



HM Prison &
Probation Service



Charlie Taylor,
HM Chief Inspector of Prisons
3rd floor, 10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU

His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS)

Youth Custody Service

Executive Director

8th Floor, Area 8.40

102 Petty France

London

SW1H 9AJ

Email: YCSExecutiveDirector@justice.gov.uk

26 October 2022

Dear Charlie,

**HMIP report on an Independent Review of Progress (IRP) at HMYOI Werrington 12-22
September 2022**

Thank you for your Independent Review of Progress report at HMYOI Werrington, whereby you followed up on nine key recommendations and three Ofsted themes from your most recent inspection that took place from 24 January to 04 February 2022.

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

- **Healthcare** - HMYOI Werrington has increased attendance at health appointments and there have been fewer cancellations, because of improved local systems and partnership working. For example, children's healthcare appointments are now discussed at daily staff briefings, with the staff themselves escorting children to their appointments to ensure they are not missed.
- **Ofsted Theme 1** - Leaders and managers are enhancing and developing the curriculum, to improve the children's skills within their chosen subjects. Furthermore, there is increased time allocated to English and Maths classes.
- **Interventions** - More children are now participating in accredited interventions. Additional interventions have been introduced for children with life or indeterminate sentences, including sessions delivered by Kinetic Youth and Chaplaincy as well as one-to-one support from Resettlement Practitioners and a buddying scheme with selected life-sentenced adult prisoners.
- **Daily Life** - A programme of work is in place to improve the residential environment including investment in furniture, activities for children, and redecoration. The appearance of the units has improved with the prototype room being identified as a promising initiative.

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

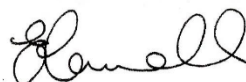
- **Behaviour Management** – A Behaviour Management Strategy has been introduced and is underpinned by the recent introduction of the Incentives policy. A Violence Reduction Strategy (“5 P Strategy”) has recently been introduced and the Youth Custody Service (YCS) will ensure that measurable milestones are agreed upon and monitored to measure progress.
- **Relationships Between Staff and Children** – HMYOI Werrington will continue to deliver initiatives and activities that will encourage staff and children to engage together. A community event was held at the start of October where staff and children came together. HMYOI Werrington will improve the consistency of delivering Custody Support Plans (CuSP), so each child has regular weekly time with their personal officer from January 2023 onwards.
- **Equality, Diversity, and Faith** – HMYOI Werrington have appointed a Diversity and Inclusion Manager, along with a new Functional Lead, to ensure that all reports of discrimination are quickly and effectively investigated. Each area of the wider strategy for HMYOI Werrington will have assessed the risk of disproportionality and inequality within their areas, with emerging themes and trends being identified.
- **Time out of Room** – The children have returned to full-time education during the weekdays and the offer will be improved further with the introduction of a new education contract from 1 December 2022. This will offer children a minimum of 24 hours of learning per week. Particular attention is also being taken to improve and increase the weekend provision of purposeful activity and engage children in more community-based activities.

HMYOI Werrington has been successful with their Operational Stability and Resources Panel (OSRP) business case for incentive payment plus for Youth Justice Workers on weekends and evenings, to help HMYOI Werrington increase the regime offer at the lowest times highlighted in the report.

- **Ofsted Theme 2:** Leaders are working with their Education provider to ensure that children will have the opportunity to study their chosen subject. HMYOI Werrington are creating a prospectus and hosting a job opportunities fair to provide to inspire children to set higher expectations of their education goals. The regime at HMOYI Werrington is being expanded to help children identify skills that will support them during their time in custody and upon release. Support is being given to children to resolve their conflicts with each other, to increase their time in the classroom, and increase skills development.
- **Ofsted Theme 3:** A new core day is in place which stipulates the time that children should move to lessons. Free flow movement has also been introduced. Movement times are monitored daily with some staff stationed within the grounds to ensure children are moving swiftly to their lessons.
- **Reintegration Planning:** The Resettlement Team is introducing an escalation process to Youth Offending Teams (YOTs), when it is known that a child is unlikely to have an educational or training place upon their release from custody. The Governor is due to meet senior leaders from YOT teams to further escalate this matter and make them aware of this new escalation process.

The Governor with the support of the YCS Deputy Director of Operations will continue to progress with the full Action Plan covering all the original recommendations. I remain committed to ensuring continued progress against HMYOI Werrington's agreed Action Plan and I can assure you that through my operational assurance functions and the support of OSAG we will continue to closely monitor progress. Whilst I acknowledge that there is still further work to be carried out at the establishment, I am encouraged that progress is being made and that our monitoring is in line with your findings.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Cornmell', written in a cursive style.

ED CORNMELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, YOUTH CUSTODY SERVICE

CC: Amy Rees, Director General Chief Executive Officer, HMPPS