

Independent Custody Visiting Quarterly Update: January – March 2020



Total number of detainees through custody	Number of ICV visits	Total number of detainees in custody at time of ICV visits	Total number of detainees unavailable	Number of detainees observed	Total number of detainees visited
1478	34	51	16	14	20

Active ICVs: 27

- Pembrokeshire: 6
- Powys: 8
- Ceredigion: 6
- Carmarthenshire: 7

Recruitment Update

Three new ICVs joined the scheme in February 2020. Sadly one ICV from the Newtown area passed away in March 2020.

Scheme Update:

Dyfed-Powys have signed up to ICVA's Independent Custody Observers Pilot which will allow ICVs to review custody records of those who have been identified as vulnerable in order to get a better insight into the totality of care extended to vulnerable Detained Persons (DPs), considering their full journey through custody. In January 2020, Phase 2 of the Pilot started being trialled in Haverfordwest Custody suite. Phase 2 includes some changes to the ICV visits themselves, allowing ICVs with the consent of detainees to observe the booking and release procedures within the suite.

ICV findings - Issues raised

- Since September 2019, through the record reviewing the ICVs have been able to bring about positive changes to the custody system. Prompts have been added in relation to the need to explain the cell call bell and toilet pixilation and prompts have been added to the custody system in terms of asking DP's whether they require any female products, have any religious requirements or have any specific allergies and dietary requirements.
- Cell closures in a number of suites due to maintenance issues – Estates Team are aware of issues and work has been planned.
- The absence of a Bible as a religious book in one of the suites – New Bible on order.
- Broken shower –plans in place to turn the shower block into a storage space for custody.