is very high by international standards. The pattern of participation for each particular prison may be seen in Table 10.

Table 10: Prisoner Participation in Education, 2005

PRISON	PRISONER POPULATION (23/11/2005) (A)	NO. OF PRISONERS PARTICIPATING IN EDUCATION (B)	PERCENTAGE PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATION (B/A)	NO. OF PRISONERS INVOLVED IN EDUCATION FOR 10 HOURS OR MORE PER WEEK (C)	RATE OF INTENSIVE PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATION (C/A)
Arbour Hill	139	115	83%	66	47%
Castlerea	218	101	46%	64	29%
Clloverhill	393	-	-	-	-
Cork 258	182	71	79%	-	31%
Dóchas	87	71	82%	45	52%
Limerick (m & f)	273	136	50%	96	35%
Loughan House	90	55	61%	45	50%
Midlands	426	241	57%	60	14%
Mountjoy (male)	486	220	45%	145	30%
Portlaoise	115	88	77%	20	17%
Shelton Abbey	53	44	83%	29	55%
St. Patrick's Institution	174	93	53%	46	26%
Training Unit	87	56	64%	18	21%
Wheatfield	351	207	59%	148	42%
TOTAL	3,150	1,609	51%*	861	27%*

*Note: Excluding Clloverhill the overall participation rate in education is 58% and the overall intensive participation is 31%.

LITERACY

Literacy work continues to be a priority element of the Prison Education Service curriculum given that twice as many prisoners are at the lowest level of literacy skills compared to the general population. Every effort is made to publicise literacy classes and encourage as many prisoners as possible to avail of the classes. A number of significant initiatives commenced or were strengthened in 2005 which paralleled efforts to address adult literacy in the community. Among these were the fuller use of negotiated learning plans, involvement with the new FETAC level 1 and level 2 courses, and the introduction of the National Adult Literacy Agency's assessment framework, mapping the Learning Journey.

THE ARTS IN PRISONS

The Arts continued to be a dynamic aspect of prison education in 2005. A major exhibition of prisoners' artworks was shown in Dublin, Cobh and Listowel. Significant original drama was produced in Midlands, Mountjoy and Castlerea Prisons. The writing competitions for people in prisons, which has been organised as part of Listowel Writers' Week since the early 1980s, received new impetus in 2005 with writing in Irish, and writing by Irish prisoners overseas, now both included for the first time.

PUBLICATIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION ON PRISON EDUCATION

Further information on prison education can be obtained from a number of publications available from the office of the Co-ordinator of Education (Block 5, Belfield Office Park, Beaver Row, Dublin 4). Among the key documents, each of which refers to further publications, are the annual Directory of Prison Education, the Strategy Statement of the Prison Education Service 2003-2007, and Prison Education in Ireland: a Review of the Curriculum.

WORK AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

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

During 2005, new workshops were developed in a number of institutions and a refurbishment and equipment replacement programme was implemented in other workshops. New Health and Safety induction modules were designed and delivered at a number of institutions. E-College, a FÁS distance learning delivery programme, was piloted in the Training Unit and it is planned to extend the programme to other institutions in 2006. A new work training database system was developed and rolled out to six institutions during the year. The system will be installed in the remaining institutions in 2006. The database will facilitate the tracking of prisoners' participation and progress in work and vocational training activities and courses during their time in custody. It will also assist in the monitoring and evaluation of the level and effectiveness of work and training services to prisoners.



Hurley repair,
Cork Prison

Community assistance programmes and community project work continued throughout 2005. Several prisons raised funds and provided a wide range of materials for charitable organisations. Beneficiaries included the Barretstown Gang Camp, Limelight (the association of friends of the adult mentally handicapped at Peamount Hospital), CARL (Children at Risk in Ireland) and To Russia with Love (an organisation that helps orphaned Russian children). Arbour Hill Prison continued to provide its valuable Braille productions and other community supports.

The Proposal for Organisational Change provides for a significant expansion and development of vocational work training activities including a substantial increase in work and vocational training activities. On the conclusion of the Agreement, a number of competitions were held in late 2005 to fill Industrial Manager and Industrial Supervisor posts. Further competitions will be held in 2006 in order to strengthen the vocational training function.

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

During the course of 2005, the Irish Prison Service successfully negotiated an extension of the terms of the Revenue Job Assistance Scheme to ex-prisoners. The extension of the scheme takes effect from 1 January 2006. Under the agreed arrangements time spent in custody will count as a period of unemployment so that a prisoner who has served a sentence of 12 months or more would immediately be eligible on release for participation subject to his/her satisfying the other eligibility criteria of the scheme. Employers can obtain double tax credits for up to three years provided the employee remains with them for that time. The employee can also obtain an extra tax deduction and retain secondary benefits. The extension of the scheme means that for the first time, employers will receive a tax incentive to employ ex-prisoners. The tax incentive arrangement brings Ireland into line with practice in other jurisdictions where such incentives are in place to encourage employers to recruit ex-prisoners.

DRUGS AND PRISON

The Irish Prison Service participated in the Mid-term Review of the National Drug Strategy during 2005. The Report of the Review Group recognised the steady progress that had been made by the Irish Prison Service in achieving its targets under the National Drug Strategy. The Review Group was also supportive of the efforts to improve the levels and quality of treatment services available within prisons.

The Review Group was, however, critical of the absence of developed linkages between the Irish Prison Service and other key stakeholders such as the Drugs Strategy Unit of the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and the National Drugs Strategy Team. Arising out of the Review and to rectify this, the Director of Regimes was invited to join the Inter-Departmental Group on Drugs. In addition, the IPS made presentations to both the National Drugs Strategy Team and the National Advisory Committee on Drugs on aspects of drugs and prisons during 2005. The National Drugs Strategy Team is now considering how best to build on this engagement, with a particular focus on how individual prisons can be linked into the work of Local and Regional Drug Task Forces.

A seminar aimed at developing policy in dealing with drugs in prisons was convened for senior Prison Service Management, including Prison Governors, in November 2005. The Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform addressed the seminar on the need for new policies to eliminate the problems of drugs in prisons. The seminar was also addressed by the Director General and Directors on issues such as drug treatment, supply elimination and organisational strategy.

Efforts to eliminate the supply of drugs into prison were reinforced in 2005 by putting in place improved facilities, equipment, and procedures. Physical barriers such as netting over recreation yards was installed or upgraded and CCTV cameras, with enhanced digital image quality and recording facilities, were introduced into six closed institutions during 2005 with a full roll-out to be completed in 2006. New visiting arrangements, which require prisoners to identify in advance a limited number of people from whom they wish to accept visits, which had previously been introduced into Mountjoy Prison and St. Patrick's Institution, was extended to a number of other prisons during 2005.

Significant work was undertaken during the course of the year to identify and clarify the resources required both to address the existing deficits in prison drug treatment provision and those new resources required to support the implementation of a comprehensive treatment programme. Such is the demand for continuation of existing treatment among those entering the prison system allied with the clinical imperative to initiate appropriate treatment for those at high risk that the limited treatment resources available have been overtaken by current demands in this area. Grave concern has been expressed at the overall safety of current programmes in light of the limited dedicated resources available.

Over the course of the year Healthcare Directorate staff were involved in cooperation with local prison management and with community treatment support services in a number of clinical organisation and policy groups seeking to improve the organisation and provision of drug treatment within the Mountjoy complex (which at any one time has over 200 prisoners in receipt of daily methadone substitution treatment).



Home Economics class,
Midlands Prison

PREVENTING SELF-HARM

As a result of discussions between the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform and the Irish Prison Service during 2004, the approval of the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform was sought for the

dissolution of the National Steering Group on Deaths in Custody (which had been existence since 1991) and for the setting up of a new group, which would be sited in the IPS, and which would extend its remit to the area of prisoner self-harm. Following the Minister's approval, the new Group, to be known as The Irish Prison Service Steering Group on Prevention of Self-harm and Death in the Prisoner Population, held its inaugural meeting on 1 February 2005. The terms of reference of the Group include the promoting of best practice in the Irish Prison Service in preventing and, where necessary, responding to self-harm and death in the prisoner population.

PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE

The Psychology Service fulfils various responsibilities within the prison service. As well as maintaining a commitment to the provision of a generic mental health care service for offenders, the Service participates in the development of group programmes for particular offender groups; contributes to a variety of training initiatives with Prison Officers aimed at enhancing the role of the Officer and is involved in the development of strategy, policy and protocols in areas significant to the operation of the prison system. The Service also supports and facilitates research projects, including the evaluation of interventions with offenders.

The most significant development in 2005 was the recruitment of six new psychologists bringing the total number of psychologists to 14 - the largest number since the Psychology Service was established in 1981. The service now comprises eight Clinical Psychologists, five Counselling Psychologists and one Forensic Psychologist. It is intended to run a further recruitment competition in 2006 with a view to achieving a full compliment of 15 psychologists.

An important focus during 2005 was the induction of new psychologists into the service and the establishment of appropriate processes, particularly pertaining to supervision and continuing professional development, to ensure that all psychologists are equipped, both personally and professionally, to meet the complex and diverse needs of the prison service. Further developing the work undertaken in these areas to date will be critical in consolidating the progress made in diversifying and expanding the Psychology Service during 2006.

DISTRIBUTION OF WORK

An overview of the distribution of work for the Psychology Service in 2005 is presented in Table 11 below.

Table 11: Work distribution of the Psychology Service in 2005

GENERIC THERAPEUTIC SERVICES FOR OFFENDERS	PROGRAMMES FOR OFFENDER GROUPS	WORK WITH PRISON OFFICERS	OPERATIONAL, STRATEGIC & POLICY DEVELOPMENT WORK	PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE WORK	CPD & FURTHER TRAINING	RESEARCH	ADMINISTRATION & SERVICE MANAGEMENT
55.8%	11%	0.9%	9.9%	11.9%	6.1%	0.6%	3.8%

As in previous years, the majority of the Service's work involved direct contact with offenders, either in individual casework or in the running of group programmes for offenders. Individual and group work with offenders accounted for 66.8% of the service's time in 2005. The corresponding figure for 2004 was 55.6%.

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 made available in Arbour Hill Prison. As in previous years, the low number of suitably motivated and adequately prepared offenders who sought to participate in the programme in 2005 was a real cause for concern. The factors influencing the decline in the number of motivated applicants for the programme have been evident for a number of years now and include a lack of sufficient personal motivation and the absence of extrinsic incentives for programme participation. In order to sustain the existing sex offender programme, those factors leading to the current paucity of motivation among imprisoned sex offenders to participate in the programme are being examined with a view to their being addressed as a matter of priority.

The Sex Offender Act 2001 empowers Courts to impose, in sentencing offenders convicted of scheduled offences under the Act, a period of supervision by the Probation and Welfare Service on completion of a term

of imprisonment. The multi-disciplinary through care planning and interventions in prisons with these offenders requires considerable co-operation and team working. At the end of 2005, there are 82 prisoners on sentence in custody with post release orders subject to Probation and Welfare Service post release supervision in addition to 81 ex-prisoners subject to Probation and Welfare Service post release supervision in the community.

CHAPLAINCY

Twenty full-time and three part-time chaplains work in the Irish Prison Service. Their primary role is to respond to the spiritual and pastoral needs of the prison community in a holistic way. 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 appropriate. Local Muslim religious leaders meet the needs of Muslim prisoners.

Changes in chaplaincy staffing in 2005 included the appointment of Ms Ruth Breen as a lay chaplain to Mountjoy Prison and the transfer of Father Donal Morris of Castlerea Prison to parish duties to be replaced by Margaret Connaughton. There are now four lay chaplains in the Irish Prison Service Chaplaincy Group.

The Chaplains annual report for 2005 to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform highlighted the issues of sentence management, the care of juvenile offenders, living conditions, special observation cells, the mentally ill and the plight of immigration detainees. Other issues raised by the chaplains included the "public expectation of prisons" and the role of the media in publicising issues regarding prisons in general and individual prisoners in particular. Suggested alternatives to imprisonment mentioned in the report include the concept of restorative justice schemes and community based programmes.

PROBATION AND WELFARE SERVICE

The Irish Prison Service and the Probation and Welfare Service have a shared aim of contributing to public safety by working to reduce re-offending by prisoners and common objectives in helping prisoners address their offending behaviour, maintain contacts with their families, and prepare for release into the community.

Probation and Welfare personnel are assigned to all prisons across the country. The 49 posts involved represent 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 Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform through the Probation and Welfare Service funded and, in April 2005, published 'A Study of the Number, profile and Progression Routes of Homeless Persons before the Court and in Custody' by Dr. Mairead Seymour and Ms Liza Costello, Centre for Social and Educational Research, Dublin Institute of Technology.

The research project sought to obtain accurate information about the numbers, profile and progression of homeless persons appearing before the courts and in custody in Dublin, and employed a range of methodologies. Over half of the stratified sample of prisoners were found to be either homeless on committal to custody or had a previous history of homelessness and over a third of the surveyed prisoners indicated that they were likely to be at risk of homelessness on release.

The report also identified that homeless offenders had high rates of arrest, charge and conviction, and were more likely to accumulate higher numbers of charges than other (non-homeless) offenders, although the offending by the homeless sample tended to be of a less serious nature. Homeless prisoners tended to have spent significant periods of time in custody.

The report makes a range of recommendations which will assist and inform policy and practice. The full text of 'A Study of the Number, profile and Progression Routes of Homeless Persons Before the Court and in Custody' can be accessed on the Probation and Welfare Service website at www.pws.gov.ie.

Within the Probation and Welfare Service HOST (Homeless Offenders Strategy Team) 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.

Prison in-reach services, aimed at facilitating prisoner reintegration and reducing the risk of homelessness on release, continued to develop during 2005.



The Probation and Welfare Service and the Homeless Persons Unit of the Eastern Region Health Authority community welfare service in-reach initiative at the Mountjoy Prison complex providing accommodation placement and income maintenance support services to prisoners at risk of homelessness on release has proved a valuable and effective resource and is now an established model of cross agency practice expanded during 2005 to all Dublin Prisons and to the Midlands Prison. The In-reach Service, which is supported by the Irish Prison Service, is delivered by the Homeless Persons Unit, Northern Area Health Board on behalf of the three Health Boards within the Eastern Region Health Authority.

In addition, a new pilot initiative to facilitate prisoners to secure and maintain tenancies in the private rented sector on release, commenced in early 2005. The Probation and Welfare Service, Irish Prison Service and the ACCESS Housing Unit of the Threshold organisation are the partners in this initiative, which will run for a year and be evaluated in order to consider its appropriateness for expansion.

In 2005 the Department Of Justice, Equality and Law Reform through the Probation and Welfare Service, provided almost €16 million in funding to some 70 community projects and initiatives which, as well as addressing offending behaviour and related issues, provide accommodation, employment placement and support, training and addiction treatment for offenders and ex-prisoners.

In February 2005 Seán Lowry, Principal Probation and Welfare Officer, retired after a long and successful career in the Probation and Welfare Service. The IPS wishes to acknowledge the very significant contribution made by Sean throughout his career in working with prisoners, ex-prisoners and communities affected by crime. The IPS looks forward to working closely with Sean's successor, Michael Donnellan, who took up appointment as Director of the Probation and Welfare Service on 5 September 2005.

PRISONER HEALTHCARE DOCTORS DISPUTE

Arising from the resolution of the doctor's strike which affected the prisons between May and August 2004 a new contract was agreed based around a firm contractual commitment to actual attendance on a designated number of hours per week. Various aspects of health provision associated with this commitment are outlined in the contract document. Management concern at on-going failure to adequately meet the terms of the contract on the part of a number of doctors necessitated an on-going industrial relations process involving the IMO during 2005.

PRISON MEDICAL RECORD SYSTEM (PMRS)

To address various identified deficits in the recording, storage, and availability of clinical information across the prison system a decision was taken to develop a clinical data system to address these various deficiencies in the context of the operational requirements of a multi-location custodial system. Following a considerable development period (no suitable 'off the shelf' systems have previously existed), allied with delays associated with various industrial relations and resource factors this system went live in July 2005. It has been acknowledged (both by national experts and by prison health experts from other jurisdictions) that the system has the capacity to provide a comprehensive response to various historic and current problems leading to increased clinical

and corporate risk. By the end of 2005 progress had been made on rolling-out this system and service-wide effective implementation of the system will be a priority in 2006.

HEALTHCARE STRATEGY STATEMENT

Following on the publication of the IPS Healthcare Standards in late 2004 and the need to engage in an initial audit of these it was considered appropriate to develop an overall Strategic Statement to guide the medium term development of healthcare organisation and provision within the prison environment. This Statement was in the final stages of preparation at the end of 2005 and it is intended to make it available to all Governors and prison healthcare staff early in 2006. It is intended that this strategy statement will provide guidance and assistance in the formulation of the health aspects of local prison Business Plans.

DRUG TREATMENT

Significant work was undertaken during the course of the year to assist in drafting the treatment aspect of this policy and to identify and clarify the resources required both to address the existing deficits in prison drug treatment provision and those new resources required to support the implementation of a comprehensive treatment programme proposed in the policy scheduled to be launched by the Minister early in 2006.

Table 12 outlines the total number of prisoners reported to the Central Treatment List as being prescribed methadone while in prison. In 2005 there was an increase of 255 (16.5%) in the total number of individuals treated and an increase of 73 (76%) individuals who were first treated for their addiction while in prison. The increases were achieved in spite of an actual decrease in the clinical staff numbers available to provide drug treatment services. Currently the Irish Prison Service is treating 42.8% more patients than the largest drug treatment facility in Ireland and is one of the highest recipients of new patients into treatment, second only to the HSE South Western Area.

Table 12: Summary of the number of individuals treated with Methadone in 2005 (Central treatment List 2005)

	TOTAL PATIENTS DURING PERIOD	NEW (1ST TIME PATIENT ON CTL)
Cloverhill Prison	571	97
Dochas Centre	228	27
Limerick Prison	4	0
Midlands Prison	6	0
Mountjoy Main Prison	511	27
Mountjoy Prison Medical Unit	79	5
Portlaoise Prison	2	0
St. Patrick's Institution	1	0
Wheatfield Prison	162	13
TOTALS for 9 Clinics	1564	16

There was a welcome addition to drug treatment resources in 2005 when a consultant psychiatrist in adult addictions took up a new post. This posting is a joint initiative between the IPS and HSE South Western Area and has added greatly to the options available to prisoners in those facilities. This initiative is part of the healthcare strategy to increase the range of in-reach services available to prisoners.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

There was continuing pressure on nursing services in 2005 which it is hoped to relieve through recruitment and better matching of available resources to periods of high service demands.

The provision in the Proposal for Organisational Change for recruitment of healthcare managers is a welcome development and will allow for the development of clinical nursing management structure at prison level. It is envisioned that all appointments will be made in 2006. Appointments need to be made at the earliest opportunity in 2006. In conjunction with these appointments the Prison Service must conclude a review of service provision at prison level to ensure that all available nursing resources can be used to best advantage. Plans to run a recruitment campaign for nurses are at an advanced stage.

Table 13: Nurse Officers & Medical Orderlies

INSTITUTION	NURSE OFFICERS	MEDICAL ORDERLIES
Arbour Hill	3 (inc. 1 temp)	3
Castlerea	8 (inc. 2 temp)	0
Cloverhill	17 (inc. 2 jobsharers)	0
Cork	0	8
Dóchas	3	1
Limerick	2 (inc. 1 temp)	5
Loughan House	0	2 (inc. 1 relief)
Midlands	18.5 (inc. 4 jobsharers)	0
Mountjoy	8	17 (inc. 2 on secondment)
Portlaoise	4	5
Shelton Abbey	0	1
St. Patrick's	3	3
Training Unit	0	1
Wheatfield	10.5	3
Totals	77 wte	49 wte

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The IPS remains committed to providing nurses with continuing professional development and life long learning opportunities. Plans to advance the 'First responder' trainer course continue to be hampered by industrial relations issues. Discussions continue and progress is expected in early 2006.

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

Agreement has been reached on having an infection control audit carried out which will yield recommendation and policy provision. This is expected to commence in early 2006.

Funding was secured from the National Council for Professional Development of Nursing and Midwifery in 2004 to conduct a review of Professional Development needs of nurses in the prison service.

In partnership with the Nursing and Midwifery Planning and Development Unit (NMPDU) of the HSE Eastern Region and a project officer was employed in October. Work has begun on a Preliminary Status Report, which should be available early in 2006.

JOINT PRISON AND HSE PRISON NURSING CONFERENCE

The NMPDU and the IPS jointly hosted a conference in October 2005. The organising committee comprised of Healthcare Directorate staff, NMPDU, DCU staff and prison management.

This was a unique event in that it was the first prison nursing conference, which was opened by the Tanaiste and Minister for Health and Children, Ms Mary Harney and was attended by 200 delegates from the HSE, IPS and the Voluntary sector. Speakers from Scottish and UK prison service outlined health service developments in both those jurisdictions. There was also input from practitioners from the IPS and the CMH.

This conference cemented the partnership between the NMPDU's and the IPS which continues to strengthen and grow. It also highlighted the issue of prison healthcare as a policy item in the broader health agenda focusing on the benefits to both systems of appropriate care provision.

PHARMACY

PHARMACY SERVICES:

The Report on the Introduction and Development of Prison Pharmacy Services was completed by the Pharmacy Implementation Group in December 2004, and the recommendations were approved in February 2005.

The main recommendation was that a contracted pharmacy service be introduced to every prison, to ensure that all prisoners would have access to professional pharmacy services, on an equivalent basis to that available in the wider community, taking into consideration the constraints that custody imposes. This contract will include both the technical (supply) and professional (pharmaceutical care) elements of pharmacy service provision.

A tender competition was held in May 2005 for the provision of pharmacy services to the “Open Centres” – Shelton Abbey and Loughan House, and a contract was subsequently awarded for Shelton Abbey, which commenced in August 2005. This was the first such contract to be awarded by the IPS in relation to pharmacy services.

It is planned to award a contract for Loughan House early in 2006.

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

EXPENDITURE ON PHARMACEUTICALS:

Table 14: IPS Total Expenditure on Pharmaceuticals in 200

PRISON	23510	23610	24010	24110	TOTAL	ADP	ACPPPY 2005	ACPPPY 2004
Arbour Hill	117,082	1,953	6,674	658	126,368	138	915	1,102
Castlerea	119,332	2,933	4,659	13,901	140,826	210	670	594
Cloverhill	370,387	-	-	19,846	390,233	391	998	942
Cork	86,460	7,478	3,781	8,968	106,689	257	415	315
Dochas	131,618	-	-	6,494	138,113	87	1,587	2,116
Limerick	97,161	39	-	30,417	127,618	268	476	406
Loughan House	23,270	-	-	13	23,283	74	314	378
Midlands	238,580	1,390	844	9,006	249,822	426	586	610
Mountjoy	566,052	4,798	6,000	65,564	642,415	488	1,316	1,060
Portlaoise	71,798	4,516	409	29,307	106,031	121	876	886
Shelton Abbey	6,798	1,452	-	125	8,375	51	164	307
St. Patrick's	30,089	447	615	8,764	39,916	187	213	235
Training Unit	31,329	-	2,142	3,301	36,773	93	395	595
Wheatfield	271,409	11	18,663	7,156	297,241	360	825	1005
TOTAL	2,161,372	25,022	43,791	203,523	2,433,710	3150	772	763

ADP: Average Daily Population

23510: Pharmaceuticals from Wholesaler/Supplier

24010: Medical Dressings

ACPPPY: Average cost per prisoner per year

23610: Pharmaceuticals from retail pharmacy

24110: Other medical supplies

The overall expenditure on pharmaceuticals in 2005 was €2,433,710, which was almost the same as the expenditure in 2004 (increase of 0.1%), and a decrease of 6% on the cost in 2003.

The average cost per prison space was €773, which varied from €164 to €1,587 according to the prison, which was a slight increase on the average cost per prison space in 2004 (€763). The most recent Report of the General Medical Services (GMS) 2004, indicates that the average cost per person (of those who availed of GMS services) of pharmaceutical services in 2004 was €692. However, the average cost per person aged between 25 – 34 years (which more accurately reflects the prison population profile) was €340. It must be noted however that the prison population has been acknowledged as a special needs group among the national population and the healthcare needs of prisoners are accepted as being much more complex than those of a similar age-group in the community.

In nine prisons, the average cost per prison space in 2005 was less than the corresponding figure for 2004 (up to 38% reduction); while in five prisons (mainly committal prisons) the average was greater in 2005 than 2004. This can be explained in part by the increasing use of certain high cost medicines (e.g. Anti-retrovirals, Hepatitis C treatment etc) in those prisons and the significant healthcare inputs required for a large number of prisoners on committal.

This data reflects only the cost of pharmaceuticals purchased by the IPS in 2005. As complete medication records were not easily accessible, it is necessary to use this data to reflect the use of medication in the IPS. However with the planned introduction of professional pharmacy services to the IPS during 2006, it is expected that actual dispensing data will be available, which will more accurately reflect the prescribing patterns and use of medicines in the IPS.

The level of local purchasing of medication continues to decrease, and in 2005 this accounted for €25,000, equivalent to 1% of total purchases. With the introduction of contracted pharmacy services, there will no longer be a requirement to purchase medicines in this manner.

METHADONE CONTRACT

In October 2005, a contract was awarded for the supply of Methadone to both the HSE and the IPS. This move towards aggregated purchasing was the first such development in this area and has been very beneficial to the IPS. In addition to ensuring continuity of treatment for those clients who move between the community and prison, and assurance of regular supply, the introduction of this contract will result in very significant cost savings to the IPS, estimated at €345,000 over the length of the contract.

PROFESSIONAL MATTERS

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

Links were also maintained with colleagues in the Scottish and Northern Ireland Prison Services, and new contacts made with prison pharmacist colleagues in England and Wales, which have proved very beneficial in planning and developing pharmacy services here.

Regular contact was also maintained with colleagues working in the HSE – Drug Treatment services, to ensure effective and efficient communication between prisons and clinics, when clients move between both areas of healthcare, in particular at Christmas time.

THE INSTITUTIONS



ARBOUR HILL

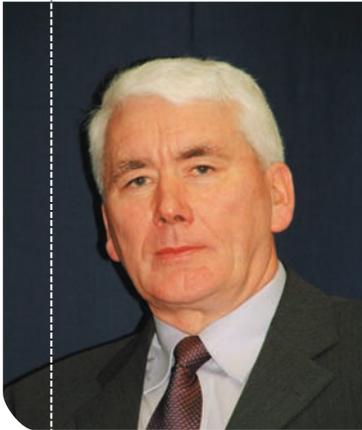
PROFILE - ARBOUR HILL IS A CLOSED, MEDIUM SECURITY PRISON FOR MALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER, SERVING SENTENCES OF MORE THAN TWO YEARS. IT HAS A BED CAPACITY OF 140 CELLS. ALL CELLS HAVE IN-CELL SANITATION AND PIPED TELEVISION.

PRISONER POPULATION

Fifty-seven prisoners transferred into Arbour Hill during 2005 and the average daily prisoner population was 138.

PRISONER PROGRAMMES

TITLE OF PROGRAMME	THROUGHPUT IN 2004
Sex Offenders Treatment Programme	8
Pre-Release	12
Alternatives To Violence Programme. [AVP]	Progressed through three levels:
	Level- 1 = 20 prisoners
	Level- 2 = 16 prisoners
	Level- 3 = 16 prisoners
Safe Pass Course	25



GOVERNOR
TOM SOMERS

LOCATION
ARBOUR HILL, DUBLIN 7

SEX OFFENDER PROGRAMME

Once again there were difficulties finding suitable candidates for the programme. Some lacked the capacity to participate in such a demanding programme, some lacked the willingness or determination to confront their offending behaviour, and still others were not sufficiently advanced in their sentences. It is believed that the absence of any incentives for those who have successfully completed the course may be a factor in the lack of enthusiasm for the programme, in the sex offender population.

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Education Unit in the prison continues to provide an excellent service to prisoners with a wide range of subject/courses available at various levels from basic literacy to degree level through the Open University. Approximately 85% of the prison population were involved in education throughout the school year. This high level of interest and attendance by offenders is indicative of the commitment and enthusiasm of the prison's teaching staff.

NUMBERS SITTING EXAMS*

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE	LEAVING CERTIFICATE	OPEN UNIVERSITY
22	10	16

*Arbour Hill is also an Examination Centre for: ECDL, Irish Academy Of Music, Associated Boards Of London, (Music Exam).

The number of prisoners doing FETAC modules for assessment grows every year. Approximately 70 students entered for different awards such as Computer Applications, English Communications, Pottery/Ceramics and Preparation for Work. Assessment in thirteen different modules took place in May this year.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

The Industrial Unit continued to provide work and training to all offenders in the prison. The individual units provide a range of products in Woodwork, Print, Fabric and Braille. These end products were supplied to a variety of areas throughout the public service, prisons and private bodies. Apart from the production capability of the industrial area, its ability to provide employment to every offender is significant with the additional benefit of work training and experience to those so employed. We are actively seeking certification on a modular basis for some of the workshop-based training. To date we have received approval for the Leonardo programme in catering, FETAC certification for woodwork [8] and Desktop Publishing [2] in the Printing Area. In previous years, some difficulty was experienced in filling some industrial posts, however it is pleasing to report that all of the available positions were filled during 2005.

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

Arbour Hill Prison continues to have a very limited problem in this area. Staff are continually advised of the need for constant vigilance. This, combined with increased use of random urinalysis testing, means that to date the level of drug related activity has been restricted. Notwithstanding the above staff continue to monitor the situation and carry out ongoing assessments to establish if additional procedures are required.

SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS, EVENTS, INITIATIVES AND INCIDENTS IN 2005

- The prison continues to develop external contacts and is in the early stages of developing a GROW together with a Samaritan led 'Listeners' scheme. The contribution of groups such as The Guild of St Philip Neri, Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous and the Samaritans is gratefully acknowledged and sincerely appreciated.
- The Parole Board continues to have an ongoing involvement at this facility. This involvement is supported as a method for consideration in positive sentence management.
- The multi-disciplinary Suicide Awareness Group continued to hold regular meetings during the year.
- The spiritual needs of inmates were attended to throughout the year by the Catholic Chaplain, Church of Ireland Chaplain and visiting Ministers of other Christian Churches. Their contribution to the care and support of inmates and their families is commendable and makes a significant contribution to the atmosphere and ethos of the prison.
- The prison is very fortunate to have the services of three full time Probation and Welfare Officers together with the support of an off-site senior Probation and Welfare Officer. The Probation and Welfare Service play a major role in the delivery of almost all of the therapy courses in addition to ongoing one-on-one work with the considerable number of prisoners who are either unwilling or unable to participate in group based therapy courses.

CASTLEREA PRISON

PROFILE - CASTLEREA IS A COMMITTAL PRISON FOR MALE OFFENDERS AGED 17 YEARS AND OVER. IT RECEIVES COMMITTALS FROM CONNACHT AND COUNTIES LONGFORD, CAVAN AND DONEGAL.



GOVERNOR
DANIEL SCANNELL

LOCATION
HARRISTOWN
CASTLEREA
COUNTY ROSCOMMON

PRISONER POPULATION

There were a total of 869 committals to Castlerea Prison in 2005. These included a significant number of persons transferred from other prisons.

Accommodation is divided into two sections, the main block which has a design capacity of 176 medium security places and the Grove area, which comprises low security accommodation in residential type houses. Two new houses have increased the capacity in the Grove to 50 spaces.

The increased number of committals necessitated multiple cell occupancy. The average daily prisoner population was 210.

PRISONER PROGRAMMES

The following programmes were provided in 2005:

- Pre release programme
- Support groups within prison setting
- Listeners Scheme
- Alcohol and Drug Awareness
- Thinking Skills
- Cognitive behavioural therapy
- Alternative to Violence Programme (A.V.P.)
- Reintegration, Linkage Officer
- Lifer/Long termers programme
- Parenting

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Between 55% and 60% of the prison population attended Education in Castlerea Prison in 2005.

WORK AND VOCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Most prisoners, both remands and sentenced were gainfully employed during 2005. There were employment opportunities in food preparation and presentation, contract fabric work, quality control, general maintenance, laundry and horticulture.

The following vocational training programmes were provided:

- Leonardo Catering course
- Power tool safety
- Fork lift driving course
- Wood carving
- Leisure and fitness qualification
- E-Learning in catering
- Safe pass course
- Computers
- Stone works
- Certificate horticulture courses

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

Measures taken in 2005 to tackle the supply of drugs within the prison included regular urine sampling, up-grading of the CCTV system, staff awareness and searches. A detoxification programme was also in operation.

SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS, EVENTS, INITIATIVES AND INCIDENTS IN 2005

- Industry awards were achieved in safety and hygiene.
- Voluntary agencies e.g. Samaritans, NA, AA, continued to visit the prison and engage with a large number of prisoners. The Suicide Awareness Group also held regular meetings.
- Castlerea Prison was actively involved with the Linkage Programme of the Probation and Welfare Service, which helps to give resettlement high priority.
- Visiting psychiatrist attended to the psychological needs of the prisoners.
- Probation and Welfare continued to play a major role in the delivery of programmes, in addition to liaising one-to-one with a number of prisoners.
- The chaplaincy services of all denominations continued to provide spiritual support to prisoners.
- The Visiting Committee continued to meet monthly and also made non-scheduled visits to the prison.



GOVERNOR
JOHN DOOLEY

LOCATION
CLOVERHILL ROAD
CLONDALKIN
DUBLIN 22

CLOVERHILL PRISON

PROFILE - CLOVERHILL PRISON IS A MEDIUM SECURITY PRISON MAINLY FOR MALE PRE-TRIAL ADULTS. THE PRISON HAS ACCOMMODATION FOR 433 PRISONERS IN A COMBINATION OF SINGLE, DOUBLE AND TRIPLE CELLS.

PRISONER POPULATION

There were a total of 4,083 committals to Cloverhill Prison during the year. The average daily prisoner population was 391.

PRISONER PROGRAMMES

Alcoholic's Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous visited the prison weekly. Between five and ten prisoners attended these meetings.

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The vacant Education Unit was temporarily assigned to the new Prison Service Escort Corps (PSEC). It is planned to begin education classes in 2006 when the permanent PSEC accommodation becomes available.

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

It is endeavoured to have the whole prison drug free. Some of the measures taken to assist with this objective were:

- Alcohol and Drug awareness Programmes.
- A Detoxification Program which has an average of 30 prisoners participating at any one time.
- A Methadone maintenance programme that accommodates approximately 80 prisoners daily.

Specific measure to tackle the supply of drugs included:

- Screened Visits.
- Netting over Exercise yards.
- Fencing erected between Cherry Orchard Hospital and Cloverhill Prison. This should greatly reduce the amount of drugs coming into the prison.
- The use of an X - Ray machine in the reception.
- Searches, including random searches within the prison.

SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS, EVENTS, INITIATIVES, INCIDENTS IN 2005

- The completion of the Video Conferencing Unit to facilitate future prisoner attendance in court by video link.
- New/improved accommodation on D2 landing.
- Achievement of the industry Q Mark and Excellence Awards in Hygiene.
- Staff training in anti-racism & inappropriate behaviour.
- A visiting speaker, Ms Jacenta Kitt delivered a presentation on anti-racism.
- The Suicide Awareness Committee met monthly during the year.
- The Listener Scheme continued with all committals being seen by a Listener and an information leaflet issued.
- Meetings continued with Cherry Orchard, St. James' and Tallaght Hospitals on issues of mutual concern.
- The Visiting Committee continued to visit regularly throughout the year.
- The prison welcomed the assignment of additional Probation and Welfare staff and a full time Psychologist.

CORK PRISON

PROFILE - CORK PRISON IS A CLOSED, MEDIUM SECURITY COMMITTAL PRISON FOR CORK, KERRY AND WATERFORD, FOR MALES AGED SEVENTEEN AND UPWARDS, SERVING SENTENCES UP TO LIFE. THE PRISON HAS A BED CAPACITY OF 268 AND THE AVERAGE DAILY PRISONER POPULATION WAS 257.

PRISONER PROFILE

During the year a total of 1,253 prisoners were committed to Cork Prison. This included some difficult and disruptive prisoners who had been deprived privileges in other Prisons and Institutions.

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The City of Cork Vocational Education Committee allocated 18 full-time teachers equivalent during 2005. The twelve classrooms in the Education Unit were fully utilised throughout the year.

Courses in English as a second language were run during the year to cater for the increasing number of non-Irish Nationals. This initiative was very successful and is continuing.



GOVERNOR
LIAM METCALFE

LOCATION
RATHMORE ROAD
CORK

WEEKLY NUMBERS ATTENDING	<5 HOURS PER WEEK	5-10 HOURS PER WEEK	>10 HOURS PER WEEK
115	54	28	33

NUMBERS SITTING FOR EXAMS	JUNIOR CERTIFICATE	LEAVING CERTIFICATE	OPEN UNIVERSITY	N.C.V.A F.E.T.A.C.
*29	8	4	3	21

* Some prisoners undertook combinations of Junior Certificate, FETAC, Leaving Certificate and Open University courses.

The components of the Project Plan for the Equal 11 European Initiative have been put in place and a local prison committee met on a regular basis during the year to implement and review.

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

The Prison Library operated seven days a week with 95 prisoners using the facility on a weekly basis.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

TITLE OF COURSE	THROUGHPUT IN 2005
Hygiene Matters	46
Care of Substances Hazardous to Health	
Use of chemicals	
Health & Safety Statement	
Deep Fat Fryer	46
Use of Knives	
Combi Ovens	
Floor Safety	
Gravity Feed Slicer	
Safe Pass Course	57
European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL)	17
Equal Computer Skills	15

The kitchen merited a "C" grade in the Hygiene and Food Safety Audit carried out by Fáilte Ireland and was awarded the "Sapphire Standard Hygiene Mark".

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

Measures were in place in 2005 to prevent drug supply and reduce the demand for drugs in the prisoner population. These included:

- Upgrading of netting over the yard
- CCTV in appropriate areas
- There is no physical contact allowed on visits
- All laundry is done in-house
- Two Addiction Counsellors work full time in the Prison, sponsored by the local Drugs Task Force.

INTERACTION WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY GROUPS

The following groups worked with prisoners throughout the year:

North side Community Enterprises, Churchfield Community Trust Project, Grattan Street Project, Cork Auto Project, FÁS, Citizens Information, Homeless Unit, Cork City Council, Cork Simon Community, Health Service Executive Social Workers, Cork Alliance Centre, Treo-Waterford, Sophia Housing, The Samaritans, Narcotics Anonymous, Legion of Mary, St Vincent De Paul, Gamblers Anonymous and the Bridge Co-op.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN 2005

- Flags were manufactured by inmates in aid of the Chernobyl Children's Project for participation by children from Chernobyl in the St Patrick's Day Parade.
- Tables, window boxes, planting boxes and wishing wells were made for an "Open Garden Afternoon and Sale" in aid of Marymount Hospice.
- Building and Maintenance work included resurfacing of roofs, installation of 19 new security gates incorporating electronic locking, and the upgrading of CCTV internally and externally.
- Fr M. Kidney & Reverend B. O'Rourke continued to serve the spiritual needs of the prisoners.

DÓCHAS CENTRE

PROFILE - THE DÓCHAS CENTRE IS A CLOSED, MEDIUM SECURITY PRISON FOR WOMEN. IT IS A PURPOSE BUILT, MODERN PRISON, WITH ACCOMMODATION FOR 81 WOMEN IN SEVEN SEPARATE HOUSES WITHIN THE COMPLEX.



GOVERNOR
KATHLEEN MCMAHON

LOCATION
NORTH CIRCULAR ROAD
DUBLIN 7

PRISONER PROFILE

The average daily prisoner population during 2005 was 87, with a high of 104 recorded during the course of the year. There were 894 committals during the course of the year as follows:

Remand Committals	485
Sentenced Committals	218
Committals under Immigration Laws	191

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

During the course of the year about 81% of the population attended classes in the education unit. Of these, about 60% attended for ten or more hours per week.

The women received a variety of certificates, which included, Leaving Certificate, Junior Certificate, ECDL, Fetac NCVA, Fetac FAS, Pitmans Certificates, Local CDVEC Certificates, Basic First Aid Certificates and Occupational First Aid Certificates from the Irish Red Cross and Addiction Studies Certificates. Women also studied Open University courses while others participated in courses through the Royal Horticultural Society.

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

Three houses are designated as drug free. Measures to tackle drug abuse included drug assessments, counselling, advice and referral to residential drug rehabilitation, community drug programmes or individual counselling. A Consultant Psychiatrist in Addictions provides one session per week. Methadone maintenance and Detox programmes continue to be available within the centre.

PRISONER PROGRAMMES

A Life Skills course was conducted by the Probation and Welfare Service.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING / EMPLOYMENT

The following programmes were provided:

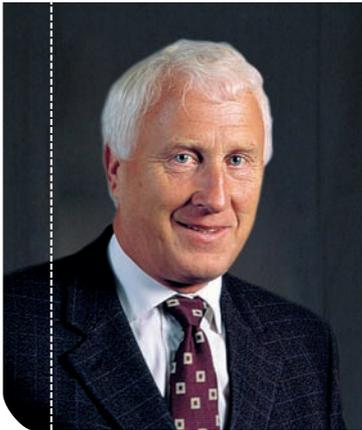
PROGRAMME	PARTICIPANTS
FÁS Hairdressing course	17
Sewing/Fashion Design course	10
Kitchen courses	24

OTHER SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN 2005

- In January a Psychologist was appointed to the Dochas Centre.
- Plays relating to Hepatitis C and Domestic Violence were staged in March.
- The Dóchas Centre was nominated as one of the best four kitchens in the Industrial and Institutional Catering Category in the Hotel and Catering National Review Gold Medal Awards.
- The CCTV system in the Dóchas Centre was upgraded to Digital standard in March.
- An Narcotics Anonymous Workshop was held in April with entertainment afterwards by Frances Black and Mary Coughlan.
- The Education awards ceremony was held on the 17 June.
- Both the mini-marathon and the annual barbecue were held in June.
- An Open Day was held in July for outside agencies to network with services within the Dóchas Centre. Over thirty agencies attended on the day. These included: the Rape Crisis Centre, Barnardos, the Ruhama project, the Coolmine Therapeutic Centre, the Samaritans and Youthreach.
- Summer School Certificates were presented in August 2005.
- The Dóchas Centre won the E.I.Q.A. Food Safety Champion Gold Recognition Award and was a finalist in the E.I.Q.A. Emerald Award.
- The play, "Doin Time Through the Visiting Glass" was performed in September.
- The Children's Christmas party was held on the 11th December and the annual Christmas Dinner was held on the 16th December.

LIMERICK PRISON

PROFILE - LIMERICK PRISON IS A CLOSED, MEDIUM SECURITY, COMMITTAL PRISON FOR MALE AND FEMALE PRISONERS FROM AGE 17 AND UPWARDS, SERVING SENTENCES UP TO LIFE. MALE PRISONERS CAN BE COMMITTED FROM COURTS IN COUNTIES LIMERICK, TIPPERARY AND CLARE ONLY. FEMALE PRISONERS CAN BE COMMITTED FROM COURTS IN ALL SIX MUNSTER COUNTIES. THE AVERAGE DAILY PRISONER POPULATION IN 2005 WAS 253 (MALE) AND 15 (FEMALE).



GOVERNOR
PAT LAFFAN

LOCATION
MULGRAVE STREET
LIMERICK

PRISONER PROGRAMMES

TITLE OF PROGRAMME	THROUGHPUT IN 2005
Safe Pass	17
Listowel Writers Week	2 Winners
Alcohol & Drug Awareness & STI's	50 (on-going classes)
Personal Effectiveness FETAC / FÁS Introductory Skills	30
Parenting, FETAC Child Care and Caring for Children	10

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

An average of 52% of the prisoner population participated in educational activities during the year. 70% of these participated for more than 10 hours per week, with 35% nearing full-time participation.

Five prisoners sat the Junior Certificate examination, three sat the Leaving Certificate and five sat Open University. Thirty prisoners took part in other accredited courses through FETAC and FÁS. Sixty-nine prisoners did a basic numeracy and literacy course and sixty-three studied Information Technology. Other certified training programs included dishwashing, basic first aid, safety awareness and the Leonardo course.

There were more than 1,000 visits to the library during the year.

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

The following measures were utilised to deal with the supply of drugs: nets covering the exercise yards, CCTV, random searching, screened visits, random urinalysis, staff vigilance, monitoring and recording of prisoner phone calls and liaison with Gardaí. A total of 105 prisoners underwent methadone detoxification during 2005.

INTERACTION WITH THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Limerick Prison has many well developed contacts with Community Groups in the area and many are involved with the multi-disciplinary group at the Prison which considers issues relevant to the management of Prisoner's sentences. These include St. Vincent de Paul, the Samaritans, Alcoholics Anonymous, The Bedford Row Family Project, Adult Counselling Service, Youthreach, Outreach, Juvenile Liaison Gardaí, the Ballinfoyle Youth Project, Clonmel Youth Action Group, Southill Outreach etc.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS AND EVENTS DURING 2005

- Work began in 2001 on the preparation of the site adjacent to the Main Gate for the development of the Main Gate area. This project includes a new Visitors Waiting Room, pedestrian access and Time Recording points, a Radio Communications Base, a Keys Office, an Operational Equipment storage area together with the remodelling of the existing Gate facilities. The project has led to the remodelling of the front aspect of the Prison and included the removal of the temporary buildings from the front of the Prison, the landscaping of the grounds and the erection of a perimeter vehicle barrier in front of the Main Gate. Because of the impact on the movement of vehicles and personnel the project was delivered in two phases, both of which are now complete.
- The Prison Kitchens were successful in retaining the Hygiene Award.
- Thankfully in the last year there were no incidents of violence against prison staff.
- The local Fire Brigade continued their visits for the different ' Watch Rotations' as part of the Fire and Emergency Plan for Limerick Prison.
- The Inspector of Prisons, Judge Dermot Kinlan and his team visited Limerick Prison in April.
- A full evacuation of the prison took place in December in order to measure the competence of our Fire Emergency Plan. This exercise was very effective and informative.

- The following matters were among those developed and promoted as part of the Business Plan for Limerick Prison:
 - (i) Annual Review of Security with Report being presented to Governor.
 - (ii) New Computer System implemented for recording prisoner assaults.
 - (iii) Emergency planning updated to cover Fire/ Riot emergencies.
- One male prisoner escaped while an in-patient in Limerick Hospital. He was later returned to the prison.
- A Counsellor provided a counselling service to Prisoners who were identified by the Liaison Group at their weekly meetings as requiring specialised help to overcome problems that were impeding their personal development in custody and which may have contributed to their offending behaviour, e.g. family abuse, emotional difficulties, phobias etc.
- Trained substance abuse counsellors provided, on a fee basis, a service for Prisoners who requested help to deal with their addiction problems. Referrals were made through the weekly multi-disciplinary Group meetings.

LOUGHAN HOUSE

PROFILE - LOUGHAN HOUSE IS AN OPEN CENTRE FOR CONVICTED MALE OFFENDERS AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER, WHO ARE TRANSFERRED FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS. THE BED CAPACITY IS 110 AND SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION IS MAINLY SINGLE AND DOUBLE BEDROOMS.

PRISONER POPULATION

The daily average prisoner population in 2005 was 74. One inmate died in custody on the 14th February (of natural causes).

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The rate of participation in education was 67%, with over 340 enrolled in educational activities. Of these, 51% participated for 10 hours or more per week. A total of 371 prisoners availed of numeracy and literacy education and 235 participated in FETAC Foundation Level Computer Literacy Courses. Two prisoners sat for Leaving Certificate examinations.

PRISONER PROGRAMMES

The multi-disciplinary Regimes Committee continued to co-ordinate and facilitate the delivery of programmes to prisoners. "New Horizons" Pre-Release Programme and outside agencies were involved in the delivery of the programme and the modules included training in fork-lift driving, safe pass, first aid, men's health, debt management, alternatives to alcohol, HGV training and pre-driving test training.



GOVERNOR
CATHERINE COMERFORD

LOCATION
BLACKLION
COUNTY CAVAN

TITLE OF PROGRAMME	NO. OF PRISONERS PARTICIPATING IN 2005
Certified Courses:	
Parenting Plus	7
Safe Pass	68
Forklift Training	48
Driving Theory Test	13
FETAC	17
STEPS (Cavan Partnership)	7
Information Tutorials:	
Start your own Business (Leitrim Partnership)	16
FÁS	21
Dept of Social & Family Affairs	22
MABS (Debt Management Agency)	12
Suicide Awareness (Hope Organisation)	18
Men's Health (HSE)	10
Individual Career Guidance:	
In excess of one consultation	62
One consultation	98

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

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

INTERACTION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

- A link with the Kazelain social housing project in Sligo town was maintained.
- The local swim activities were supported by the supply of logistics and equipment from Loughan House during the running of the summer events.
- Prisoners also participated in the local clean up drives.
- The gym and sports hall were used extensively on a structured basis by local youth and sporting organisations.
- An average of six prisoners worked locally on a temporary basis.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS AND EVENTS IN 2005

- All training was completed and the implementation of the Loughan House Environmental Management System was introduced in 2005 promoting Environmental Best Practice.
- The Loughan House Environmental management Team undertook and completed a Soil Remediation Project following on an oil spill. Approximately 500 tonnes of soil was contaminated with oil. A team of 8 inmates were given the necessary training to perform this task and presented with an Environmental Achievement Certificate on completion.
- A new building project was completed. This included refurbishment of existing accommodation and provision of additional accommodation with a new administration block, visiting area, workshops and control room. This project increased capacity from 85 to 110 inmates.
- Bishop Leo Reilly paid a pastoral visit to the prison in November and celebrated mass with Fr. Brendan Comiskey, the Loughan House chaplain and Sr Ellen. The mass was attended by inmates, staff and visitors.
- A sports and fitness programme was run during the summer school break, with trophies awarded to successful participants.
- The Visiting Committee continued to meet regularly.
- A coffee morning was hosted for staff and prisoners with proceeds going to the St Christopher's Hospice, Cavan.
- A Christmas shoe box appeal was held in December. 35 boxes were gift wrapped and filled with toys and novelties for dispatch to deprived children in Bosnia. Students and staff all contributed to the appeal.
- As part of the summer education programme, guided tours were organised to the local Organic Centre in Leitrim, Birds of Prey Sanctuary in Sligo, Arigna Mines in Roscommon and heritage sites.

MIDLANDS PRISON

PROFILE - THE MIDLANDS PRISON IS A CLOSED, MEDIUM SECURITY PRISON FOR MALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER, SERVING SENTENCES UP TO LIFE. THE PRISON HAS A DESIGN CAPACITY OF 515 PLACES, MAINLY IN SINGLE CELL ACCOMMODATION, WITH A SMALL NUMBER OF TRIPLE CELLS.



GOVERNOR
MR JOHN O'SULLIVAN

LOCATION
DUBLIN ROAD
PORTLAOISE
COUNTY LAOIS

PRISONER POPULATION

A total of 859 prisoners were committed to the Midlands during 2005. Of those, 708 were transferred from other prisons.

PARTICIPATION IN WORK / TRAINING ACTIVITIES

TITLE OF COURSE	THROUGHPUT IN 2005	ACCREDITED CERTIFICATES
Metalwork	40	15
Carpentry	50	25
Horticulture	24	12
Building Skills	35	30
Catering	40	16
Computer Training	50	22
Industrial cleaning	4	4
Craft Shop	20	20
Laundry	60	15
Health & Safety	208	208

Throughput for 2005 is down on 2004 with a core group of trainees remaining constant.

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Education at the Midlands Prison has now completed its fourth academic year. Prisoners who expressed an interest in attending the education unit were given informal, but detailed, interviews and were actively encouraged to partake and commit themselves to their individual talents and abilities. The teaching staff, along with the Prison Officers assigned to the area, made every effort to ensure that the education unit was utilised to its maximum potential. Students who wished were entered for examinations accredited by the following bodies: FETAC, Department of Education and Science, Open University, Leinster School of Communication, Associated Board of the Royal School of Music.

TITLE OF COURSE	THROUGHPUT IN 2005
Junior Certificate	8
Leaving Certificate	16
Open University	19
Leinster School of Communication - Solo Acting & Speech	4
Associated Board of the Royal School of Music - Theory of Music	2
FETAC	72

PRISONER PROGRAMMES

TITLE OF PROGRAMME	THROUGHPUT IN 2005
Lifers Programme	20
Drug Awareness (Certificate)	16
Alternative to Violence	32

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

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

- Use of CCTV.
- Searching of prisoners after visits.
- Provision of voluntary urine samples for testing.
- Screened visits.
- Staff vigilance.
- Visitors found in possession of drugs are barred from the prison.
- Restrictions for set periods on prisoner found to be in breach of the prison rules and regulations.
- The assistance of local Gardaí.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS AND EVENTS IN 2005

- The Education Unit presented 2 drama productions.
- The Visiting Committee held monthly meetings and nominated two of its members to return at a later date each month. They made themselves available to prisoners who requested to see them and made representations on the prisoners behalf when asked.
- The Inspector of Prisons and Places of Detention visited the prison between the 27th June and the 1st July.
- The close working relationship with the local Gardaí was maintained during the year. Their co-operation is recognised and appreciated by prison management.
- In May the Probation and Welfare team reached its full compliment. This has greatly enhanced the service to prisoners as a P&W officer is available on each division daily.
- Fr Mick Reddan, the prison Chaplain for the past three years, returned to his order. His contribution and input during his time at this prison is recognised and appreciated. He was replaced by Ms Vera McHugh.
- Outside agencies such as Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous and Alternatives to Violence continued to provide a comprehensive service in conjunction with the Probation and Welfare Service.

MOUNTJOY PRISON

PROFILE - 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 BED CAPACITY OF 480.



GOVERNOR
JOHN LONERGAN

LOCATION
NORTH CIRCULAR ROAD
DUBLIN 7

PRISONER POPULATION

There were a total of 1,792 committals to Mountjoy during 2005 with an average daily prisoner population of 488.

PRISONER PROGRAMMES

TITLE OF PROGRAMME	THROUGHPUT IN 2005
Anger Management	10
Methadone Support Programme	20
Lifer / Long-term Group	1

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

The following accredited courses were provided during the year:

TITLE OF COURSE	THROUGHPUT IN 2005
European Computer Driving Licence	15
Equal Skills	39
EHO Catering	8
Leonardo Kitchen	7

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

The following measures were utilised to deal with the supply of drugs: Upgrade of CCTV system, nominated visiting arrangements, staff vigilance, enhancement of perimeter security and liaison with Gardaí. There was an average of 201 prisoners per day on methadone maintenance.

SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS, EVENTS, INITIATIVES AND INCIDENTS IN 2005

- Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous continued to visit the prison weekly.
- The annual drama production took place in April with over thirty prisoners involved. The project was very successful and approximately two thousand members of the public attended six public performances. The production and staging of our annual drama featured in a television documentary broadcast on TV3 on the 19th December, 2005.
- Throughout the year our two works parties continued their work in the community. Our main works party was involved in the refurbishment of a scout's hall in Larkhill, while our other party completed the landscaping of a garden at a nursing home on the Navan Road.
- The kitchen in the main prison received the 'Q' mark award while the kitchen in the Medical Unit received the Emerald Award.
- The Suicide Awareness Group held quarterly meetings.
- Homeless prisoners were supported by the Probation & Welfare Service, the Homeless Persons Unit and the Community Welfare Service.
- Many secondary schools throughout the country participated in our prison tours and the feedback was very positive. In addition, tours were also organised for the legal students from various Third Level colleges.

PORTLAOISE PRISON

PROFILE - PORTLAOISE IS A HIGH SECURITY, CLOSED PRISON FOR MALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER. THE PRISON HAS A BED CAPACITY OF 188 BUT OPERATES BELOW CAPACITY FOR SECURITY AND OPERATIONAL REASONS.

PRISONER POPULATION

The average daily prisoner population in 2005 was 121.

A large number of the prisoners were convicted for subversive type offences. The prison now also accommodates prisoners who have been committed directly to the prison, or have been committed elsewhere but due to security considerations have been transferred to Portlaoise Prison.

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Centre has a teaching staff of 32 teachers. The census for May 2005 indicated a participation rate of 75% in education, and the census for November 2005 indicated a participation rate of 76%.

The following subject areas are offered at basic, intermediate and advanced levels:

English, Irish, Mathematics, French, German, Dutch, Art, Social Studies, Sociology, History, Geography, Health Education, Computers, Business Studies, Physical Education, Yoga, Home Economics, Crafts, Technical Drawing, Guitar, Banjo, Tin-whistle, Drama, Personal Development, Sign-writing/Caricatures, Science, Spanish, Horticulture, Tiling, Pottery, Life Skills, Educational/Career Guidance, Bodhrán Making, First-Aid, Sports Injuries, Pyrography, Music, Aerobics, Auto-Mechanics, Fly-Tying, Numeracy, Literacy, Photography, Auto-Mechanics, Framing, Work Education.

Pre-Release Courses include Anger Management, Thinking Out, Goal Setting, Personal Development, Relationships, Alcohol and Drug Awareness, Job Preparation.

The following is an outline of the number of prisoners who sat examinations accredited by outside bodies:

COURSE TITLE	CANDIDATES
FETAC (May and November)	43
Junior Certificate & Leaving Certificate	17
- Open University	14
- Open College for the Arts	1
- Oscail	1
- ACCA	1
- Royal Irish Academy of Music	3
- Fas (Safe Pass)	13
- Comhaltas Ceolteoirí Éireann	22
- London Royal School of Music	1
- ECDL	3
- Order Of Malta	5
- The Chartered Institute of Transport in Ireland	2
- Trinity International Examinations Board	3

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS AND EXTRA CURRICULAR EVENTS DURING 2005

- 2005 Calendar of Student Paintings
- Entries and winners in Dunamais Amateur Art Competition
- Drama Production
- Listowel Writers Week Winners
- Educational Trust Links
- Art Murals
- New Craft Developments – Weaving, Hand Made Textiles
- Collection of Poetry – Inside Out.
- Visiting Speakers Programme
- National Prison Art Exhibition in Kilmainham Gaol



**GOVERNOR
T.J. WALSH**

**LOCATION
PORTLAOISE
COUNTY LAOIS**

- Visiting Soccer Teams
- Art Exhibition and Auction in Dunamais Arts Centre
- French and Irish Cultural Weeks
- Health Week

MEDICAL SERVICES

2005 was a very successful year with regard to prisoner healthcare which was reflected in a 40% reduction in prescription medication. All new committals were offered Hepatitis vaccination with the vast majority availing of the offer. The age profile of the prison as well the length of sentences prisoners are serving have highlighted the need for regular men's health checks. These are to be rolled out in 2006.

There is one Probation & Welfare Officer based in Portlaoise Prison. The work of the Officer includes addressing prisoners' issues of addiction and linking with service providers who offer day & residential programmes for consideration upon release.

In addition, the Officer liaises with AA who arrange for counsellors to come into the prison. Prisoners are also given assistance in arranging accommodation, social welfare entitlements and sourcing appropriate work or training. The area of work and training is specifically dealt with by the Linkage Worker for the region, who is employed by the Probation & Welfare Service. The Linkage Workage receives referrals from the P & W Officer and the Education Unit in the Prison and then visits the prisoner and provides the relevant support.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE YEAR

- The construction of the new High Security "C" wing commenced. This new wing will replace all existing prisoner accommodation at the prison. It is anticipated that this will be completed by end-2007.
- Waste Management building is almost complete. This new facility will provide Portlaoise Prison with a state of the art waste management facility.
- The Probation and Welfare Officer and the Education Unit referred prisoners to the regional officer for the linkage programme.
- Approx. 75 prisoners used the library on a weekly basis.
- Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous visited the prison regularly.
- New Gatelock and Key management rooms came into operation in 2005.
- Most of the security gates previously secured with static guards have now been fully automated.
- Prison catering, including services on landings, were awarded the Q Mark by Excellence Ireland
- The Suicide Awareness Group continued to hold regular meetings during the year.
- Work commenced on developing the front of the prison to a state that is comparable with its original design.
- The Visiting Committee held formal meetings throughout the year. During the year, the Committee dealt with requests and complaints made by prisoners and assisted in resolving these where possible.
- The Catholic Chaplain, Church of Ireland Minister and visiting Minister of the Christian Churches ministered to the spiritual needs of the prisoner community.

SHELTON ABBEY

PROFILE - SHELTON ABBEY IS AN OPEN CENTRE FOR MALE OFFENDERS AGED 19 AND UPWARDS. PRISONERS ARE SENT HERE 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. THE BED CAPACITY IS 60 AND THERE WAS AN AVERAGE DAILY PRISONER POPULATION OF 51 IN 2005.



GOVERNOR
SEAMUS CRAMER

LOCATION
ARKLOW
COUNTY WICKLOW

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

During the year Personal Development, Addiction Awareness, Anger management and Getting Out Programmes were run.

There was also a range of academic programmes, practical subjects, arts, health education and pre-release planning available. Links with organisations such as Youthreach, VTOS, Literacy Schemes, NALA, Partnership Schemes, Probation & Welfare Service, Linkage Project, FÁS, Prison Psychology Service, the Health Service Executive, Open University, Arts Council, Third Level Colleges, MABS, Treoir and Focus Ireland were also maintained.

Fourteen students received FETAC awards in Computer Applications (Level 1), Computer Aided Design (Level 2), Personal and Interpersonal Skills and Mathematics. Six students completed the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) course.

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

The following measures are in place:

- Alcohol and Drug Awareness Courses.
- Random urinalysis.
- Random searches of prisoners and the Institution.
- Visitor identification and recording system.

INTERACTION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY GROUPS

- AA visit one evening per week and one prisoner attends Gamblers Anonymous in Dublin one evening per week.
- The proceeds of an Arts and Crafts Fair amounting to €4,000 was presented by the Education Unit to Vision, Temple Street Children's Hospital.
- A Concert (Local Arklow Groups) and Musical (Avonmore Musical Society) were held during the year.
- In September a Centenary Celebration Evening was hosted in Shelton in honour of County Wicklow VEC.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN 2005

- Seventy-five prisoners received their Safe Pass cards.
- Nine prisoners sat their Driver Theory Tests, 8 received their Provisional Licences, 4 attended Driving Courses and 3 sat driving tests.
- Four prisoners sat Plant Operative Exams for the Construction Industry.
- Nine prisoners were placed on FÁS / Adult Education Courses
- Fifteen prisoners were referred to the Probation and Welfare Linkage Programme.
- The kitchen received the Q Mark for hygiene from Excellence Ireland.

ST PATRICK'S INSTITUTION

PROFILE - ST. PATRICK'S INSTITUTION IS A CLOSED, MEDIUM SECURITY PLACE OF DETENTION FOR MALES AGED 16 TO 21 YEARS OF AGE.



GOVERNOR
SEAN LENNON

LOCATION
NORTH CIRCULAR ROAD
DUBLIN 7

PRISONER PROFILE

The average daily prisoner population was 187, with a high of 204 and a low of 141. A total of 909 persons were committed to this Institution during the course of the year with 197 transfers out to various Institutions. There were 13 Foreign Nationals Committed. 227 temporary releases were granted during the year. There were no minor inmates aged under 16 committed to the Institution.

PROGRAMMES

TITLE OF PROGRAMME	THROUGHPUT IN 2005
Alcohol Awareness	28
Drug Awareness	10
Drug and Offending Behaviour	10
Pre-release Relapse Prevention workshop for Christmas Release	18
School Pre-release Programme	38
Personal Effectiveness	3
Safe Pass	26
Anger Management	6

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN 2005

	JUNIOR CERTIFICATE	LEAVING CERTIFICATE	OPEN UNIVERSITY	OTHER ACCREDITED COURSES - FETAC
Numbers sitting for subjects in	35	3	-	62
No of subjects taken by Inmates	0	1	1	-

BASIC NUMERACY AND LITERACY	THROUGHPUT IN 2005	IT SKILLS COURSES (INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS)	TITLE OF COURSE	THROUGHPUT IN 2005 NO. AVAILED OF SCHOOL CLASSES
	141	128	N/A	333

LIBRARY USAGE STATISTICS 2005

NUMBERS USING LIBRARY	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	ANNUALLY
	236	1,023	12,275

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

TITLE OF COURSE	THROUGHPUT IN 2005	ACCREDITED YES/NO
Catering - Manual Handling	18	No
Catering - Primary Food Hygiene Course (E.H.O.A.)	16	Yes
Catering - Introduction to Food Hygiene	32	No
Leonardo Course (NTCB)	2	Yes
Safe Pass Course	26	Yes
Education Unit	Throughput in 2005	Accredited Yes/No
Communications	12	Yes
Art and Design	1	Yes
Modular Art	58	No
Introduction to Computers	128	No
Preparation for Work	12	Yes
Basic Cookery	95	No
Health Related Fitness	2	Yes
Mathematics	8	Yes
Pre-release Course	38	No
Crafts	87	No
Basic Guitar Course	46	No
Personal Effectiveness	3	Yes
EHOA (Food Hygiene Course)	24	Yes

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

Measures to Tackle Supply

- Screened Visits
- Protective nets over exercise yards
- Regular removal of all contraband from Nets by Trades Staff via Hoist
- Nominated Visiting arrangements
- Visitors caught bringing drugs into prison are banned
- No physical contact on visits
- Warning signs in waiting area and visiting areas
- Random searches after visits
- Visits monitored by CCTV
- The rear perimeter of Institution monitored by CCTV

TREATMENT PROGRAMMES THROUGHPUT

- Detoxification Programme 26
- Methadone Maintenance Programme 3

DRUG FREE 'D' DIVISION

360 Inmates were housed on this Division during the year. The D Division has a cell accommodation capacity for 76 inmates and is a completely Drug Free Division. Urine analysis is used to ensure inmates remain drug free.

INTERACTION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY GROUPS

The following groups continued to visit inmates. This has led to successful placements on release from the Institution:-

Alcoholics Anonymous, BOND Project, Bridge Project, Cabra Aftercare Project, Cabra Resources Centre, Guild of St. Philip, Coolmine Therapeutic Community, Crinan Youth Project, Deonach, Legion of Mary, Lionsville, Matt Talbot Trust, Merchants Quay Project, Narcotics Anonymous, PACE Workshop, Pathways, Priorswood House, Samaritans, Tabor House, Tower Project, Ballymun Youth Action Plan, Candle Community Trust, Clondalkin Youth Services, Clondalkin Addiction Support Programme, Community Addiction Response Programme, Community Addiction Service, Focus Island, Exchange House, Dublin Aids Alliance, Community Prison Link Workers, TARGET, Talbot Centre, Treo Project, Swan Project, Village Project, Youth Support and Training, Cabra Youth Services.

SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS, EVENTS, INITIATIVES, INCIDENTS IN 2005

- The basement area of the B Division that had been refurbished to a high standard to cater for communal recreation, communal dining and a games area was taken over in 2005 for use as a Gym and Remand recreation area as an alternative venue during the Work and Training-building project.
- Financial approval was received for an Industrial Work and Training Area in St Patrick's Institution.
- The Remand Recreation area underwent substantial remodelling in order to give more efficient use of space, access to natural light.
- Segregation of recyclable waste began in many areas of the Institution and the Project is going very well, the only area at this time that is not segregating waste is in the cell accommodation areas. It is planned to introduce segregation of recyclable waste into these areas in 2006.
- During the year there were many improvements to the Kitchen including the replacement of the flooring, installation of an extraction system in the washroom area, an upgrade in the canopy extraction, wall covering and drainage in the main Kitchen area and the installation of a grease trap into the waste water system adjacent to the Kitchen.
- The Drug Free Division successfully continued to operate in a multi-disciplinary approach in conjunction with the Plenary Committee that met quarterly and advised the Governor on its operations. The Drug Free Division continues to pilot the Positive Sentence Management Programme in St Patrick's Institution. A total of 230 Inmates took part in the Positive Sentence Management Programme in 2005.
- Among the projects undertaken and completed by the Chief Trades Officer and his staff in 2005 were:
 1. Relocation of the Detail Office to the Main Hall.
 2. New Store Room for the Institution Tuck Shop.
 3. Fitting out of new Staff Rest room.
 4. Painting and upgrade of lighting in St Patrick's Church.
 5. Painting and enclosure of pipe work in the Remand Recreation Area.
- There were thirteen incidents of self-injury during the year (six incidents by two inmates, nine individuals in total). There were no deaths in custody during 2005. The Group has noted that the vigilance and professionalism of staff has contributed to preventing a number of suicide attempts.
- The Visiting Committee held twelve formal meetings during 2005. Committee members also visited the Institution on numerous occasions. Four members of the Visiting Committee completed their terms during the year. There are currently eight members serving on the Visiting Committee, we thank these members for their assistance and professionalism and their commitment to St Patrick's.
- The continued support and assistance of the Chaplain to the management of the Institution and the high level of support to inmates, their families and to the Prison Staff is much appreciated.
- The Medical Officer in conjunction with the medical team of nurses, medical orderlies and psychiatrist have provided an excellent medical service for the inmates throughout the year. There was a Northern area Health Board Psychiatrist specialising in addictions in attendance. Other back-up services included ophthalmic and dental.
- Using a multi-disciplinary/partnership approach St. Patrick's Institution continued working to the Business Plan and achieved many of the planned targets.
- A sports week was held in August, with a full itinerary of sporting events was held which was well attended and enjoyed by all. A number of Guest speakers also attended in the Library.
- All inmates including Remands were contacted on committal by the Probation and Welfare Service in St. Patrick's Institution with 95% of Committals engaging with the Service. The Pilot Anger Management course was a new initiative during 2005 and was run by the Probation and Welfare Service in conjunction with the psychologist from St. Patrick's Institution. This course took place over twelve sessions.

TRAINING UNIT

PROFILE - THE TRAINING UNIT IS A SEMI-OPEN, LOW SECURITY PRISON FOR MALES AGED 18 YEARS AND OVER, SERVING SENTENCES UP TO LIFE. LONG SENTENCE PRISONERS ARE NORMALLY NEARING THE END OF THEIR SENTENCE. THE PRISON HAS ACCOMMODATION FOR 96 PRISONERS IN SINGLE ROOMS.

PRISONER POPULATION

A total of 164 prisoners were transferred to the Training Unit in 2005. The highest number in custody at any time was 96 with an average daily prisoner population of 93.

PRISONER PROGRAMMES

PROGRAMME	PARTICIPANTS IN 2005
CONNECT Induction Program	101
Driver Theory Test	10
Safe Pass	8
Fork Lift Course	2
FÁS	18 (17 completed)
Driving Test (B Licence)	1
Jobs Club Course	18



GOVERNOR
JOHN O'BRIEN

LOCATION
GLENGARIFF PARADE
DUBLIN 7

An Anger Management Programme was run jointly by the Probation and Welfare Service and the Psychology Service. The Coolmine Relapse Prevention Programme ran 6 sessions with each group of offenders who transferred from the Health-Care Unit in Mountjoy Prison. In addition to this, the Probation and Welfare Service organised and assisted a number of support workers to link with prisoners in the Training Unit, e.g. Prison Link workers, Addiction Support workers, and Employment Linkage workers. The Probation & Welfare Service also continued to assess offenders for community-based treatment services, e.g. After Care Recovery Group, Soilte, Coolmine, and to supervise offenders in training centres such as PACE / Pathways and Triple R.

The following vocational training courses were provided in the Industrial Training Workshops:

COURSE	PARTICIPANTS IN 2005	ACCREDITED BY
Welding / Engineering	35	London City & Guilds
Electronics	20	London City & Guilds / FETAC
Microcomputers	64	Equals Level 1,2

Prisoners achieved City and Guilds and FETAC qualifications as follows:

COURSE	ACCREDITED BY
City and Guilds	
Electronic Circuits and Components 1	8 awarded
Digital Electronics 1	4 awarded
Electronic Systems 1	5 awarded
Electronic Servicing Advanced	6 awarded
Electronic Systems Advanced.	3 awarded
FETAC	
Electronics Level 4	6 awarded

TACKLING DRUG ABUSE

The Training Unit is established as a drug free centre for all prisoners. Urinalysis was carried out extensively in 2005 to ensure the validity of the system. All offenders were assisted by the many courses provided to help reduce demand for drugs and by one-to-one counselling with the Probation & Welfare Service and the Psychologist.

INTERACTION WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

- Up to 25% of the offender population were released on a daily basis (Monday to Friday) to attend community based work initiatives (such as PACE, Triple R, Pathways, etc). Others are released in like fashion to continue working with their employers enabling them to have employment on final release.
- In March a completely renovated library was opened with a stock of new books and a computerised indexing system. It is open every day and has been extensively used and appreciated. This project received tremendous support from the Chairman of the Training Unit Visiting Committee and the Head Librarian in the Mountjoy Prison Complex.
- A squash court was re-opened on a daily basis.
- A new fire detection and water sprinkler system was installed in every offender's room in 2005.
- In December, one of the prisoners was released to run a 52-mile ultra-marathon from Ballybunion to Limerick to raise funds for four charities, Chernobyl Children's Project International, St. Joseph and the Helpers Charity, The Romanian Challenge Appeal and Calcutta Calling. He hoped to raise €100,000 to be divided equally among the charities.

WHEATFIELD PRISON

PROFILE - WHEATFIELD PRISON IS A CLOSED, MEDIUM SECURITY PRISON FOR MALE PRISONERS AGED 18 AND OVER. AT END-2005 THE BED CAPACITY WAS 378.

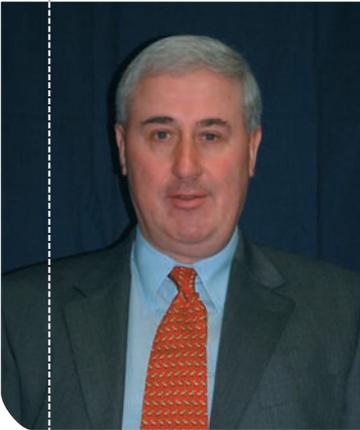
PRISONER POPULATION

The prison was full to capacity for most of the year. The average daily prisoner population was 360.

PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

A total of 923 prisoners participated in work and training during 2005. Prisoners who completed Training Programmes were awarded various Certificates of Achievement which included:

- EHOA Primary Course in Food Hygiene
- FETAC Elementary Cookery Programme
- Guild of Cleaners and Launderers Technician Certificate
- MIG TIG ARC Welding Certificate
- FETAC Engineering Process
- City & Guilds Computer Skills
- Safe Pass
- Abrasive Wheel
- Construction Skills
- An Gaisce Presidents Awards Bronze Medal

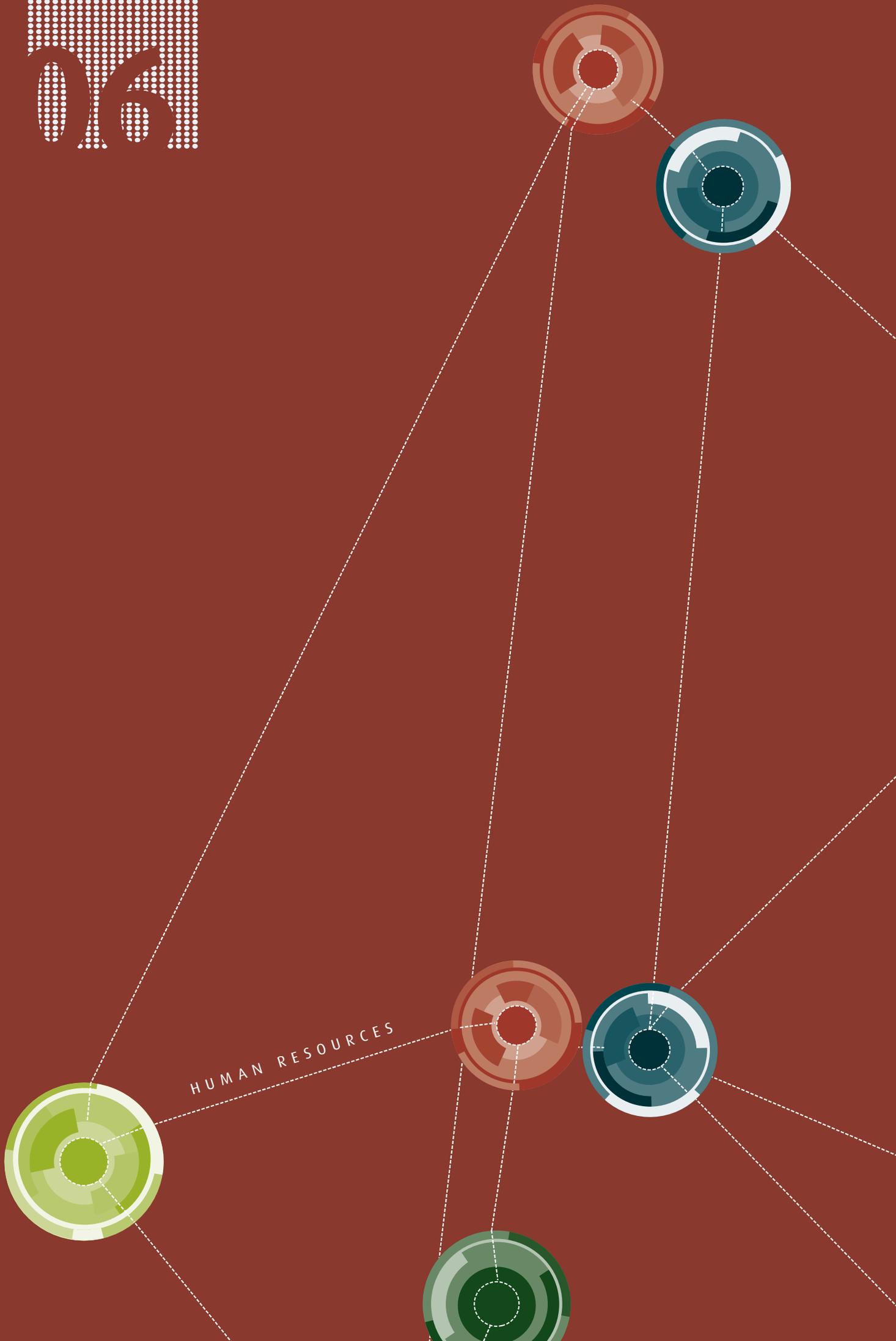


GOVERNOR
EDWARD WHELAN

LOCATION
CLOVERHILL ROAD
CLONDALKIN
DUBLIN 22

OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS AND EVENTS IN 2005

- The Catering Division were successful in achieving the following awards:
 1. Re-Certification in NSAI ISO 9001-2000 (catering area).
 2. Gold Medal Winners in the Hospitality Industry awards.
 3. Re-Certification NSAI IS. 343 - Food Safety Management System.
 4. EIQA Emerald Hygiene Mark (Catering).
 5. Q Mark in the New Laundry Area.
 6. ISO 22000 - International Standard for Food Management.
 7. EFQM: Committed to Excellence Award for Work and Training Area.
- The Work & Training area completed many works for charities which included Irish Epilepsy Society, Spina, Bifida, Stewards Hospital, James Hospital, Hospice Harold's Cross, Irish Red Cross, Tsunami and Pakistan Earthquake Appeals.
- An Induction Workshop for new committals was opened in November. This is a five-day programme where the new inmate can familiarise himself with all the services available at Wheatfield Prison.
- The new Laundry facility is now fully operational, with inmates certified in the Guild of Launderer's Certificate.
- The Visiting Committee met regularly and met offenders on request.
- The Chaplaincy service continued to provide spiritual support to offenders of all denominations.
- The Listener Scheme was introduced to Wheatfield Prison.
- The maintenance staff maintained a very high standard of service and completed a considerable number of projects including the commencement of work on the new Control Room.
- A wide range of prisoner programmes and activities were undertaken by the Library Service which included an Assertiveness Training and Personal Development course, Smoking Cessation Clinics, Relaxation through Yoga, Model Ship Making.
- The Probation & Welfare Services provided a service to offenders on request. All new committals were interviewed.
- Many thanks to all the voluntary organisations who visited the offenders and provided valuable support and service in a professional confidential manner e.g. the Guild of St. Philip of Neri, The Samaritans, A.A., N.A., and all the individual counsellors.
- A high standard of medical and dental services were provided for the offenders in custody.



HUMAN RESOURCES

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTORATE AIMS TO FACILITATE DELIVERY OF THE PRISON SERVICE'S BUSINESS OBJECTIVES NOW, AND IN THE FUTURE, BY ATTRACTING, RETAINING, MOTIVATING AND DEVELOPING TALENTED PEOPLE THROUGH EFFECTIVE HUMAN RESOURCE PRACTICES, WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MANAGERS AND STAFF THROUGHOUT THE IRISH PRISON SERVICE TOWARDS THIS END. OUR APPROACH TO THIS TASK IN 2005 WAS INFLUENCED BY TWO SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS, FIRSTLY THE AGREEMENT REACHED WITH THE PRISON OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION ON THE PROPOSAL FOR ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE AND SECONDLY PREPARATIONS FOR DECENTRALISATION OF PRISON SERVICE HEADQUARTERS TO LONGFORD IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2007.

ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

The Organisational Change Programme in the Prison Service has its roots in the Report of the Prison Service Operating Cost Review Group (1997) which led to a comprehensive management analysis of the working and organisational arrangements in all prisons and places of detention by a Staffing and Operations Review Team (SORT).

Following rejection by prison staff of initial change proposals, discussions led to the eventual agreement on the operational aspects of the change programme with a limited number of financial issues being referred to the Civil Service Arbitration Board. The Arbitration Board findings, which became available in January 2005, recommended the financial terms to be offered to staff in the context of the level of change envisaged.

A ballot of staff in April resulted in the comprehensive rejection of the change proposals. Since all of the industrial relations procedures had been exhausted at that point, the Minister was left with no option but to pursue alternative measures to control prison costs. As a result he pressed ahead with legislative proposals to facilitate outsourcing of prisoner escorts; closed the Curragh and Fort Mitchel Places of Detention; initiated preparations for withdrawal of Loughan House and Shelton Abbey from the Prison Service and their transformation into post release centres and imposed strict monthly cash budgets in each institution.

The Prison Officers' Association sought to reopen negotiations based on a modification of the Proposal for Organisational Change. While the Minister was not prepared to renegotiate a deal which had already been the subject of all the available industrial relations processes he was willing to agree to a modest, cost-neutral adjustment to the Proposal thereby facilitating a second ballot in August. The outcome of the second ballot was an overwhelming acceptance of the revised Proposal for Organisational Change bringing to a satisfactory conclusion the long and arduous negotiations process.



Home Economics class,
Midlands Prison

This agreement with the Prison Officers' Association represents a very significant achievement in that it is one of the most comprehensive change deals ever negotiated in the public service. The challenge now is to implement in full the agreed change programme.

Implementation was already well under way by end-2005. The new annualised attendance system - the central element of the deal involving elimination of overtime was rolled-out to four institutions in November 2005. Preparations were also well in hand to facilitate roll out to all other institutions by February 2006. Progressing the roll out of such a major programme of change in a tight timescale involved a huge effort and co-operation by management, staff and their representatives. The new attendance system was working well at year-end but will take some time to bed-in before its impact can be properly assessed.

In time, the new system is expected to reduce the cost of extra attendance in the Prison Service by about half. Management should have staff available when they are needed most. Staff will have predictable attendance patterns and earn extra attendance payments at set levels even if actual extra attendance is not required of them.

Other aspects of the change programme include:

- Annualised Hours
- New rosters
- New electronic gates
- Cellular vans for prisoner escorts
- New entry-level grade of Prison Officer
- Establishment of promotion panels at all grades to assist in effective usage of additional hours
- Rationalisations of procurement and stores
- Rationalisation of Maintenance function
- Redeployment of staff to achieve agreed prison staffing levels



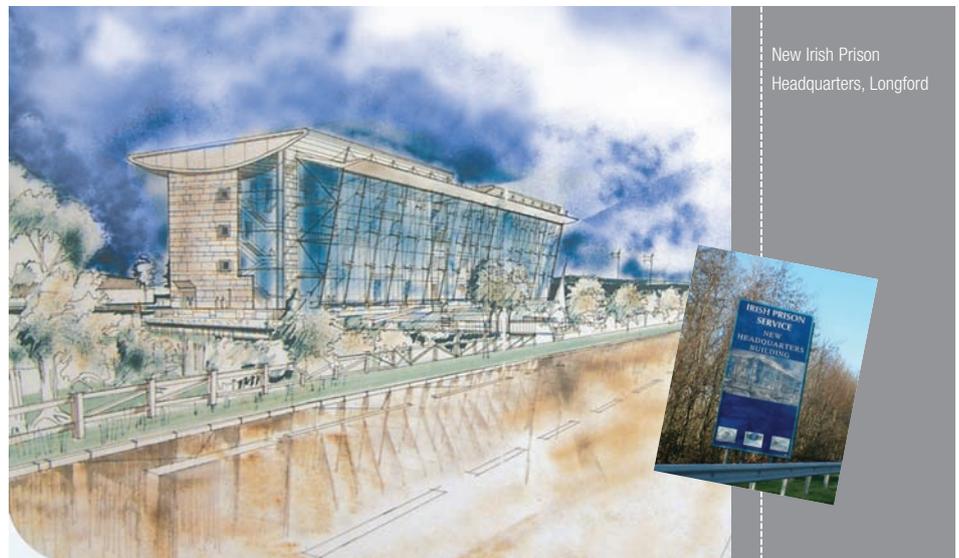
New cellular prisoner transport

It is anticipated that the eventual completion of the roll out of the agreed change programme in 2006 offers a real prospect of a new era of long term stable industrial relations in the Prison Service with controlled and predictable costs going forward into the future.

DECENTRALISATION TO LONGFORD

Following the Government announcement in December 2003, the Irish Prison Service will be one of the first organisations to relocate under the public service decentralisation programme. Preparations for the decentralisation of Prison Service Headquarters to Longford involves:

- Procurement from the Office of Public Works of a high quality fully-fitted building;
- Delivery of the IT and telecommunications infrastructure and services to support the business of IPS HQ;
- Replacement in an orderly manner of in excess of 75% of serving headquarters staff opting not to relocate; and
- Maintaining continuity and quality of delivery of services during all phases of decentralisation.



New Irish Prison
Headquarters, Longford

In all, decentralisation will involve relocation of the full HQ staff complement, comprising 158 posts. These are mainly general Civil Service grades, but also include some prison and professional grades and contract staff. A detailed decentralisation project plan, which sets out the activities, resources, costs, schedule, risks and other issues involved in the relocation of IPS HQ to its new premises in Longford, is available on the IPS website (www.irishprisons.ie).

Decentralisation preparations were well advanced by end-2005 and a contract awarded for the building of the new headquarters. About half of all decentralising staff were in post and decentralisation commitments were to hand in respect of about 60% of the balance of unfilled posts.

The IPS has taken specific measures to mitigate the impact of an estimated 80% rapid turnover in headquarters staff in the run up to decentralisation. In particular, preservation of the corporate memory is well-advanced, involving detailed recording of over 1,000 work processes at headquarters. Other measures have included development of a training strategy and the hosting of the first of a series of seminars for new staff on the work of each headquarters Directorate. Promotion competitions and engagement with staff and their representatives will continue with a target of having all decentralising staff in post by end-2006.

PARTNERSHIP

The Central Prison Service Partnership Committee, which is chaired by the Director General and includes representatives of all staff associations, continued to meet in 2005. The Committee monitored progress on implementing the Revised IPS Action Plan under Sustaining Progress and agreed the Progress Reports submitted to the Performance and Verification Group (PVG) for the Justice and Equality Sector. The increases due to staff under Sustaining Progress in 2005 were paid in full in light of the progress reported.

Other items discussed at meetings of the Central Prison Service Partnership Committee were the relocation of IPS Headquarters to Longford and the development of the new Mountjoy and Cork Complexes at Thornton and Spike Island respectively on a Public Private Partnership Basis (PPP). These are major issues for the future of the IPS that will shape the management and delivery of prison services long into the future. Accordingly, both matters are standing agenda items for each meeting of the Central Prison Service Partnership Committee. Looking ahead, the next step in progressing and strengthening partnership structures in the IPS will be to have Committees in place in each Institution in 2006.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM (PMDS)

GENERAL SERVICE GRADES

PMDS continued to be implemented at Headquarters and training needs identified from the process addressed. In the context of the continued development of PMDS, the IPS is currently considering how best to introduce a Quality Assurance Mechanism to ensure consistency of application of the PMDS process throughout the organisation.

It was intended to carry out a Staff Attitudinal/Climate Survey in 2005 but it was decided to defer this due to the significant staff turnover being experienced in IPS Headquarters arising from decentralisation. It is considered that deferral will allow for the large number of decentralising staff who have recently joined the IPS time to becoming familiar with their new roles and local operation of PMDS. This would also provide a more accurate assessment of how PMDS is working in the IPS. Consultants will be engaged to carry out the survey and the results will inform the decision on when to introduce Upward Feedback, on a pilot basis, in Headquarters.

PRISON SERVICE GRADES

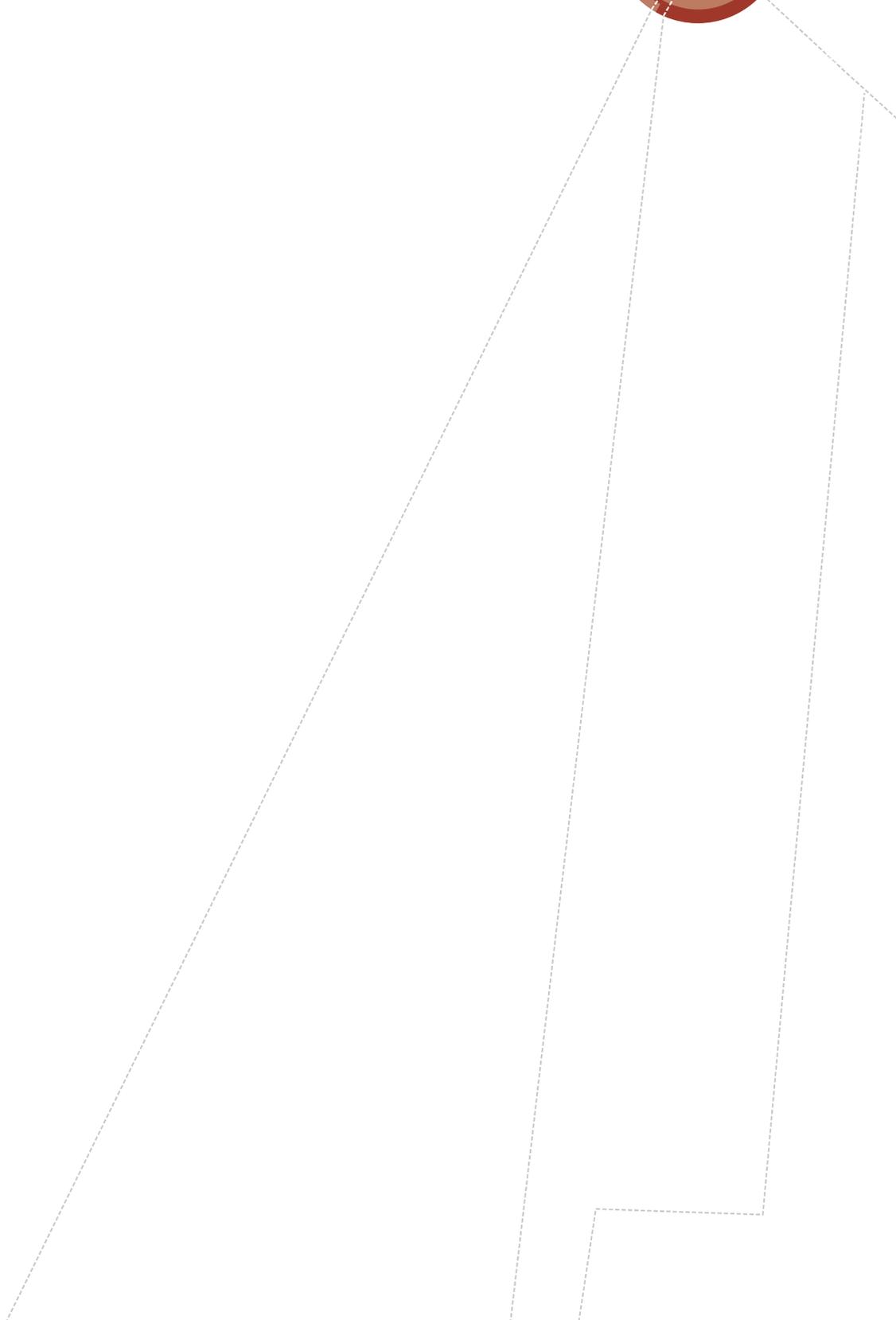
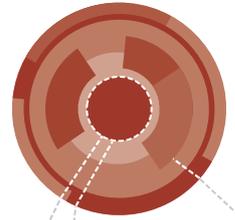
PMDS training for the senior Prison Service grades of Governor, Deputy Governor, Assistant Governor, Chief Officer and equivalent grades was completed in 2005. The feedback received was good. Role Profile Forms and Annual Review Forms were completed for 2005/2006.

Extension of PMDS to the grades of Assistant Chief Officer and equivalent grades and the Prison Officer grade will proceed when the PMDS is embedded at the more senior levels.

OTHER HR DEVELOPMENTS DURING 2005

Other key achievements during 2005 included:

- managing the day-to-day needs of approximately 3,200 staff, including the re-assignment required to achieve new agreed staffing levels at prisons as well as redeployments arising as a result of the closure of Fort Mitchel and Curragh. In all there were 361 re-assignments, redeployments and temporary assignments, as well as over 80 retirements during the year.
- continuing to maintain and develop positive employee relations with our staff and their representatives through both informal and formal mechanisms, including Partnership and use of the available IR machinery.
- successful completion in a concentrated period of promotion competitions to the grades of Director, Deputy Governor, Assistant Governor, Assistant Governor Work and Training, Chief Officer 1 and 2, ACO Detail, Clerk 1 and 2, Chief Trades 1, Industrial Manager and Industrial Supervisor Competitions (for Laundry, Print, Bakery, Fabric, Braille and Metalwork). Appointments are being made from the panels. The aforementioned competitions attracted over 400 candidates and all were invited for interview.
- competitions for Assistant Chief Officer and Assistant Chief Officer - Training Liaison Officer, Industrial Supervisor Computers, Woodwork, Farm and Assistant Industrial Supervisor Catering, Horticulture/Garden, Farm and Light Assembly were processed in 2005 and panels are expected in early 2006. Over 500 candidates have applied for promotion to these grades.
- recruitment and training of 75 new Prison Officers at the Prison Service Training Centre, as well as appointments of new chaplains, psychologists and clerical staff and a recruitment competition for prison doctors.
- organisation of a major recruitment competition for the new grade of Recruit Prison Officer (advertised in early 2006).
- overseeing the delivery of performance management and development system training to senior prison service grades, i.e. from Chief Officer grade to Governor Grade and the identification and prioritisation of training needs arising from this process.
- establishing new organisational structures to strengthen our approach to maintaining a safe and healthy work environment and new supports including a database to monitor, with a view to minimising, staff injuries and assaults and the development, in conjunction with the Operations Directorate, of a protocol on threats to staff.
- organising an extensive staff vaccination programme.
- undertaking a review of the higher staff absence cases across prisons, reviewing those cases on an individual basis, maintaining management systems for addressing problem cases to ensure that appropriate staff support as well as control measures can be systematically applied across the prison system. Unfortunately, it was necessary in some cases to resort to sanctions to address particularly unsatisfactory sick absence records.
- progressing, with the assistance of external consultants, an evaluation of the Prison Service's requirements in implementing a computerised Human Resource Management System as a key enabler of Human Resources reform and the re-orientation of the Human Resources Function towards a more strategic model while maintaining a high standard customer service.





ESTATE MANAGEMENT

THE PRISON BUILDING AND REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WITH A VARIETY OF PRISON PROJECTS TO IMPROVE ACCOMMODATION AND FACILITIES AT PRISONS AND PLACES OF DETENTION. THE FOLLOWING CAPITAL PROJECTS WERE UNDER WAY OR COMPLETED DURING 2005.

THORNTON HALL

- DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PRISON COMPLEX TO REPLACE MOUNTJOY PRISON

The purchase of a 60-hectare (150 acre) site at Thornton Hall, North County Dublin was completed in September 2005. This acquisition will enable the Service to develop a major new prison complex on a green field site with the primary objective of replacing the outdated prison establishments located on the Mountjoy Prison campus, Dublin.

The new prison complex at Thornton will be the largest-ever prison construction project undertaken in the State and, indeed, will be one of the largest of all capital projects in the State at the present time. Successful management of the project will present a major challenge for the Irish Prison Service. The planning of the new facility will involve leading-edge innovative design of custodial accommodation which supports both quality prison regime and economical operation and maintenance costs.

The purchase of the site affords the Service the opportunity to develop progressive rehabilitative facilities for prisoners, introduce single-person cells with in-cell sanitation and to provide improved working conditions for staff. The size of the Thornton site allows considerable flexibility for a campus style development with modern work practices as well as allowing the Irish Prison Service to plan for the future. The new prison will be procured on a value for money public private partnership basis.

A range of preliminary engineering surveys and an archeological survey commenced in the latter part of the year. An imaginative boundary tree-planting scheme also commenced. Unfortunately, because of legal actions in relation to the development of the site, the IPS was constrained in engaging with local residents to address issues that are of concern to them. The recent withdrawal of the legal action opens the way for greater dialogue and consultation in 2006.



Boundary Planting Scheme,
Thornton Hall

SPIKE ISLAND

Detailed planning for a new prison complex to replace the outdated Cork Prison commenced during 2005. The construction of the new prison will involve the construction of a bridge to the island. Negotiations are at an advanced stage for the purchase of a site on the mainland to facilitate this.

LIMERICK PRISON

Enabling works were completed in preparation for the provision of the new Recreation/Education/Medical Block. Construction is now well under way and is scheduled for completion in February 2007.

The new unit will comprise of a four-storey building with a gym area, fitness suite, interview rooms, pharmacy, medical rooms, classrooms and administration rooms.

PORTLAOISE PRISON

Preliminary works for the new C block are ongoing. A contractor has been appointed for the construction of the new block following a tender competition conducted by the Office of Public Works. This new block will replace the existing outdated prisoner accommodation at Portlaoise. As well as providing new prisoner accommodation to modern standards, the new block will also include new education facilities. The new block is due for completion in October 2007.

The Old Gate Lock was converted into a staff facility and military search area. Several of the original architectural features were retained and enhanced. The project was completed in September 2005.



New Gate Lock,
Portlaoise Prison

LOUGHAN HOUSE

In June 2004, a programme of refurbishment work commenced at Loughan House involving provision of a new two-storey building for Workshops, Administration Unit and Visitor facilities, refurbishment of prisoners' bedrooms and of refurbishment of the Control Room. The work was completed in January 2005 and resulted in an increase in bed capacity from 85 to 110.

CASTLEREA PRISON

In August 2005, a new building to provide locker facilities and ancillary facilities commenced and is due for completion in early 2006. The administration offices were also refurbished in 2005.

MIDLANDS PRISON

The construction of an extension to the Trades and Maintenance building which commenced in late 2004 was completed in 2005 to support more cost effective facilities management at both Portlaoise and the Midlands Prison.

PRISON SERVICE TRAINING CENTRE

The construction of enhanced facilities at the Prison Service Training Centre, which commenced in 2004, was completed in 2005. The new training facilities include, mock prison landing, control room and other facilities to enable the Service to upgrade scenario training for new recruits and serving staff. Additional lecture and classroom facilities were also provided.

WHEATFIELD PRISON

Construction of a new control room commenced in 2005. This facility will incorporate a new fire and security system and will have the capability to carry a new digital CCTV rollout.

NEW SAFETY OBSERVATION AND CLOSE SUPERVISION CELLS

New Safety Observation Cells and Close Supervision Cells were completed and brought into operation in a number of prisons during 2005. These units, which replace the old "padded cells", were provided at the request of the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform and will result in more humane conditions for vulnerable prisoners. All of the new units are based on prototypes developed and piloted at Cloverhill Remand Prison. The new units will be available in other closed institutions in 2006.

VIDEOLINK

A programme of work involving the conversion of 7 cells in Cloverhill Prison to soundproof booths for videolink was completed during 2005. Five smaller soundproof booths are also being installed. These booths are being built in preparation for prison to court and prison to solicitor / barrister videolink which is expected to commence during 2006.

CCTV

An EU-wide tender process was carried out for the provision of digital CCTV recording facilities in all closed prisons. The contract was awarded in early 2005 and the programme was completed by end 2005. This equipment will assist in the more speedy detection and retrieval of CCTV footage evidence in relation to the attempted smuggling of contraband material and will reinforce security for prison staff.

HIGH SECURITY LOCKING

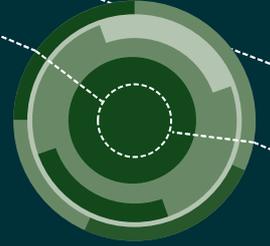
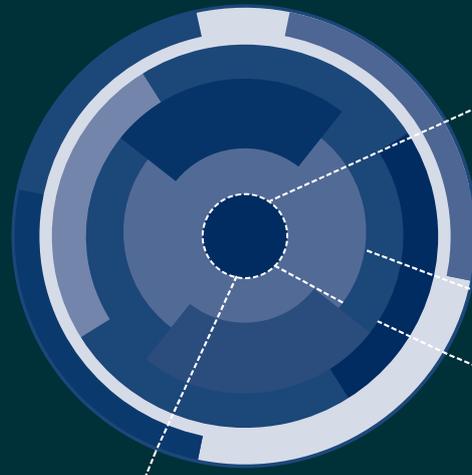
As part of the implementation of the Proposal for Organisational Change, a programme to install high security locking was rolled out across a number of Prison facilities. These new electronic locking provide enhanced security features while allowing the Prison Service to benefit from staff savings associated with the introduction of new technology.

PRISON SERVICE ESCORT CORPS

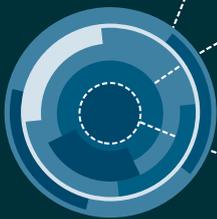
Also as part of the implementation of the Proposal for Organisational Change, work commenced on a new Headquarters for the new Prison Service Escort Corps. It is expected that this work will be completed in 2006.



Construction of the new Irish Prisons Headquarters, Longford



FINANCE, INFORMATION AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS



FINANCE, INFORMATION AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS

DÁIL ÉIREANN VOTED A TOTAL OF €389,178,000 FOR PRISON AND PROBATION AND WELFARE SERVICES IN THE PRISONS VOTE 2005 (VOTE 21). EXCLUDING THE PROVISIONS IN THE VOTE FOR THE PROBATION AND WELFARE SERVICES (SUBHEADS E AND F OF VOTE 21), THE VOTED PROVISION IN 2005 FOR THE IRISH PRISON SERVICE WAS €344,239,000.

The total spend by the Irish Prison Service in 2005 was €334,931,000 some €9m within budget. Similar to last year, the Prison Service did not need to have recourse to a supplementary estimate at year-end. Particulars of the 2005 Provisions and Expenditure are set out in Table 14. A formal statement on Vote 21 will be provided in due course in the annual Appropriation Account, which is audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General and published by the Stationery Office.

Pay and overtime continue to account for approximately 67% of all spending by the Irish Prison Service. Overtime spending was €46m in 2005 compared to €45.5m in 2004 – an increase of 1% notwithstanding pay increases under Sustaining Progress of 2%, 1.5% and 1.5% with effect from 1 December 2004, 1 June 2005 and 1 December 2005 respectively. The balance of Benchmarking was also paid with effect from 1 June 2005. The fact that overtime was held at this level, notwithstanding operational provisions in prisons is a tribute to effective central and local management of overtime spending.

Apart from pay, the most significant area of expenditure was capital spending. Capital investment has been significant in providing a new 150-acre site in North County Dublin to replace the Mountjoy Prison complex, improved accommodation and facilities at prisons and places of detention and enhanced officer-training facilities. Particulars of the Prison Service 2005 building programme are given in the chapter on Estate Management. IT developments during 2005 are covered later in this chapter.

Table 15: 2005 Expenditure & Income

PRISON SERVICE 2005 BUDGET PROVISION AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURE

	2004 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE €000	2005 PROVISION €000	2005 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE €000
Administration			
A.1 - Salaries, Wages and Allowances	205,757	240,833	223,677
A.2 - Travel and subsistence	3,239	2,997	3,192
A.3 - Incidental Expenses	7,558	8,512	7,949
A.4 - Postal and telecommunications services	2,814	3,070	2,474
A.5 - Office Machinery and Other Office Supplies	3,673	4,366	5,172
A.6 - Consultancy Services	1,073	717	82
Other Services			
B - Buildings and Equipment	40,341	64,162	75,457
C - Prison Services, etc	21,911	22,742	24,465
D - Manufacturing Department and Farm	377	1,025	555
F - Community Service Order Scheme			
G - Education Expenditure	1,179	1,557	1,374
H - Prison Officers, Medical Aid Society (Grant-in-Aid)	927	900	450
I - Compensation	1,775	2,676	1,801
Total Gross Expenditure	290,624	353,557	346,648
J - Appropriation in Aid (Receipts)	1,258	9,318	11,717
Total Net Expenditure	289,366	344,239	334,931

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

COST OF KEEPING A PRISONER

The average cost of keeping a prisoner in custody during the calendar year 2005 was €90,900. This represents an increase on the 2004 cost mainly due to pay increases under Sustaining Progress of 2%, 1.5% and 1.5% with effect from 1 December 2004, 1 June 2005 and 1 December 2005 respectively. The breakdown, by institution is shown in Table 15.

Table 16: Cost of Keeping a Prisoner and Cost of a Prisoner Place by Institution in 2005

PRISONS AND PLACES OF DETENTION	COST PER PRISONER (€)	COST PER PRISON PLACE (€)
Arbour Hill	75,600	74,800
Castlerea	76,900	78,000
Cork	87,700	85,600
Cloverhill	84,800	76,700
Dóchas	86,300	87,000
Limerick	75,800	69,000
Loughan House	68,500	47,200
Midlands	85,300	81,200
Mountjoy	100,400	107,300
Portlaoise	240,700	156,100
Shelton Abbey	80,900	69,100
St Patrick's	90,700	78,500
Training Unit	71,500	69,200
Wheatfield	81,100	78,100
Overall	90,900	85,100

The cost per prisoner is based on the average daily number of offenders in custody during 2005. The number of prisoner places is based on the number of places in each institution at end-November 2005. The operational cost of each institution is based on actual running costs (i.e. pay, overtime, food, light and heat, maintenance, etc.). These costs include certain fixed costs that arise irrespective of the number of offenders in custody, e.g. staffing numbers, utilities, etc. All headquarters and central service costs are allocated over the prison establishments for the purpose of calculating the cost per prisoner at each institution. Capital expenditure is excluded from the calculation in the interest of facilitating comparison in individual institutional costs.

IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT INFORMATION FRAMEWORK (MIF) WITHIN THE IRISH PRISON SERVICE

The Irish Prison Service is implementing the Management Information Framework to bring about improved financial management and control within the Prison Service. The intention is to have a more strategically driven organisation that meets the demands of a modern justice system and does so in a cost effective manner. The Irish Prison Service has implemented many parts of MIF to date primarily relating to developing improved accounting systems and is pressing forward with financial training for key groups of staff. A pilot financial management training course was carried out during 2005. The course content has since been tailored to meet the particular needs identified.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Irish Prison Service has been operating an Oracle financial management system since July 2002. The system was rolled out to Cork and Limerick prisons during 2005. Further roll out will continue during 2006 to Building Services Division.

CENTRAL PURCHASING UNIT (CPU)

During 2005, the main EU and national tender competitions run by the CPU were for the supply of photocopiers, a laboratory-based urinalysis testing service and gymnasium equipment. The CPU was also involved in tenders for a range of services, including pharmacy services and consultancies, on behalf of the Irish Prison Service.

The ongoing management of a number of contracts, including food and related contracts, was carried out by the CPU in 2005, including annual price reviews as provided for under the various contracts.

The CPU also liaised with the Government Supplies Agency in relation to contracts for the supply of uniforms, nurses' uniforms, prisoner clothing, office supplies and personal protective equipment, and with the Office of Public Works Furniture Division, in relation to contracts for the supply of furniture, bedding, and other sundry goods. The Central Purchasing Unit has a central coordination role in establishing Irish Prison Service requirements for all of the above items.

During 2005, the Central Purchasing Unit undertook to document its procurement processes with a view to facilitating the decentralisation to the Irish Prison Service Headquarters to Longford. The intention is that these processes will enable the easy transfer of information to new staff arriving in the Directorate arising from the decentralisation process.

The CPU is overseeing the implementation of reform in the Prison Stores as outlined in the Proposal for organisational Change in the Irish Prison Service.

EXPENDITURE REVIEWS

An expenditure review in the area of capital expenditure commenced at the end of 2005. This will be progressing during 2006.

PAYROLL FUNCTIONS

The Irish Prison Service payroll includes payment of basic pay, allowances and overtime. The Financial Shared Services Centre of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform based in Killarney is responsible for the payment functions. A project to integrate the Time & Attendance system with the payroll system in Financial Shared Services, Killarney was completed in May 2005. This allows for automated electronic pay details transfer between the two systems. This system was subsequently upgraded to cater for the new additional hour's regime of working as agreed under the Proposal for Organisational Change.

PROMPT PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS ACT 1997

In accordance with the Prompt Payment of Account Act, 1997, the following information is provided in respect of the financial period ending December 31st 2005:

(a) Payment Practices

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

INVOICE AMOUNT	NO. OF INVOICES	AMOUNT OF INTEREST PAID €
Under €317	6	41.68
Over €317	298	8,947.97
Total	304	8,989.65

(b) Late Payments in 2005

(c) Overall percentage of late payments to total payments and total interest paid in 2005.

The overall percentage of late payments to total payments was 1.0%

The total amount of interest paid with respect to late payments was €8,989.65.

PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS OF THE PRISONS AUTHORITY INTERIM BOARD

The Chairman received gross remuneration of €15,237 in 2005 in respect of his chairmanship of the Prisons Authority Interim Board. Other Board members received gross remuneration of €10,886 in 2005 in respect of their membership of the Interim Board. As full-time, salaried public servants, three members of the Interim Board were not remunerated in respect of their membership of the Interim Board.

COMPENSATION AWARDS AND CRIMINAL INJURIES

The total expenditure on compensation payments was €1.8m in 2005 including payments under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal Scheme and civil compensation cases and associated costs.

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal operates independently of the Irish Prison Service. However, the Irish Prison Service funds any award made by the Tribunal to prison officers as a result of criminal injuries incurred in the course of their duty. The total expenditure in respect of Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal cases in 2005 was €878,000 (€628,000 in 2004).

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

The total expenditure in respect of Civil Compensation Claims cases managed by the Irish Prison Service and the SCA in 2005 was €881,000 (€1.14m in 2004). The pro-active approach taken by the Irish Prison Service Claims Unit, together with considerable assistance from local management and the active involvement of the SCA ensured that the level of expenditure was kept to a minimum.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Irish Prison Service has made significant investment in IT to provide the key operational systems required to run a modern Prison Service and almost all areas of prison administration have been addressed. The Prison Service has become a substantial IT operation with up to 3,300 users and more than 1,500 PCs in 19 locations around the country. All parts of the Prison Service are now connected by a wide area network, which allows the key systems to be deployed and has also greatly enhanced the capacity of the organisation to share information.

Among the systems developed has been the Prisoner Records Information System (PRIS). This system is now operational in all prisons since 2001 and provides, for the first time, a comprehensive means of recording and sharing information about the prison population. It is intended that this system will, over the coming years, provide a valuable source of statistical information in relation to trends in the composition of the prison population and will act as an aid to policy making in this area. During 2005, this system was significantly enhanced with a number of new software releases, which provide enriched functionality to the Irish Prison Service staff. The system is now well established and has realised significant business benefits to the organisation over its life to date.

The Time & Attendance system was linked to the payroll system in Killarney during 2005 with obvious efficiency saving for the Irish Prison Service. Information Booths to allow officers check their staff details on-line were made available during 2005 and it is planned to increase their functionality during 2006. In addition, the System was upgraded during 2005 to cater for introduction of the new additional hour's attendance arrangements agreed in the Proposal for Organisational Change.

A computerised Prisoner Medical Records System was developed for doctors, nurses and other medical staff working within the Irish Prison Service. Roll-out of the system is complete and this system is in place in all prisons for utilisation by prisons medical staff.

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

Significant progress was also achieved in 2005 in the following areas:

- A significant number of new IT document management systems were put in place;
- A substantial amount of new IT equipment and infrastructure were deployed;
- Upgrades took place to the Irish Prison Service Database;
- Work continued on the specification of a Video Conferencing solution to link Prisons and Courts Service.
- A remote access solution was provided for senior staff in the IPS with a mobile e-mail solution also being rolled out.

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

Material for reply to 256 Parliamentary Questions was provided by the Irish Prison Service in 2005. Table 16 gives a breakdown by Headquarters Directorate:



Signing of the new Environmental Waste Policy

Table 17: Distribution of PQ's

DIRECTORATE	NUMBER
Corporate Affairs	37
Estate Management	64
Operations	51
Human Resources	34
Finance	19
Healthcare	8
Regimes	43
Total	256

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

PRESS AND INFORMATION OFFICE

The Service's interaction with the press, research community and the general public is managed by the Press and Information Officer. The office also advises other Directorates in relation to various communication activities. Due to the high level of media interest in prison related issues the Press Office responded to a considerable volume of enquiries on a 24-hour, seven-day a week basis on virtually all aspects of the Service. The Press Office is also responsible for maintenance of the Service's website (www.irishprisons.ie).



Environmental Waste Awareness Campaign

MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, EQUALITY & LAW REFORM

Prisons Authority
Interim Board

Secretary General, Department of
Justice, Equality & Law Reform

William Conroy - Operations Directorate



Custody of Prisons
Management of the
prisoner population

Dr. Edna Dooley - Healthcare Directorate



Prisoner Healthcare
of Nursing
Prisons Pharmacy

Derek Brennan - Regimes Directorate



Prison care & Rehabilitation
Specialist Services (Education,
Psychology, Vocational training
& Chaplains)

Brian Purcell - Director General



Brian Fitzpatrick - Human Resources Directorate



Human Resource
Management
Training & Development
Industrial Relations

John Conlan - Finance and I.T. Estates



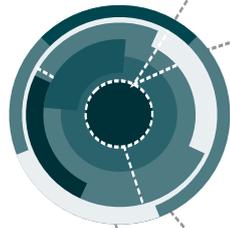
Estate Management
Central Purchasing Unit
Information Technology

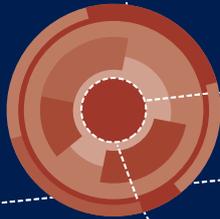
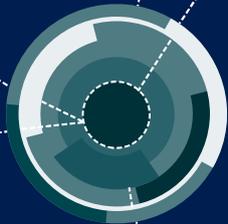
John Brosnan - Corporate Affairs Directorate



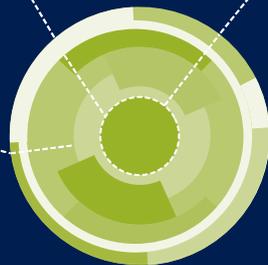
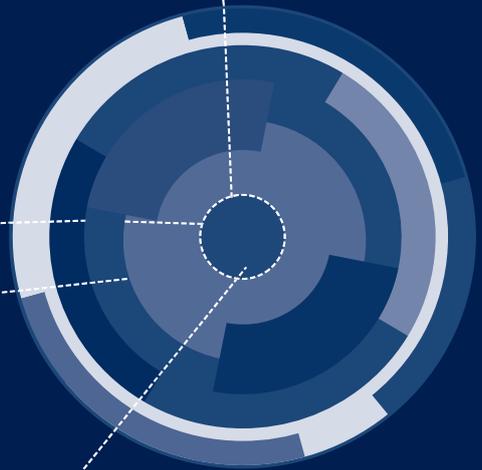
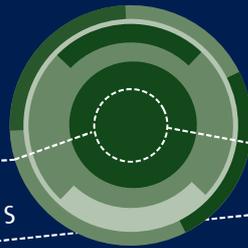
Board Secretariat
Strategic Planning
Press & Information

HEADQUARTERS DIRECTORATES





APPENDICES



STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON PERSONS COMMITTED TO PRISON UNDER SENTENCE IN 2005

Table 1: Offence by age of Female offender in 2005

	15-<17	17-<21	21-<25	25-<30	30-<40	40-<50	50+	TOTAL
Group 1								
Offences against the person								
Murder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sexual Offences	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences against the person	-	6	10	7	9	4	-	36
Total Group 1	-	6	10	7	9	4	-	36
Group 2								
Offences against property with violence	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	3
Group 3								
Offences against property without violence								
	-	10	21	27	31	8	2	99
Group 4								
Other Offences								
Drug Offences	-	1	2	1	5	2	-	11
Road Traffic Offences	-	4	21	40	33	14	7	119
Other	-	6	24	19	40	31	14	134
Total Group 4	-	11	47	60	78	47	21	264
Grand Total	-	27	79	94	120	59	23	402
FEMALE								

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Sexual Offences
- Other Offences Group 1
- Offences against property with violence
- Offences against property without violence
- Drug Offences
- Road Traffic Offences
- Other Offences Group 2

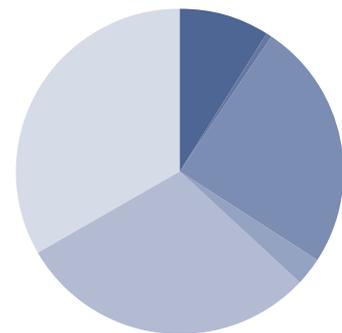


Table 2: Offence by age of Male offender in 2005

	15-<17	17-<21	21-<25	25-<30	30-<40	40-<50	50+	TOTAL
Group 1								
Offences against the person								
Murder	-	3	3	3	5	3	-	17
Manslaughter	-	2	-	3	3	-	1	9
Sexual Offences	-	8	6	10	12	23	34	93
Other Offences against the person	3	115	136	88	127	49	16	534
Total Group 1	3	128	145	104	147	75	51	653
Group 2								
Offences against property with violence								
	-	16	19	20	17	7	2	81
Group 3								
Offences against property without violence								
	12	236	272	240	244	71	26	1101
Group 4								
Other Offences								
Drug Offences	-	34	68	72	71	16	7	268
Road Traffic Offences	3	172	304	265	278	151	65	1238
Other	1	177	240	238	353	215	121	1345
Total Group 4	4	383	612	575	702	382	193	2851
Grand Total	9	763	1048	939	1110	535	272	4686
MALE								

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Sexual Offences
- Other Offences Group 1
- Offences against property with violence
- Offences against property without violence
- Drug Offences
- Road Traffic Offences
- Other Offences Group 2

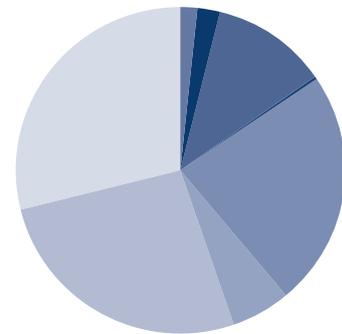


Table 3: Sentence length by age of Female offender in 2005

	< 3MTHS	3-6 MTHS	6MTHS-1YR	1-<2 YRS	2-<3 YRS	3-<5 YRS	5-<10 YRS	10YRS+	LIFE	TOTAL
Group 1										
Offences against the person										
Murder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sexual Offences	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences										
against the person	9	10	8	6	-	2	1	-	-	36
Total Group 1	9	10	8	6	-	2	1	-	-	36
Group 2										
Offences against										
property with violence	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Group 3										
Offences against property										
without violence	25	28	31	11	3	1	-	-	-	99
Group 4										
Other Offences										
Drug Offences	1	5	1	1	-	3	-	-	-	11
Road Traffic Offences	89	20	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	119
Other	96	17	9	3	7	1	-	1	-	134
Total Group 4	186	42	19	4	8	4	-	1	-	264
Grand Total	221	80	58	23	11	7	1	1	-	402

FEMALE

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Sexual Offences
- Other Offences Group 1
- Offences against property with violence
- Offences against property without violence
- Drug Offences
- Road Traffic Offences
- Other Offences Group 2

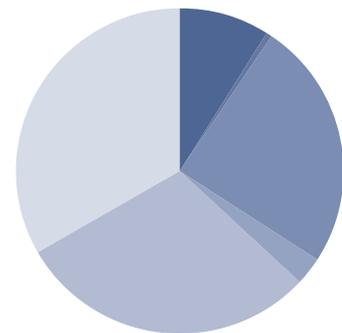


Table 4: Sentence length by age of Male offender in 2005

	< 3MTHS	3-6 MTHS	6MTHS-1YR	1-<2 YRS	2-<3 YRS	3-<5 YRS	5-<10 YRS	10YRS+	LIFE	TOTAL
Group 1										
Offences against the person										
Murder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	17
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	1	1	7	-	-	9
Sexual Offences	1	1	8	10	24	21	24	4	-	93
Other Offences										
against the person	66	132	126	100	39	46	17	8	-	534
Total Group 1	37	133	134	110	64	68	48	12	17	653
Group 2										
Offences against										
property with violence	1	7	19	13	17	15	8	1	-	81
Group 3										
Offences against property										
without violence	192	257	350	160	67	47	25	3	-	1101
Group 4										
Other Offences										
Drug Offences	48	39	56	36	22	26	28	13	-	268
Road Traffic Offences	625	312	211	67	13	7	3	-	-	1238
Other	808	192	134	56	65	55	30	5	-	1345
Total Group 4	1481	543	401	159	100	88	61	18	-	2851
Grand Total	1741	940	904	442	248	218	142	34	17	4686

MALE

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Sexual Offences
- Other Offences Group 1
- Offences against property with violence
- Offences against property without violence
- Drug Offences
- Road Traffic Offences
- Other Offences Group 2

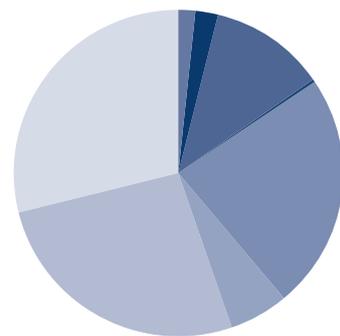


Table 5: Sentence Length by Age of Female Offender

	< 3MTHS	3-6 MTHS	6MTHS-1YR	1-<2 YRS	2-<3 YRS	3-<5 YRS	5-<10 YRS	10YRS+	LIFE	TOTAL
15 - < 17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17 - < 20	8	8	6	2	3	-	-	-	-	27
21 - < 25	42	17	12	5	1	1	1	-	-	79
25 - < 30	50	18	14	7	4	1	-	-	-	94
30 - < 40	62	25	17	7	3	5	-	-	-	120
40 - < 50	44	6	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	59
50 +	15	5	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	23
Total	221	80	58	23	11	7	1	1	-	402

FEMALE

- 15 - < 17
- 17 - < 20
- 21 - < 25
- 25 - < 30
- 30 - < 40
- 40 - < 50
- 50 +

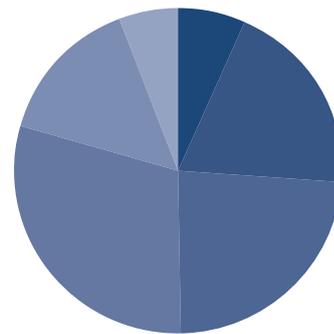


Table 6: Sentence Length by Age of Male Offender

	< 3MTHS	3-6 MTHS	6MTHS- 1YR	1-<2 YRS	2-<3 YRS	3-<5 YRS	5-<10 YRS	10YRS+	LIFE	TOTAL
15 - < 17	-	1	11	3	2	2	-	-	-	19
17 - < 20	192	167	196	97	49	33	21	5	3	763
21 - < 25	325	240	233	107	68	42	26	4	3	1048
25 - < 30	340	179	188	97	44	53	30	5	3	939
30 - < 40	453	225	192	87	47	49	40	12	5	1110
40 - < 50	273	95	64	32	24	27	12	5	3	535
50 +	158	33	20	19	14	12	13	3	-	272
Total	1741	940	904	442	248	218	142	34	17	4686

MALE

- 15 - < 17
- 17 - < 20
- 21 - < 25
- 25 - < 30
- 30 - < 40
- 40 - < 50
- 50 +

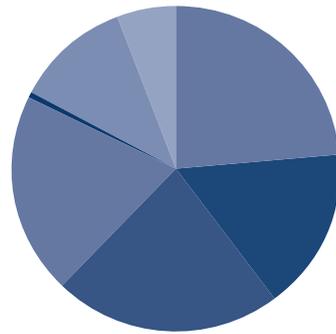
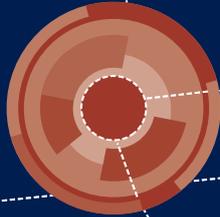
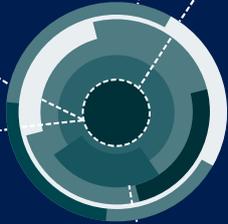
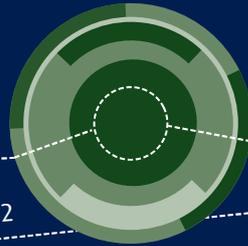


Table 7: Home address by county given by persons committed in 2005 by gender

COUNTY	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
Antrim	-	68	68
Armagh	3	10	13
Carlow	5	43	48
Cavan	3	75	78
Clare	6	117	123
Cork	71	744	815
Derry	-	25	25
Donegal	2	105	107
Down	2	15	17
Dublin	384	3094	3,478
Fermanagh	-	13	13
Galway	20	269	289
Kerry	19	141	160
Kildare	18	181	199
Kilkenny	7	58	65
Laois	6	88	94
Leitrim	-	12	12
Limerick	31	384	415
Longford	9	63	72
Louth	15	159	174
Mayo	8	133	141
Meath	6	131	137
Monaghan	6	81	87
Not Stated	44	537	581
Offaly	6	86	92
Outside Country	172	299	471
Roscommon	3	42	45
Sligo	4	65	69
Tipperary	7	173	180
Tyrone	-	12	12
Waterford	118	189	207
Westmeath	10	124	134
Wexford	5	116	121
Wicklow	16	128	144
Total	906	7780	8,686



APPENDIX 2



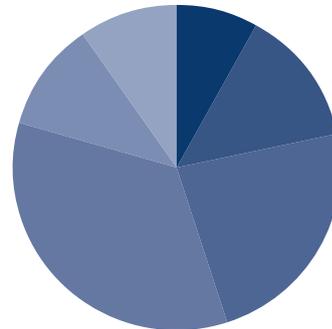
STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON PERSONS IN CUSTODY UNDER SENTENCE ON 7 DECEMBER 2005

Age Profile of Prisoners in custody under sentence on 7 December 2005

AGE	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
15 - <18	-	45	45
18 - <21	6	254	260
21 - <25	10	509	519
25 - <30	17	563	580
30 - <40	25	695	720
40 - <50	8	289	297
50+	7	209	216
Total	73	2564	2637

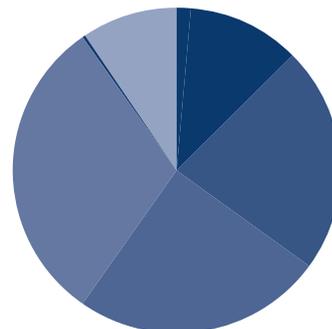
FEMALE

- 18 - < 21
- 21 - < 25
- 25 - < 30
- 30 - < 40
- 40 - < 50
- 50 +



MALE

- 15 - < 18
- 18 - < 21
- 21 - < 25
- 25 - < 30
- 30 - < 40
- 40 - < 50
- 50 +

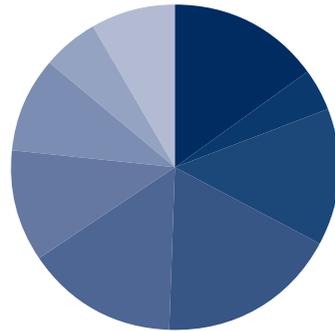


Sentence Profile of Prisoners in custody under sentence on 7 December 2004

SENTENCE LENGTH	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
<3 mths	11	77	88
3 - <6 mths	3	168	171
6 mths - 1yr	10	268	278
1 - 2yrs	13	356	369
2 - 3yrs	11	262	273
3 - 5yrs	8	468	476
5 - 10yrs	7	558	565
10yrs+	4	191	195
Life	6	215	221
Total	73	2564	2637

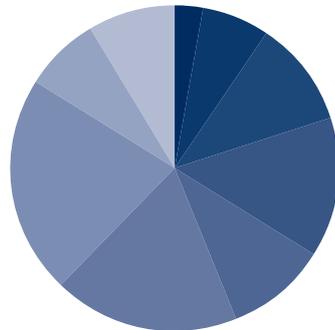
FEMALE

- <3 mths
- 3 - <6 mths
- 6 mths - 1yr
- 1 - 2yrs
- 2 - 3yrs
- 3 - 5yrs
- 5 - 10yrs
- 10yrs+
- Life



MALE

- <3 mths
- 3 - <6 mths
- 6 mths - 1yr
- 1 - 2yrs
- 2 - 3yrs
- 3 - 5yrs
- 5 - 10yrs
- 10yrs+
- Life

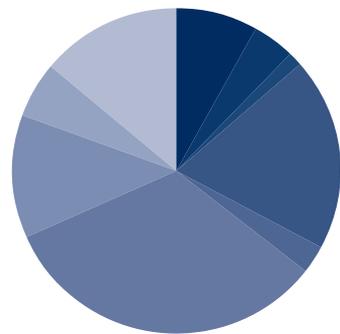


Offence Profile of Prisoners in custody under sentence on 7 December 2005

OFFENCE	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
Group 1			
Offences against the Person			
Murder	6	216	222
Manslaughter	3	69	72
Sexual Offences	1	251	252
Other Offences against the Person	14	554	568
Total Group 1	24	1090	1114
Group 2			
Offences against Property with violence	2	197	199
Group 3			
Offences against Property without violence	24	544	568
Group 4			
Other Offences			
Drug Offences	9	335	344
Road Traffic Offences	4	173	177
Other	10	225	235
Total Group 4	23	733	756
Grand Total	73	2564	2637

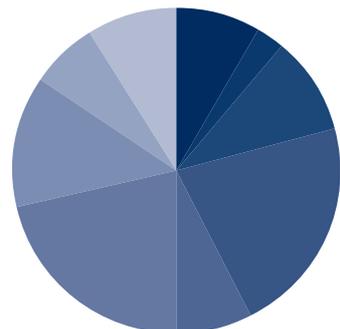
FEMALE

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Sexual Offences
- Other Offences against the Person
- Offences against Property with violence
- Offences against Property without violence
- Drug Offences
- Road Traffic Offences
- Other



MALE

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Sexual Offences
- Other Offences against the Person
- Offences against Property with violence
- Offences against Property without violence
- Drug Offences
- Road Traffic Offences
- Other

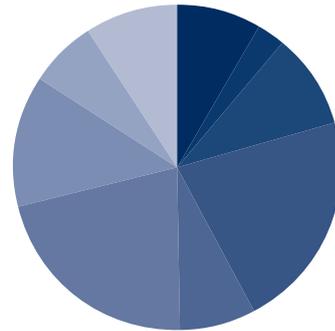


Persons in Custody Under Sentence on 7 December 2005 - Offences classified sentence length

	< 3MTHS	3-6 MTHS	6MTHS- 1YR	1-<2 YRS	2-<3 YRS	3-<5 YRS	5-<10 YRS	10YRS+	LIFE	TOTAL
Group 1										
Offences against the person										
Murder	1	-	1	1	-	-	3	5	221	222
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	2	4	43	55	1	72
Sexual Offences	-	1	6	13	25	46	100	55	6	252
Other Offences										
against the person	5	30	50	117	66	138	125	36	1	568
Total Group 1	6	31	57	131	93	188	271	118	219	1114
Group 2										
Offences against										
property with violence	-	1	11	20	28	45	69	25	-	199
Group 3										
Offences against property										
without violence	48	62	127	149	71	85	46	13	1	568
Group 4										
Other Offences										
Drug Offences	4	12	14	24	28	101	123	38	-	344
Road Traffic Offences	16	41	48	22	20	18	12	-	-	177
Other	48	24	22	23	33	39	44	1	1	235
Total Group 4	68	77	84	69	81	158	179	39	1	756
Grand Total	88	171	279	369	273	476	565	195	221	2637

GENDER (ALL)

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Sexual Offences
- Other Offences against the Person
- Offences against Property with violence
- Offences against Property without violence
- Drug Offences
- Road Traffic Offences
- Other

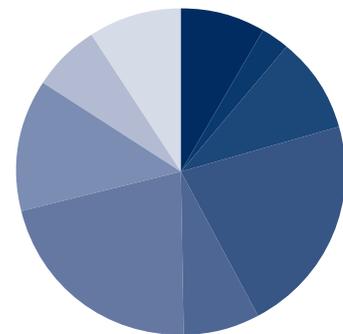


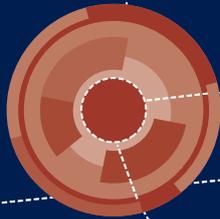
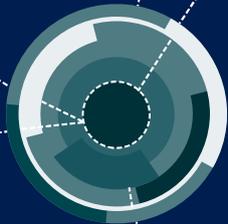
Persons in Custody under Sentence on 7 December 2006 - Offences classified by Age

	15-<17	17-<21	21-<25	25-<30	30-<40	40-<50	50+	TOTAL
Group 1								
Offences against the person								
Murder	-	7	26	30	81	45	33	222
Manslaughter	-	5	7	16	24	11	9	72
Sexual Offences	1	11	19	28	45	58	90	252
Other Offences against the person	4	86	147	133	148	38	12	568
Total Group 1	5	109	199	207	298	152	144	1114
Group 2								
Offences against property with violence								
	-	19	38	52	67	20	3	199
Group 3								
Offences against property without violence								
	4	104	144	151	120	33	12	568
Group 4								
Other Offences								
Drug Offences	-	16	53	88	114	44	29	344
Road Traffic Offences	1	27	56	29	46	12	6	177
Other	-	20	29	53	75	35	22	235
Total Group 4	1	63	138	170	235	92	57	756
Grand Total	10	295	519	580	720	297	216	2637

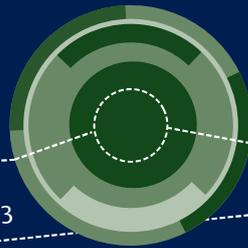
GENDER (ALL)

- Murder
- Manslaughter
- Sexual Offences
- Other Offences Group 1
- Offences against property with violence
- Offences against property without violence
- Drug Offences
- Road Traffic Offences
- Other Offences Group 2





APPENDIX 3



COUNTING RULES AND RECORDING PRACTICE

THE STATISTICAL TABLES IN THIS ANNUAL REPORT WERE COMPILED ON THE BASIS OF THE FOLLOWING COUNTING RULES AND RECORDING PRACTICES:

COUNTING OF COMMITTALS

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

RECORDING OF OFFENCES

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

AGE OF OFFENDERS

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

GUIDE TO TABLE HEADINGS

In Tables relating to age, the age range is indicated as 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 days 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 1,400 offences in four Groups, i.e., Offences against the person, Offences against property with violence, Offences against property without violence and Other Offences. Particulars of offences included in each group are available from the Corporate Affairs Directorate, Irish Prison Service, Monastery Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22; tel: 01-4616012; e-mail: info@irishprisons.ie.

Irish Prison Service
Monastery Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22.

Tel: 01 461 6000 Fax: 01 461 6027
Email: info@irishprisons.ie
www.irishprisons.ie