

Report of Office of Police & Crime Commissioner

Independent Custody Visitors findings – March 2014.

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 in March from the stations visited.

Alnwick –

No issues raised. All areas clean and tidy

Bedlington –

All areas clean and tidy.

Well received by staff.

Staff under resourced.

Areas for improvement:

Cells M9 and D1 without CCTV

Berwick

No issues raised. Suite in order.

Etal Lane.

Staff addressing individual issues and notes taken and actioned.

Staff helpful and professional.

Area for improvement:

Evidence of graffiti in some cells

Gateshead

No issues Raised. Staff very friendly and welcoming.

Millbank

No issues raised. Very clean and staff helpful.

Gillbridge

ICVs need to commit to regular visits to this suite.

North Tyneside

Staff friendly

Areas for improvement

Medical room doors left open

Bedding store door not closing

Shoe cupboards open

Interview rooms unlocked

Response from ACC Jo Farrell

Bedlington

CCTV in cells M9 and D1 not working - Now working 09/04/14

Etal Lane

Evidence of graffiti in some cells - Raised in last visit, Estates aware, awaiting decorators

North Tyneside

Medical room doors left open - Staff have been advised and will be monitored by custody Inspector

Bedding store door not closing - Re-occurring issue, door fixed 09/04/14

Shoe cupboards open - None open when suite visited by Custody Inspector, staff aware and will be monitored.

Interview rooms unlocked - None open when suite visited by Custody Inspector, staff aware and will be monitored.

