



HM Prison &
Probation Service

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Dear Charlie,

**HMIP report on an independent review of progress at HMP Wandsworth
20-22 June 2022**

Thank you for your Independent Review of Progress report at HMP Wandsworth, whereby you followed up 9 key recommendations and 3 Ofsted themes from your most recent inspection that took place 13th and 20th – 24th September 2021.

I am encouraged to note that you have seen good/reasonable progress being made across some of the recommendations and Ofsted themes', specifically:

Leadership and Management

Improved governance arrangements with the introduction of a consolidated action plan, as well as improved oversight by the Governor, and a recently introduced performance and assurance meeting. Data integrity was much better and HMP Wandsworth had introduced a range of new strategies. HMI Prisons recognised that the governor's priority of improving retention and reducing the very high number of non-effective staff was key to progress in all areas of prison life.

Use of Force

Despite the amount of force used by staff remaining very high, oversight and governance had been significantly strengthened allowing leaders to ensure that force was now justified, proportionate, and accurately recorded. It was also recognised that although the prison had a limited number of body worn cameras available, use by staff had improved.

Support for foreign national prisoners

The provision for foreign national prisoners and detainees had improved and there is a significant reduction of detainee's held under immigration powers beyond the end of their sentence. The immigration service was at the prison full time and seeing prisoners face to face, coupled by a good service delivered through Catch 22 and BEST. There was an

improved assurance around provision and outcomes for foreign nationals through the introduction of a foreign national meeting.

In respect of the three key areas and Ofsted themes where you found insufficient or no meaningful progress I can confirm:

Managing Violent Behaviour

HMP Wandsworth will embed the processes that were observed in response to incidents of violence and how victims are supported. The Violence Reduction Strategy will be a focus for staff training and development, and the prison will monitor progress closely.

Living Conditions and Decency

The establishment will work closely with partners to improve timeliness of projects to improve the built environment and continue to embed the work of our Clean and Decent lead to improve accountability across residential areas and progress the decency agenda. Where possible the prison will strive to achieve this with the support of prisoner work parties and enhance opportunities for skills and work.

Time Out of Cell

HMP Wandsworth has enhanced the regime being delivered to ensure daily exercise social and domestic provision within residence. Access to on wing group activities, library, chaplaincy services and the gymnasium have also all increased and the prison will focus its efforts on ensuring stability in regime delivery through working to address staff non-effective rates. Over the coming weeks the number of spaces for work and education will be increased, and a reprofile later this year will enhance delivery further ensuring a more efficient and work focused core day with a single employment period optimising opportunities for purposeful activity.

The Governor with the support of the Prison Group Director will continue to progress the full Action Plan covering all the original recommendations.

I remain committed to ensuring continued progress against HMP Wandsworth's agreed Action Plan and I can assure you that through my operational assurance functions and the support of OSAG we continue to closely monitor progress.

Whilst I acknowledge that there is still much work to be carried out at the prison, I am encouraged that progress is being made and that our monitoring of the prison is in line with your findings.

Sarah Coccia

Executive Director

CC: Private Office

Phil Cople, Director General Prisons