



Official

Charlie Taylor, HM Chief Inspector of Prisons 3rd floor, 10 South Colonnade Canary Wharf London E14 4PU His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service
Youth Custody Service
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Sent by E-mail

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Dear Charlie,

HMIP report on an Independent Review of Progress at HMYOI Feltham A between 30 September – 09 October 2024

Thank you for your Independent Review of Progress report at HMYOI Feltham A, whereby you followed up on five priority concerns and four Ofsted themes from your most recent inspection in March 2024.

I am encouraged to note that you found good progress across two priority concerns and reasonable progress being made across one Ofsted theme and note the following:

- Resettlement Inspectors found that the delivery of services through the Prison Advice and Care
 Trust (PACT) had improved, including individual casework, speaking to children who do not
 receive visits and meeting new arrivals.
- Resettlement Inspectors recognised that several different training packages to enhance the
 understanding of risk management had been sourced and delivered to most staff, with additional
 sessions planned.
- Ofsted themes Ofsted acknowledged that leaders and managers had taken action to enhance
 the curriculum offer at level 3, and that this was meeting the needs and aspirations of a small
 cohort of learners who were enrolled.

In respect of the three priority concerns and three 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:

• Separation from normal location – HMYOI Feltham A now have a dedicated unit to manage children who are separated. This allows the site to focus resources to one unit and improve the outcomes for children separated, with the inspectors noting that safeguarding procedures and

management oversight for this group were much improved. Additionally, the planning to re-open the Enhanced Support Unit (Alpine) will continue, including completion of the physical work, alongside identification and training of new staff.

- Purposeful Activity / Time out of cell Leaders will continue to embed and expand the Single Communities strategy and maximise the number of children who feel the benefit of these communities. There will be an increased focus on reducing the level of staff absences and restricted duties, to maximise available staffing and time out of room.
- Education Leaders and managers will continue to identify barriers to attendance at education, and mitigating actions that can be put into place. They will embed the new timetable, which is based on children's aspirations, and focus on delivering improvements in English by further developing the curriculum. There will be increased opportunities to read, establishing clear starting points, and ensuring that learners are aware of the level they are studying and their individual targets.

The Governor, with the support of the Deputy Director YCS Operations, will continue to progress the full Action Plan covering all the original priority and key concerns.

I remain committed to ensuring continued progress against HMYOI Feltham A's agreed Action Plan and I can assure you that through my operational assurance functions and with the support of the 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 establishment, I am encouraged that some progress is being made and that our monitoring of the site is in line with your findings.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Cornmell
Executive Director
Youth Custody Service

CC:

Amy Rees, HMPPS - Director General Chief Executive Officer Phil Copple, HMPPS - Director General of Operations