

## **MOORLAND – GOOD PROGRESS BUT FURTHER IMPROVEMENT NEEDED**

Moorland was making good progress but more work needed to be done to rehabilitate the prisoners said HM Chief Inspector of Prisons Anne Owers, publishing her report today.

The report follows an unannounced inspection of HMP and YOI Moorland near Doncaster carried out in December 2002.

Moorland is a Young Offender Institution and Category C adult establishment which has recently merged with Hatfield Open prison.

Anne Owers said:

“Moorland generally provided a safe and respectful environment. We found that many of the recommendations from our previous report had been achieved. Moorland was poised to progress further once the resources of the open prison were fully used and integrated to provide a more constructive regime for prisoners.”

However the report identifies areas needing attention:

- All residential staff need to be fully engaged with prisoners, through personal officer work and a positive, proactive approach. This is particularly important in the management of those prisoners on the basic regime, which at present is over-punitive and under-motivating.
- Purposeful activity should be available for all prisoners - inspectors found that over a third of the prison's population were unoccupied during the inspection.
- The prison's resettlement work needs to be better focused and more cohesive, using the resources available in the open prison to provide a comprehensive programme for all prisoners. Within this the drug and alcohol strategy, and offending behaviour programmes, need to be updated to meet the needs of prisoners.

Commenting on the report, Phil Wheatley, Director General of the Prison Service said:

“I am pleased that this report reflects the caring and supportive regime for prisoners that has been developed over the last few years at Moorland. It is a great credit to the Governor and his staff that the majority of recommendations from the previous inspection have been achieved.

“I accept that there is more to be done at Moorland to make a basically good prison one of the best category C training prisons in the country.”

## **NOTE TO EDITORS**

1. The unannounced inspection of HMP and YOI Moorland was carried out from 2 to 6 December 2002.
2. HMP and YOI Moorland is a YOI and category C adult training prison and young offender institution. In September 2002 HMP Moorland took over the nearby open prison, formerly known as Hatfield and re-named Moorland Open. Moorland Open was not inspected on this occasion but inspectors took into account some of the plans for integration that impacted on the management of the closed prison.
3. Prison Inspectorate reports and press releases are available at <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/justice/prisons/inspprisons>. Embargoed copies are available in advance on 020 7273 3782.