



HM Prison & Probation Service

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27 November 2025

Dear Martin,

HMIP reports on the inspection of Cardiff and the Vale PDU, Wales Region – October 2025

Thank you for your inspection reports for Cardiff and the Vale Probation Delivery Unit (PDU), where you made a total of seven recommendations.

In respect of the recommendations, I can confirm that all have been carefully considered and the Head of PDU with the support of the Regional Probation Director will ensure steps will be taken to address them as appropriate. This will include the following.

- Revised guidance and information exchange forms have been developed and issued in partnership with Police and Children's Services to strengthen the consistency and quality of safeguarding and domestic abuse information.
- Keeping People Safe Audits have been introduced as part of our Tier 1 Assurance approach to improve the quality and consistency of risk management practice.
- The new national management oversight framework is being implemented across the region to improve the quality of supervision, decision-making and case direction.
- A strengthened regional Senior Probation Officer (SPO) resilience and coaching framework will support confident leadership and effective oversight across all PDUs, ensuring that workforce planning, supervision and professional development are sustainable and aligned.

Whilst I acknowledge that there is still much work to be carried out at Cardiff and the Vale PDU, I am encouraged that positive outcomes were reported and note the following.

- The PDU has clear strategic aims to keep people safe and empower staff to deliver effective services, supported by a clear and concise staff plan that distils core priorities.
- Leaders are respected and influential across local partnerships, with a culture of healthy professional challenge and innovation.
- Staff remain dedicated and professional, showing resilience and flexibility in a demanding context, with a genuine commitment to the people they supervise and to public protection.

I remain committed to ensuring progress against HMIP recommendations 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 in line with your findings.

Yours sincerely

Ian Barrow
Area Executive Director HMPPS Wales

CC: Private Office
Kim Thornden-Edwards, HMPPS Chief Probation Officer
Nicola Davies, Regional Probation Director, Wales