



HM Prison &
Probation Service

Helen Judge | Area Executive Director
Northeast, Yorkshire and the Humber
HM Prison & Probation Service

Charlie Taylor,
HM Chief Inspector of Prisons
3rd floor, 10 South Colonnade
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15 July 2024

Dear Charlie,

**HMIP report on an independent review of progress at HMP Lindholme -
13th – 15th May 2024**

Thank you for your Independent Review of Progress report at HMP **Lindholme**, whereby you followed up 7 key recommendations and 5 Ofsted themes from your most recent inspection in May 2024.

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.

- That you found the systems to manage high risk prisoners had improved and now an appropriate focus on public protection.
- That reasonable progress had been made in improving the curriculum offered to prisoners.
- That good progress had been made in enabling prisoners to access healthcare appointments successfully.

In respect of the three key areas and Ofsted themes where you found insufficient or no meaningful 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.

- In taking a more strategic and co-ordinated approach to tackling high levels of drug use linked to violence and debt within HMP Lindholme, I am aware and supportive of the Prison Group Director (PGD) in Yorkshire who is currently considering viable medium-term options with the Custodial Capacity team to accommodate a population within HMP Lindholme more aligned to the current security infrastructure and geographical footprint. I welcome too HMP Lindholme's approach to increasing their Incentivised Substance Free Living (ISFL) offer and recognise the noted improvements in substance misuse treatment programmes.

- Recognising the weaknesses identified within the key worker scheme there has been a relaunch of a more wing-based approach to improve use of resource and focus on progression. There will be increased attention to ensure key worker quality and priority and vulnerable groups requiring more frequent support will be identified through the weekly Safety Intervention Meeting (SIM).
- In focusing on fulfilling Lindholme's core function as a training prison and to improve the education offer, the Governor is investing in instructors to undertake a Level 3 qualification which will allow them to train and assess vocational achievements. Additional maths and English courses have been commissioned and a plumbing and tiling workshop will be opened. Level 3 NVQ courses in hospitality, catering and barbering will also be introduced.

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 Lindholme's agreed Action Plan and I can assure you that through my operational assurance functions and the support of Performance, Assurance and Risk Group (PAR) 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.

Helen Judge | Area Executive Director
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CC: Private Office
Phil Copple, Director General Prisons
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