

Permitted Type and Quantity of Clothing

6. Male sentenced inmates may have the following items of clothing, their own, official-issue or a combination of both:-

3	Shirts	Must have collar; not white, black or blue in colour. May include one short sleeved shirt.
3 pairs	Trousers/ Jeans	Not black, dark blue or olive/dark green in colour. Not leather.
1	Jacket (indoor) or (denim)	Sports coat type. Not leather. Either coat or bomber jacket type.
1	Jacket (outdoor)	Car coat type. May be $\frac{3}{4}$ length. Must not have a hood. No duffle coats or donkey jackets. (If applicable, light quilting only.) Not leather.  An inmate who wishes to have a suit in place of an indoor jacket and one pair of trousers may do so.
3	Sweaters or Cardigans	Body warmers or waistcoats (with light quilting only). Should be plain but makers trade motifs are acceptable eg Slazenger, Gola or Addidas. Dark blue, black, olive, dark green colours not permitted.
3 pairs	Socks	No football socks.
2	Pyjamas	Two-piece with elastic waistband or trouser separates accepted.
1 pair	Shoes	No platform soles. No steel tips on heels or toes. No boots.
1 pair	Training Shoes	Plimssoles and training shoes with light padding are acceptable. Not studded.
1 pair	Slippers	Carpet type - soft soles. Not buckless.
1 pair	Sports shorts	Must be plain colour with elastic waistband.
1	Sports shirt	Plain colour only. Vest type or sweat shirt. Only trade mark motifs permitted eg Slazenger, Gola or Addidas. No lettering.
3 sets	Undies	

7. It is necessary to ensure that items of own clothing do not in any way resemble the clothing worn by prison officers.

RESTRICTED

## HM PRISON &amp; YOUNG OFFENDERS' CENTRE HYDEBANK WOOD

**GOVERNOR'S ORDER**

DATE: 01 OCTOBER 2010

NUMBER: 13-21

SUBJECT: REPORTING INCIDENTS AND  
OCCURRENCES

1. Staff must report all incidents and occurrences during their tour of duty.
2. In the normal day-to-day running of the Centre e.g. in houses, workshops, visits, etc. all minor incidents and occurrences shall be reported in the first instance to the manager supervising the location where they occur.
3. The manager will be responsible for determining if the incident or occurrence warrants reporting to the Communications Room and will do so if necessary.
4. All other incidents and occurrences of a more serious nature will be reported directly to the Communications Room - nothing in this Order should prevent any member of staff from raising the alarm should the occasion warrant it.
5. The Communications Room will maintain a detailed and accurate log of all occurrences.
6. In the event of any incident requiring staff action the Communications Room will immediately inform the Duty Governor who will go to the Communications Room, take charge and direct operations.

- 1.8. Other Senior Managers included Heads of Departments for Probation, Education, Workshops, Catering, Works Department and Chaplains.

## **2. Hydebank Wood Background**

- 2.1. The Hydebank Wood Young Offenders Centre was built on the outskirts of Belfast, some 4 miles from the city centre, and opened in 1979 to replace the closed Borstal in Millisle. As I recollect, the open Borstal transferred to Hydebank and closed in 1980. At that time male Young Offenders under the age of twenty one who were serving custodial periods of less than three years were sentenced to a period of detention in a Young Offenders Centre as opposed to a period of imprisonment. At some stage during the early 1980's the Juvenile Remand Unit which was previously accommodated in D Wing Annex of Belfast Prison also transferred to Hydebank and was accommodated on a third floor landing of Elm House. The landing could accommodate up to 20 boys aged, I believe, 14-17 years of age.
- 2.2. The Centre could accommodate 297 inmates, both sentenced and remand. The residential accommodation was split across five residential houses each containing approximately 60 inmates – Elm/Willow/Ash/Beech and Cedar houses. There were in the region of 14,000 receptions between 1979 and 1995, which includes multiple entries of single individuals committed on a number of occasions.
- 2.3. In addition to the residential units, Hydebank Wood was provided with a large workshop area for delivery of Vocational Training Courses including Joinery, Bricklaying, Plastering, Motor Mechanics, Industrial Cleaning, Hair Dressing, Painting and Decorating. A separate Education Centre adjacent to Elm and Willow provided a number of classrooms where courses were run, including basic Literacy and Numeracy up to O level standards. Recreation and Sport was provided in a generously appointed Gymnasium with a weight lifting area attached. The Centre had four football pitches – 2 all weather and 2 grass. The front entrance included a Visitors Reception for relatives who visited the establishment. Although visitors were not searched, inmates were searched entering and leaving the Visits Hall.
- 2.4. Escort Vehicles entering Hydebank went through the front gate vehicular entrance, parked in the forecourt adjacent to the Administration Building and

administered through four training schools, established on the basis of gender and religion, namely: St Patrick's and St Joseph's Training Schools which catered for Catholic boys and girls respectively and Rathgael and Whiteabbey Training Schools, established for non-Roman Catholic boys and girls. A fifth non-denominational training school, Lisnevin, opened in 1973. Hydebank Young Offenders Centre (YOC), a Category C<sup>3</sup> institution opened in June 1979, and replaced the closed borstal at Lisnevin.

- 1.5 The information to follow focuses on the four main institutions of particular interest to the Inquiry.

#### **St Patrick's Training School**

- 1.6 The St Patrick's institution was established in 1862 by the Roman Catholic Church and managed directly by the Diocese of Down and Connor. It was an Industrial school and from 1921 also catered for the reception of reformatory boys. In 1951, following approval by the MoHA under the 1950 Act (section 106) (SPT 80001-80062) it became a training school. St Patrick's was also registered as a remand home under section 104 of the 1950 Act (SPT 80001-80062). It continued to function as a training school/remand home until 2001?

#### **Rathgael and Whiteabbey Training Schools**

- 1.7 Between 1950 and 1956 work was undertaken to amalgamate Malone Training School, Balmoral Training School and Whiteabbey Training School for Girls. The Malone and Whiteabbey Training Schools Act (Northern Ireland) 1956 (Exhibit 3)<sup>4</sup> brought about a new Board of Management appointed by the Minister of Home Affairs. This resulted in the combining of Balmoral and Malone Training Schools into premises at Lislea Drive, Belfast, in 1958. The borstal part of Malone Training School was moved to Woburn House, near Millisle, County Down. A significant problem facing the new Board of Management at that time was accommodation. Although premises were altered, extended and modified the Board came to the conclusion in 1958 that a purpose built establishment was required. In 1959 the Board purchased the site at Rathgael Road, Bangor and in 1968, the Malone and Whiteabbey Training Schools Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 (Exhibit 4)<sup>5</sup> established the Rathgael Training School. The Malone Training School for Boys was

<sup>3</sup> A category C prison is a low security closed prison for people who cannot be trusted in an open prison, but are considered unlikely to make a determined escape attempt.

<sup>4</sup> Document submitted to the inquiry on [date]. Not yet allocated a Bates reference number. It is attached for convenience at Exhibit 3.

<sup>5</sup> [Document submitted to the inquiry on date]. Not yet allocated a Bates reference number. It is attached for convenience at Exhibit 3.

## APPENDIX 2

## FUNCTIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT

The Young Offenders Centre came into operation on 1 June 1979, under the provisions of the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 which came into force on that date. Its object was to remove young offenders, other than those sentenced for the more serious offences, from the prison environment. The Act provides for the detention in a Young Offenders Centre of those between the ages of 16 and 21, who have been sentenced to a custodial term of less than 3 years. Section 72(3) of the Children and Young Persons Act (NI) 1968, provides, however, that a person under 17 years of age cannot be sentenced to a Young Offenders Centre unless the court certifies him to be so unruly or depraved that no other method of dealing with him is appropriate.

The Centre is also at present a juvenile remand unit, which takes on remand 14 to 17 year olds whose containment in a training school is inappropriate because the court has certified them as unruly or depraved under Section 51(1) of the Children and Young Persons Act (NI) 1968.

The functions of HM Young Offenders Centre are therefore :

- (a) to receive and hold young male offenders between the ages of 17 and 21 who have been ordered to be detained in custody for a period of less than 3 years;
- (b) to provide a brisk regime with particular emphasis on education and training, both physical and vocational;
- (c) to provide for a staged system of progress towards release by means of movement through the 'house' system to a pre-release unit for those nearing the end of their sentences;
- (d) to discharge inmates on their due dates, allowing for 50% remission of sentence for good behaviour; and
- (e) to operate a juvenile remand unit.

In carrying out these functions the Young Offenders Centre is expected to operate in accordance with the Young Offenders Centre Rules (NI) 1979 and other instructions for the time being in force.

closed. In 1985, Whiteabbey Training School closed and the girls moved to the Rathgael Training School, thus creating for the first time a mixed gender Training School facility.

- 1.8 In the early 1990s, the accommodation units in Rathgael were restructured to enable the separation of children admitted for reasons of care and those who were offenders.

#### **Lisnevin Training School**

- 1.9 Lisnevin opened in 1973 at premises formerly called Kiltonga Home, on the outskirts of Newtownards, County Down. The new school provided secure residential assessment facilities for 20 remand boys and a longer term facility for another 20 committed boys, and was non-denominational. It was managed by a Board of Management set up by virtue of an Indenture between the Management Boards of St Patricks, St Josephs, Rathgael and Whiteabbey and MoHA. The membership of the Lisnevin Board was made up from members of the other Boards.
- 1.10 In 1978 the residential assessment unit of Lisnevin was relocated to the YOC Juvenile Remand Unit, Crumlin Road, Belfast and the longer term treatment unit (also known as the special unit) moved to Millisle in 1981. A 10-bed secure remand unit was opened in 1985 following the closure of the Juvenile Remand Unit at the YOC in Belfast. This meant that young people between the ages of 10 and 17 were no longer held within the adult penal system. Lisnevin closed in 2003.

#### **Hydebank Young Offenders' Centre**

- 1.11 Hydebank Young Offenders Centre opened in June 1979. It was built to manage up to 325 young people, normally between the ages of 16 and 21. 15 year old boys who were convicted of certain offences including terrorist related offences, or who were considered manageable within the open school system were managed in Hydebank. Hydebank was managed by a Governor, and management team, and operated within prison rules. Hydebank continues in operation to the present day and currently also houses the women's prison.

#### **HIAI Question 2**

2. **An explanation of the statutory scheme or schemes relating to Training Schools during the period being investigated by the HIA Inquiry, including how it changed over time**

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## YOUNG OFFENDERS CENTRES

## Young Offenders Centre Rules (Northern Ireland) 1979

amount claimed—

Fee

£0.75

£1.10

£1.30

£2.00

£1.25

£0.75

Made . . . . . 30th April 1979

Coming into operation . . . . . 1st June 1979

To be laid before Parliament

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	56		The Secretary of State in pursuance of section 13 of the Prison Act	
	57		(Northern Ireland) 1953(a), as extended by section 2 of the Treatment of	
	58		Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968(b), hereby makes the following rules:	
	59			
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	62			
	63		<i>Citation and commencement</i>	
	64		1. These rules may be cited as the Young Offenders Centre Rules	
	65		(Northern Ireland) 1979 and shall come into operation on 1st June 1979.	
	66			
	67		2. In these rules—	
	68		"appellant" means an appellant under the Criminal Appeal (Northern	
	69		Ireland) Act 1968(c), or Part XIII of the Magistrates' Courts Act	
	70		(Northern Ireland) 1964(d), and includes a person who has given notice	
			of application for leave to appeal under the said Act of 1968;	
TS				
	71		(a) 1953 c. 18 (N.I.) as modified by S.I. 1973/2163 (1973 III, p. 7541)	
	72		(b) 1968 c. 29 (N.I.) as modified by S.I. 1973/2163	
	73		(c) 1968 c. 21	
			(d) 1964 c. 21 (N.I.)	

"centre" means a young offenders centre provided under section 2(2) of the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968;

"chaplain" means a minister of any religious denomination appointed under section 9(1) of the Act;

"civil inmate" has the meaning assigned to it by rule 74;

"governor" means the officer appointed by the Secretary of State to take charge of a centre subject to the control and direction of the Secretary of State;

"inmate" means a person required to be detained in a centre;

"legal adviser" means, in relation to an inmate, the inmate's counsel or solicitor;

"medical officer" means the officer, being a registered medical practitioner, appointed by the Secretary of State to perform the medical services of a centre;

"offence" has the meaning assigned to it by rule 30;

"officer" means a person appointed by the Secretary of State to assist in the control of a centre;

"the Act" means the Prison Act (Northern Ireland) 1953;

"visiting committee" means the committee appointed by the Secretary of State under section 3 of the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968.

## PART II

### CLASSIFICATION, TRAINING AND PRIVILEGES

#### *Classification*

3. Inmates may be classified, in accordance with any directions by the Secretary of State, having regard to their age, temperament and record and with a view to maintaining good order and facilitating training.

#### *Privileges and earnings*

4.—(1) The Secretary of State shall, in the interest of good conduct and training, establish at every centre a system or systems of privileges appropriate to different classes of inmate and to different methods of training.

(2) Every such system shall include arrangements under which money may be earned by inmates under these rules and may be spent on such articles and subject to such conditions as the Secretary of State may determine.

## PART III

### ACCOMMODATION

#### *Sleeping accommodation*

5.—(1) Sleeping accommodation for inmates shall be such as is approved by the Secretary of State and shall be of such size and be lighted, warmed, ventilated and fitted in such a manner as is requisite for health.

(2) Such accommodation shall be provided with the means whereby inmates locked therein can communicate at any time with an officer.

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## II

### RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

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## II

### DETENTION

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provided with the means whereby at any time with an officer.

(3) Sleeping accommodation shall be provided for each inmate in a separate room:

Provided that, where necessary, the Secretary of State may authorise the accommodating of 2 or more inmates in a room.

### Beds and bedding

6. Every inmate shall be provided with a separate bed and with separate bedding adequate for warmth and health.

## PART IV

### RECEPTION, TRANSFER, DISCHARGE AND DEATH

#### Initial transfer to centre

7.—(1) Where a person has been ordered to be detained in a centre he may be kept in custody in a prison until arrangements can be made for his transfer to a centre.

(2) While in custody in a prison an inmate shall, so far as possible, be kept separate from other prisoners.

(3) An inmate shall not be kept in prison under this rule for longer than 72 hours.

#### Search

8.—(1) Every inmate shall be searched when taken into custody by an officer on reception and at such subsequent times as the governor may order subject to any direction of the Secretary of State.

(2) Any unauthorised article found during the search shall be taken from the inmate.

(3) An inmate shall be searched in as seemly a manner as is consistent with discovering anything concealed.

(4) An inmate shall not be stripped and searched in the sight of another inmate.

(5) An inmate shall be searched only by officers of his own sex.

#### Inmate's property

9.—(1) Anything which an inmate has at a centre and which he is not allowed to retain for his own use shall, subject to paragraph (3), be taken into the governor's custody.

(2) An inventory of an inmate's property shall be kept and he shall be required to sign it after having a proper opportunity to see that it is correct.

(3) Any cash which an inmate has at a centre shall be paid into the accounts of the centre and the inmate shall be credited with the amount and shall sign the record after having a proper opportunity to see that it is correct.

(4) Any article belonging to an inmate which remains unclaimed for a period of more than 3 years after he leaves a centre, or dies, may be sold or otherwise disposed of; and the net proceeds of any sale shall be disbursed for the benefit of discharged inmates subject to any direction by the Secretary of State.



*Money and articles received at a centre*

10.—(1) Any money or other article (other than a letter or other communication) sent to an inmate through the post office or otherwise received at a centre shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of this rule and the inmate shall be told how it is dealt with.

(2) Any cash shall, at the discretion of the governor, be—

- (a) dealt with in accordance with rule 9(3); or
- (b) returned to the sender.

(3) Any security for money shall, at the discretion of the governor, be—

- (a) delivered to the inmate or placed with his property at the centre; or
- (b) returned to the sender; or
- (c) encashed and the cash dealt with in accordance with paragraph (2).

(4) Any other article to which this rule applies shall, at the discretion of the governor, be—

- (a) delivered to the inmate or placed with his property at the centre; or
- (b) returned to the sender; or
- (c) in the case where the article is of such a nature that it would be unreasonable to return it, sold or otherwise disposed of and the net proceeds of any sale applied in accordance with paragraph (2).

*Record, photograph and fingerprints*

11.—(1) The name, age, height, weight, distinctive marks and any other measurements and particulars which may be required in regard to an inmate shall on his reception, and subsequently as necessary, be recorded in such a way as the Secretary of State may direct.

(2) An inmate may be photographed and fingerprinted on reception and subsequently.

*Baths*

12. Every inmate shall take a hot shower or bath on reception unless the governor or medical officer exempts him.

*Medical examination on reception*

13.—(1) Without prejudice to his duties under rules 19 and 44 and subject to paragraph (2) the medical officer shall separately examine every inmate as early as possible on the day of his reception and shall record his state of health.

(2) If an inmate is received too late to be examined on the day of his reception he shall be examined as soon as possible on the next day, and in any case within 24 hours of reception.

*Interview with governor after reception*

14. Without prejudice to his duties under rule 39 the governor shall interview all inmates as soon as possible after their reception.

*Information to inmates*

15.—(1) The governor shall ensure that every inmate receives a careful explanation of so much of these rules and of any other instructions of which he should have knowledge, including those relating to payments, to activities of the centre, to the proper methods of submitting petitions to the Secretary of the State and of making complaints, and to the disciplinary requirements of the centre.

(2) A copy of these rules shall be shown to any inmate on request.

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*centre*

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*Transfer*

16.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) an inmate whom the Secretary of State directs to be taken to any place shall be kept in the custody of the office directed by the governor to take him to that place.

(2) An inmate whom the Secretary of State directs to be brought before a court of summary jurisdiction may be kept in the custody of police office outside the centre.

(3) When an inmate is being transferred to or from the centre he shall be exposed to public view as little as possible.

*Temporary release*

17.—(1) An inmate undergoing detention may be temporarily released if the Secretary of State for a stated length of time and under conditions approved by him.

(2) If the Secretary of State is satisfied that an inmate temporarily released has broken any of the conditions of release, he shall be liable to recall to the centre although the length of time referred to in paragraph (1) has not elapsed.

*Final interview with governor*

18. The governor shall interview every inmate before discharge or transfer.

*Final interview with medical officer*

19.—(1) The medical officer shall examine every inmate as short a time as is practicable before discharge or transfer.

(2) An inmate shall not be transferred unless the medical officer certifies that he is fit for transfer.

(3) An inmate due for discharge who is suffering from an acute or dangerous illness shall not be required to leave a centre if the medical officer believes he cannot be discharged without danger to himself or to other people.

*Return of clothes and other property*

20. An inmate's own clothes and other property shall be returned to him on discharge unless, on the authority of the governor, they have been destroyed or otherwise disposed of because of their filthy, infected or dilapidated condition, in which case suitable clothing shall be provided for the inmate.

*Application of gratuity on discharge*

21. Any gratuity given to an inmate on his discharge shall be paid in such a way and under such conditions as the Secretary of State may direct to prevent its being misapplied.

*Death or serious illness of inmate*

22.—(1) If an inmate dies, becomes seriously ill, sustains any severe injury or is removed to hospital on account of mental disorder, the governor shall once inform the nearest relative whose address is known and any other person whom the inmate has requested to be informed.

(2) If an inmate dies the governor shall immediately notify the coroner having jurisdiction, the visiting committee and the Secretary of State.

(3) If an inmate dies the medical officer shall record—

(a) when the deceased was taken ill;

- (b) the time at which he was first told of the illness;
- (c) the nature of the disease; and
- (d) when the inmate died;

and, in cases where a post-mortem examination is made, the medical officer shall report on its findings together with any further remarks he considers necessary.

#### PART V

#### DISCIPLINE AND CONTROL

##### *General principles*

23.—(1) Order and discipline shall be maintained with firmness, but with no more restriction than is required for safe custody and well-ordered community life.

(2) In the control of inmates, officers shall, so far as possible, seek to influence them through their own example and leadership and to enlist their willing co-operation.

(3) At all times the treatment of inmates shall be such as to encourage their self-respect and a sense of personal responsibility, but an inmate shall not be employed in any disciplinary capacity.

##### *Removal from association*

24.—(1) Where it appears desirable for the maintenance of good order or discipline, or in his own interests that an inmate should not associate with other inmates, either generally or for particular purposes, the governor may arrange for the inmate's removal from association accordingly.

(2) An inmate shall not be removed under this rule for a period of more than 24 hours unless a member of the visiting committee or the Secretary of State so authorises.

(3) An authority given under paragraph (2) shall be for a period not exceeding 14 days but may be renewed fortnightly.

(4) The governor may arrange at his discretion for such an inmate as aforesaid to resume association with other inmates and shall do so if in any case the medical officer so advises on medical grounds.

##### *Remission and discharge*

25.—(1) An inmate, other than a civil inmate, serving an actual term of detention of more than one month may, on the ground of his good conduct be granted remission in accordance with the provisions of this rule, but this rule shall not permit the reduction of the actual term to less than 31 days.

(2) The remission granted shall not exceed half the total of the actual term and any period spent in custody which is taken into account under section 26(2) of the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 (which relates to the duration of orders for detention).

(3) The foregoing provisions of this rule shall have effect subject to any disciplinary award of loss of remission.



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(4) An inmate who would otherwise be discharged on any of the following days, that is to say—

(a) a Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday;

(b) a day which is a bank holiday in Northern Ireland;

(c) in the case of a person who is serving a term (as pronounced) of more than one month, a Saturday.

may be discharged on the next preceding day which is not one of those days.

(5) In this rule "actual term" means the term of detention as reduced by section 26(2) of the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 and, in the case of a sentence pronounced outside Northern Ireland which is being treated as an order for detention under section 14 of the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968, any reference to the said section 26(2) includes a reference to any corresponding provision having effect where the sentence was pronounced.

(6) For the purposes of this rule—

(a) consecutive terms of detention shall be treated as a single term;

(b) a person committed to a centre in default of payment of a sum of money adjudged to be paid by a conviction shall be treated as serving a term of detention;

(c) a person ordered to be returned to a centre under article 3 of the Treatment of Offenders (Northern Ireland) Order 1976(e) shall be treated as serving a term of detention.

*Inmates on report for offences against discipline*

26.—(1) The officer having knowledge of any offence against discipline shall report it forthwith.

(2) Where an inmate has been reported for an offence the governor may order him to be kept apart from other inmates pending adjudication.

(3) Any report against an inmate shall be dealt with by the governor or by an officer to whom the governor has properly delegated authority.

(4) The governor shall investigate any report not later, save in exceptional circumstances, than the following day unless that day is a Sunday or public holiday.

*Rights of inmates on report*

27.—(1) Where an inmate is reported for an offence against discipline, he shall be told about the report as soon as possible and, in any case, before the time when it is investigated by the governor.

(2) At any investigation into a report against an inmate, he shall be given a full opportunity of hearing what is alleged against him and of presenting his own case.

*Unauthorised articles*

28. The governor may deprive an inmate of any unauthorised article found in his room or in his possession.

(e) S.I. 1976/226 (N.I. 4)

*Prohibited articles*

29.—(1) Except with the authority of the governor, no person may bring or throw into or deposit in a centre, or bring or throw out of a centre, or bring to an inmate, or deposit in any place with intent that it shall come into an inmate's possession, any money, clothing, food, drink, tobacco, letter, paper, book, tool or other article whatever.

(2) The governor may confiscate anything so brought, thrown or deposited.

(3) An inmate shall not be given or allowed to have any intoxicating liquor unless the medical officer so orders in writing specifying the quantity to be given and the name of the inmate for whose use it is ordered.

(4) An inmate shall not be allowed to smoke or to have in his possession any tobacco except in accordance with such orders as may be given by the governor with the approval of the Secretary of State.

*Offences against discipline*

30. An inmate shall be guilty of an offence against discipline if he—

- (1) disobeys any lawful order, or neglects to conform to these rules;
- (2) treats with disrespect any officer or any person visiting the centre;
- (3) is idle, careless, or negligent at work, or refuses to work;
- (4) uses any abusive, insolent, threatening or other improper language;
- (5) is indecent in language, act or gesture;
- (6) commits any assault;
- (7) leaves without permission any place in which he is required to be;
- (8) loses by neglect property belonging to the centre;
- (9) wilfully disfigures or damages any part of the centre or any property which is not his own;
- (10) commits any nuisance;
- (11) takes improperly, or possesses without authorisation, any article;
- (12) gives to or receives from any person, or has in his room or possession any prohibited article;
- (13) commits an offence under the Act;
- (14) mutinies or incites other inmates to mutiny;
- (15) does gross personal violence to an officer;
- (16) does gross personal violence to any person not being an officer;
- (17) makes repeated and groundless complaints;
- (18) in any way offends against the security or good order and discipline of the centre;
- (19) makes false and malicious allegations against an officer;
- (20) fails to return to the centre when a period of temporary release expires or breaks any condition attached to the period of temporary release;
- (21) attempts to do any of the foregoing things.

*Governor's awards*

31.—(1) If the governor finds that an offence is proved, he may, subject to rule 32, make one or more of the following awards for an offence against discipline—

- (a) caution;

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- (b) loss of remission for a period not exceeding 14 days;
- (c) loss or postponement of payment in whole or in part for work for a period not exceeding 14 days;
- (d) loss or postponement in whole or in part of privileges, other than payment for work, for a period not exceeding 28 days or 2 months in the case of evening association exercise;
- (e) exclusion from associated work for a period not exceeding 14 days;
- (f) confinement to room for a period not exceeding 3 days.

(2) An inmate found guilty of losing by neglect or wilfully damaging the property of a centre may, in addition to or in lieu of deprivation of the privilege of receiving payment for work by virtue of an award under paragraph (1)(c), be required to pay out of earnings thereafter made by him under rule 44 a sum in accordance with rates which the Secretary of State may from time to time authorise.

*More serious offences—investigation and awards by the Secretary of State and visiting committee*

32.—(1) Where an inmate is reported for any of the following offences—

- (a) an offence under the Act;
- (b) gross personal violence to an officer;
- (c) gross personal violence to any person not being an officer;
- (d) any serious or repeated offence against discipline for which in the view of the governor it may be desirable to award a more severe punishment than is provided in rule 31;

and the governor considers after investigation that such an offence has been committed, he may, and in the case of an offence under (a) shall, report the matter to the Secretary of State.

(2) The Secretary of State shall thereupon inquire into the report, the inquiry being on oath if he thinks it desirable, and, if he is satisfied that the offence has been committed, may make one or more of the following awards—

- (a) loss of remission for a period not exceeding 4 months;
- (b) loss or postponement of payment in whole or in part for work for a period not exceeding 28 days;
- (c) loss or postponement in whole or in part of privileges other than payment for work;
- (d) exclusion from associated work for a period not exceeding 28 days;
- (e) confinement to room for a period not exceeding 14 days or, where the inmate is found guilty of mutiny or incitement to mutiny or of gross personal violence to an officer, not exceeding 28 days.

(3) An inmate found guilty of losing by neglect or wilfully damaging the property of a centre may, in addition to or in lieu of deprivation of the privilege of receiving payment for work by virtue of an award under paragraph (2)(b), be required to pay out of earnings thereafter made by him under rule 44 a sum in accordance with rates which the Secretary of State may from time to time authorise.

(4) The Secretary of State may delegate his powers under this rule to the visiting committee in any particular case.

*Confinement to room*

33.—(1) No award of confinement to room shall be given effect unless the medical officer has certified that the inmate is in a fit condition of health to undergo it.

(2) The governor shall visit every inmate undergoing confinement to a room at least once a day, and an officer appointed for the purpose shall visit such an inmate at intervals of not more than 3 hours during the day.

(3) Without prejudice to rule 67 the medical officer shall visit every inmate undergoing confinement to a room at least once every weekday which is not a public holiday.

*Suspended awards*

34.—(1) Subject to any directions by the Secretary of State, the power to make a disciplinary award (other than a caution) shall include power to direct that the award is not to take effect unless, during a period specified in the direction (not being more than 6 months from the date of the direction), the inmate commits another offence against discipline and a direction is given under paragraph (2).

(2) Where an inmate commits an offence against discipline during the period specified in a direction given under paragraph (1) the authority dealing with that offence may—

- (a) direct that the suspended award shall take effect; or
- (b) reduce the period or amount of the suspended award and direct that it shall take effect as so reduced; or
- (c) vary the original direction by substituting for the period specified therein a period expiring not later than 6 months from the period of variation; or
- (d) give no direction in respect of the suspended award.

*Remission and mitigation of awards*

35. A disciplinary award under rule 31 or rule 32 may be remitted or mitigated by the authority responsible for the award.

*Use of force*

36.—(1) An officer in dealing with inmates shall not use force unnecessarily and, when the application of force is necessary, no more force than is necessary shall be used.

(2) An officer shall not deliberately act in a manner calculated to provoke an inmate.

*Temporary confinement*

37. The governor may, to prevent disturbance, damage or injury, order any refractory or violent inmate to be temporarily confined in a special room which the Secretary of State has approved for the purpose, but an inmate shall not be confined in such a room as a punishment or after he has ceased to be refractory or violent.

*Restraints*

38.—(1) After consulting the medical officer, the governor may order an inmate to be put under restraint where this is necessary to prevent the inmate from injuring himself or others, damaging property, or creating a disturbance.



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(2) Notice of any such restraint shall forthwith be given to a member of the visiting committee.

(3) Except as provided by this rule no inmate shall be put under restraint otherwise than for safe custody during transfer or on medical grounds by order of the medical officer.

(4) No inmate shall be put under restraint as a punishment.

(5) No inmate shall be kept under restraint longer than is necessary and in no case for longer than 24 hours without an order in writing given by a member of the visiting committee.

(6) Such an order shall state the grounds for the restraint and the time during which it may continue; the governor shall retain the order as his warrant.

(7) The governor shall forthwith record particulars of every case of restraint.

(8) Any means of restraint shall be of a pattern authorised by the Secretary of State and shall be used in such manner and under such conditions as he may direct.

#### *Complaints by inmates*

39.—(1) Every request by an inmate to see the governor, an officer of the Secretary of State visiting the centre, or a member of the visiting committee shall be recorded by the officer to whom it is made and reported without delay to the governor.

(2) The governor shall at a convenient hour on every day other than Sundays and public holidays, see all inmates who have made a request to see him.

(3) On the occasion of each visit to a centre by an officer of the Secretary of State or a member of the visiting committee, the governor shall inform such an officer or member of all outstanding requests by inmates to see him.

#### *General control of admission to the centre*

40.—(1) No person may enter the centre without the governor's permission, unless he is entitled to do so.

(2) All persons and vehicles entering or leaving the centre may be examined and searched.

(3) A person suspected of bringing any prohibited article into the centre or of carrying out a prohibited article or any property belonging to the centre, or while in a centre of being in possession of a prohibited article, or in improper possession of any property belonging to the centre, shall be stopped and immediate notice of this shall be given to the governor, who may order that he shall be examined and searched.

(4) The governor may refuse to admit a person to the centre if he refuses to be examined and searched.

(5) The governor may order that a person be removed from the centre if, whilst inside the centre, he refuses to be examined and searched or behaves improperly.

*Visitors viewing the centre*

41.—(1) Except as provided by statute or directed by the Secretary of State, the governor shall not allow any person to view the centre.

(2) The governor shall ensure that no person authorised to view the centre makes a sketch, or takes a photograph or communicates with an inmate unless the Secretary of State has authorised the person to do so.

*Custody and supervision of female inmates*

42. Female inmates shall in all cases be in the custody of female officers and, if working under a male instructor, shall be supervised by a female officer.

*Pregnancy, confinement and babies*

43.—(1) Where a female inmate is pregnant on committal and her confinement is expected to take place before the end of her period of detention, she shall, if possible, be temporarily removed from the centre to a suitable hospital for the confinement and for any period following delivery which the medical officer considers necessary.

(2) The Secretary of State shall be fully notified of any such impending confinement and may thereupon direct removal of the inmate under such conditions, if any, as he thinks fit.

(3) The Secretary of State may, subject to any conditions he thinks fit, permit a female inmate to have her baby with her in the centre and everything necessary for the baby's maintenance and care may be provided there.

## PART VI

## WORK, EDUCATION AND RECREATION

*Work*

44.—(1) Unless excused by the medical officer on medical grounds or by the governor as receiving education under rule 45(2), every inmate shall be employed on useful work or in vocational training, and he may receive payment in accordance with scales and under conditions laid down by the Secretary of State.

(2) No inmate shall be employed on any class of work unless the medical officer has certified him as fit for that class of work.

(3) No inmate shall be required to work at centre employments for more than 10 hours a day, and, so far as practicable, arrangements shall be made for inmates to work for at least 8 hours a day outside their rooms in association with other inmates.

(4) No inmate shall be employed except on work authorised by the Secretary of State.

(5) Except with the authority of the Secretary of State no inmate shall be employed in the service of any other inmate or of any officer or employee of the centre or for the private benefit of any person.

(6) Arrangements shall be made so as not to require inmates of the Christian religion to do any unnecessary work on Sunday, Christmas Day or Good Friday, or inmates of other religions on their recognised days of religious observance.

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#### Education

45.—(1) Programmes of educational classes shall be arranged at every centre, and, subject to any direction by the Secretary of State, reasonable facilities shall be afforded to inmates who wish in their spare time to improve their education by correspondence courses or private study, or to practise handicrafts.

(2) Inmates whom the governor considers able and willing to profit from further education, and inmates who because of illiteracy require remedial education, may have provided for them special classes or facilities for private study, if necessary within the hours normally allotted to work.

(3) Every inmate able to profit by the educational facilities provided shall be encouraged to do so.

#### Libraries and books

46.—(1) A library shall be provided in every centre, and, subject to such conditions as the Secretary of State may determine, every inmate shall be allowed to have library books and to exchange them as often as practicable.

(2) Inmates may receive books, periodicals, or newspapers from outside the centre under such conditions as the Secretary of State may determine.

(3) Subject to the Secretary of State's approval the governor may make arrangements with the librarian of any public or private library for the loan of books to be used in the centre library and for periodical revision of the library contents.

#### Recreation

47.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) inmates shall regularly be given such physical recreation, training and exercise as are required to promote health and physical well-being.

(2) The medical officer may, on medical grounds, modify physical recreation, training or exercise, or exempt an inmate from any or all of these.

#### PART VII

#### RELIGION, SOCIAL RELATIONS, LETTERS AND VISITS

##### Religious denomination

48. On reception each inmate shall be required to state his religious denomination, if any, and shall be treated as a member of that denomination unless and until he satisfies a member of the visiting committee or the Secretary of State that he has good grounds for wishing to be treated as a member of another denomination.

##### Chaplains

49.—(1) A chaplain shall conform to the rules relating to chaplains as well as to the centre regulations concerning the maintenance of order and discipline and the conduct of persons therein.

(2) It shall be a chaplain's duty to support the governor in his enforcement of such rules and regulations.



*Special duties of chaplains*

50.—(1) A chaplain shall interview individually every inmate who is recorded as belonging to his denomination and is willing to be interviewed—

- (a) as soon as possible after the inmate's reception;
- (b) from time to time as often as practicable during his detention; and
- (c) a short time before his discharge.

(2) A chaplain shall give such religious instruction as may be practicable to any inmate of his denomination wishing it.

(3) A chaplain shall conduct divine service for inmates of his denomination at such times as may be arranged.

(4) A chaplain shall, as often as possible, visit all inmates of his denomination who are sick, under restraint or confined to room.

(5) A chaplain shall, if no other arrangements are made, read the burial service at the funeral of any inmate of his denomination who dies in the centre.

(6) A chaplain shall inform the governor of any abuse or impropriety in the centre which may come to his knowledge.

(7) A chaplain shall, as soon as possible after 31st December in any year, report to the Secretary of State on the carrying out of his year's duties as a chaplain.

*Substitute for chaplain*

51. A person approved by the Secretary of State may act for the chaplain in his absence or assist the chaplain in his duties and any such person shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the centre in like manner as a chaplain.

*Visits by other ministers*

52.—(1) Where an inmate belongs to a denomination for which no chaplain has been appointed the governor shall do what he reasonably can, if so requested by the inmate, to arrange for him to be visited regularly by a minister of that denomination.

(2) Any minister as referred to in paragraph (1) shall be subject to these rules in like manner as a chaplain.

*Religious books*

53.—(1) Each inmate shall be provided with a Bible and, where appropriate, a Prayer Book approved for his denomination.

(2) There shall, so far as reasonably practicable, be available for every inmate's personal use such other religious books as his denomination recognises and the Secretary of State approves.

*Family relationships*

54.—(1) Special attention shall be paid to the maintenance of relations between an inmate and his family which are desirable in the best interests of both.

(2) So far as is practicable and in the governor's opinion desirable, an inmate shall be encouraged and assisted to maintain or establish relations with persons or agencies outside the centre which may promote the best interests of his family or his own social rehabilitation.

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(3) The governor may at any time communicate to an inmate, or to his family or friends, any matter of importance to the inmate.

#### *After-care*

55. Before the release of every inmate the governor shall consult with the welfare officer or the appropriate after-care agency as to his future and the assistance to be given to him on and after his discharge; for this purpose the welfare officer or the officer of the appropriate after-care agency shall be given all necessary information and assistance.

#### *Letters and visits generally*

56.—(1) The Secretary of State may, with a view to securing discipline and good order or the prevention of crime or in the interests of any persons, impose restrictions, either generally or in a particular case, on the communications to be allowed between an inmate and other persons.

(2) The governor may at any time, having regard to circumstances obtaining or expected to obtain in the centre, suspend all or any visits for such period as the Secretary of State may approve.

(3) Except as provided in these rules, no person shall be allowed to communicate with an inmate without the authority of the Secretary of State.

(4) Except as provided in these rules, every letter or communication to or from an inmate may be read or examined by the governor or an officer deputed by him and the governor may, at his discretion, stop any letter or communication on the grounds that its contents are objectionable.

(5) Every visit to an inmate shall take place within the sight of an officer, and if the Secretary of State directs in any particular case, also within the hearing of an officer.

(6) Visits to an inmate shall not, except in an emergency, take place on a Sunday.

#### *Personal letters and visits*

57.—(1) An inmate shall be entitled:—

(a) to send and to receive a letter on his reception into a centre and thereafter once a week;

(b) to receive a visit once in 4 weeks.

(2) The Secretary of State may allow additional letters or visits as a privilege for any class of inmate, and the governor may allow additional letters or visits as a privilege in any particular case if the circumstances so warrant.

(3) The governor may allow an inmate entitled to a visit to send and to receive a letter instead.

(4) When an inmate is eligible to receive a visit the governor may, on the inmate's request, communicate with any friends whom the inmate wishes to visit him.

(5) The governor may defer the right of an inmate to a visit until the expiration of any period of confinement to room.

(6) An inmate shall not be entitled under this rule to communicate with any person in connection with any legal or other business or with any person other than a relative or a friend, except with the Secretary of State's permission.

(7) Any letter or visit under the succeeding provisions of these rules shall not be counted as a letter or visit for the purposes of this rule.

#### *Police interviews*

58. A police officer may, on production of an order issued by or on behalf of the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, interview any inmate willing to see him.

#### *Securing release*

59.—(1) A person detained in a centre in default of finding a surety, or of payment of a sum of money, may communicate with, and be visited at any reasonable time on a weekday by any relative or friend to arrange for a surety or payment in order to secure his release from the centre.

(2) Every inmate detained as in paragraph (1) shall be told of this rule on his reception.

#### *Facilities in connection with legal proceedings*

60.—(1) Reasonable facilities shall be allowed for the legal adviser of an inmate who is party to legal proceedings, civil or criminal, to interview the inmate in connection with those proceedings in the sight but not in the hearing of an officer.

(2) An inmate's legal adviser may, with the Secretary of State's permission, interview the inmate in connection with any other legal business in the sight but not in the hearing of an officer.

(3) An inmate who is a party to any legal proceedings may correspond with his legal adviser in connection with the proceedings and unless the governor has reason to suppose that any such correspondence contains matter not relating to the proceedings it shall not be read or stopped under rule 56(4).

(4) An inmate shall on request be provided with any writing materials necessary for the purposes of paragraph (3).

(5) Subject to any directions of the Secretary of State, an inmate may correspond with a solicitor for the purpose of obtaining legal advice concerning any cause of action in relation to which the inmate may become a party to civil proceedings or for the purpose of instructing the solicitor to issue such proceedings.

(6) Subject to any directions given in the particular case by the Secretary of State, a registered medical practitioner selected by or on behalf of an inmate to whom paragraph (1) applies shall be afforded reasonable facilities for examining him in connection with the proceedings and may do so out of hearing but in the sight of an officer.

#### *Control of visitors to inmates*

61.—(1) The governor may demand the name and address of any visitor to an inmate and if he has grounds for suspicion may require the visitor to be searched; and if the visitor refuses to be searched the governor may deny him admission and shall record his grounds for refusing admission as well as full details of any such incident.

(2) No search shall be made in the presence of any inmate or another visitor or by or in the presence of an officer of the other sex.

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(3) If there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that anyone visiting an inmate is bringing in or taking out any article for an improper purpose, or contrary to the centre regulations, or that his conduct may tend to subvert the discipline or good order of the centre, the governor may suspend his visit and remove him from the centre, duly recording the fact and reporting it to the Secretary of State.

(4) A copy of the law regarding the introduction of prohibited articles into the centre shall be displayed in the visiting area and, before the inmate is brought into that area, the visitor's attention shall be drawn to it.

## PART VIII

## PHYSICAL WELFARE

*Medical provision*

62. At every centre either a separate hospital building or a suitable part of the centre shall be equipped and furnished in a way suited to the medical care and treatment of sick inmates and be staffed by suitably trained officers.

*Hygiene*

63.—(1) The medical officer shall oversee, and shall advise the governor on, the hygiene of the centre and the inmates, including arrangements for cleanliness, sanitation, heating, lighting and ventilation.

(2) Every inmate shall be provided with toilet articles necessary for his health and cleanliness which shall be replaced as necessary.

(3) Every inmate shall be required to wash at proper times and to have a hot shower or bath at least once a week.

(4) Every male inmate may, unless excused or excepted by the governor or the medical officer, be required to shave or be shaved daily and to have his hair cut as necessary but not closer than may be required for health and cleanliness.

(5) A female inmate's hair shall not be cut without her consent unless the medical officer considers it necessary for the eradication of vermin, dirt or disease.

(6) Every inmate shall keep his room, utensils, books and other articles issued for his use, and his clothing and bedding, clean and neatly arranged.

*Food*

64.—(1) Every inmate shall be supplied with food which is wholesome, nutritious, well-prepared and served, reasonably varied, sufficient in quantity and in accordance with any dietary scale authorised by the Secretary of State.

(2) Subject to any direction by the Secretary of State, no inmate shall be allowed, except as authorised by the medical officer, to have any food other than that ordinarily provided.

(3) After consulting the medical officer, the governor may reduce the diet of any inmate who persistently wastes his food.

(4) An inmate who has any complaint to make about the food supplied to him must make it to the governor as soon as possible after he has received the food.



(5) The medical officer shall frequently inspect the food both before and after it is cooked and shall report to the governor on the condition and quality of the food.

(6) In this rule "food" includes drink.

#### *Clothing*

65.—(1) An inmate shall be provided with clothing adequate for warmth and health in accordance with a scale approved by the Secretary of State.

(2) The clothing provided under this rule shall include suitable protective clothing for use at work, where this is needed.

(3) Subject to paragraph (4), an inmate shall wear the clothing provided under this rule and no other, except on the directions of the Secretary of State.

(4) An inmate required to be taken in custody to any court shall wear his own clothing, if decent, but if his own clothing cannot be used he shall be provided with clothing different from the usual dress in the centre and any such clothing shall remain the property of the centre.

#### *Medical officer*

66.—(1) The medical officer of a centre shall have the general care of inmates' health.

(2) In the absence of the medical officer his duties shall be performed by a registered medical practitioner approved by the Secretary of State.

#### *Duties of medical officer*

67.—(1) The medical officer shall conform to the rules and regulations of the centre and shall support the governor in the maintenance of discipline and order and the safe custody of inmates.

(2) The medical officer shall report to the Secretary of State on, and inform the governor of, anything in the centre or the treatment of its inmates which appears to him to require consideration on medical grounds.

(3) The medical officer shall visit the centre at least once every weekday which is not a public holiday and shall see every inmate at least once a week so as to ascertain his state of health.

(4) The medical officer shall every day see those inmates who complain of illness and he shall report to the governor in writing on their fitness for work.

(5) The medical officer shall daily visit the sick in the centre hospital and at such other times as may be necessary.

(6) The medical officer shall attend at once when he is told of the serious illness of any inmate.

(7) The medical officer shall give written directions for separating from other inmates any inmate whose health makes such separation advisable in his own interest or that of other inmates.

(8) The medical officer shall at least once every weekday which is not a public holiday visit every inmate under restraint or confined to a room or any other inmate to whom his attention is specifically directed.

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(9) The medical officer shall not apply any painful tests to an inmate the purpose of detecting malingering or for any other purpose except v the permission of the visiting committee.

(10) The medical officer shall as often as practicable examine the wash and toilet facilities and any defect found in such facilities shall be repor to the governor.

(11) Every month the medical officer shall inspect the centre to ascer that there is nothing present which might be injurious to the inmates and shall record the result of his inspection.

*Medical records and statistics*

68.—(1) The medical officer shall record the condition of every inmate, the nature of his disease, the medicines and the diet prescribed any other treatment which he may order.

(2) The medical officer shall keep such statistical records and prov such statistical returns as the Secretary of State may direct relevant to duties as a medical officer.

(3) The medical officer shall, as soon as possible after 31st Decem in each year, submit a report to the Secretary of State concerning s matters relating to his duties during the year as the Secretary of State r direct.

(4) The medical officer shall notify the governor of any distinc physical characteristic which he may discover in relation to any inmate which might assist in the inmate's future identification through being recor under rule 11.

*Special medical reports*

69.—(1) When the medical officer believes that an inmate's mental c dition is becoming impaired by continued detention, or that there are si of incipient insanity, he shall report the circumstances to the governor the information of the Secretary of State and he shall state whether he wis any special or additional advice.

(2) When the medical officer believes that an inmate's health is likely be injuriously affected by the discipline or treatment under these rules, shall report this in writing to the governor together with any recommendati he thinks appropriate.

(3) When the medical officer believes that an inmate's life will endangered by continued detention, or that a sick inmate will not surv his detention, or is totally and permanently unfit for the discipline of eentre, or needs an operation or treatment which cannot be given in centre, he shall give full written details to the governor, who shall forw these to the Secretary of State.

(4) The medical officer shall inform the governor when any innr appears to him to be dangerously ill.

(5) Subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, the medical off may obtain a second medical opinion or such other professional advice as may think necessary.

*Operations*

70. Except in very urgent circumstances no serious surgical operat shall be performed in the centre.

## PART IX

## SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO APPELLANTS

*Clothing*

71.—(1) An appellant when absent from the centre in connection with his appeal shall wear his own clothing, or if this cannot be used, shall be provided with clothing different from that worn in the centre.

(2) Clothing so provided shall remain the property of the centre and the inmate shall give it back on his return to the centre, or, in the event of his sentence being quashed by the court, before he is discharged from custody.

*Visits to appellants*

72.—(1) In connection with his appeal an appellant may be visited by his legal adviser on any week day at any reasonable hour which the governor has previously approved.

(2) Any such visit shall not be in the hearing, nor so far as is consistent with security and the interests of justice, in the sight of any officer or other person, unless the inmate or his legal adviser so wish.

(3) In connection with his appeal an appellant may receive a visit from a registered medical practitioner chosen by him, his friends, or his legal adviser and the visit shall take place under the same conditions as apply to a visit under paragraph (1).

(4) An appellant may for the purpose of his appeal receive a visit from any other person.

*Facilities for appellants*

73.—(1) In connection with his appeal an appellant shall be allowed facilities which the governor considers reasonable, including the supply of writing materials, for communicating with his relatives and friends or for conducting correspondence with his legal adviser or preparing notes.

(2) An appellant may deliver personally to his legal adviser or his adviser's authorised clerk any confidential written communication prepared as instructions and such a communication shall not be examined by an officer of the centre unless the governor has reason to suppose that it contains matter not relating to such instructions.

## PART X

## SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO CIVIL INMATES

*Meaning of "civil inmate"*

74. A "civil inmate" means an inmate who has not on conviction been ordered to be detained in a centre, or been ordered to be so detained in default of payment of a sum adjudged to be paid by a conviction, or in default of entering into a recognisance to be of good behaviour or to keep the peace.

*Association*

75.—(1) Civil inmates may associate among themselves at such times and in such a manner as the Secretary of State may determine.



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## TO APPELLANTS

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(2) Civil inmates shall not be allowed to associate with other inmates except as provided by paragraph (3).

(3) Where it is not practicable to make arrangements for the association of civil inmates, they may, if they so wish and the governor approves, be allowed to associate with other inmates at times and in a manner which the Secretary of State may determine.

*Clothing*

76.—(1) A civil inmate may, if he so wishes, wear his own clothing and have necessary changes of his own underclothing supplied from time to time, provided that the clothing is sufficient and suitable and that it shall be disinfected if the medical officer so requires.

(2) A civil inmate who does not wear his own clothing shall be required to wear the usual dress of the centre.

(3) A civil inmate may lose the privilege of wearing his own clothing if, having regard to any conduct by him, the governor considers withdrawal of this privilege necessary or desirable.

*Letters and visits*

77.—(1) A civil inmate may be visited at such times and under such restrictions as the Secretary of State may determine.

(2) Any such visit shall be a privilege which may be lost or postponed by an award under rule 31 or 32 so, however, that a civil inmate shall retain a right to receive one visit in every 4 weeks irrespective of any such award.

(3) A civil inmate may write and receive one letter a week.

(4) The governor or the visiting committee may allow additional letters to a reasonable extent in any special case.

(5) Letters referred to in paragraph (4) shall be a privilege which may be lost by an award under rule 31 or 32.

## PART XI

## GENERAL RULES RELATING TO CENTRE STAFF

*General duties of officers*

78.—(1) Every officer shall conform to these rules and to orders issued by the Secretary of State and by the governor for the running of the centre and shall support the governor in maintaining them.

(2) An officer shall obey the lawful instructions of the governor.

(3) An officer shall at once report to the governor any breach of these rules or any abuse or impropriety which comes to his knowledge.

(4) An officer shall inform the governor and the medical officer of any inmate who appears to be unwell or whose state of mind appears to require special care.

*Transactions with inmates or ex-inmates*

79.—(1) Except with the permission of the Secretary of State, an officer shall not carry out any pecuniary or business transactions with or on behalf of any inmate.

(2) Except with the permission of the governor, an officer shall not bring in or carry out, or attempt to bring in or carry out, or knowingly allow to be brought in or carried out, to or for any inmate, any article whatsoever.

(3) Except with the permission of the governor, an officer shall not communicate with any person whom he knows to be an ex-inmate or a relative or friend of an inmate or ex-inmate.

#### *Gratuities forbidden*

80. An officer shall not receive any unauthorised fee, gratuity or other consideration in connection with his office.

#### *Contracts*

81. An officer shall not, directly or indirectly, have any interest in any contract connected with the centre or receive any fee, gratuity or other consideration from any contractor, or from any person tendering, or any other person whatever in connection with any such contract or tender.

#### *Communications to press*

82. Except with the permission of the Secretary of State, an officer shall not, directly or indirectly, communicate to a press representative or any other person matters which he has come to know in the course of his official duties.

#### *Code of discipline*

83. The Secretary of State may approve a code of discipline to have effect in relation to officers, or such classes of officers as it may specify, setting out the offences against discipline, the awards which may be made in respect of them, and the procedure for dealing with charges.

### PART XII

#### SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO GOVERNORS

##### *Status of governor*

84.—(1) The governor shall be in command of the centre.

(2) The governor shall be responsible for the safe custody of all inmates until they are discharged from his custody by the expiration of the term of detention to which they are subject or by order of a court or the Secretary of State.

(3) The governor shall be responsible for inmates' treatment according to law, for the safeguarding of their rights and for the maintenance of discipline among them.

(4) The governor shall have authority over all other officers and employees on the staff of the centre.

(5) The governor shall be responsible for the safe custody and proper disposal or use of all monies, equipment and materials in the centre and shall ensure that all records and accounts are properly kept.

##### *Delegation by governor*

85.—(1) In the governor's absence, the centre shall be in the charge of an officer approved by the Secretary of State, and the officer so approved shall, at such a time, be competent to perform and shall perform any duty required of the governor.

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## ART XII

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(2) The governor may delegate to an officer approved by the Secretary of State such duties as the Secretary of State may from time to time approve.

#### *Other powers and duties relating to staff*

86.—(1) In cases of misconduct the governor may suspend any officer and shall without delay report any such case fully to the Secretary of State whose directions, if any, he shall carry out.

(2) The governor shall send to the Secretary of State any report or complaint against an officer with which he is not competent or willing to deal, but in any such case the officer shall be allowed to see the charge and evidence against him and to reply thereto for the information of the Secretary of State.

(3) The governor shall forward without delay any report or complaint which an officer of the centre wishes to make to the Secretary of State and may add any remarks he feels appropriate.

(4) The governor shall record all his orders relating to the management and discipline of the centre and shall have such orders communicated to the proper officers.

(5) The governor shall keep such records of officers' conduct as the Secretary of State may determine.

(6) The governor shall make available, in such a manner as he considers appropriate, to all officers and other staff copies of any code of discipline, circulars from the Secretary of State and other documents relating to their duties, rights and responsibilities and shall ensure that such officers and staff have adequate opportunity to acquaint themselves with their contents.

#### *Duties in relation to medical officer*

87. Without prejudice to his other duties under these rules the governor shall—

- without delay draw the attention of the medical officer to any inmate whose physical or mental condition appears to require attention;
- at once notify the medical officer that any officer or inmate is sick;
- provide the medical officer daily with a list of inmates who have reported sick in the centre;
- provide the medical officer with a list of inmates under punishment;
- support the medical officer in his care of inmates' health and to this end give as full effect as is practicable to recommendations by the medical officer.

#### *Duties in relation to medical welfare of inmates and to inquests*

88.—(1) The governor shall without delay report to the Secretary of State—

- any case of insanity or apparent insanity occurring among the inmates, or any case in which the medical officer believes that an inmate's mental state is becoming impaired by continued detention;
- any case in which the medical officer believes that an inmate's life will be endangered by further detention, or that an inmate will not survive his sentence or is totally or permanently unfit for the discipline of the centre.

(2) The governor shall ensure that proper arrangements are made for the safe custody of sick inmates and shall visit the centre hospital daily to see all inmates therein.

(3) The governor shall inform the appropriate chaplain when an inmate recorded as of his denomination is dangerously ill and shall allow such an inmate to see any minister of religion whom the inmate wishes to see.

(4) The governor shall supply to the coroner holding an inquest on an inmate who has died while in his custody the name of any inmate who claims to be able and willing to give relevant evidence.

(5) The governor shall report fully to the Secretary of State on any inquest held into the death of an inmate in the centre.

#### *Discretion in granting privileges*

89.—(1) For the purposes of this rule, "privilege" means any permission which an authority may give under these rules to any inmate or class of inmate and which is liable to be lost or postponed under rules 31, 32 or 76.

(2) The governor shall satisfy himself that any such privilege can be granted without interfering with the security, good order and government of the centre and its inmates.

(3) If the continuance of any privilege seems likely to cause interference as referred to in paragraph (2), or, if an inmate has abused such a privilege or has been guilty of an offence under these rules, the governor may suspend or withdraw such a privilege.

(4) Where the visiting committee has granted any privilege under these rules, the governor may in urgent circumstances suspend it, but shall report the suspension to the committee within 24 hours.

(5) The governor shall record full details of all cases in which privileges have been granted, suspended or withdrawn.

#### *Other duties of governor*

90.—(1) To assist in the identification of inmates the governor shall, on request, provide the governors of other centres or prisons, or the police with any information which it is within his power to give.

(2) The governor shall record any matters which these rules require of him as well as any occurrences of a significant or unusual nature.

(3) The governor shall provide such statistical or other information as the Secretary of State may direct, whether for the purpose of an annual report required by section 5 of the Act or otherwise.

### PART XIII

#### POWERS AND DUTIES OF VISITING COMMITTEE

##### *Term of office*

91.—(1) The members of a visiting committee appointed under section 3 of the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 shall hold office for a period of 3 years or any less period which the Secretary of State may direct.

(2) The first business at the first meeting of a visiting committee after appointment shall be the election of a chairman.



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the term "privilege" means any permission granted by these rules to any inmate or class of inmates, whether or not postponed under rules 31, 32 or 76.

that any such privilege can be exercised only in the interests of the security, good order and government of the centre.

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## XIII

## VISITING COMMITTEE

a committee appointed under section 3 of the (Northern Ireland) 1968 shall hold office until such time as the Secretary of State may direct.

meeting of a visiting committee after the death of a member.

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(3) The chairman of a visiting committee may be elected for the whole term of office of the committee, or, at the discretion of the committee, he may be elected annually.

(4) A committee may elect for such term of office as they decide a deputy chairman who shall preside at any meeting at which the chairman is not present.

(5) The members shall continue in office until the date of the first meeting of their successors.

*Procedure, meetings and visits to centre*

92.—(1) The quorum at a meeting of a committee shall be 3.

(2) The powers of a committee shall not be affected by vacancies.

(3) A committee shall keep minutes of its proceedings and a copy of these minutes shall be sent to the Secretary of State as soon as is practicable after any meeting.

(4) A committee shall meet at the centre once a month to discharge its functions under these rules.

(5) The centre shall be visited by at least one member of the committee not less often than once a fortnight.

(6) At each meeting a committee shall select the members to visit the centre during the following month and such members shall report on their visits to the committee.

*Access to centre and inmates*

93.—(1) A committee jointly and its members severally shall have free access to all parts of the centre for which it is appointed, and to all inmates and may, if they so desire, interview any inmate in his own, or another room out of sight and hearing of officers.

(2) They shall hear and investigate any application which an inmate wishes to make to them and, if necessary, shall report on it with their views to the Secretary of State.

*Offences and punishments*

94.—(1) A committee shall investigate any report of an alleged offence against discipline which the Secretary of State refers to it under rule 32 and, if satisfied that the offence is proved, may award any one or more of the punishments set out in paragraphs (2) and (3) of the said rule.

(2) A committee shall record in their minutes each such case and the award made and shall report thereon to the Secretary of State.

(3) The powers of a committee under this rule shall be exercised at a special meeting consisting of not less than 2 members.

*Further duties of committee*

95.—(1) A committee shall co-operate with the Secretary of State and the governor in promoting the efficiency of the centre and shall inquire into any matter which the Secretary of State refers to them.

(2) In the exercise of any of their powers a committee shall satisfy themselves, in consultation with the governor, that the power can be exercised without interfering with the security, good order and proper government of the centre and its inmates.

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(3) A committee shall immediately bring to the notice of the Secretary of State any abuse which comes to their knowledge in connection with the centre.

(4) A committee shall from time to time inspect the inmates' food and, if they find the quality unsatisfactory, shall report the fact to the governor.

(5) Having assured themselves that the request is genuine, a committee shall investigate and decide on any request which an inmate may make to them to change his recorded religious denomination.

(6) A committee shall, as soon as possible after 31st December in any year, report to the Secretary of State on all or any of their year's duties under these rules together with any advice or suggestions they may wish to make.

(7) A committee shall from time to time report to the Secretary of State on any matters relating to the centre which they believe merit attention.

*Further powers of committee*

96.—(1) A committee may inquire into the state of the centre buildings and, if any repairs, additions or alterations appear to them to be necessary, they shall send their advice and suggestions thereon to the Secretary of State.

(2) A committee may at any time inspect any of the books of the centre and a note of any such inspection shall be made in their minutes.

(3) A committee may assist the Secretary of State in the selection of library books for the use of inmates and in the provision of special facilities for study by inmates.

Northern Ireland Office  
30th April 1979

*Roy Mason*  
One of Her Majesty's Principal  
Secretaries of State

EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the rules but is intended to indicate their general purport.)*

These rules regulate the management of young offenders centres provided under the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 and set out the conditions governing the treatment and control of inmates of such centres.

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- 1.8. Other Senior Managers included Heads of Departments for Probation, Education, Workshops, Catering, Works Department and Chaplains.

## **2. Hydebank Wood Background**

- 2.1. The Hydebank Wood Young Offenders Centre was built on the outskirts of Belfast, some 4 miles from the city centre, and opened in 1979 to replace the closed Borstal in Millisle. As I recollect, the open Borstal transferred to Hydebank and closed in 1980. At that time male Young Offenders under the age of twenty one who were serving custodial periods of less than three years were sentenced to a period of detention in a Young Offenders Centre as opposed to a period of imprisonment. At some stage during the early 1980's the Juvenile Remand Unit which was previously accommodated in D Wing Annex of Belfast Prison also transferred to Hydebank and was accommodated on a third floor landing of Elm House. The landing could accommodate up to 20 boys aged, I believe, 14-17 years of age.
- 2.2. The Centre could accommodate 297 inmates, both sentenced and remand. The residential accommodation was split across five residential houses each containing approximately 60 inmates – Elm/Willow/Ash/Beech and Cedar houses. There were in the region of 14,000 receptions between 1979 and 1995, which includes multiple entries of single individuals committed on a number of occasions.
- 2.3. In addition to the residential units, Hydebank Wood was provided with a large workshop area for delivery of Vocational Training Courses including Joinery, Bricklaying, Plastering, Motor Mechanics, Industrial Cleaning, Hair Dressing, Painting and Decorating. A separate Education Centre adjacent to Elm and Willow provided a number of classrooms where courses were run, including basic Literacy and Numeracy up to O level standards. Recreation and Sport was provided in a generously appointed Gymnasium with a weight lifting area attached. The Centre had four football pitches – 2 all weather and 2 grass. The front entrance included a Visitors Reception for relatives who visited the establishment. Although visitors were not searched, inmates were searched entering and leaving the Visits Hall.
- 2.4. Escort Vehicles entering Hydebank went through the front gate vehicular entrance, parked in the forecourt adjacent to the Administration Building and



## APPENDIX 2

## FUNCTIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT

The Young Offenders Centre came into operation on 1 June 1979, under the provisions of the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 which came into force on that date. Its object was to remove young offenders, other than those sentenced for the more serious offences, from the prison environment. The Act provides for the detention in a Young Offenders Centre of those between the ages of 16 and 21, who have been sentenced to a custodial term of less than 3 years. Section 72(3) of the Children and Young Persons Act (NI) 1968, provides, however, that a person under 17 years of age cannot be sentenced to a Young Offenders Centre unless the court certifies him to be so unruly or depraved that no other method of dealing with him is appropriate.

The Centre is also at present a juvenile remand unit, which takes on remand 14 to 17 year olds whose containment in a training school is inappropriate because the court has certified them as unruly or depraved under Section 51(1) of the Children and Young Persons Act (NI) 1968.

The functions of HM Young Offenders Centre are therefore :

- (a) to receive and hold young male offenders between the ages of 17 and 21 who have been ordered to be detained in custody for a period of less than 3 years;
- (b) to provide a brisk regime with particular emphasis on education and training, both physical and vocational;
- (c) to provide for a staged system of progress towards release by means of movement through the 'house' system to a pre-release unit for those nearing the end of their sentences;
- (d) to discharge inmates on their due dates, allowing for 50% remission of sentence for good behaviour; and
- (e) to operate a juvenile remand unit.

In carrying out these functions the Young Offenders Centre is expected to operate in accordance with the Young Offenders Centre Rules (NI) 1979 and other instructions for the time being in force.

- 1.8. Other Senior Managers included Heads of Departments for Probation, Education, Workshops, Catering, Works Department and Chaplains.

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development to ensure the regime delivered the functions identified for the Centre whilst at the same time meeting the needs of the Young Offenders in its charge. Although I have no personal knowledge of some of the changes, I understand that the regime development did remove the requirement for inmates not to walk on certain coloured tiles following their committal to the Centre and the requirement for all inmates to have skinhead haircuts. From my recollection the regime provided for inmates did include a strong emphasis on discipline and participation in activities provided.

- 3.2. I recollect at that time that Hydebank Wood dealt with some very serious Young Offenders who had major behavioural problems and limited respect for authority. At committal, inmates were expected to conform to a certain standard, and keeping their rooms clean with making bed packs daily was a basic requirement. There was a strong emphasis on personal hygiene as well as maintaining a high standard of cleanliness within each of the units. At committal all inmates would be seen by an Assistant Governor, a member of the Probation Team, a Chaplain and other Departmental Heads including Head of Physical Education, Head of Education and Head of Workshops.
- 3.3. Within the Centre a Labour Allocation Board met virtually weekly to allocate inmates to activities dependent on their assessed need and time to serve. The Labour Allocation Board was chaired by the Deputy Governor and attended by Heads of Departments including Education, Vocational Training, Probation and security. The Board considered the individual needs of inmates and took account of any intellectual or skills assessments available. Depending on the Security assessments and time remaining to serve inmates were allocated to activities within the Centre. From recollection, after the period of induction in the committal unit which could last up to four weeks, inmates would be allocated to another house depending on their attitude, behaviour and length of sentence. The induction procedure was primarily aimed at acclimatising inmates to their new environment in custody. The procedures included familiarising them with the daily routine and what was expected of them, particularly emphasising the need to obey rules and conform to the routines and procedures in place. Induction also included interviews with Governors, Probation, Chaplains, Education staff, Vocational Training and Physical Education. All compiled reports for consideration at

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the Labour Allocation Board. From there they would be allocated to a work party.

- 3.4. I cannot recall the precise numbers in Hydebanks in October 1984 but I note the HMCIP recorded the numbers during the December 1983 inspection at 268 sentenced young men and 19 boys on remand. Many of the inmates participated in work parties as orderlies, gardeners and labourers. As I recall, the Centre employed upwards of 12-14 Teachers, full and part-time, who could teach a wide range of subjects, and 8-10 instructors. Inmates were expected to attend work and education as allocated. In addition, the Centre also had a Social Skills Course which provided advice and support on alcohol and drugs, living alone and pre-release.

#### **4. The Regime**

- 4.1. The daily regime required inmates to be unlocked at 8.00am when they would be expected to clean their rooms, make their bed packs and have breakfast and be ready to attend work at 9.00am. During the morning work period a 15 minute tea break would be provided with all inmates returning to the residential units at 12.15 for lunch and lockup. The inmates were again unlocked at 2.00pm and remained at activities until 4.00pm before returning to the units for lockup at 4.45pm. Evening Association was provided with unlock at 5.30pm and inmates enjoyed free association, attended evening education or the gymnasium. Lockup at night varied across the Centre depending on the agreed regime for the house, but the latest lockup was around 8.30pm (other than for those with Special Privileges<sup>4</sup>).
- 4.2. Hydebanks Wood operated a progressive regime. The committal procedure as identified previously had a strong emphasis on discipline and control. However, an inmate would quickly progress from the committal landings to one of the other houses. I cannot remember the precise detail but do recall that Ash, Beech and Cedar each had a separate regime to reflect a more relaxed environment for inmates depending on progress with Ash house being the pinnacle where inmates could attain special privilege status because of their progress within the Centre. Special privilege (SP) entitled

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<sup>4</sup> Exhibit 4- Special Privilege Scheme

Ash House inmates to work out in the community and have free movement across the site. SP's also had a late lockup. Inmates could earn additional privileges as they progressed through the Centre which included reduced supervision, more freedom of association, increased access to the Gymnasium and attendance at outside events, depending on security clearance and time remaining in custody.

## 5. Discipline and Control

5.1. During training all Prison Officers at Millisle were advised of the need to adequately supervise and manage prisoners in their charge. The major emphasis was on security and control. Discipline was important. Staff were instructed that the disciplinary procedures centred on the application of prison rules and charging offenders with offences outlined in the rules. Rule 30 of 1979 rules (revised as Rule 32 of the Young Offender Centre Rules Northern Ireland 1982<sup>5</sup>) outlined 21 offences an inmate could be charged with including:

- disobeys any lawful order or neglects to conform to the rules;
- treats with disrespect any officer or any person visiting the Centre;
- is idle, careless or negligent at work or refuse to work;
- uses any abusive, insolent, threatening, or other improper language;
- is indecent in language, act or gesture;
- commits any assault;
- leaves without permission any place in which he is required to be;
- loses by neglect any property belonging to the Centre;
- wilfully disfigures or damages any part of the Centre or any property which is not his own;
- commits any nuisance.
- takes improperly, or possesses without authorisation any article;

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<sup>5</sup> Exhibit 5 - The Young Offenders Centre Rules (Northern Ireland) 1982

## APPENDIX 2

## FUNCTIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT

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In carrying out these functions the Young Offenders Centre is expected to operate in accordance with the Young Offenders Centre Rules (NI) 1979 and other instructions for the time being in force.

4.06 Twelve vocational training courses covered subjects as diverse as bricklaying, hairdressing and catering. The workshop accommodation was generally good and the courses were equipping inmates to acquire City and Guild certificates. However they were considerably under-subscribed. There were 114 places available but only 71 inmates were undergoing training and some of those were serving sentences so short that they would be unable to complete the course. We did not consider this a proper use of resources. We have advised the Northern Ireland Office to review the number and type of vocational training courses on offer.

4.07 The physical education department was very successful in involving all inmates in a well organised, varied and imaginative programme, which emphasised personal achievement. The range of activities available varied from work in the gymnasium, through competitive sports to endurance and adventure training in the Mourne Mountains. Home and away football fixtures in a local league, and preparation for an international Scout Jamboree were other notable features. Over 260 external awards, including 18 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze medals were gained by inmates in the first half of 1982. We were most impressed by the quality of work, the enthusiasm of staff, the excellent provision of facilities and the attention given to the individual needs of inmates and their personal safety.

#### Other Departmental Contributions to the Regime

4.08 The centre had a small probation department consisting of a Senior Probation Officer and one Probation Officer. The shared working scheme involving prison officers had greatly reduced the workload of the probation officers, although they still interviewed all inmates during their induction programme. Relations between the discipline staff and the Probation Department were not good; but the Department was involved in prison staff training for the shared working scheme and we hope that this contact will gradually lead to a better mutual understanding and improved relationships.

4.09 Chaplains of the Church of Ireland, Roman Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian churches worked part-time at the centre. They shared one chapel but held separate services which were generally well attended. The Chaplains visited the centre regularly and all spoke highly of the help they received from the staff.

#### Assessment of Inmates' Needs and Progress

X 4.10 As we have previously mentioned, the centre was required to have a system of progression through the houses. All inmates were placed in Elm House after reception, where they were observed and assessed during the induction period. The duration of an inmate's stay in Elm House depended partly on individual effort and partly on the number of further receptions waiting to move in, but at an appropriate time he would be transferred to Willow House. Movement from Willow House to Cedar, Cedar to Beech and Beech to Ash was decided by the Labour Allocation Board on the basis of assessments from all staff who had dealt with an inmate, and took account of the inmate's own wishes. Each house had a progressively more relaxed regime and privileges such as longer association times. The high point in the progression was 'red band' (trusted orderly) status on the top floor of Ash House; assessment for this position of trust was the responsibility of a special board chaired by an official from the Northern Ireland Office.

4.11 There is considerable merit in a progressive system which offers the incentive of more relaxed living conditions because it encourages good behaviour and a constructive response to the regime. As operated at

Ash House inmates to work out in the community and have free movement across the site. SP's also had a late lockup. Inmates could earn additional privileges as they progressed through the Centre which included reduced supervision, more freedom of association, increased access to the Gymnasium and attendance at outside events, depending on security clearance and time remaining in custody.

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<sup>5</sup> Exhibit 5 - The Young Offenders Centre Rules (Northern Ireland) 1982



- gives to or receives from any person or has in his room or possession any prohibited article;
- commits an offence under the act;
- mutinies or incites other inmates to mutiny;
- does gross personal violence to an Officer;
- does gross personal violence to any person not being an Officer;
- makes repeated and groundless complaints;
- in anyway offends against the security or good order or discipline of the Centre;
- makes false or malicious allegations against an Officer;
- fails to return to the Centre when a period of temporary release expires or abide by any condition attach to the period of temporary release;
- attempt to do any of the foregoing things.

(Source: Notes for the Guidance of all prisoners undated but likely 1979<sup>6</sup>)

5.2. Officer training included role plays and the opportunity for Trainee Officers to view mock incidents and write statements as well as attending mock adjudications to give evidence. Officers were instructed that the Governor at the hearing would provide an opportunity for the inmate to address the charge(s) laid against him and the relevant Officer would then be subject to cross-examination. The Governor then decided whether the inmate was guilty.

5.3. If found guilty the Governor could award;

- caution;
- loss of remission for a period not exceeding 14 days;
- loss or postponement of payment in whole or in part for work for a period not exceeding 14 days;

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<sup>6</sup> **Exhibit 6** - Information to Committals (full information pack) Specific reference Page 8

- loss or postponement in whole or in part of privileges other than the payments for work, for a period not exceeding 28 days or 2 months in the case of Evening Association exercise;
- exclusion from associated work for a period not exceeding 14 days and;
- Confinement to room for a period not exceeding 3 days.

(Source Notes for the Guidance of all Prisoners<sup>7</sup>)

5.4. In instances of more serious offences the Governor can refer the case to the Secretary of State and the Visiting Committee on the grounds that the awards available to him are insufficient given the gravity of the offence. However, referrals to the Secretary of State or the Visiting Committee<sup>8</sup> are restricted to the following offences;

- an offence under the Act (The Prison Act 1953);
- gross personal violence to an Officer;
- gross personal violence to any person not being an Officer and;
- any serious or repeated offences against discipline for which, in the view of the Governor it may desirable to award a severe punishment than is provided in Rule 31.

(Source Notes for the Guidance of all Prisoners<sup>9</sup>)

5.5. In instances were a case is referred and is accepted for hearing by the Secretary of State or usually the Visiting Committee the awards are significantly greater and include;

- loss of remission for a period not exceeding 4 months;
- loss or postponement of payment in whole or in part for work for a period not exceeding 28 days;
- loss or postponement in whole or in part of privileges other than payment for work;

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<sup>7</sup> **Exhibit 6** - Information to Committals (full information pack) Specific reference Page 8

<sup>8</sup> **Exhibit 7** - Visiting Committee Information

<sup>9</sup> **Exhibit 6** - Information to Committals (full information pack) Specific reference Page 8

11.1. The Visiting Committee mentioned earlier in this report, is an independent body of individuals who are appointed by the Secretary of State. Visiting Committee Members are not of the management structure of the Centre. As the Secretary of State's representatives, they have authority to enter the Young Offenders Centre at any time with the objective of ensuring that it is being properly run and in compliance with the legislative requirements. Members have full and free access to every part of the establishment and can speak to any inmate or Officer. The full Committee meets at the Centre every month and in the period in between members will visit all areas of the Centre. Any concerns raised, criticisms, complaints or serious matters are reported to the Governor, and if not dealt with are reported to the Northern Ireland Office. In any event, the VC submits an annual report to the Secretary of State detailing their visits to the Centre and any matters arising.

11.2. In the Guidance for the attention of all prisoners at paragraph 4 in the section on the Visiting Committee it states, *"you have the right of access to the VC with any grievance, complaint or application you wish to make. You will not be prevented from approaching any member of the Committee, but remember false or malicious allegations or complaints will be viewed very seriously"*.

## 12. **International Committee for the Red Cross**

12.1. Members of the International Committee of the Red Cross visited Hydebank during their inspections of Maze and Belfast prisons. On their visit their Committee members will tour the Centre and report to HM Government. They visited during my period as Acting Governor on Monday 8 September 1986 as recorded in my Governor's Journal.

## 13. **The Secretary of State and Ministers**

13.1. During my period in Hydebank Wood I received both the Secretary of State and Ministers on routine visits to the Centre. Visits included then Secretary of State for NI, Douglas Hurd and Minister of State, Nicholas Scott, both of whom toured the Centre during their visit.

## 14. **Governor's Journal**

- loss or postponement in whole or in part of privileges other than the payments for work, for a period not exceeding 28 days or 2 months in the case of Evening Association exercise;
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<sup>8</sup> **Exhibit 7** - Visiting Committee Information

<sup>9</sup> **Exhibit 6** - Information to Committals (full information pack) Specific reference Page 8

- exclusion from associated work for a period not exceeding 28 days and;
- confinement to room for a period not exceeding 14 days or were the inmate is found guilty of mutiny or incitement to mutiny or of gross personal violence to an Officer not exceeding 28 days.

(Source Notes for the Guidance of all Prisoners<sup>10</sup>)

- 5.6. The disciplinary procedures highlighted above are the only procedures that are in place to punish a prisoner for acts of indiscipline. However, on occasions an inmate's behavior can become so disruptive to the Centre that the Governor has to take additional measures to protect both the individual inmate and others within the Centre including staff. In such instances the Governor may temporarily confine an inmate to a room under Prisoner Rule 40-(1)<sup>11</sup> (which states that for the purpose of preventing disturbance, damage or injury, a refractory or violent inmate may be temporarily confined in a special room or protective room approved for the purpose by the Secretary of State; but an inmate shall not be confined in such a room as a punishment or after he has ceased to be refractory or violent. In instances when temporary confinement is used the Medical Officer must be informed).
- 5.7. In other instances inmates can create disruption within the Centre and despite every effort on the part of Management and staff to manage the inmate in the general population consideration will be given to removing the inmate from association with others. Prison Rule 26.1 YOC Rules 1982<sup>12</sup>, states that 'where it appears desirable for the maintenance of good order or discipline or in his own interests that an inmate should not associate with other inmates, either generally or for particular purposes, the Governor may arrange for the inmates removal from association accordingly'.
- 5.8. Governors can award removal from association for 24 hours after which time the Governor must seek the authority of a member of the Visiting Committee or Secretary of State. The Visiting Committee will interview the prisoner and seek evidence from the Governor as to why the removal from association is

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<sup>10</sup> **Exhibit 6** - Information to Committals (full information pack) Specific reference Page 8

<sup>11</sup> **Exhibit 5- Page 13** - The Young Offenders Centre Rules (Northern Ireland) 1982

<sup>12</sup> **Exhibit 5 -Page 9** - The Young Offenders Centre Rules (Northern Ireland) 1982



necessary and if approved, authority will be given under Prison Rule 26.3<sup>13</sup> for the inmate's removal for a period not exceeding 14 days. However, the removal can be renewed fortnightly thereafter by the Visiting Committee.

- 5.9. During training the new recruits are fully aware that the disciplinary procedures outlined above are the agreed procedures for managing misconduct within the Young Offenders Centre or prisons. The general principles highlighted in part 5 of the Prison Rules amended in 1982<sup>14</sup> are fully explained at training. The general principles are as follows:

*25 (1) order and discipline shall be maintained with firmness but with no more restriction than is required for safe custody and well-ordered community life.*

*25.(2) in the control of inmates Officers shall, so far as possible, seek to influence them through their own example and leadership and to enlist their willing co-operation.*

*25.(3) at all times the treatment of inmates shall be such as to encourage their self-respect and a sense of personal responsibility.*

*25.(4) an inmate shall not be employed in any disciplinary capacity, but inmates selected as suitable by the Governor may be given positions of responsibility.*

## **6. Minimum Use of Force and Technical Intervention Training (MUFTI)**

- 6.1. When I undertook training as a new recruit to the Prison Service, the training was based on 'Judo' principles for arm holds and taking someone who is being violent to the ground. There was a significant emphasis on the use of the baton. The training included practical sessions when moves were practiced and perfected.

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<sup>13</sup> **Exhibit 5 – Page 9** - The Young Offenders Centre Rules (Northern Ireland) 1982

<sup>14</sup> **Exhibit 5 – Page 8**- The Young Offenders Centre Rules (Northern Ireland) 1982

Branch in Prison Operations managed any representations received from inmates or prisoners. The petition would include any representations which the inmate wished to make with an explanation from the Governor. Petitions comprised of a four sided document which included 2 pages inside. One for the inmate to outline the complaint and the other for the management response were usually used as a form of appeal against a decision taken within the Centre. NIO staff within the Treatment of Offenders Branch responded in writing directly to the inmate making the complaint.

#### 8.5. Members of Parliament

8.5.1. Inmates were entitled to make direct representations to members of Parliament in accordance with Standing Order Section 5<sup>25</sup>. In the notes for the guidance of all prisoners, paragraph 4C states that any complaint about a member of staff must be made to the Governor. A complaint on these matters may not be made to a Member of Parliament until official action is complete.

#### 8.6. Parliamentary Commissioner on Administration

8.6.1. Inmates also had the right to send a letter to the Parliamentary Commissioner on Administration and the guidance to prisoners included the address. Such letters were not subject to censorship.

### 9. **Scrutiny**

9.1. As Governor, I reported to the Director of Prison Operations who at that time was Rodger Kendrick (now deceased). I would have been in contact with him or his office at least two to three times a week on a wide range of issues or even routine matters. Rodger Kendrick also frequently visited the establishment and would have carried out rounds to satisfy him that everything was in order. NIO staff working in the Treatment of Offenders Branch would have specific responsibility for overseeing the activities of Hydebank, Magilligan and Maghaberry (opened in 1986) whilst another section looked after Maze and Belfast. They too would have been frequent

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<sup>25</sup> **Exhibit 6 – Page 8** - Information to Committals (full information pack)

4.06 Twelve vocational training courses covered subjects as diverse as bricklaying, hairdressing and catering. The workshop accommodation was generally good and the courses were equipping inmates to acquire City and Guild certificates. However they were considerably under-subscribed. There were 114 places available but only 71 inmates were undergoing training and some of those were serving sentences so short that they would be unable to complete the course. We did not consider this a proper use of resources. We have advised the Northern Ireland Office to review the number and type of vocational training courses on offer.

4.07 The physical education department was very successful in involving all inmates in a well organised, varied and imaginative programme, which emphasised personal achievement. The range of activities available varied from work in the gymnasium, through competitive sports to endurance and adventure training in the Mourne Mountains. Home and away football fixtures in a local league, and preparation for an international Scout Jamboree were other notable features. Over 260 external awards, including 18 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze medals were gained by inmates in the first half of 1982. We were most impressed by the quality of work, the enthusiasm of staff, the excellent provision of facilities and the attention given to the individual needs of inmates and their personal safety.

#### Other Departmental Contributions to the Regime

4.08 The centre had a small probation department consisting of a Senior Probation Officer and one Probation Officer. The shared working scheme involving prison officers had greatly reduced the workload of the probation officers, although they still interviewed all inmates during their induction programme. Relations between the discipline staff and the Probation Department were not good; but the Department was involved in prison staff training for the shared working scheme and we hope that this contact will gradually lead to a better mutual understanding and improved relationships.

4.09 Chaplains of the Church of Ireland, Roman Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian churches worked part-time at the centre. They shared one chapel but held separate services which were generally well attended. The Chaplains visited the centre regularly and all spoke highly of the help they received from the staff.

#### Assessment of Inmates' Needs and Progress

X 4.10 As we have previously mentioned, the centre was required to have a system of progression through the houses. All inmates were placed in Elm House after reception, where they were observed and assessed during the induction period. The duration of an inmate's stay in Elm House depended partly on individual effort and partly on the number of further receptions waiting to move in, but at an appropriate time he would be transferred to Willow House. Movement from Willow House to Cedar, Cedar to Beech and Beech to Ash was decided by the Labour Allocation Board on the basis of assessments from all staff who had dealt with an inmate, and took account of the inmate's own wishes. Each house had a progressively more relaxed regime and privileges such as longer association times. The high point in the progression was 'red band' (trusted orderly) status on the top floor of Ash House; assessment for this position of trust was the responsibility of a special board chaired by an official from the Northern Ireland Office.

4.11 There is considerable merit in a progressive system which offers the incentive of more relaxed living conditions because it encourages good behaviour and a constructive response to the regime. As operated at

Report  
on  
HM Young Offenders Centre  
HYDEBANK WOOD  
by  
HM Chief Inspector of Prisons

Home Office  
London

December 1983

## PREFACE

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons produces a series of reports for the Home Secretary, about the conditions, facilities and regime within Prison Service establishments in England and Wales. In addition, there is an agreement that each year HM Chief Inspector will inspect one establishment in Northern Ireland and report to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland upon it. This report is an account of an inspection of Hydebank Wood Young Offender Centre in Belfast on 21-25 June 1982.

The report summarises the findings of HM Inspectorate. It is not intended as a comprehensive survey of all aspects of the establishment; rather it presents an analysis of its notable features, highlighting the areas which were particularly praiseworthy or caused concern.

The Inspectorate also publishes an Annual Report which explains its method of operation and draws more general conclusions about the work of the Prison Service. Appendix 1 of the Report on HM Chief Inspector of Prisons 1982, HC 260, published by HMSO, sets out the terms of reference of HM Inspectorate.



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170 young people.

## INTRODUCTION

1.01 Hydebank Wood Young Offenders Centre was built on the outskirts of Belfast and opened in 1979. It accommodates young men under the age of twenty-one who are serving custodial sentences of three years or less, as part of a policy to ensure that they are not sent to prison. It also contains a Junior Remand Unit for boys aged 14 to 17. The centre has approved accommodation for 297 and at the time of our inspection it held 268 sentenced young men and 19 boys on remand.

1.02 The trainees live in five separate houses and, with the exception of two small dormitories, all have single rooms, with either integral sanitation or access to night sanitation. The centre cost £7 million to build, but we were told before our inspection that a large number of serious defects in both design and construction had emerged.

1.03 The regime at Hydebank Wood was intended to be lively and brisk and to keep the trainees' fully and constructively occupied. There was a programme of conventional education, physical education, vocational training, and domestic work at the Centre, as well as special courses in life skills.

1.04 The Governor, Mr D McMullan, had been in charge since Hydebank Wood opened. He was supported by four other members of the Governor grades, one of whom was under training, and had an authorised discipline staff of 153 together with specialist and administrative staff. At the time of our inspection there was a shortfall of 30 discipline staff, while seven other officers were away on detached duty. The remaining staff were called upon to work long hours of overtime, often on rest days.

## ORGANISATION AND WELFARE OF STAFF

2.01 The staff at Hydebank Wood wore civilian clothes; they were smart in appearance and afforded us the utmost courtesy and co-operation. Our discussions with members of staff and management, the Chairman of the Visiting Committee and representatives of the local branch of the Prison Officers Association showed that morale was high. The working environment was generally good, but there was a shortage of staff facilities. The relationship between staff and inmates seemed excellent, and staff expressed a high degree of job-satisfaction. We were concerned to find that staff training, particularly for the newly joined officers, was almost non-existent,

Management

2.02 We examined the management structure and found that it was limited and poorly defined. Meetings of senior staff were infrequent and somewhat haphazard. There were no middle management meetings. We did not consider that these arrangements met the requirements of European Standard Minimum Rule 51, to "introduce forms of organisation to facilitate communication between the different categories of staff...with a view to ensuring cooperation...with respect to the treatment of prisoners". We therefore advised the Governor to review the structure and consider the introduction of regular departmental and wing staff meetings. We also advised that the new structure should be published, complete with terms of reference and membership of committees, in Governors' Orders.

2.03 The dissemination of instructions and information to the staff was not fully effective, since Governors' and Chief Officers' Orders were reaching discipline staff only. We advised the Governor to consider how to improve the distribution of information, including Circular Instructions issued by the Northern Ireland Office. We also advised him to consider introducing a weekly bulletin for staff which could include matters of a less permanent nature. *As per the letter done.*

2.04 Staff were deployed efficiently according to an essential task list. There had been a recent manpower survey of the establishment, but we felt there was a need to keep under review the night guard system, and the use of Principal Officers on escorts and of a Senior Officer in the mess.

2.05 Because there was a shortfall of 20% of the discipline staff, the overtime rates and incidence of rest-day working were high. Overtime averaged 16 hours a week, and many members of staff were working much longer hours. The pressures upon staff were increased by the very heavy court commitment which involved a varying number of officers each weekday. We believe that staff should not be expected to work such long hours and we hope that improved recruitment will fill some of the vacancies and reduce the need to rely so heavily upon overtime working.

Staff Training

2.06 We were concerned to find that hardly any staff training took place. The training officer, while enthusiastic, had insufficient time available to him for the proper performance of his training duties. We have advised Prison Department of the Northern Ireland Office to allocate more time on the essential task list to training duties. There did not appear to be a training programme, so we advised the Governor to draw one up, and to ensure that the training committee met regularly.

2.07 We were also concerned about the absence of induction training for newly joined staff. We were told that an induction programme was held if several officers joined simultaneously, but not necessarily for individuals; no programme existed for administrative or specialist staff. We advised the Governor to introduce a comprehensive induction programme for all staff joining the establishment.

#### Working Conditions and Facilities

2.08 Although the offices provided for staff were of reasonable size and quality, the remaining facilities for staff were inadequate and compared badly with those provided for inmates. The provision of staff toilets was meagre; there was no locker room or drying room for staff, many of whom travelled to work by motorcycle. There were no staff showers, even in the reception area where staff might have to deal with prisoners who were infested. It was intended to build a locker room for staff, and we advised the Governor to consider the inclusion of showers and a drying room in that scheme and to review the remaining facilities with a view to improving them. In principle, we believe that the design of all new prisons should take account of the reasonable needs of staff in the interests of efficiency and morale.

2.09 The staff social club, mess and bachelor quarters occupied the former stable block of a large house outside the compound. The building was old, but reasonably maintained, although it did not reach the standards of the modern buildings in the Centre. Both the club and mess appeared to be well managed; the accounts were being audited while we were there. The eight rooms provided for bachelor officers were reasonable in size and adequately equipped, but seemed damp, and in some rooms the high windows did not permit a view of the outside world. None were occupied at the time of our inspection.

*Benji attended to.*

## WELLBEING OF INMATES

3.01 High quality inmate accommodation and communal facilities were complemented by the well designed grounds which were spacious and uncluttered. The staff were concerned and caring, taking an interest in the well-being of the inmates from reception to discharge. Inmates' material needs were well provided for, and the arrangements for visits, the provision of food and medical care were of the highest order.

Accommodation

3.02 The inmates lived in 5 separate houses, known as Ash, Beech, Cedar, Willow and Elm. There were two 3-bedded dormitories, 111 single rooms with integral sanitation and 180 single rooms with access to toilets at night. Each group of about 15 inmates shared dining and recreational facilities which were provided on a generous scale. The houses and their furnishings were modern, functional and in good condition, except where building defects had damaged the decoration. They were scrupulously clean, and there was no sign of vandalism. We were pleased to see that the rooms were fitted with a push button buzzer and light system which enabled inmates to call a member of staff without difficulty. The inmates were issued with sweaters and jeans which were popular, serviceable and well cared for.

3.03 The five houses which contained the sentenced population were the responsibility of two Assistant Governors. Principal Officers had subordinate responsibility for house management, but their frequent absence on escort duties left the day-to-day management of the houses to the Senior Officer, assisted by 2 discipline officers. This delegation of authority had had no ill effects; we found the routines clearly set out and followed, and documentation was well maintained in all 5 houses. The quality of life in the houses was good; a brisk cheerful atmosphere prevailed and self-respect and respect for others were encouraged.

3.04 The Junior Remand Unit on the third floor of Elm House was completely self-contained with its own enclosed exercise yard, so that the boys held on remand did not come into contact with sentenced prisoners. There was space for 20 boys in rooms with integral sanitation and, if necessary, the top floor of the adjoining Willow House could be used as an annex. The unit had the same high standard of amenities and space as the rest of the centre, and was also very clean. Again, although under the oversight of an Assistant Governor, the unit was managed by the Senior Officer in charge of Elm House assisted by 2 discipline officers. The staff of the unit were dedicated to their work and had extended their routine duties to include welfare matters. We were satisfied that the unit was well administered.

Information and Communication

3.05 The reception unit was housed in clean and airy premises where the staff carried out the reception procedures quickly and efficiently with due regard for the dignity of the inmates. All new arrivals were examined by a hospital officer, who called in the Medical Officer immediately if he was needed; otherwise the MO examined them on the second day. The provision of inmate facilities was excellent and reception procedures were usually completed in an hour.

X 3.06 After reception, inmates were held in Elm House for a period of induction and assessment. During this time their rights and privileges were explained and a very helpful general information sheet was available



in each inmate's room. Additional information sheets on specific subjects were available for consultation. We drew to the Governor's attention the absence of information regarding applications to the European Court of Human Rights. Inmates were able to make applications and petitions, but the documentation was somewhat haphazard, and there was no effective cross-referencing between application books in the houses and the inmates' records. Improvements to inmates' records and the introduction of Governor's and Visiting Committee's application books and an appellants' register were needed.

3.07 We were impressed by the library, which was a pleasant room with a large stock of books attractively displayed. However, while inmates in Elm and Willow houses visited the library to change books, inmates of other houses had to rely on a trolley service which provided limited choice. We advised the Governor to introduce a system which would enable all inmates to visit the library at least once a week.

3.08 The arrangements for visits from families and friends were excellent. Spacious and comfortable waiting rooms, straightforward procedures and a large open plan visiting room with refreshment bar provided a pleasant environment. Five rooms were provided for closed visits but they were rarely used. Three rooms were available for the use of legal advisers and other professional visitors. All visitors were treated with friendly respect, and security was effective but unobtrusive.

3.09 The censoring of inmates' mail and the examination of parcels was thorough but the process had become unnecessarily complicated and repetitive. We advised the Governor to simplify these procedures. The censor worked in a narrow, windowless room, in unsatisfactory conditions. We advised the Governor to find him better accommodation.

#### Material Needs

3.10 We sampled the food and watched it being served several times during our inspection. The standard of catering was good with varied menus and consistently well prepared and wholesome food. The serving was efficiently done with heated trolleys taking food to the houses where each floor had its own dining room. The food arrived hot, and in good condition.

3.11 We were less impressed with the kitchen in which the meals were produced. Although well equipped, clean and tidy, the layout, design and construction were unsatisfactory. The wet and slippery floor presented a particular hazard. The changing areas for inmates and staff were also poor. Cooked and uncooked meats were kept in the same coldroom; we advised, for reasons of health and hygiene, that separate provision be made. The kitchen was, otherwise, well managed.

3.12 The hospital, which occupied a separate block near the main gate, had two four-bedded wards, four single rooms with integral sanitation, and a protected room. There were also consulting and treatment rooms, a dental surgery and an X-ray room. The provision of equipment was generous. The hospital was manned by a full-time Medical Officer, eight members of the hospital grades and a nursing sister. This staffing level was ample, and local NHS hospitals gave full support with consultants visiting when necessary. Emergency cover was provided by a rota of local general practitioners.

3.13 The staff worked with dedication and enthusiasm. They were sensitive to the risk of inmates attempting suicide and any potential suicides were closely monitored. There was an impressive level of remedial physical

education, which was particularly helpful in the treatment of inmates who had suffered gunshot wounds prior to their arrest. In all, we considered that the standard of medical care provided to inmates was excellent.

#### Discipline and Control

3.14 We examined adjudication procedures and documentation and found them satisfactory with the exception of a few points of detail which we brought to the Governor's attention. The punishment wing was on the ground floor of Elm House and was efficiently run, although we offered some advice for improving the documentation. There was close supervision from senior staff, but the regime was not repressive. The accommodation consisted of an adjudication room, seven punishment rooms, two stripped rooms and two special cells. The design of the punishment rooms was satisfactory except for the fact that the windows were of glass, with security bars inside the glass. An inmate wishing to commit suicide or to obtain broken glass for use as a weapon against staff, would have had little difficulty in doing so. We advised the Governor to replace the glass with splinter-proof material and have the bars relocated outside the glazing.

*More information*

3.15 There was some confusion however about the use of the various rooms, as the punishment cells were used for inmates awaiting adjudication, and the special cells, which had double doors and special furniture, were being used as ordinary punishment cells. Special cells are mentioned in the Young Offenders Centre Rules (Northern Ireland) 1979, and the Northern Ireland Prison Service's Standing Orders contain instructions for their use. However, no definition of what constitutes a special cell was available to Governors who, as was the case at Hydebank, may unknowingly use such cells for the wrong purpose. We therefore recommend that the Northern Ireland Office should specify what constitutes a special cell and remind all Governors of the instructions in Standing Orders concerning its use.

*as we have introduced*

3.16 If the staff needed to restrain a violent or disruptive inmate, handcuffs were available. When not required the handcuffs were securely stored. We were satisfied that adequate instructions had been issued governing the circumstances and manner in which they should be used. However the use of a physical restraint of this kind is a serious matter, particularly where young men are concerned, and deserves careful monitoring by the Northern Ireland Office. No formal system existed for recording or monitoring the use of mechanical restraints; we recommend that the Northern Ireland Office introduce one.

## REGIME

4.01 Two of the functions of the centre (which are set out fully in Appendix 2) relate directly to the regime. These were to "provide a brisk regime with particular emphasis on education and training, both physical and vocational" and to "provide for a staged system of progress through the house system to a pre-release unit". We were satisfied that the regime was indeed brisk and purposeful, and that a staged system of progress had been provided, although there were weaknesses in the associated system of individual assessment. The involvement of staff of various backgrounds was the most significant ingredient in a healthy, balanced regime, in which the education and training elements stood out.

### Employment

4.02 Hydebanks Wood had no industrial work; plans to establish an engineering workshop had not been carried out. However, about a third of the inmates were involved in work around the centre as orderlies, gardeners, labourers etc. These work parties were not over-subscribed and a good tempo was maintained. For the future it was intended to make the centre horticulturally self-sufficient: this should provide a valuable employment outlet. The educational and training opportunities together with the domestic work, were sufficient to keep the inmates occupied throughout the day. We were satisfied also that the Labour Allocation Board took great care to find each inmate a suitable course or job.

### Education and Training

4.03 The Education Officer, who was supported by six full-time and eight part-time teachers, worked in a purpose built, well equipped education centre. The education staff were well integrated into the life of the establishment, and were involved in several separate education schemes; daytime education known as the "Youthways Programme", evening classes (both recreational and in support of vocational training courses), a separate programme for the boys in the Remand Unit and an innovative social skills programme.

4.04 The Youthways programme was based upon a scheme used throughout Northern Ireland, and was well adapted to the particular needs of the Young Offenders Centre. It consisted of separate full time courses for those inmates needing remedial help, for those not yet ready for vocational training, and for those whose sentences were too short to undertake a vocational training course. Teaching was geared to meet individual needs at standards ranging from remedial instruction to 'O' level preparation.

4.05 The social skills courses were run by prison officers in a small unit closely connected with the Education Department. The intention was to develop the skills of communication and self sufficiency necessary for a smooth transition back to the community for inmates who might experience particular difficulty. The course we saw in progress was clearly effective and the inmates involved seemed to enjoy the experience. This unit also ran pre-release courses, and a four day alcohol awareness programme. Attendance at these courses was largely voluntary, but they were over-subscribed. We regarded the work of this unit as being of great value to the inmates and through the involvement of prison officers, valuable to the service. We felt that the approach could, with advantage, be adopted in other young offender centres in England and Wales.

4.06 Twelve vocational training courses covered subjects as diverse as bricklaying, hairdressing and catering. The workshop accommodation was generally good and the courses were equipping inmates to acquire City and Guild certificates. However they were considerably under-subscribed. There were 114 places available but only 71 inmates were undergoing training and some of those were serving sentences so short that they would be unable to complete the course. We did not consider this a proper use of resources. We have advised the Northern Ireland Office to review the number and type of vocational training courses on offer.

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#### Assessment of Inmates' Needs and Progress

X 4.10 As we have previously mentioned, the centre was required to have a system of progression through the houses. All inmates were placed in Elm House after reception, where they were observed and assessed during the induction period. The duration of an inmate's stay in Elm House depended partly on individual effort and partly on the number of further receptions waiting to move in, but at an appropriate time he would be transferred to Willow House. Movement from Willow House to Cedar, Cedar to Beech and Beech to Ash was decided by the Labour Allocation Board on the basis of assessments from all staff who had dealt with an inmate, and took account of the inmate's own wishes. Each house had a progressively more relaxed regime and privileges such as longer association times. The high point in the progression was 'red band' (trusted orderly) status on the top floor of Ash House; assessment for this position of trust was the responsibility of a special board chaired by an official from the Northern Ireland Office.

4.11 There is considerable merit in a progressive system which offers the incentive of more relaxed living conditions because it encourages good behaviour and a constructive response to the regime. As operated at

Hydebank Wood however, there were inherent difficulties. Movement from house to house restricted the influence of individual members of staff, and progress was sometimes a response to pressure for places rather than individual development. Only those serving longer sentences could progress to red band status, and these were not necessarily the most trustworthy individuals. Also, we did not consider that the assessments were sufficiently forward looking to provide the basis for later review to meet the need under European Standard Minimum Rule 70 for individual treatment/training programmes. We therefore advised the Governor to consider using the Labour Allocation Board to draw up individual training programmes for all inmates with sentences longer than 3 months.



## SECURITY

5.01 We examined the physical security at Hydebank Wood and the organisation of duties and procedures. The centre was surrounded by a 17 foot high fence, with privacy screens in places, and the gate provided effective control over the passage of people and vehicles. The centre had a good security record, which reflected considerable credit on the staff. The procedures for the organisation of security were satisfactory by day and by night, although we did advise the Governor to improve tool checks and the frequency of the meetings of the Security Committee. While there was a high degree of security at Hydebank Wood, it was not obtrusive and it did not adversely affect the regime of the establishment.

Fire Precautions

5.02 There was a full-time Fire Officer, with a relief, both of whom had received training. We were concerned to find that there was no Fire Precautions Manual, and we have advised the Northern Ireland Office to issue one. We were also concerned to find that newly joined officers were not given any instruction in fire precautions, and advised the Governor to ensure it was included in the induction programme.

5.03 A full fire survey had been held two years previously, and we suggested that regular surveys be considered, particularly after any change in the use of buildings. Liaison with the Fire Brigade was good, and access for appliances was generally good except for an area behind Elm/Willow Houses, but a response time of 20 minutes was rather long. Written fire and evacuation orders were held in most areas, but there were no fire precautions notices. We were not satisfied that inmates were aware of what to do in the event of a fire. There had been no fire drills although evacuation exercises were held occasionally. Since it may be up to 20 minutes before the fire brigade are able to attend in the event of a fire, we recommended that the Governor should introduce regular wet and dry fire drills.

5.04 We examined the fire alarm system and advised the Governor to have an automatic alarm fitted in Elm and Willow Houses and to have distinguishable sounds for the fire and general alarms, which were identical. The provision of fire-fighting equipment was satisfactory and we advised the Governor on the mounting of equipment and the maintenance of records. We also suggested that the locks on the fire escape doors in three of the houses should be changed so that they could be opened from both sides.

5.05 There were a number of particular fire hazards. Stores of flammable materials were not clearly identified as such and we advised the Governor to have them suitably marked. The storage of flammable brush cleaner was also unsatisfactory but a proper store was under construction. Finally we were not satisfied with the bund wall protection provided to oil tanks beneath the VTC workshops. Bund wall protection is essential if spilt oil is to be safely contained; any inadequacy in the wall could lead to the spread of oil and a very serious fire. We therefore recommend that the bund wall protection be improved.

## CONDITION OF BUILDINGS

6.01 The centre was built in what was part of the estate of Shannon House. The house itself had been demolished and all that remained of the original fabric was some of the ancillary buildings which were used as a staff club and mess, and to house the Works Department. These buildings had been affected by damp and dry rot, which had been treated, but a high level of maintenance will continue to be required. We advise their renewal when resources permit.

6.02 The centre itself was only three years old. It had been designed partly by private architects and partly by Northern Ireland Office staff but with continuity of style. The layout and facilities were good, but a number of serious defects of design and construction had come to light, and these had been exacerbated by poor workmanship. The more serious faults included rain penetration through roofs and around windows, faulty guttering causing flooding in the gymnasium; standing water on the kitchen floor; and serious water penetration through floors under washing areas. Some defects were being dealt with by the Works Department, but there was an urgent need for a full survey to establish the extent of the work required and to set priorities. A high priority must go to preventing rain penetration, which could damage the structure of the building. We therefore recommend that a programme of necessary repairs be drawn up, and priorities be established.

6.03 The essential services worked reasonably well, although some difficulties with the stand-by generators were being investigated. There were separate drainage systems which had required extensive attention and the public sewer running under the compound had recently collapsed so that one house had to be closed while it was repaired.

6.04 The Senior Works Officer had worked at Hydebank since 1978, and was well integrated into the management structure, attending the Governor's daily meeting. He was responsible to a Principal in the Northern Ireland Office's Finance Department via a Supervisor of Works. We were surprised to find that there had been little contact between headquarters and the SWO about the problems that had arisen or about remedial action. In view of the nature and extent of the problems we think it advisable that he should have professional and technical supervision and support and we recommend that this should be made available.

6.05 The SWO employed a local workforce of 15 tradesmen assisted by a dozen inmates. The workforce was generally adequate, and was efficiently engaged upon routine maintenance. They were not helped in their task by an unsatisfactory system for enabling staff to report defects and request repairs, and we advised the Governor to consider instituting a more efficient system as soon as possible. There was no planned maintenance except for the heating and hot water system and no formal energy conservation programme, and we discussed with the SWO how he might institute a system of that kind.

Health and Safety

6.06 The Health and Safety Committee met regularly under the chairmanship of an Assistant Governor. A policy statement had been drawn up as required by the Health and Safety at Work Act. We noticed some safety hazards in the Centre including uneven duct covers, inappropriate wiring and dangerous surfaces to the kitchen floor which we mentioned to the Governor. This

highlighted the need for a regular Health and Safety audit. We also advised the Governor to introduce annual tests on pressure vessels, hoists and lifts. Our impression was that health and safety matters had been somewhat neglected in the past, but were now receiving more attention.

## GENERAL CONCLUSION

7.01 Our inspection of Hydebank Wood revealed an establishment of which the Northern Ireland Office can be justly proud. It fulfils its functions well, and while the regime is brisk and purposeful it is also caring. This is always a difficult balance to achieve, but especially so given the stresses that exist in Northern Ireland.

7.02 Nevertheless, for a new establishment Hydebank Wood had a disappointing number of physical defects; it provided, for instance, few facilities for staff, especially when compared with those provided for inmates. And there were considerable weaknesses in the fire precautions. A greater involvement of staff in the management structure, as well as more staff training is also necessary if the Centre is to achieve the excellence of which it is capable.

7.03 None of these criticisms, however, relate to the way in which staff dealt with inmates, or to the regime at the Centre. These were impressive, as was the quality of the accommodation and facilities provided for the inmates, the work of the education department and the PE staff, the high quality of medical care and catering, and the imaginative and innovative social-skills course.

7.04 In summary we concluded that the Governor and his staff had succeeded in establishing a humane new Centre with an imaginative and purposeful training regime in very difficult conditions. They are to be congratulated.

## APPENDIX 1

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Following our inspection of HM Young Offenders Centre Hydebanks Wood we recommend that:

1. The term "special cell" be defined, and Governors reminded of the instructions concerning the use of special cells. (paragraph 3.14)
2. A system for documenting and monitoring the use of mechanical restraints be introduced. (paragraph 3.16).

Fire Precautions

3. Regular fire drills be introduced. (paragraph 5.03).
4. Adequate bund wall protection be given to the oil storage tanks beneath the VTC workshop. (paragraph 5.05 )

Buildings

5. A programme of repair work be drawn up and priorities established. (paragraph 6.02).
6. Professional and technical supervision and support be given to the Senior Works Officer. (paragraph 6.04).



## APPENDIX 2

## FUNCTIONS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT

The Young Offenders Centre came into operation on 1 June 1979, under the provisions of the Treatment of Offenders Act (Northern Ireland) 1968 which came into force on that date. Its object was to remove young offenders, other than those sentenced for the more serious offences, from the prison environment. The Act provides for the detention in a Young Offenders Centre of those between the ages of 16 and 21, who have been sentenced to a custodial term of less than 3 years. Section 72(3) of the Children and Young Persons Act (NI) 1968, provides, however, that a person under 17 years of age cannot be sentenced to a Young Offenders Centre unless the court certifies him to be so unruly or depraved that no other method of dealing with him is appropriate.

The Centre is also at present a juvenile remand unit, which takes on remand 14 to 17 year olds whose containment in a training school is inappropriate because the court has certified them as unruly or depraved under Section 51(1) of the Children and Young Persons Act (NI) 1968.

The functions of HM Young Offenders Centre are therefore :

- (a) to receive and hold young male offenders between the ages of 17 and 21 who have been ordered to be detained in custody for a period of less than 3 years;
- (b) to provide a brisk regime with particular emphasis on education and training, both physical and vocational;
- (c) to provide for a staged system of progress towards release by means of movement through the 'house' system to a pre-release unit for those nearing the end of their sentences;
- (d) to discharge inmates on their due dates, allowing for 50% remission of sentence for good behaviour; and
- (e) to operate a juvenile remand unit.

In carrying out these functions the Young Offenders Centre is expected to operate in accordance with the Young Offenders Centre Rules (NI) 1979 and other instructions for the time being in force.

## WELLBEING OF INMATES

3.01 High quality inmate accommodation and communal facilities were complemented by the well designed grounds which were spacious and uncluttered. The staff were concerned and caring, taking an interest in the well-being of the inmates from reception to discharge. Inmates' material needs were well provided for, and the arrangements for visits, the provision of food and medical care were of the highest order.

Accommodation

3.02 The inmates lived in 5 separate houses, known as Ash, Beech, Cedar, Willow and Elm. There were two 3-bedded dormitories, 111 single rooms with integral sanitation and 180 single rooms with access to toilets at night. Each group of about 15 inmates shared dining and recreational facilities which were provided on a generous scale. The houses and their furnishings were modern, functional and in good condition, except where building defects had damaged the decoration. They were scrupulously clean, and there was no sign of vandalism. We were pleased to see that the rooms were fitted with a push button buzzer and light system which enabled inmates to call a member of staff without difficulty. The inmates were issued with sweaters and jeans which were popular, serviceable and well cared for.

3.03 The five houses which contained the sentenced population were the responsibility of two Assistant Governors. Principal Officers had subordinate responsibility for house management, but their frequent absence on escort duties left the day-to-day management of the houses to the Senior Officer, assisted by 2 discipline officers. This delegation of authority had had no ill effects; we found the routines clearly set out and followed, and documentation was well maintained in all 5 houses. The quality of life in the houses was good; a brisk cheerful atmosphere prevailed and self-respect and respect for others were encouraged.

3.04 The Junior Remand Unit on the third floor of Elm House was completely self-contained with its own enclosed exercise yard, so that the boys held on remand did not come into contact with sentenced prisoners. There was space for 20 boys in rooms with integral sanitation and, if necessary, the top floor of the adjoining Willow House could be used as an annex. The unit had the same high standard of amenities and space as the rest of the centre, and was also very clean. Again, although under the oversight of an Assistant Governor, the unit was managed by the Senior Officer in charge of Elm House assisted by 2 discipline officers. The staff of the unit were dedicated to their work and had extended their routine duties to include welfare matters. We were satisfied that the unit was well administered.

Information and Communication

3.05 The reception unit was housed in clean and airy premises where the staff carried out the reception procedures quickly and efficiently with due regard for the dignity of the inmates. All new arrivals were examined by a hospital officer, who called in the Medical Officer immediately if he was needed; otherwise the MO examined them on the second day. The provision of inmate facilities was excellent and reception procedures were usually completed in an hour.

X 3.06 After reception, inmates were held in Elm House for a period of induction and assessment. During this time their rights and privileges were explained and a very helpful general information sheet was available

4.06 Twelve vocational training courses covered subjects as diverse as bricklaying, hairdressing and catering. The workshop accommodation was generally good and the courses were equipping inmates to acquire City and Guild certificates. However they were considerably under-subscribed. There were 114 places available but only 71 inmates were undergoing training and some of those were serving sentences so short that they would be unable to complete the course. We did not consider this a proper use of resources. We have advised the Northern Ireland Office to review the number and type of vocational training courses on offer.

4.07 The physical education department was very successful in involving all inmates in a well organised, varied and imaginative programme, which emphasised personal achievement. The range of activities available varied from work in the gymnasium, through competitive sports to endurance and adventure training in the Mourne Mountains. Home and away football fixtures in a local league, and preparation for an international Scout Jamboree were other notable features. Over 260 external awards, including 18 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze medals were gained by inmates in the first half of 1982. We were most impressed by the quality of work, the enthusiasm of staff, the excellent provision of facilities and the attention given to the individual needs of inmates and their personal safety.

#### Other Departmental Contributions to the Regime

4.08 The centre had a small probation department consisting of a Senior Probation Officer and one Probation Officer. The shared working scheme involving prison officers had greatly reduced the workload of the probation officers, although they still interviewed all inmates during their induction programme. Relations between the discipline staff and the Probation Department were not good; but the Department was involved in prison staff training for the shared working scheme and we hope that this contact will gradually lead to a better mutual understanding and improved relationships.

4.09 Chaplains of the Church of Ireland, Roman Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian churches worked part-time at the centre. They shared one chapel but held separate services which were generally well attended. The Chaplains visited the centre regularly and all spoke highly of the help they received from the staff.

#### Assessment of Inmates' Needs and Progress

X 4.10 As we have previously mentioned, the centre was required to have a system of progression through the houses. All inmates were placed in Elm House after reception, where they were observed and assessed during the induction period. The duration of an inmate's stay in Elm House depended partly on individual effort and partly on the number of further receptions waiting to move in, but at an appropriate time he would be transferred to Willow House. Movement from Willow House to Cedar, Cedar to Beech and Beech to Ash was decided by the Labour Allocation Board on the basis of assessments from all staff who had dealt with an inmate, and took account of the inmate's own wishes. Each house had a progressively more relaxed regime and privileges such as longer association times. The high point in the progression was 'red band' (trusted orderly) status on the top floor of Ash House; assessment for this position of trust was the responsibility of a special board chaired by an official from the Northern Ireland Office.

4.11 There is considerable merit in a progressive system which offers the incentive of more relaxed living conditions because it encourages good behaviour and a constructive response to the regime. As operated at

education, which was particularly helpful in the treatment of inmates who had suffered gunshot wounds prior to their arrest. In all, we considered that the standard of medical care provided to inmates was excellent.

#### Discipline and Control

3.14 We examined adjudication procedures and documentation and found them satisfactory with the exception of a few points of detail which we brought to the Governor's attention. The punishment wing was on the ground floor of Elm House and was efficiently run, although we offered some advice for improving the documentation. There was close supervision from senior staff, but the regime was not repressive. The accommodation consisted of an adjudication room, seven punishment rooms, two stripped rooms and two special cells. The design of the punishment rooms was satisfactory except for the fact that the windows were of glass, with security bars inside the glass. An inmate wishing to commit suicide or to obtain broken glass for use as a weapon against staff, would have had little difficulty in doing so. We advised the Governor to replace the glass with splinter-proof material and have the bars relocated outside the glazing.

*More information*

3.15 There was some confusion however about the use of the various rooms, as the punishment cells were used for inmates awaiting adjudication, and the special cells, which had double doors and special furniture, were being used as ordinary punishment cells. Special cells are mentioned in the Young Offenders Centre Rules (Northern Ireland) 1979, and the Northern Ireland Prison Service's Standing Orders contain instructions for their use. However, no definition of what constitutes a special cell was available to Governors who, as was the case at Hydebank, may unknowingly use such cells for the wrong purpose. We therefore recommend that the Northern Ireland Office should specify what constitutes a special cell and remind all Governors of the instructions in Standing Orders concerning its use.

*as one has introduced*

3.16 If the staff needed to restrain a violent or disruptive inmate, handcuffs were available. When not required the handcuffs were securely stored. We were satisfied that adequate instructions had been issued governing the circumstances and manner in which they should be used. However the use of a physical restraint of this kind is a serious matter, particularly where young men are concerned, and deserves careful monitoring by the Northern Ireland Office. No formal system existed for recording or monitoring the use of mechanical restraints; we recommend that the Northern Ireland Office introduce one.

3.19 Very serious offences against discipline were either referred to the police or to the visiting committee, who had powers to award more lengthy sentences of lost remission and cellular confinement than the governor. It was perhaps a reflection of the improved standard of good order in the establishment that the number of visiting committee adjudications had reduced, from 15 in 1993 to two in the first ten months of 1994.

3.20 It was rare for inmates to be held under Rule 26 of Young Offender Rules either for good order and discipline or at their own request for protection. The establishment had an impressive record of dealing effectively with difficult inmates. Very few inmates were transferred to other establishments because of disruptive behaviour, the only exception being when an inmate demonstrated clear paramilitary associations.

3.21 Control and restraint (C and R) techniques were used sparingly, nine times in the first 10 months of 1994. Over 70 staff had been trained to operate as part of a three person team in order to restrain an inmate. Documentation was completed after every incident involving the use of C and R.

3.22 Overall the centre was run in a well ordered fashion with officers alert to their supervisory duties and with good relations between inmates and staff.

### **Bullying**

3.23 Probably because the majority of the inmates came from Belfast there was a strong feeling of group identity among them, notwithstanding the occasional minor paramilitary influences. Some had received beatings by paramilitaries for alleged "anti social activities". Remedial attention was given to these injuries in the PE department. Far from the physical punishments being a deterrent we were told that the injuries were invariably borne with some pride by the inmates, some of whom quickly returned to their former ways.

3.24 There were few signs of bullying. This was largely due to the structured environment, the high staffing levels and the closeness of supervision. The



2.12 The remainder of the meeting structure was appropriate. There were few complaints about the effectiveness of communication between departments. Key staff knew each other well and communicated freely. The relationship between management and the Prison Officers' Association was satisfactory with a monthly meeting programmed but only convened if there were matters for discussion.

2.13 All inmates seemed to be aware of the establishment's rules and the routines to be followed. There were notices on important subjects on residential units.

#### **Performance of staff**

2.14 The governor was giving effective leadership. Mistakes made were being faced and learned from. The postholders in junior governor grades appeared efficient but we questioned whether they were fully extended by the demands of their job (see paragraph 2.10). Principal Officers were seen to be giving support to staff and we were impressed by the work of most of the Senior Officers.

2.15 Although staffing levels were high the quality of supervision and standard of work achieved by most officers justified these levels. Landing officers (known as class officers) had excellent relationships with inmates whom they clearly knew well. The safety of inmates was protected by the alertness of staff. There was potential to develop the role of officers in sentence planning, personal officer work and other training activities.

#### **Management Services**

2.16 Posts in management services were traditionally filled by members of the unified grades known as officer clerks. The head of management services was a Governor 5 supported by a Principal Officer, two Senior Officers and six officers.

2.17 NIO policy was to replace officer clerks by administrative grades. The NIO had recently trawled the posts throughout the Northern Ireland Civil Service and had been inundated with applications. Not surprisingly this decision had affected the morale of staff in management services, who had all decided to

- d. The NIPSA representative said that the possibility of the market testing of areas such as education was causing concern to their members. The removal or reduction in the number of Prison Officers from workshop and classroom areas was also an anxiety.
- e. There was felt to be a need for a more effective forum for discussion between staff association representatives than the existing local Whitley council meetings.
- f. There was general agreement that more staff training was needed.

## **Staffing**

### **Staff Deployment**

2.20 Overtime payments were still available to unified grade staff for additional hours worked. The executive committee of the Northern Ireland section of the POA had agreed to a number of changes which included the ending of these payments. All officers would work a 39 hour week by April 1997 if the arrangement was ratified by a national ballot of POA members. Management within the establishment were well advanced in their preparations for the introduction of the new attendance systems and staffing levels.

2.21 The number of unified grade staff in post was 222 compared with 233 funded posts. Most staff were employed in four groups, operations 1 and 2 and residential 1 and 2. Each residential group covered two of the four living units. Both residential groups contained three Principal Officers, five Senior Officers and 52 officers. This produced staffing levels which allowed for two officers to supervise a maximum of 15 inmates on two of the living units, with only a slight reduction of this ratio on the other two units. Probably partly as a result, we found living areas to be cleaner than we normally find with little evidence of vandalism, a general absence of bullying. Inmates told us that they felt safe.

## Discipline and control

### Maintaining order

3.11 There were few signs of vandalism. Earlier in 1994 a spate of breaking cell windows had been tackled by covering the broken window with opaque unbreakable material for a few weeks until clear glass was fitted. This action, together with heavy fines for the perpetrators, appeared to have had the required effect.

3.12 We were concerned at the absence of a minor report system to deal with small infringements of rules. House staff were able to award their own unofficial sanctions with an implication that if inmates complained, they would be placed on adjudication for the misbehaviour. Although nothing suggested to us that staff were seriously abusing their powers, sanctions should only be awarded after the accusation has been properly investigated by a senior member of staff.

3.13 Discipline standards had apparently slackened several years before the inspection during which time the punishment unit had been rarely used. A significant disturbance had occurred following industrial action by prison staff during which much damage had been caused to windows and to the fabric of the buildings.

3.14 The deputy governor conducted the majority of adjudications, rightly believing that the establishment needed a consistent, firm and fair administration of the system. There had been 256 adjudications in the first 10 months of 1994. We examined records of hearings conducted in one calendar month. Their clarity was assisted by the verbatim recording of hearings using a tape recorder. An inmate charged with an offence had copies of statements made by the reporting officer and any other staff to refer to during the hearing. When guilt was proven sanctions were severe but in all the cases we examined the sentences appeared appropriate to the offence.

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given by staff was maintained and the work of officers was directed to helping inmates cope with problems the high staff to inmate ratio was justified.

7.04 The progressive regime, although a good concept, was not being used to full effect. It should be reviewed with the object of providing one or two more stages for sentenced young offenders, linked to greater responsibility and additional privileges.

7.05 Cells, serveries, showers and association rooms in the houseblocks were as clean as any seen in young offender establishments. There were sensible meal times. The quality of food was good, though we questioned whether the light lunch was substantial enough for growing young men. Inmates took their meals together in the small association rooms and appreciated the more imaginative menu that the catering staff were introducing.

7.06 We received no complaints about the medical service and were impressed by the quality of attention given to inmates by the medical staff. There was a keen sensitivity towards the vulnerability of some of the young men and the possibility of them committing acts of self harm or worse.

7.07 The rooms in which families and friends waited when visiting inmates were unsatisfactory and the visits room itself was rather basic. Time afforded for domestic visits was, however, generous and visiting arrangements were administered efficiently. CCTV observation of the visits room was effective, but we thought that visitors should be searched randomly. We detected a degree of complacency about inmates mingling with outgoing visitors and thus making good an escape.

7.08 There were seven juveniles (five 15 year olds and two 16 year olds) who had been sent to Hydebank Wood from training schools for five week assessment periods as a result of unruly behaviour. This was authorised by Schedule 5 paragraph 10 subsection 1 of the 1968 Children and Young Persons Act (Northern Ireland). In England and Wales the practice of transferring

juveniles from schools to young offender institutions had long come to an end. We saw no evidence that the juveniles held at Hydebank Wood were undergoing assessment. The two 16 year olds had neither been charged before a court nor convicted of a criminal offence. They should not be held in a penal establishment. Those in the care of social work agencies should be dealt with separately from those held in penal institutions.

7.09 There was a variety of education and work training but more full-time staff were required if full potential was to be realised. The PE programme was varied, and the compulsory two hours a week for each inmate conducted sensitively and well. However, insufficient importance was given to ensuring that events took place as scheduled. Workshops, for example, were closed regularly because prison officers could not attend on every weekday. Management should ensure that regime activities take place as scheduled.

7.10 We found some excellent initiatives. Among these were the reception pack which was given on arrival to all inmates except, curiously, those in Cedar house. The pack contained pencils, pens and colouring books. There was also a separate bag of sweets. Radios could be hired at 20p a week. These were important indications of the level of care given to inmates at a time when they are most vulnerable to depression and pressure.

7.11 Sentence planning was in place but the quality of reports we saw was not high. Although officers had a good knowledge of the young men on their landings, their work was not sufficiently aimed at resettlement and preventing reoffending. There were multi disciplinary groups aimed at tackling offending behaviour, particularly the "Job Train" scheme which allowed a few inmates to work in the community for the last few months of their sentences.

7.12 Many of the inmates appeared to respond well to the discipline and felt secure within the centre, but frequently returned after further offending. More ways should be found in which to assist their resettlement. Staff from the centre



CHAPTER EIGHT

RECOMMENDATIONS

To the Secretary of State

- 8.01        Schedule 5, 10 (1) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1968 (Northern Ireland) should be reconsidered so as to avoid imprisoning juveniles who have not been charged with a criminal offence (7.08).

- (d) Serious destruction of property*
- (e) Attempt escape or running away from staff*
- (f) Persistently disruptive behaviour.*
- (g) Barricading.*

- and went on to detail what sanctions were to be applied (LSN 12645):

*The Director has discretion to apply any, or a combination, of the following sanctions.*

- (a) A fine of up to £10 spread over time.*
- (b) Curtailment of association and leisure activity.*
- (c) To order reparatory work to be done.*
- (d) Exclusion from the group for up to 24 hours.*
- (e) Exceptionally, and with Departmental approval, effect removal to the Young Offenders Centre** [emphasis added]. The process for “effecting removal” was by virtue of Schedule 5, 10(1).*

12. At that time, Training Schools contained young people who had received Training School orders (TSOs) for reasons of care, protection and control and had not been charged with or committed a criminal offence as well as children who had committed an offence. Disruptive conduct in a training school could, therefore, lead to a care child who had never been charged with an offence being transferred to prison. This anomaly had been evident for some time prior to the recommendation by the Chief Inspector in 1994 and he would not have been alone in his view that it was time for this to be addressed. For example, minutes of the meeting of Training School Boards on 3 November 1980 on Implementation of the Black Report (SPT-12988) state the following:

*'He [Mr Sterling] went on to explain that he had been a member of the Black Committee from its inception in 1977 when he moved to DHSS. Whilst he had not had a hand in drafting the Report and might take issue with some of the details, he accepted, without qualification, the general principles and philosophy expounded in the Report, which were basically that:*

- (a) greater emphasis should be placed on a preventative strategy of care in the community; and*

11.1. The Visiting Committee mentioned earlier in this report, is an independent body of individuals who are appointed by the Secretary of State. Visiting Committee Members are not of the management structure of the Centre. As the Secretary of State's representatives, they have authority to enter the Young Offenders Centre at any time with the objective of ensuring that it is being properly run and in compliance with the legislative requirements. Members have full and free access to every part of the establishment and can speak to any inmate or Officer. The full Committee meets at the Centre every month and in the period in between members will visit all areas of the Centre. Any concerns raised, criticisms, complaints or serious matters are reported to the Governor, and if not dealt with are reported to the Northern Ireland Office. In any event, the VC submits an annual report to the Secretary of State detailing their visits to the Centre and any matters arising.

11.2. In the Guidance for the attention of all prisoners at paragraph 4 in the section on the Visiting Committee it states, *"you have the right of access to the VC with any grievance, complaint or application you wish to make. You will not be prevented from approaching any member of the Committee, but remember false or malicious allegations or complaints will be viewed very seriously"*.

## 12. **International Committee for the Red Cross**

12.1. Members of the International Committee of the Red Cross visited Hydebank during their inspections of Maze and Belfast prisons. On their visit their Committee members will tour the Centre and report to HM Government. They visited during my period as Acting Governor on Monday 8 September 1986 as recorded in my Governor's Journal.

## 13. **The Secretary of State and Ministers**

13.1. During my period in Hydebank Wood I received both the Secretary of State and Ministers on routine visits to the Centre. Visits included then Secretary of State for NI, Douglas Hurd and Minister of State, Nicholas Scott, both of whom toured the Centre during their visit.

## 14. **Governor's Journal**

In their letters of thanks to the Governor each of the Ministers indicated that they were favourably impressed with what they saw at the YOC.

8. Buildings - Structural Defects

(a) Ablutions

Steady progress is being maintained and I am pleased to report that Beech House has been repaired, Elm and Willow are almost complete. Contractors are at present in Ash House which is uninhabited due to low numbers, this will let the work go unhindered and will hasten completion. Cedar House has still to be tackled but everyone hopes that 1985 should see the end of this very difficult and enduring problem.

(b) Kitchen

The Committee in their January 1985 Meeting stated their views on the proposed time scale on the particular project. I fully endorse their views and hope that the Department take note.

(c) Shannon House - Dual Purpose Area - Officers' Mess/Function Room

Work commencement on this project is imminent

General

I have in my report highlighted points of interest which concern the Committee. The past year has seen the YOC maintaining its image of a progressive and rehabilitative establishment. Mr Hayes has certainly proved to have been an excellent choice for Governor. I feel we still have to see more of Mr Hayes' innovations in 1985.

## THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

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**RESPONSE BY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO  
WITNESS STATEMENT OF [REDACTED] 253 (HIA 253)**

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I, Karen Pearson, have been authorised to make this statement on behalf of the Department of Justice. I am the Deputy Director for Criminal Justice Policy, a senior civil servant in the Department. The information contained in this statement is based on a review of files undertaken by staff under my supervision.

The Department of Justice will say as follows:

1. Records show that [REDACTED] 253 HIA 253, DOB [REDACTED] 253 [REDACTED] was remanded to St Patrick's Training School on 26<sup>th</sup> August 1983 for breach of a supervision order (SPT-48251, SPT-48252). He was again committed to St Patrick's on a Training School Order on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1983 (SPT-48251, SPT-48268). He was released on bail pending appeal on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1983, but the Order was affirmed and he returned to St Patrick's on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1983 (SPT-48251, SPT-48269).
2. On 12<sup>th</sup> December 1983, he was remanded to the Young Offenders' Centre (SPT-48258). He received bail on 24<sup>th</sup> December 1983 (SPT-48260) and returned home until he was returned to St Patrick's on 4<sup>th</sup> January 1984. He was transferred to Lisnevin on 10<sup>th</sup> January 1984 (SPT-48278). He was remanded to the Young Offenders' Centre on 16<sup>th</sup> May 1984 and he received a 12-month sentence to the Young Offenders' Centre on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1984.
3. His attendance history at St Patrick's indicates that he regularly absconded from the facility. Said history can be found at SPT-48251.

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committed that weekend and was remanded to the Young Offenders Centre at Hydebank.

**Young Offenders Centre Hydebank Wood**

13. I did not consider the regime at Hydebank to be very abusive. There were rules and they had to be followed. I was given what I called "short sharp shock treatment" to ensure I followed the rules. It was like being in the Army in my view. I remember being forced to march up and down the corridor on my first night in Elm House. I remember that I had to scrub the floors with a toothbrush and that I was not allowed to walk on the brown tiles because it was harder to get footprints off those tiles. I recall that I had to go to the store room and clean up steel mop buckets with cleaning fluid and wire wool. The staff also knew pressure points and could hit me on a certain part of the shoulder and I would fall to my knees. It was hard but I just accepted that I had to follow the rules if I wanted to stay on the right side of the staff. I served my sentence and left in January 1985 and did not have to go back to St Patrick's.

**Life after Care**

14. I was very shy particularly with girls when I left care. I had no confidence in myself and very little motivation. I had a number of business ideas over the years but I always lacked the self motivation to attempt to make these plans work. I was very easily embarrassed and did not have the confidence to push myself forward. I also spent some time in jail serving short sentences and had problems with alcohol and drugs.

15. I am now in a relationship and my present partner is the first person I have really opened up to about the abuse I suffered. She made me see that there was a future and I then started to see a counsellor. I went to an organisation called WAVE and had around eight counselling sessions. I only started to tell the counsellor about what really happened to me towards the end of the sessions because I did not have the courage to speak about it.



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officers carried out a physical examination taking a note of any scars or tattoos on my body. One of them took out a large flick knife and pulled my towel away from me and said, "This boy hasn't enough scars on him, I'll put a few more scars on him". He didn't touch me but I felt very threatened and afraid. In retrospect, I think this was intended as a joke but I found it frightening because I was so young. I spent the night at Crumlin Road in a cell with an adult prisoner and the next day I was taken to Hydebank Young Offenders Centre.

3. I experienced a lot of physical and psychological abuse at Hydebank. The prison officer in charge of Reception there was called [REDACTED] HB 4 [REDACTED]. His nickname was [REDACTED]. I was given a prison number and told to memorise it. I remember being slapped by [REDACTED] and another officer because I told him my number and did not follow it up with 'Sir'.
4. We were taken to the showers next and I remember having a cold shower and being given a delousing solution to wash with. After we had washed, we were given 'committal clothing'. This was normal civilian clothing from the prison laundry store. I was not allowed to wear my own clothing and I felt embarrassed wearing the clothes I had been given by the officers.
5. I was given one plate, a bowl, some cutlery, 3 pairs of socks and 3 pairs of shorts as well. These were all standard issue clothing. I was also given a green bed sheet and I carried all this to my cell. I was not allowed to keep any of my personal belongings. I should have gone to Elm House initially as this was where the first time prisoners were normally sent. Instead, I was taken to Willow House which had a stricter regime and this was where the prisoners who were second time offenders were sent. The Officer in charge at Willow House was a man called [REDACTED] HB 5 [REDACTED]. His nickname was [REDACTED]. He had short brown hair and a moustache. He was a strict disciplinarian and used to slap me about the face on an almost daily basis.
6. The regime in Willow House was aligned to the British Army's glasshouse system. This was a punishment regime which was designed to break your spirit. The prison rules were petty, for example, you were not allowed to talk to

HIA REF: [ HB4 ]

NAME: [ HB 4 ]

DATE: [ 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 ]

## THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

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Witness Statement of [ HB 4 ]

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I, [ HB 4 ], will say as follows: -

1. I worked in Hydebank for approximately 4-5 years and I would have been there in 1983-4. I have no recollection of [redacted] I don't think I ever slapped him or anyone else. I did work in Reception for a 2. period of time and I did the induction when the prisoners arrived. This involved assigning them their prison numbers and arranging for showers / haircuts as necessary. I have an authoritative voice and I 3. would have shouted if necessary to keep order, but I never needed to slap anyone. I continue to have a good relationship with any ex-offenders that I meet.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed [redacted]

Dated 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 \_\_\_\_\_

However, that search is normally completed in a small cubicle with the top half removed first and replaced before the bottom half is removed and searched. The inmate is then permitted to wear his normal clothing. It would not be normal that a prisoner would only wear a towel. Young Offenders were processed in the same way as adult prisoners. Reception – the committal procedures<sup>31</sup> at Belfast Prison carried out in a dedicated reception area accessed only by members of prison staff or prisoners entering or leaving the prison. I have no knowledge that staff would carry or have access to a flick knife. It would not have been acceptable for staff to carry a flick knife, and if staff are found to be doing so it would have been a disciplinary and potentially a criminal offence. Staff are searched entering the prison. I cannot comment on the allegations made at paragraph 2.

17.2. Paragraph 3 – Officer HB 4 did work as a Reception Officer. He was an Officer who was well respected by his colleagues, management and other inmates. I have no knowledge that [REDACTED] was slapped when he failed to recite his Centre number and follow it with “Sir”. This allegation would be at odds with my knowledge of Officer HB 4 who I found to be a professional, committed, dedicated Officer.

17.3. Paragraph 4 – Inmates did mostly have a shower on committal. The shower should have been hot water, given the boilers are in operation 24/7. I cannot explain why this would have been a cold shower. Certainly any solution used would not have been described as delousing. At this time inmates were permitted to wear their own clothing across all NIPS establishments. If inmates could not access their own clothing or afford to purchase clothing then this was provided by the Centre. However, from my recollection the clothing was of an acceptable standard.

17.4. Paragraph 5 – It is true that inmates were issued with personal issue items. Personal possessions were removed and held in storage at Reception. Prisoners were permitted to wear a wedding ring or a watch. It is true that Willow House did operate a committal procedure for recidivist inmates. I do recall HB 5 worked in that area for a period whilst I was at

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<sup>31</sup> Exhibit 6 - Information to Committals (full information pack)

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The prison doctor was [HB 7]. If I wanted to see him I had to request this at the beginning of the day by telling one of the prison officers what was wrong with me. I found this embarrassing. The officers would 'triage' the situation and more often than not, I was not allowed to see him. When I eventually did see the doctor there was usually about four other prison officers in the room. There was no privacy or confidentiality and the officers made snide comments about your health in front of you. For example, I remember once having a boil and trying to squeeze it, and one of the prison officers, said "Well, that was f\*\*\*king smart, you stupid b\*\*\*\*\*d". These exchanges would take place in front of the nurse and [HB 7] but they would never intervene to regulate this behaviour. It was normalised to a degree and no-one ever questioned it.

13. I was released from Hydebank in January 1984 and I was arrested very shortly afterwards for underage drinking. I was sentenced to three months this time and I was taken to Crumlin Road and then Hydebank again. The second experience was just as brutal as the first. I remember being handcuffed and experiencing sectarian abuse from older prisoners on the prison bus during the transfer. This time, I refused to co-operate during induction at Hydebank. The staff held me down and pulled all my clothes off me except for my underpants. There was a female RUC officer present during the handover and I remember trying to hold on to my underpants. I remember hearing her say "Take them off as well" and she kicked me in the stomach. The officers took all my clothing off and processed me in the same way as before. I felt degraded and humiliated by this experience.

14. I remember occasional visits from someone from the Northern Ireland Office. When staff from this Office came in we got enhanced food and the shouting stopped. However, we were still all too afraid to complain. The Red Cross also came in to inspect the prison but we were too frightened to explain what the conditions were really like on a day-to-day basis. I felt very afraid in Hydebank all the time. I was threatened by the staff themselves and by their contacts with loyalist paramilitaries. I felt they singled me out because they perceived me as an anti-establishment figure. One member of staff, [HB 8], told me that I would be "sorted out" when I got out of Hydebank. He was in his 40's with an

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officers carried out a physical examination taking a note of any scars or tattoos on my body. One of them took out a large flick knife and pulled my towel away from me and said, "This boy hasn't enough scars on him, I'll put a few more scars on him". He didn't touch me but I felt very threatened and afraid. In retrospect, I think this was intended as a joke but I found it frightening because I was so young. I spent the night at Crumlin Road in a cell with an adult prisoner and the next day I was taken to Hydebank Young Offenders Centre.

3. I experienced a lot of physical and psychological abuse at Hydebank. The prison officer in charge of Reception there was called [REDACTED] HB 4 [REDACTED]. His nickname was [REDACTED]. I was given a prison number and told to memorise it. I remember being slapped by [REDACTED] and another officer because I told him my number and did not follow it up with 'Sir'.
4. We were taken to the showers next and I remember having a cold shower and being given a delousing solution to wash with. After we had washed, we were given 'committal clothing'. This was normal civilian clothing from the prison laundry store. I was not allowed to wear my own clothing and I felt embarrassed wearing the clothes I had been given by the officers.
5. I was given one plate, a bowl, some cutlery, 3 pairs of socks and 3 pairs of shorts as well. These were all standard issue clothing. I was also given a green bed sheet and I carried all this to my cell. I was not allowed to keep any of my personal belongings. I should have gone to Elm House initially as this was where the first time prisoners were normally sent. Instead, I was taken to Willow House which had a stricter regime and this was where the prisoners who were second time offenders were sent. The Officer in charge at Willow House was a man called [REDACTED] HB 5 [REDACTED]. His nickname was [REDACTED]. He had short brown hair and a moustache. He was a strict disciplinarian and used to slap me about the face on an almost daily basis.
6. The regime in Willow House was aligned to the British Army's glasshouse system. This was a punishment regime which was designed to break your spirit. The prison rules were petty, for example, you were not allowed to talk to

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10. Prisoners barricaded themselves in their cells quite frequently, approximately every ten days. The prison was locked down and our normal routine was suspended if this occurred. One of the prison officers would bring up a hydraulic jack and use it to open the cell door. A group of officers would then go into the particular cell, beat the prisoner and drag him out to the punishment cells which were on the ground floor of the prison. These were bare cells which did not even have a mattress. A prisoner in these cells was put on a restricted diet of bread and water. I became accustomed to hearing the prisoners screaming when they were being beaten and taken out after barricading themselves in their cells. The cell mates on either side of my own cell barricaded themselves inside their cell at various times while I was in Hydebank. The prison officers assaulted them and dragged them out in this way. I remember one of the officers on duty that day was called **HB 11** and I was certain he was involved. On another occasion, I remember seeing a prisoner dragged out of his cell by his ankles and down three sets of stone steps. His head hit each of the stone steps as he taken away. I found out later that he was denied access to a doctor for three weeks and kept in the punishment cell until his injuries healed.

11. It was common practice by the prison officers to control access to medical treatment particularly if they had beaten a prisoner severely. Effectively they hid the evidence of their wrongdoing by hiding the prisoner. The officers would boast about doing this. For example, they would say " there's three boys down in the punishment blocks now and they have sore faces and where you will all be going is such and such". The whole institution seemed to function under the constant threat of violence and coercion. I knew at the time the way they treated us was wrong, but there was no one I could have complained to and I felt very afraid the entire time I was there.

12. In theory, the officers were supposed to provide access to medical treatment if a prisoner was injured. However, in practice this is not what happened. We were examined by a prison officer, known as a "Medical Officer". This was **HB 6** and the extent of the medical treatment he provided was questionable.



Hydebank. Again, I can only describe Officer HB 5 as a professional Officer. I am not aware of any complaints about his performance.

17.5.Paragraph 6 – I do not accept that the regime was designed to break

anybody's spirit. Certainly I do accept that the committal regime did require inmates to conform. This was a pre-requisite to inmates advancing in the progressive regime at Hydebank and gaining maximum benefit from participation in the range of activities. I do not accept that inmates were locked in a cell 16 hours a day during my time. I have no knowledge of inmates being routinely slapped on the face or the head. Any Officer found assaulting or misusing force against an inmate would be subject to disciplinary procedures and could potentially lose their job as a consequence.

17.6.Paragraph 7 – The working day in Hydebank commenced at 8.00am with

prisoners being woken at just after 7.00am. As mentioned previously, in the early 1980's prisoners did make bed blocks. Cell inspections were routine. In all the time that I worked in Hydebank I never witnessed cells being wrecked.

17.7. Paragraph 9 – I accept inmates on committal did carry out menial tasks

which included a lot of cleaning, mainly to establish a routine and to encourage a work ethic. This was also intended to establish adherence to the disciplinary requirements. However, during this period the inmates were also subject to assessment for a future Labour Allocation Board. They would have had access to Probation, Teachers, Healthcare, Gymnasium and Workshops. Following a period in the committal landing the inmates routinely transferred to other houses from where they attended activities. During committal periods the lockup time was earlier than the remainder of the Centre although I cannot confirm that it was 7.30pm.

17.8.Paragraph 10 – During my time at Hydebank from October 1984 I certainly

have no recollection of routine serious incidents or cell barricades. As indicated earlier in this statement, if inmates failed to comply with the

discipline within the Centre they were removed to the Punishment Unit as it was called in those days and were subject to Governors disciplinary procedures. I do not accept that inmates were assaulted. Indeed I would argue that given that the Punishment Unit was visible from the main corridor at Hydebank, I am confident that if such behaviour happened other staff or managers would have witnessed it. There are a range of allegations contained in paragraph 10 of which I would have no knowledge.

17.9. Paragraph 11 – I do not accept that there was any opportunity for staff to hide “a prisoner.” Members of the Visiting Committee, Managers and others routinely had access to all areas of the Centre. Such behaviour would not have been acceptable or condoned.

17.10. Paragraph 12 – Hospital Officer HB 6 was known to me. He was an exceptionally competent Hospital Officer. I do not know a Doctor HB 7. However, I do know that the medical practice in place at the time were from a GP Practice on the Ormeau Road. I do not accept that Prison Officers were routinely present whilst an inmate was subject to a medical examination unless there were particular concerns about the inmate’s behaviour.

17.11. Paragraph 13 – As the reception area is accessible from the main corridor, opposite the administration building, and given doors were routinely left ajar in my time in Hydebank, I do not accept that the incidents as outlined in paragraph 13 could have taken place with a RUC Female Officer kicking an inmate in the stomach.

17.12. Paragraph 14 – As indicated earlier, staff from the Northern Ireland Office did routinely visit the Centre. I also confirmed earlier the Red Cross also visited. I am very aware that inmates did take the opportunity to speak to both. I am aware of an HB 8 working in NIPS who may have been present in Hydebank in the early 1980’s. However, I do not know him well enough to comment on his performance. Nor can I confirm that he was the brother of a supergrass.

1     **A. Those were people appointed by the Secretary of State**  
2     **who had unfettered access at any time and who could walk**  
3     **around the establishment unaccompanied and appear on**  
4     **landings. So, I mean, you know, those people would have**  
5     **been readily available, but, I mean, there are those**  
6     **staff who were there every day, chaplains, probation**  
7     **staff --**

8     **Q. We will just deal with the Visiting Committee first.**  
9     **They presumably represented a variety of views across**  
10    **the community.**

11    **A. They certainly did, yes.**

12    **Q. How conscientious were they as far as you could tell in**  
13    **going around the Young Offenders Centre and seeing for**  
14    **themselves what was happening as opposed to, if I can**  
15    **put it this way, being taken on a conducted tour?**

16    **A. No. They would never have went on a conducted tour.**  
17    **They would never have been accompanied and they would**  
18    **have valued that significantly, their independence, and**  
19    **they made it very clear that they were independent and**  
20    **wouldn't be accompanied. They were extremely**  
21    **conscientious. Both the chairman, who I remember well,**  
22    **a Mr Weir, and a Mrs Shillington, the deputy chair, who**  
23    **subsequently became chair, were extremely conscientious,**  
24    **as was the committee. I mean, I would have attended --**  
25    **part attended the monthly meeting to account for issues**

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committed that weekend and was remanded to the Young Offenders Centre at Hydebank.

**Young Offenders Centre Hydebank Wood**

13. I did not consider the regime at Hydebank to be very abusive. There were rules and they had to be followed. I was given what I called "short sharp shock treatment" to ensure I followed the rules. It was like being in the Army in my view. I remember being forced to march up and down the corridor on my first night in Elm House. I remember that I had to scrub the floors with a toothbrush and that I was not allowed to walk on the brown tiles because it was harder to get footprints off those tiles. I recall that I had to go to the store room and clean up steel mop buckets with cleaning fluid and wire wool. The staff also knew pressure points and could hit me on a certain part of the shoulder and I would fall to my knees. It was hard but I just accepted that I had to follow the rules if I wanted to stay on the right side of the staff. I served my sentence and left in January 1985 and did not have to go back to St Patrick's.

**Life after Care**

14. I was very shy particularly with girls when I left care. I had no confidence in myself and very little motivation. I had a number of business ideas over the years but I always lacked the self motivation to attempt to make these plans work. I was very easily embarrassed and did not have the confidence to push myself forward. I also spent some time in jail serving short sentences and had problems with alcohol and drugs.

15. I am now in a relationship and my present partner is the first person I have really opened up to about the abuse I suffered. She made me see that there was a future and I then started to see a counsellor. I went to an organisation called WAVE and had around eight counselling sessions. I only started to tell the counsellor about what really happened to me towards the end of the sessions because I did not have the courage to speak about it.

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1 abusive. It was abusive, but I seen it to be, "This is  
2 your punishment. I mean, you have done St. Pat's.  
3 You've done Hydebank -- or Lisnevin". It was -- when  
4 I say a 'short, sharp shock', I was under the impression  
5 that this was policy, that you get treated like this,  
6 that this is going to, like, knock it all out of you,  
7 and further on in years now I have always wanted --  
8 always, like, wanted to question a lot of the stuff that  
9 happened. These guys were all ex-army. Not all, but  
10 most of the officers were in it. Gym teachers and a lot  
11 of the officers were SA... -- they had stamps that they  
12 were certain part of the army, like tattoos, their blood  
13 types, and a lot of them were like specialist trained  
14 army people. I say there was one or two there could  
15 just touch you certain points. So I always wanted to  
16 question. Then I seen it as punishment for getting into  
17 crime, but now I would like to -- always want to  
18 question was it sanctioned? Was it like government --  
19 you know, "This is how you treat these kids" or was it  
20 the officers doing this on their own -- their own way?

21 Some of the things like -- there is some of the  
22 things in that statement I haven't -- I made that  
23 statement with yourselves and I says at the time if  
24 there's anything else I remember, I would add to it.  
25 I have some notes in my own statement there about cold



6.2. During training on use of force Officers were advised on the requirement not to use excessive force and that any force used must comply with Prison Rule 39 (1982)<sup>15</sup> which states:

1. *'an Officer in dealing with an inmate shall not use force unnecessarily and when the application of force is necessary, no more force than is necessary shall be used'.*
2. *'an Officer shall not deliberately act in a manner calculated to provoke an inmate'.*

6.3. In Hydebank Wood Officers were not issued with batons given that they largely deal with young people and juveniles. The emphasis for staff at Hydebank Wood was on the requirement to develop working relationships and a working rapport with the inmates. That approach remains to this day.

6.4. Sometime in the mid 1980's the use of force training changed to use of Control & Restraints. Control & Restraints was introduced in England as a means for staff to control those inmates who for whatever reason seek to be disruptive and violent. Since its introduction Control & Restraints has remained the only approved method of controlling those in Prison Service custody, if used properly will be accepted by the Courts as a humane effective method of doing so. Control & Restraint follows a specific discipline where wrist locks are used to bring disruptive prisoners under control. As previously with the MUFTI Training Control & Restraint Training emphasises on the need to use other means to bring situations under control before resorting to the use of force. Control & Restraint emphasises on de-escalation skills which will be applied depending on the circumstances. If the situation cannot be brought under control without the use of force then force may be used to the extent to which it is necessary in the circumstances to achieve the objective, but no more.

6.5. The C&R Training Programme is in three parts:

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<sup>15</sup> **Exhibit 5 – Page 13** - The Young Offenders Centre Rules (Northern Ireland) 1982

4. The Circular clarifies in Para. 2 that the *“use of force when it is not necessary, or the use of more force than is necessary to achieve the objective, is both a criminal offence and a civil wrong”*. The Circular, in setting out the circumstances in which force may be used, acknowledges in Para. 3 that *“it is impossible to provide precise guidance”* but provides *“some general principles”*. A list of circumstances where the use of force may be *“most commonly called upon”* is added in Para 4 and includes:
- a. To protect himself, or some other person, from physical injury*
  - b. To protect prison property*
  - c. To prevent an escape or recapture an escaper*
  - d. To prevent the prisoner harming himself*
  - e. To remove a passively or actively resisting prisoner to another location*
  - f. To apply a restraint*
  - g. To overcome the threat to good order and discipline.*
5. Circular 30/86 states in Para. 16 that control and restraint *“may only be used by officers who have completed the appropriate training courses.”* However, the earliest documented training course indicates that officer training courses were being run at the Prison Service College, Millisle, in 1989<sup>4</sup>.
6. During the early to mid-1980's the Prison Service started to review their processes for the management of violent and refractory prisoners with a view to standardising the techniques used and to allow the training of staff in methods of control which would require the use of minimal force and in order to reduce the risk of injury to staff and prisoners.
7. Control and restraint became approved as a means of dealing with “Violent or Refractory Prisoners” in 1986 and it continues to be the approved method to date; NIPS continues to review control and restraint and develop techniques and methods in line with new training and technological advancements. In March 1987 Governor's Order

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<sup>4</sup> Exhibit 4: Control and Restraint Training record 1989/90

had access throughout the Centre. In my Governor's Journal from January 1st 1986 until my transfer in April 1997 I recorded a number of allegations including:

- i. **Friday 17 January 1986** – AG Stephens and Chief Officer Elder carried out an investigation into allegations made [HB 15] that Officers had assaulted him. Due to the serious nature of the charge this allegation has been referred to RUC Carryduff. Mr Hilditch (Deputy Director – deceased) and Mr G Horner NIO informed. POA Committee consulted. This follows 790/85 [HB 15] being admitted to Ulster Hospital, Dundonald with a fractured jaw. I have no recollection of the outcome of the Police or internal investigation. In my Journal I do record on 20 January that I met with Sergeant Rainey RUC Carryduff to discuss the allegation. I also met with Detectives on Wednesday 22 January from Castlereagh RUC, I presume to also discuss the investigation. On Tuesday 24 June 1986 I met with Constables McDermott and Dempster, Strandtown RUC reference the investigation into alleged assault on [HB 15] Staff to be interviewed in the presence of legal advisors. STO Mills, a POA representative, informed by RUC that staff would require to be interviewed.
- ii. **Wednesday 2 April 1986** - RUC Newtownards advised Deputy Governor Stephens that inmates had made a formal allegation of assault which was being investigated by RUC, further details unknown.
- iii. **Monday 21 April 1986** – I [HB 16] made allegations against a member of staff to Acting Deputy Governor Stevens. Inmate Byrne was subsequently interviewed by Carryduff RUC reference allegations against staff in the YOC. No further information available.
- iv. **Friday 3 October 1986** – Interviewed inmates [HB 17] and [HB 18] on allegations against staff. Refused to put complaints in writing but did give their allegations verbally. Advised Officer [HB 19] of allegation.
- v. **Monday 6 October 1986** – Interviewed [HB 20] in presence of Chief Officer Kerton and Mr Stevens. Advised him of allegations from [HB 18] and instructed that O [HB 20] should not be detailed to work on Willow 3.

- vi. **Friday 10 October 1986** – Informed Deputy Governor Stephens to have inmate Oliver medically examined reference allegations of assault made by a member of Probation. Enquiry to be set up next week. Visited Cedar and interviewed inmates reference allegations made against Officers.
- vii. **Monday 13 October 1986** – Initiated enquiry into allegations made to Probation Staff by [HB 21] on Elm 1 conducted by Mr Stephens and Chief Officer Elder.
- viii. **Wednesday 15 October 1986** - Deputy Governor Stephens interviewed parents of [HB 21] reference allegations made by inmate.
- ix. **Thursday 16 October 1986** – Interviewed [HB 19] and Coates reference allegations.
- x. **Wednesday 29 October 1986** – Interviewed [HB 19] [redacted] and PO [redacted] reference allegations. Followed by interviews with inmates [redacted] n and [HB 18].
- xi. **Wednesday 12 November 1986** - Wrote up enquiry findings into recent allegations/forwarded to NIO.

[HB 21] had not made a formal complaint on his allegation against staff and refused to participate fully in the subsequent investigation. The POA raised concerns with Management and asked that the Probation Officer who raised the allegation be excluded from the Centre, and when refused, that the same Probation Officer be confined to his office. The POA were advised that the Probation Officer concerned had my full confidence and would remain a valued member of staff within the Centre. Subsequently all complaints against the Probation Officer were withdrawn by the POA. The POA subsequently made representations that it was unfair to penalise staff where inmates refused to make a formal complaint. The requirement to carry out an investigation into any circumstance within the Centre remains the responsibility of the Governor irrespective of whether a member of staff or an inmate decides to co-operate.

- xii. **Tuesday 16 December 1986** – Mr Kendrick Director of Operations advised that no action would be taken against Officers Coates and

1     **A. That would be.**

2     Q. Any doctor's ruling in respect of the treatment of  
3       inmates would have been abided by.

4     **A. Absolutely, yes.**

5     Q. You also said that -- he complained about lack of food  
6       but you say there genuinely were no complaints really  
7       about the food. That was something that you were keen  
8       to look after, because such things would have  
9       destabilised the environment if the inmates were unhappy  
10      about the food.

11    **A. That's the difficulty I have with some of the evidence**  
12      **that I have been reading, because, I mean, the prisons**  
13      **only work with the cooperation of the prisoners. If you**  
14      **don't have that cooperation, control and discipline**  
15      **quickly breaks down. I mean, I know I have worked**  
16      **12 years in the Maze. So I know what happens.**

17           At Hydebank Wood there are those things which are  
18      important to inmates and certainly visits is one. Food  
19      is another. The issue around systemic violence, if  
20      there was the level of systemic violence that is  
21      perceived here or quoted here, we would have been  
22      dealing with major riots and major concern of acts of  
23      indiscipline every day. The young people we were  
24      dealing with in Hydebank in those days would not have  
25      countenanced that type of behaviour, what's being

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17. I do know of others who were sexually abused at Hydebank, but I never experienced or directly witnessed any sexual abuse myself. The situation for sex offenders in Hydebank was quite different from the usual position of sex offenders in prison. In Hydebank, the sex offenders got preferential treatment. For example, we were locked up for sixteen hours a day, but the sex offenders basically had the run of the place. For example, in hot weather they were allowed out to sun bathe in the prison complex. They had very good relationships with the prison officers and they were all kept in the hospital wing not in a special protection wing.
18. There was no system of education in Hydebank and there was no focus by the prison authorities on rehabilitation of the prisoners. There was a library but there were very few non-fiction books. It was certainly not an educational resource. I didn't receive any sort of educational support while I was there.
19. The impression I got was that the majority of the officers were from a military background and were about my father's age. Some were more brutal than others. There were some very violent men among the staff. One prison officer was from the Republic of Ireland. He used to tell us he was a former member of the parachute regiment and he would joke about being on duty on 'Bloody Sunday'. His nickname was [REDACTED]. Overall, they created a harsh militaristic atmosphere in the prison. I wondered what kind of people they were and what affect maintaining this regime had on them. There was a very much a "dog eat dog" form of control among the prisoners and the staff would turn a blind eye to peer bullying. The behaviours, which were re-enforced by staff, were entirely negative. For example, they encouraged a lack of empathy, lack of conscience, and the use of violence to solve problems. They taught us that "might is right" and that the person holding the stick could do the beating.
20. We were not adequately prepared by the prison authorities for life after prison. For example, about two weeks prior to discharge we were given some social skills training sessions. They were laughable really. For example, the information given to us was that AIDS could only be caught by homosexual contact between males. The prison officer came in and talked to us about their



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overweight build. I remember his brother later became a [REDACTED]. The constant sectarian comments by the staff created a very oppressive atmosphere.

15. I kept my head down and avoided conflict because I just wanted to complete my sentence. I am sure if I questioned the regime in any way, I would have been beaten half to death. It was common practice for the Prison Officers to arrive on duty drunk. This was both in the morning and the evening. The officers with whom I had contact were from East Belfast and they did not make any attempt to hide their admiration of and loyalty to loyalist paramilitaries. They would boast about being members of the UDA which was not an illegal organisation at that time. There was no segregation among the prisoner populations and approximately two thirds of the young men there were Catholic or from a nationalist background. The prison officers singled out these prisoners and they gave them a particularly hard time. For example, if these inmates addressed their letters home to their parents to County Derry, rather than County Londonderry, they were threatened with being sent to the punishment block.

16. A friend of mine from Hydebank, HB 9, told me he was sexually abused inside the prison by a senior officer, HB 10. HB 9 came from a fiercely loyalist family but we became friends in later life because of our shared experience in Hydebank. He told me that before he went to Hydebank, he was recruited into a junior loyalist gang called the [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] area. [REDACTED] was the leader of this gang and he groomed boys as young as 15 and farmed them into a paedophile network which included many establishment figures in the [REDACTED] area. He told me that a senior officer inside Hydebank, HB 10, had contacts within this paedophile network. When he was released, these men were waiting for him and his experience of abuse in the outside world was compounded by what happened to him inside Hydebank. He never really recovered from his experiences and took his own life four or five years ago.

17.13. Paragraph 15 – I have no knowledge of staff being linked to Loyalist Paramilitaries. During my time I cannot recollect any allegations of Officers discriminating against particular sections of the population. Indeed, I can confirm that during my period in Hydebank, I had no reports of sectarian behavior between inmates or between staff and inmates.

17.14. Paragraph 16 – I do recall an Officer HB 10 working in NIPS. He may have been at Hydebank at this time. I have no knowledge of any of the other allegations against Officer HB 10. Had I been made aware of such allegations I would have reported them to police.

17.15. Paragraph 17 – During my time at Hydebank I had no allegations of sexual assault. I do not accept that Sex Offenders got preferential treatment, although I do accept that they were treated separately on occasions given their notoriety.

17.16. Paragraph 18 – I do not accept that there was no emphasis on delivering a rehabilitative regime. There was a very strong emphasis on constructive activity including Physical Education, normal Education and Workshops.

17.17. The HMCIP Report published in December 1983 made reference to “the educational and training opportunities together with the domestic work were sufficient to keep the inmates occupied throughout the day. We were satisfied that the Labour Allocation Board took great care to find each inmate a suitable course or job”.

17.18. HMCIP also complimented the Education department on the courses run, with teaching geared to meet individual needs at standards ranging from, remedial instruction to O Level preparation. The HMCIP also complimented the Social Skills Programme run By Prison Officers. At paragraph 4.07 of HMCIP Report the Physical Educational Department is complimented for the work and range of activities they provide including participation in the Mourne Marathon and Belfast Marathon, participation in a local football league, and complimented them for making 260 external awards including

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the other prisoners. We were locked in our cells for 16 hours a day and during this time, we were not allowed to lie on our beds. Instead, we had to sit on a plastic chair. I was told when I first arrived that I had no rights only privileges and I had to earn those. The prison officers shouted a lot and there was a constant threat of violence if you infringed any of the prison rules. The officers routinely slapped us on the face or head and used the threat of more serious beatings to maintain control. They referred to us as "prisoners" and by our numbers rather than our names.

7. A typical day in Hydebank consisted of being woken up at 6 am by my cell door being banged. My cell had to be maintained in a particular order and once I was washed, I would then spend about an hour tidying my cell. The beds had to be made in a particular way known as a 'bed block'. The prison officers would inspect the cells every morning after breakfast and if they found even the smallest piece of dust on their fingers, they would completely wreck it and I had to start all over again. Tidying my cell to an acceptable standard could take an hour or more every morning.
8. The doors to our cells were opened at 7 am. We had to stand to attention outside our cell door and then we were marched down to breakfast. We had to eat in silence. We were usually given inedible porridge or eggs which I didn't like and couldn't eat. We were marched back to our cells and in those first weeks there, I frequently returned to find my cell wrecked. One of the prison officers would slap me and shout at me if this happened. I remember one of the officers saying to me "We will break your spirit, this is how we break your spirits, you know".
9. The rest of the time was spent completing endless repetitive chores for example, cleaning and mopping the floors of the institution. Sometimes as a punishment, I would have to clean the floors of my cell with a toothbrush. I found this task humiliating and degrading. I was locked up again at lunchtime and allowed out from about 2pm until 5pm. Then I was locked up again until supper-time. We were allowed to watch TV until half seven and then locked up for the night.

1 showers and -- for punishment and getting beat at the  
2 gym if you didn't do things right.

3 I remember one day -- you got locked up for an hour  
4 at lunchtime, and your room was so neat -- you had to  
5 make a bed pack up like the army, and there wouldn't  
6 have been a crease. It had to be like a -- it looked  
7 like a sandwich. The brown blanket was round the  
8 outside and the two sheets in the middle. This had to  
9 be like an exact rectangle with no wrinkles in the bed,  
10 everything -- not a single bit of dust. If they had  
11 come in with a white glove and found dust in your room,  
12 everything was wrecked again. You were made to scrub it  
13 again. Again I just thought that was -- this is what  
14 you get, like.

15 I remember one day at lunchtime you had been locked  
16 up for an hour, but officers would some days take their  
17 shoes off and open the gate quietly and sneak down and  
18 open your hatch, you know. On this day I was lying  
19 under the bed, because you were too scared to lie on the  
20 bed if you put a crease on it, and used to, like, lie  
21 under it for a sleep over your lunch break or whatever.  
22 He opened the hatch and next thing the door was opened,  
23 and I was lying under the bed and he got me out. I had  
24 my belt loosened just for comfortness and he accused me  
25 of doing things with myself.

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committed that weekend and was remanded to the Young Offenders Centre at Hydebank.

**Young Offenders Centre Hydebank Wood**

13. I did not consider the regime at Hydebank to be very abusive. There were rules and they had to be followed. I was given what I called "short sharp shock treatment" to ensure I followed the rules. It was like being in the Army in my view. I remember being forced to march up and down the corridor on my first night in Elm House. I remember that I had to scrub the floors with a toothbrush and that I was not allowed to walk on the brown tiles because it was harder to get footprints off those tiles. I recall that I had to go to the store room and clean up steel mop buckets with cleaning fluid and wire wool. The staff also knew pressure points and could hit me on a certain part of the shoulder and I would fall to my knees. It was hard but I just accepted that I had to follow the rules if I wanted to stay on the right side of the staff. I served my sentence and left in January 1985 and did not have to go back to St Patrick's.

**Life after Care**

14. I was very shy particularly with girls when I left care. I had no confidence in myself and very little motivation. I had a number of business ideas over the years but I always lacked the self motivation to attempt to make these plans work. I was very easily embarrassed and did not have the confidence to push myself forward. I also spent some time in jail serving short sentences and had problems with alcohol and drugs.

15. I am now in a relationship and my present partner is the first person I have really opened up to about the abuse I suffered. She made me see that there was a future and I then started to see a counsellor. I went to an organisation called WAVE and had around eight counselling sessions. I only started to tell the counsellor about what really happened to me towards the end of the sessions because I did not have the courage to speak about it.

## HIA INQUIRY RESTRICTED

luxuries whereas the justice side had blue mattresses, thin bedding and we had to keep our belongings outside the cell.

**Hydebank Young Offenders Centre (1990)**

14. I was granted bail on the robbery charge and was transferred to Hydebank as I was still in custody for less serious charges. I believe that it may have been the criminal damage charge which arose out of the barricade incident but I am not certain. I felt relieved to be in Hydebank and did not receive any physical punishment while I was there. It had a regime akin to a boot camp but the staff treated everyone the same and I have no complaints about my time there.

**St Patrick's Training School (1990)**

15. Once I was sentenced for the outstanding charges I was sent to St Patrick's Training School. I cannot remember how long I was there but I spent about six months in total in the three institutions. I have no complaints at all about my time at St Patrick's. The staff members were less formal and asked me to call them by their first name rather than "Sir" which was the norm in the other institutions. They also asked us what we wanted in terms of food or medical care rather than just telling us what to do.

**Life after Care**

16. I have a partner and I have three sons aged 20, 16 and 14. The younger two boys are from my present relationship and my oldest son was a child I had with a former partner. I have a very good relationship with all of my children. I have suffered from anxiety and depression for some considerable time and have sought treatment from my GP. I have also sought counselling for my problems. I was diagnosed with PTSD two years ago.
17. I have been involved in incidents which have caused me anxiety but I do believe that my time in care does play some part in the problems I now suffer from although I do accept that they are not the sole cause of them. My middle son is



Hydebank. Again, I can only describe Officer HB 5 as a professional Officer. I am not aware of any complaints about his performance.

17.5.Paragraph 6 – I do not accept that the regime was designed to break

anybody's spirit. Certainly I do accept that the committal regime did require inmates to conform. This was a pre-requisite to inmates advancing in the progressive regime at Hydebank and gaining maximum benefit from participation in the range of activities. I do not accept that inmates were locked in a cell 16 hours a day during my time. I have no knowledge of inmates being routinely slapped on the face or the head. Any Officer found assaulting or misusing force against an inmate would be subject to disciplinary procedures and could potentially lose their job as a consequence.

17.6.Paragraph 7 – The working day in Hydebank commenced at 8.00am with

prisoners being woken at just after 7.00am. As mentioned previously, in the early 1980's prisoners did make bed blocks. Cell inspections were routine. In all the time that I worked in Hydebank I never witnessed cells being wrecked.

17.7. Paragraph 9 – I accept inmates on committal did carry out menial tasks

which included a lot of cleaning, mainly to establish a routine and to encourage a work ethic. This was also intended to establish adherence to the disciplinary requirements. However, during this period the inmates were also subject to assessment for a future Labour Allocation Board. They would have had access to Probation, Teachers, Healthcare, Gymnasium and Workshops. Following a period in the committal landing the inmates routinely transferred to other houses from where they attended activities. During committal periods the lockup time was earlier than the remainder of the Centre although I cannot confirm that it was 7.30pm.

17.8.Paragraph 10 – During my time at Hydebank from October 1984 I certainly

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the Labour Allocation Board. From there they would be allocated to a work party.

- 3.4. I cannot recall the precise numbers in Hydebanks in October 1984 but I note the HMCIP recorded the numbers during the December 1983 inspection at 268 sentenced young men and 19 boys on remand. Many of the inmates participated in work parties as orderlies, gardeners and labourers. As I recall, the Centre employed upwards of 12-14 Teachers, full and part-time, who could teach a wide range of subjects, and 8-10 instructors. Inmates were expected to attend work and education as allocated. In addition, the Centre also had a Social Skills Course which provided advice and support on alcohol and drugs, living alone and pre-release.

#### **4. The Regime**

- 4.1. The daily regime required inmates to be unlocked at 8.00am when they would be expected to clean their rooms, make their bed packs and have breakfast and be ready to attend work at 9.00am. During the morning work period a 15 minute tea break would be provided with all inmates returning to the residential units at 12.15 for lunch and lockup. The inmates were again unlocked at 2.00pm and remained at activities until 4.00pm before returning to the units for lockup at 4.45pm. Evening Association was provided with unlock at 5.30pm and inmates enjoyed free association, attended evening education or the gymnasium. Lockup at night varied across the Centre depending on the agreed regime for the house, but the latest lockup was around 8.30pm (other than for those with Special Privileges<sup>4</sup>).
- 4.2. Hydebanks Wood operated a progressive regime. The committal procedure as identified previously had a strong emphasis on discipline and control. However, an inmate would quickly progress from the committal landings to one of the other houses. I cannot remember the precise detail but do recall that Ash, Beech and Cedar each had a separate regime to reflect a more relaxed environment for inmates depending on progress with Ash house being the pinnacle where inmates could attain special privilege status because of their progress within the Centre. Special privilege (SP) entitled

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<sup>4</sup> Exhibit 4- Special Privilege Scheme

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overweight build. I remember his brother later became a [REDACTED]. The constant sectarian comments by the staff created a very oppressive atmosphere.

15. I kept my head down and avoided conflict because I just wanted to complete my sentence. I am sure if I questioned the regime in any way, I would have been beaten half to death. It was common practice for the Prison Officers to arrive on duty drunk. This was both in the morning and the evening. The officers with whom I had contact were from East Belfast and they did not make any attempt to hide their admiration of and loyalty to loyalist paramilitaries. They would boast about being members of the UDA which was not an illegal organisation at that time. There was no segregation among the prisoner populations and approximately two thirds of the young men there were Catholic or from a nationalist background. The prison officers singled out these prisoners and they gave them a particularly hard time. For example, if these inmates addressed their letters home to their parents to County Derry, rather than County Londonderry, they were threatened with being sent to the punishment block.

16. A friend of mine from Hydebank, HB 9, told me he was sexually abused inside the prison by a senior officer, HB 10. HB 9 came from a fiercely loyalist family but we became friends in later life because of our shared experience in Hydebank. He told me that before he went to Hydebank, he was recruited into a junior loyalist gang called the [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] area. [REDACTED] was the leader of this gang and he groomed boys as young as 15 and farmed them into a paedophile network which included many establishment figures in the [REDACTED] area. He told me that a senior officer inside Hydebank, HB 10, had contacts within this paedophile network. When he was released, these men were waiting for him and his experience of abuse in the outside world was compounded by what happened to him inside Hydebank. He never really recovered from his experiences and took his own life four or five years ago.

18 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Medals. The Report comments, “we were very impressed by the quality of work, the enthusiasm of staff, the excellent provision of facilities and the attention given to the individual needs of inmates and their personal safety”.

17.19. Paragraph 19 – I did not know of any Prison Officer with the name [REDACTED]. Some Officers may have had a military background but I do not accept that this had any bearing on how they carried out their duties. Staff were trained to undertake the role of Prison Officer. Their background before that is irrelevant. I do not agree with the negative comments made within paragraph 19.

17.20. Paragraph 20 – I note HMCIP comments made on the Social Skills Course.

I find this to be a very challenging programme which was highly valued by inmates particularly those approaching release. Indeed the 1983 HMCIP Report stated, “the course we saw in progress was clearly effective and the inmates involved seemed to enjoy the experience. This Unit also ran pre-release courses, and a 4 day Alcohol Awareness Programme. Attendance at these courses were largely voluntary but were oversubscribed. We regarded the work of this Unit as being of great value to the inmates and through the involvement of Prison Officers, valuable to the Service. We felt that the approach could, with advantage, be adapted in other Young Offender Centres in England and Wales”. This assessment agrees with my own knowledge and assessment of how Social Skills was received when I was at Hydebank.

17.21. Paragraph 21 – As mentioned earlier in this statement inmates were searched going to and from the Visits Room to deter the trafficking of contraband. Such practice continues even today.

18. [REDACTED] HIA 138



17.13. Paragraph 15 – I have no knowledge of staff being linked to Loyalist Paramilitaries. During my time I cannot recollect any allegations of Officers discriminating against particular sections of the population. Indeed, I can confirm that during my period in Hydebank, I had no reports of sectarian behavior between inmates or between staff and inmates.

17.14. Paragraph 16 – I do recall an Officer HB 10 working in NIPS. He may have been at Hydebank at this time. I have no knowledge of any of the other allegations against Officer HB 10. Had I been made aware of such allegations I would have reported them to police.

17.15. Paragraph 17 – During my time at Hydebank I had no allegations of sexual assault. I do not accept that Sex Offenders got preferential treatment, although I do accept that they were treated separately on occasions given their notoriety.

17.16. Paragraph 18 – I do not accept that there was no emphasis on delivering a rehabilitative regime. There was a very strong emphasis on constructive activity including Physical Education, normal Education and Workshops.

17.17. The HMCIP Report published in December 1983 made reference to “the educational and training opportunities together with the domestic work were sufficient to keep the inmates occupied throughout the day. We were satisfied that the Labour Allocation Board took great care to find each inmate a suitable course or job”.

17.18. HMCIP also complimented the Education department on the courses run, with teaching geared to meet individual needs at standards ranging from, remedial instruction to O Level preparation. The HMCIP also complimented the Social Skills Programme run By Prison Officers. At paragraph 4.07 of HMCIP Report the Physical Educational Department is complimented for the work and range of activities they provide including participation in the Mourne Marathon and Belfast Marathon, participation in a local football league, and complimented them for making 260 external awards including

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this was a complete shock to me. I left most of my belongings in Lisnevin. I was in Hydebank for about three and a half months. The regime in Hydebank was much tougher than Lisnevin and it was a shock to my system. In those days, for example, you could be on your hands and knees, scrubbing floors, walls, toilets and even pipes from early morning until after lockup at suppertime. The Officers also inspected the cells on a daily basis to check that they were being kept in the proper order.

17. I remember a particular incident when some-one deliberately set fire to the prison. Everyone was locked up for two days. It was a complete lock up and we did not get released even for one hour in order to exercise. They let us out eventually in groups of two in order to clean the rooms. There was soot everywhere. It was a horrible job and I can still remember the taste of the soot in my mouth.

18. I was always hungry at Hydebank. There was insufficient food and the quality was not good. For example, the evening meal would consist of a spoonful of beans, two sausages and bread together with a mug of tea which had more tea leaves than tea.

19. The everyday routine in Hydebank was that you were woken up at 7.00am, you cleaned your cell and then you were given breakfast. We had to clean until lunch-time and afterwards we were locked up again for an hour and a half. You were allowed out again in the afternoon. You cleaned again and then you had your dinner at 4.30pm and were locked up again until 6pm. You were allowed out at 7.30pm and then locked up for the night.

20. We had to shave our faces every day, regardless of whether we were old enough to shave or not. I was only fourteen and I have incredibly sensitive skin. We were given soap and a disposable razor. My skin was covered in cuts and sores every day. This still did not stop them from making me shave every day for a month. Finally, the doctor stepped in and said that I was allowed to shave every second day and I was given E45 cream for my face. This helped a little bit but I was still getting cuts and sores from shaving every second day.

1 breakfast. You did whatever your particular role was  
2 until towards lunchtime. Lunch was had. You were  
3 locked down again for a period, released again at 2.00,  
4 locked up again for a period for checking towards 4.00,  
5 out for teatime. Then by I think 8.00 -- 8.30 I think  
6 is the latest time -- each house seemed to have  
7 different times for lock-down. So you are saying,  
8 despite what the Inspectorate was saying the regime was,  
9 that, in fact, what was happening was you were locked  
10 down for 16 hours a day.

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. So when were you -- when you say that, what time were  
13 you allowed out or do you mean you weren't allowed out  
14 at all?

15 **A. You would have been allowed out of your cells to get**  
16 **washed, clean your teeth, for example, at 7.00 or 8.00**  
17 **in the morning, and you would have had -- sorry -- you**  
18 **would have had breakfast at 8.00 in the morning. Then**  
19 **there was a cell inspection. We were locked up after**  
20 **a time. Then you were set -- you were set all these**  
21 **mundane and fairly pointless tasks. Then you were**  
22 **locked up, let out again, made to eat a not particularly**  
23 **nutritious dinner whereas immediately after that -- it**  
24 **had to be eat then silence -- whereas immediately after**  
25 **that you would have been locked up again until, if**

in each inmate's room. Additional information sheets on specific subjects were available for consultation. We drew to the Governor's attention the absence of information regarding applications to the European Court of Human Rights. Inmates were able to make applications and petitions, but the documentation was somewhat haphazard, and there was no effective cross-referencing between application books in the houses and the inmates' records. Improvements to inmates' records and the introduction of Governor's and Visiting Committee's application books and an appellants' register were needed.

3.07 We were impressed by the library, which was a pleasant room with a large stock of books attractively displayed. However, while inmates in Elm and Willow houses visited the library to change books, inmates of other houses had to rely on a trolley service which provided limited choice. We advised the Governor to introduce a system which would enable all inmates to visit the library at least once a week.

3.08 The arrangements for visits from families and friends were excellent. Spacious and comfortable waiting rooms, straightforward procedures and a large open plan visiting room with refreshment bar provided a pleasant environment. Five rooms were provided for closed visits but they were rarely used. Three rooms were available for the use of legal advisers and other professional visitors. All visitors were treated with friendly respect, and security was effective but unobtrusive.

3.09 The censoring of inmates' mail and the examination of parcels was thorough but the process had become unnecessarily complicated and repetitive. We advised the Governor to simplify these procedures. The censor worked in a narrow, windowless room, in unsatisfactory conditions. We advised the Governor to find him better accommodation.

#### Material Needs

3.10 We sampled the food and watched it being served several times during our inspection. The standard of catering was good with varied menus and consistently well prepared and wholesome food. The serving was efficiently done with heated trolleys taking food to the houses where each floor had its own dining room. The food arrived hot, and in good condition.

3.11 We were less impressed with the kitchen in which the meals were produced. Although well equipped, clean and tidy, the layout, design and construction were unsatisfactory. The wet and slippery floor presented a particular hazard. The changing areas for inmates and staff were also poor. Cooked and uncooked meats were kept in the same coldroom; we advised, for reasons of health and hygiene, that separate provision be made. The kitchen was, otherwise, well managed.

3.12 The hospital, which occupied a separate block near the main gate, had two four-bedded wards, four single rooms with integral sanitation, and a protected room. There were also consulting and treatment rooms, a dental surgery and an X-ray room. The provision of equipment was generous. The hospital was manned by a full-time Medical Officer, eight members of the hospital grades and a nursing sister. This staffing level was ample, and local NHS hospitals gave full support with consultants visiting when necessary. Emergency cover was provided by a rota of local general practitioners.

3.13 The staff worked with dedication and enthusiasm. They were sensitive to the risk of inmates attempting suicide and any potential suicides were closely monitored. There was an impressive level of remedial physical

1 Q. He also said the food improved when official monitoring  
2 bodies came round, but you made a very strong point  
3 about that.

4 A. No. I mean, definitely not. I mean, the issue in  
5 relation to -- there are two things prisoners value.  
6 One is his visits. The other is his food. Mess around  
7 with any of those and you're going to have problems, and  
8 certainly I had very few, if any, complaints about food  
9 during my time in Hydebank. I think if there's issues  
10 around food, then I would have known about it.

11 Q. He went on to complain that the only work allocated on  
12 the committal wings was that of cleaning and you would  
13 accept that there was a dominance of cleaning in the  
14 committal wings.

15 A. Yes. Cleaning was important, yes.

16 Q. You say they did have down time, but it probably  
17 appeared to them that they had a lot of cleaning to do.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. He gave an example of a boy having a migraine, wrecking  
20 his cell and then being taken and hidden away. I know  
21 you felt that was just a ludicrous suggestion.

22 A. No. I mean, there is no circumstance that I could  
23 perceive where that could remotely happen. I mean, the  
24 suggestion is a couple of weeks. I mean, if you think  
25 of the level of conspiracy you need and the number of

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The prison doctor was [HB 7]. If I wanted to see him I had to request this at the beginning of the day by telling one of the prison officers what was wrong with me. I found this embarrassing. The officers would 'triage' the situation and more often than not, I was not allowed to see him. When I eventually did see the doctor there was usually about four other prison officers in the room. There was no privacy or confidentiality and the officers made snide comments about your health in front of you. For example, I remember once having a boil and trying to squeeze it, and one of the prison officers, said "Well, that was f\*\*\*king smart, you stupid b\*\*\*\*\*d". These exchanges would take place in front of the nurse and [HB 7] but they would never intervene to regulate this behaviour. It was normalised to a degree and no-one ever questioned it.

13. I was released from Hydebank in January 1984 and I was arrested very shortly afterwards for underage drinking. I was sentenced to three months this time and I was taken to Crumlin Road and then Hydebank again. The second experience was just as brutal as the first. I remember being handcuffed and experiencing sectarian abuse from older prisoners on the prison bus during the transfer. This time, I refused to co-operate during induction at Hydebank. The staff held me down and pulled all my clothes off me except for my underpants. There was a female RUC officer present during the handover and I remember trying to hold on to my underpants. I remember hearing her say "Take them off as well" and she kicked me in the stomach. The officers took all my clothing off and processed me in the same way as before. I felt degraded and humiliated by this experience.

14. I remember occasional visits from someone from the Northern Ireland Office. When staff from this Office came in we got enhanced food and the shouting stopped. However, we were still all too afraid to complain. The Red Cross also came in to inspect the prison but we were too frightened to explain what the conditions were really like on a day-to-day basis. I felt very afraid in Hydebank all the time. I was threatened by the staff themselves and by their contacts with loyalist paramilitaries. I felt they singled me out because they perceived me as an anti-establishment figure. One member of staff, [HB 8], told me that I would be "sorted out" when I got out of Hydebank. He was in his 40's with an

discipline within the Centre they were removed to the Punishment Unit as it was called in those days and were subject to Governors disciplinary procedures. I do not accept that inmates were assaulted. Indeed I would argue that given that the Punishment Unit was visible from the main corridor at Hydebank, I am confident that if such behaviour happened other staff or managers would have witnessed it. There are a range of allegations contained in paragraph 10 of which I would have no knowledge.

17.9. Paragraph 11 – I do not accept that there was any opportunity for staff to hide “a prisoner.” Members of the Visiting Committee, Managers and others routinely had access to all areas of the Centre. Such behaviour would not have been acceptable or condoned.

17.10. Paragraph 12 – Hospital Officer HB 6 was known to me. He was an exceptionally competent Hospital Officer. I do not know a Doctor HB 7. However, I do know that the medical practice in place at the time were from a GP Practice on the Ormeau Road. I do not accept that Prison Officers were routinely present whilst an inmate was subject to a medical examination unless there were particular concerns about the inmate’s behaviour.

17.11. Paragraph 13 – As the reception area is accessible from the main corridor, opposite the administration building, and given doors were routinely left ajar in my time in Hydebank, I do not accept that the incidents as outlined in paragraph 13 could have taken place with a RUC Female Officer kicking an inmate in the stomach.

17.12. Paragraph 14 – As indicated earlier, staff from the Northern Ireland Office did routinely visit the Centre. I also confirmed earlier the Red Cross also visited. I am very aware that inmates did take the opportunity to speak to both. I am aware of an HB 8 working in NIPS who may have been present in Hydebank in the early 1980’s. However, I do not know him well enough to comment on his performance. Nor can I confirm that he was the brother of a supergrass.



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this was a complete shock to me. I left most of my belongings in Lisnevin. I was in Hydebank for about three and a half months. The regime in Hydebank was much tougher than Lisnevin and it was a shock to my system. In those days, for example, you could be on your hands and knees, scrubbing floors, walls, toilets and even pipes from early morning until after lockup at suppertime. The Officers also inspected the cells on a daily basis to check that they were being kept in the proper order.

17. I remember a particular incident when some-one deliberately set fire to the prison. Everyone was locked up for two days. It was a complete lock up and we did not get released even for one hour in order to exercise. They let us out eventually in groups of two in order to clean the rooms. There was soot everywhere. It was a horrible job and I can still remember the taste of the soot in my mouth.

18. I was always hungry at Hydebank. There was insufficient food and the quality was not good. For example, the evening meal would consist of a spoonful of beans, two sausages and bread together with a mug of tea which had more tea leaves than tea.

19. The everyday routine in Hydebank was that you were woken up at 7.00am, you cleaned your cell and then you were given breakfast. We had to clean until lunch-time and afterwards we were locked up again for an hour and a half. You were allowed out again in the afternoon. You cleaned again and then you had your dinner at 4.30pm and were locked up again until 6pm. You were allowed out at 7.30pm and then locked up for the night.

20. We had to shave our faces every day, regardless of whether we were old enough to shave or not. I was only fourteen and I have incredibly sensitive skin. We were given soap and a disposable razor. My skin was covered in cuts and sores every day. This still did not stop them from making me shave every day for a month. Finally, the doctor stepped in and said that I was allowed to shave every second day and I was given E45 cream for my face. This helped a little bit but I was still getting cuts and sores from shaving every second day.

18.1. At paragraph 13 [HIA 138] refers to Hydebank Wood, and states “*I did not consider the regime at Hydebank to be very abusive*”. I do not accept that staff knew pressure points that they could use to get an inmate to fall to their knees. I certainly have no knowledge of this.

19. [REDACTED]

19.1. [REDACTED] was at Hydebank in 1989.

19.2. Paragraph 16 – I accept there was a requirement for inmates to maintain accommodation areas to a high standard. This could have involved activities such as that outlined in paragraph 16.

19.3. Paragraph 17 – I have no knowledge of the fire mentioned.

19.4. Paragraph 18 – NIPS is very aware of the need to ensure prisoners are satisfied with the food. It is rare to receive complaints that prisoners have insufficient to eat.

19.5. Paragraph 19 – During the first number of weeks at Hydebank, at committal it is likely that inmates spent time cleaning.

19.6. Paragraph 20 – Inmates normally shave prior to unlock, it is unlikely that a member of staff would know whether an inmate had shaved or not if they have no requirement to shave. From my calculation given [REDACTED] DOB and time at Hydebank he was 17 years of age at the time.

## 20. **Governor’s Journal**<sup>32</sup>

20.1. During my period in Hydebank I was aware of inmates making allegations against members of staff. Each allegation had to be viewed on its own merits and a decision taken on what action followed. On occasions allegations were referred to the RUC for investigation. Hydebank had a permanent RUC Liaison Officer who worked in the establishment and who

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<sup>32</sup> Exhibit TBC

584. HIA 373's claims that HB5 assaulted him on a daily basis in Willow House are thought unlikely by Mr Murray who recalled that he was a "*professional*" officer who attracted no complaints about his performance (HYD-490).

### Daily Life / Regime

585. The Chief Inspector of Prisons noted Hydebank's regime as "*a brisk regime with particular emphasis on education and training, physical and vocational, and to provide a staged system of progress through the house system to the pre-release unit.*" (HYD-512)
586. HIA 373 stated that he was locked up for 16 hours a day, everyday. This was not the regime found by HM Inspectorate in their report.
587. HIA 373 also stated that cells were wrecked on a daily basis by staff. In addition HIA 253 mentioned staff wrecking cells if the cells were not clean and tidy.
588. However, this was not the experience of Mr. Murray (HYD-491). He recalled that there was an emphasis in the regime on tidiness and good order, but he had no experience of prison officers gratuitously upsetting the cells in the manner described by HIA 373 or HIA 253.
589. HIA 434 complained of having to shave every day despite his skin condition. Mr Murray explained that being clean-shaven was a requirement for inmates at Hydebank. The evidence shows that HIA 434 was, however, released from the obligation to shave every day, on medical advice (transcript day 153, pages 126-127). This suggests that the regime at Hydebank was flexible and sensitive particularly where medical conditions had to be taken into account.

### Food

590. The Red Cross visit in 1989 found the quality of food to be good and the Chief Inspector of Prisoners found the standard of catering to be "*good with varied menus and consistently well-prepared and wholesome food*" (HYD-11202). These findings are again contrary to the claims of HIA 373 and HIA 434.
591. Mr. Murray stated that food was important to prisoners and that there were few, if any, complaints about food during his time in Hydebank. He asserted that if there had been any issues about food he would have known about them. He went on to

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officers carried out a physical examination taking a note of any scars or tattoos on my body. One of them took out a large flick knife and pulled my towel away from me and said, "This boy hasn't enough scars on him, I'll put a few more scars on him". He didn't touch me but I felt very threatened and afraid. In retrospect, I think this was intended as a joke but I found it frightening because I was so young. I spent the night at Crumlin Road in a cell with an adult prisoner and the next day I was taken to Hydebank Young Offenders Centre.

3. I experienced a lot of physical and psychological abuse at Hydebank. The prison officer in charge of Reception there was called [REDACTED] HB 4 [REDACTED]. His nickname was [REDACTED]. I was given a prison number and told to memorise it. I remember being slapped by [REDACTED] and another officer because I told him my number and did not follow it up with 'Sir'.
4. We were taken to the showers next and I remember having a cold shower and being given a delousing solution to wash with. After we had washed, we were given 'committal clothing'. This was normal civilian clothing from the prison laundry store. I was not allowed to wear my own clothing and I felt embarrassed wearing the clothes I had been given by the officers.
5. I was given one plate, a bowl, some cutlery, 3 pairs of socks and 3 pairs of shorts as well. These were all standard issue clothing. I was also given a green bed sheet and I carried all this to my cell. I was not allowed to keep any of my personal belongings. I should have gone to Elm House initially as this was where the first time prisoners were normally sent. Instead, I was taken to Willow House which had a stricter regime and this was where the prisoners who were second time offenders were sent. The Officer in charge at Willow House was a man called [REDACTED] HB 5 [REDACTED]. His nickname was [REDACTED]. He had short brown hair and a moustache. He was a strict disciplinarian and used to slap me about the face on an almost daily basis.
6. The regime in Willow House was aligned to the British Army's glasshouse system. This was a punishment regime which was designed to break your spirit. The prison rules were petty, for example, you were not allowed to talk to

1        were given a well oversized red jumper, bright red, big  
2        flary jeans. This was to embarrass you too. You had to  
3        earn, like, half decent clothes after that, and this was  
4        like for the other boys -- you know, like, you are the  
5        new one -- laugh at you and things like that. There was  
6        a lot of things to embarrass you, like.

7        Q. You also made mention of the fact that you opted for to  
8        do a certain course. You wanted to do mechanics.

9        A. Aye. I put down for mechanics for my -- I think there  
10       was education too. There was classrooms, but I thought  
11       mechanics to go for something like a trade, and there  
12       was a guy there -- I can't -- I think it was                    or  
13       something like that, but he had moulds of two canoes and  
14       made his own canoes which he sold, and he had us making  
15       -- actually like inside with like tins of resin brushing  
16       into the moulds to make these canoes, and another thing  
17       I remember about it was like just brush the floor. Have  
18       a smoke. I think I remember he had some fitness  
19       equipment, like a chest expander. He used to stand. He  
20       would have been using that. I never learned anything,  
21       like, from him, the basics of mechanics, likes clutches  
22       or brakes or anything like that. It was I remember like  
23       learn how to grind, like, the inside -- like the pistons  
24       of an engine, like, grinding them down, but it wasn't in  
25       any way like educating me for mechanics that I think.

DRAFT

SUB-SEC 2C

## C. CLOTHING

1. All prisoners will be permitted to wear their own clothing at all times (except in the circumstances outlined in paragraph 4 below). Prisoners who are either unwilling or unable to provide clothing for their own use will be provided with official-issue clothing. A prisoner will be permitted to have and wear a mixture of official-issue and his own clothing, provided that the combined quantities do not exceed the limits set out in order 8 below. Any clothing sent in for a prisoner will be solely for his own use.

2. These arrangements do not effect the obligation under Rule 67 of The Prison Rules (Northern Ireland) 1982 to ensure that every prisoner is provided with clothing sufficient for warmth and health. Where, for any reason, a prisoner's own clothing, or any item of it, is unfit, by reason of its dilapidated, dirty or some other condition, for further wear the Governor will be able if necessary to require the prisoner to remove the offending item(s) and to replace it or them with replacement(s) from official-issue stock.

3. Items of own clothing together with official-issue clothing (where applicable) will be retained by prisoners in their cells/rooms/dormitories.

4. Items of protective clothing or other items (apart from those listed in Order 8 below) associated with a particular type of work or other activity will be provided by the prison authorities and will not be permitted to be brought in.

5. When a prisoner is discharged he will be provided with civilian clothing, where necessary, in accordance with the scales led down by Headquarters (Prison Supplies Branch).

6. Within reasonable limits a wide variety of types and designs of private

## WELLBEING OF INMATES

3.01 High quality inmate accommodation and communal facilities were complemented by the well designed grounds which were spacious and uncluttered. The staff were concerned and caring, taking an interest in the well-being of the inmates from reception to discharge. Inmates' material needs were well provided for, and the arrangements for visits, the provision of food and medical care were of the highest order.

### Accommodation

3.02 The inmates lived in 5 separate houses, known as Ash, Beech, Cedar, Willow and Elm. There were two 3-bedded dormitories, 111 single rooms with integral sanitation and 180 single rooms with access to toilets at night. Each group of about 15 inmates shared dining and recreational facilities which were provided on a generous scale. The houses and their furnishings were modern, functional and in good condition, except where building defects had damaged the decoration. They were scrupulously clean, and there was no sign of vandalism. We were pleased to see that the rooms were fitted with a push button buzzer and light system which enabled inmates to call a member of staff without difficulty. The inmates were issued with sweaters and jeans which were popular, serviceable and well cared for.

3.03 The five houses which contained the sentenced population were the responsibility of two Assistant Governors. Principal Officers had subordinate responsibility for house management, but their frequent absence on escort duties left the day-to-day management of the houses to the Senior Officer, assisted by 2 discipline officers. This delegation of authority had had no ill effects; we found the routines clearly set out and followed, and documentation was well maintained in all 5 houses. The quality of life in the houses was good; a brisk cheerful atmosphere prevailed and self-respect and respect for others were encouraged.

3.04 The Junior Remand Unit on the third floor of Elm House was completely self-contained with its own enclosed exercise yard, so that the boys held on remand did not come into contact with sentenced prisoners. There was space for 20 boys in rooms with integral sanitation and, if necessary, the top floor of the adjoining Willow House could be used as an annex. The unit had the same high standard of amenities and space as the rest of the centre, and was also very clean. Again, although under the oversight of an Assistant Governor, the unit was managed by the Senior Officer in charge of Elm House assisted by 2 discipline officers. The staff of the unit were dedicated to their work and had extended their routine duties to include welfare matters. We were satisfied that the unit was well administered.

### Information and Communication

3.05 The reception unit was housed in clean and airy premises where the staff carried out the reception procedures quickly and efficiently with due regard for the dignity of the inmates. All new arrivals were examined by a hospital officer, who called in the Medical Officer immediately if he was needed; otherwise the MO examined them on the second day. The provision of inmate facilities was excellent and reception procedures were usually completed in an hour.

3.06 After reception, inmates were held in Elm House for a period of induction and assessment. During this time their rights and privileges were explained and a very helpful general information sheet was available



## REGIME

4.01 Two of the functions of the centre (which are set out fully in Appendix 2) relate directly to the regime. These were to "provide a brisk regime with particular emphasis on education and training, both physical and vocational" and to "provide for a staged system of progress through the house system to a pre-release unit". We were satisfied that the regime was indeed brisk and purposeful, and that a staged system of progress had been provided, although there were weaknesses in the associated system of individual assessment. The involvement of staff of various backgrounds was the most significant ingredient in a healthy, balanced regime, in which the education and training elements stood out.

Employment

4.02 Hydebanks Wood had no industrial work; plans to establish an engineering workshop had not been carried out. However, about a third of the inmates were involved in work around the centre as orderlies, gardeners, labourers etc. These work parties were not over-subscribed and a good tempo was maintained. For the future it was intended to make the centre horticulturally self-sufficient: this should provide a valuable employment outlet. The educational and training opportunities together with the domestic work, were sufficient to keep the inmates occupied throughout the day. We were satisfied also that the Labour Allocation Board took great care to find each inmate a suitable course or job.

Education and Training

4.03 The Education Officer, who was supported by six full-time and eight part-time teachers, worked in a purpose built, well equipped education centre. The education staff were well integrated into the life of the establishment, and were involved in several separate education schemes; daytime education known as the "Youthways Programme", evening classes (both recreational and in support of vocational training courses), a separate programme for the boys in the Remand Unit and an innovative social skills programme.

4.04 The Youthways programme was based upon a scheme used throughout Northern Ireland, and was well adapted to the particular needs of the Young Offenders Centre. It consisted of separate full time courses for those inmates needing remedial help, for those not yet ready for vocational training, and for those whose sentences were too short to undertake a vocational training course. Teaching was geared to meet individual needs at standards ranging from remedial instruction to 'O' level preparation.

4.05 The social skills courses were run by prison officers in a small unit closely connected with the Education Department. The intention was to develop the skills of communication and self sufficiency necessary for a smooth transition back to the community for inmates who might experience particular difficulty. The course we saw in progress was clearly effective and the inmates involved seemed to enjoy the experience. This unit also ran pre-release courses, and a four day alcohol awareness programme. Attendance at these courses was largely voluntary, but they were over-subscribed. We regarded the work of this unit as being of great value to the inmates and through the involvement of prison officers, valuable to the service. We felt that the approach could, with advantage, be adopted in other young offender centres in England and Wales.