



VERA BAIRD^{QC}
POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

Report of Office of Police & Crime Commissioner

Independent Custody Visitors findings – August 2015

The Police & Crime Commissioner, Vera Baird QC, would like to take this opportunity to thank Independent Custody Visitors for the work they have undertaken when visiting custody suites within the Northumbria Force area. The ICVs are valued members of the volunteer team. Below are the points raised during August 2015 from the stations visited.

Alnwick

All areas clean and tidy.

No issues identified.

Bedlington

All areas clean and tidy.

No issues identified.

Berwick

All well and clean and tidy.

No issues identified.

Hexham

All areas clean and tidy.

No issues identified

Southwick

Suite clean and tidy.

Helpful staff

New electronic custody record system working well.

Action

Cells M1, M4, M14, F1, F2 and D2 out of use.

Force Response

All repairs have been completed and cells in use.

Millbank

All areas clean and tidy and staff helpful

No issues raised

North Tyneside

Staff friendly and helpful

Areas for improvement:

Kitchen area including microwaves in need of immediate cleaning.

Force Response

I have spoken with the cleaning manager regarding this issue. It has been highlighted to cleaning staff and inspections by management will be conducted.

Forth Banks

Staff friendly, professional and co-operative with both detainees and ICV's

Clean and tidy suite

Ongoing issues regarding the temperature of the suite which is uncomfortably hot for both staff and detainees.

Areas for Improvement

Additional stock of pillows needed

Force Response

Stock to be checked and if further pillows need will be ordered.

Light not working in Cell 13

Force Response

Light fixed