

Charlie Taylor, HM Chief Inspector of Prisons 3rd floor, 10 South Colonnade Canary Wharf London E14 4PU Sarah Coccia Executive Director PSP South 80 Sir Evelyn Road Rochester Kent ME1 3NF

10th July 2023

Dear Charlie.

HMIP report on an independent review of progress at HMP/YOI Norwich on 30th May - 1st June 2023

Thank you for your Independent Review of Progress report at HMP/YOI Norwich whereby you followed up 6 concerns and 4 Ofsted themes from your most recent inspection in September 2022.

I am encouraged to note that you have seen good and reasonable progress being made across most of the concerns and Ofsted themes and note the following.

- We are pleased that the number of assaults is continuing to decline. The prisoners feel safer, and the prison has a better understanding of the causes of violence through holding prisoner forums. A comprehensive violence reduction strategy underpins the positive progress, and an overarching action plan is regularly reviewed.
- The overall trend since the last inspection shows the number of self-harm incidents were declining. The number of at-risk prisoners who received support from ACCT case management has reduced, which improves staff's knowledge about the needs of the prisoners on ACCT documents in their care.
- The prison is committed to providing all prisoners with access to education and training, since the last inspection spaces has increased by 25% and sessions have increased by an average of 30 minutes. Prisoners have valued the benefits of the newly introduced motivation policy, which incentives prisoners to participate in education and training.

In respect of the key area where you found insufficient progress and the Ofsted theme which you found insufficient, 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.

- We have taken delivery of the shelving units for the new central library and the decorating of the area has begun. We anticipate the opening of our new central library September 2023.
- We will strategically monitor and analyse data robustly to ensure accurate oversight and provide rigorous challenge to providers. Support will be put in place for Careers, Information, Advice and Guidance (CIAG) interventions in the form of a suitable area for these interventions to take place.

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

I remain committed to ensuring continued progress against the agreed action plan at HMP/YOI Norwich. I would like to provide my assurance that through operational assurance frameworks and the support of OSAG we will continue to closely monitor the prisons 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, Public Sector Prisons South

CC: Private Office
Phil Copple, Director General Operations