



12 September 2011

020 7035 2123

**NOT FOR PUBLICATION BEFORE 00.01, TUESDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2011**

### **HMP HAVERIGG – SOME IMPROVEMENTS**

HMP Haverigg had seen some significant improvements, but had more work to do, said Nick Hardwick, Chief Inspector of Prisons, publishing the report of an unannounced inspection of the Cumbrian training prison.

Haverigg's remote location makes it unpopular with prisoners. Its straggling and diverse accommodation is hard to supervise and it is not unusual for drugs to be thrown over its long perimeter fence. Previous inspection reports have expressed concern over the levels of violence and bullying.

Inspectors were pleased to find that:

- vulnerable prisoners and those at risk of self-harm were better cared for;
- security was proportionate and there had been some successes in stemming the flow of drugs into the prison;
- the quantity and quality of purposeful activity had continued to improve, with reasonable time out of cell for most prisoners and an improved range and quality of learning and skills provision; and
- resettlement had improved, with appropriate strategies and offender management arrangements, and satisfactory public protection arrangements.

However, inspectors had some concerns:

- despite some improvements in policy and procedure, levels of violence and bullying remained too high and many prisoners felt unsafe;
- while use of force and segregation had fallen, governance of both required improvement and the segregation unit was not fit for purpose;
- some very poor quality accommodation remained in use;
- staff-prisoner relationships varied, and there was a lack of support for the much increased number of foreign national prisoners; and
- there was inadequate planning and minimal appropriate provision for the large increase in category D prisoners.

Nick Hardwick said:

“The Inspectorate has frequently been critical of HMP Haverigg, which is a difficult prison to manage effectively. Accordingly, it is commendable that this report identifies improvements in safety, purposeful activity and resettlement. There is a large amount of work to still required before Haverigg becomes a fully effective training prison, not least responding appropriately to the much increased populations of foreign national and category D prisoners. However, the overall message is one of improvement and, for this, managers and staff deserve credit.”

Michael Spurr, Chief Executive Officer of the National Offender Management Service (NOMS), said:

"This is an encouraging report and I am pleased that the Chief Inspector has identified improvements in safety, purposeful activity and resettlement at Haverigg.

"The Governor and staff will work hard to minimise bullying and low-level intimidation, to improve staff-prisoner relationships and to address issues with facilities.

"These actions, combined with the improved resettlement provision, will reduce the likelihood of reoffending and thereby protect the public."

ENDS

**Notes to Editors:**

1. A copy of the report can be found on the HM Inspectorate of Prisons website from 13 September 2011 at <http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/inspectorate-reports/hmi-prisons/prison-and-yoi-inspections/index.htm>
2. HM Inspectorate of Prisons is an independent inspectorate, inspecting places of detention to report on conditions and treatment, and promote positive outcomes for those detained and the public.
3. This unannounced full follow-up inspection was carried out from 16-25 March 2011.
4. HMP Haverigg is a category C training prison for adult males.
5. Please contact Jane Parsons in HMI Prisons Press Office on 0207 035 2123 or 07880 787452 from 0915 to 1415 Monday to Friday if you would like more information or to request an interview with Nick Hardwick.