



**VERA BAIRD**<sup>QC</sup>  
POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

## **Report of Office of Police & Crime Commissioner**

### **Independent Custody Visitors findings – July 2015**

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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 July 2015 from the stations visited.

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#### **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.

Blanket store has been re-supplied.

No issues identified

#### **Southwick**

Suite clean and tidy.

Helpful staff

#### **Action**

**Detainee held for 22hours in custody not offered washing facilities.**

Response from Northumbria Police - Reminder sent to staff re offer of shower when detained for length of time.

### **North Tyneside**

Staff friendly and helpful

#### **Areas for improvement:**

Interview room 8/9 recording device not working

Response from Northumbria Police - Defects reported

Detainee kitchen facilities in need of cleaning

Response from Northumbria Police - Issue raised with head of cleaning department.

### **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.