



HM Prison & Probation Service

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Charlie Taylor,
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3rd April 2023

Dear Charlie,

HMIP report on an independent review of progress at HMP Elmley - 13th – 15th February 2023

Thank you for your Independent Review of Progress report at HMP Elmley, whereby you followed up seven key recommendations and four Ofsted themes from your most recent inspection in March 2022.

I am encouraged to note that you have seen good and reasonable progress being made across some of the recommendations and Ofsted themes, and note the following;

- The prison's positive practice regarding oversight of body-worn video camera usage.
- A considerable development of education and skills provision, with an improvement in the quality of teaching and learning, education induction and the performance of learners.
- Increased prisoner participation in a range of purposeful activity.
- Recognition of the whole prison approach to driving improvements in diversity and inclusion work.
- Increased numbers of prisoners completing accredited offending behaviour programmes.

In respect of the three key areas where you found insufficient progress, I can confirm that all the IRP findings have been carefully considered and steps will be taken to address them as appropriate. This will include the following;

- Improving the quality of investigations into violent incidents, to ensure that the drivers of violence are identified and well communicated, and that appropriate support can be offered to both perpetrators and victims.
- A review of the current CSIP (Challenge, Support, and Intervention Plan) processes to ensure it is more effectively used to drive improvements in prisoners' behaviour,

by utilising high quality bespoke and relevant plans that are well understood by staff and prisoners.

- Review the governance of Security and Safety meetings to ensure they are multidisciplinary, consider relevant data, and set clear actions and an overarching strategy that support improvements in the management of risks within the establishment.
- The Interdepartmental Risk Management Team Meeting will be refreshed, in line with the introduction of the Public Protection Steering Group, to ensure multidisciplinary consideration of the assessment and management of the risk posed by prisoners at HMP Elmley.

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 Elmley 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, PSP South

Cc. Private Office

Phil Copple, Director General Prisons