

Visiting
Committee
Arbour Hill Prison
Arbour Hill
Dublin 7

Arbour Hill Visiting Committee - Annual Report 2012.

A Chara

Herewith is the Annual Report for the Visiting Committee for Arbour Hill Prison for the year ending December 2012.

The Visiting Committee

The Visiting Committee for Arbour Hill Prison (*at the start of 2012*) consisted of two members: Ms Angela O'Connor & Ms Ita Greene; [*both of these member's term of office to expire in April 2012*]. On 21/01/2012 Ms Rita Hayes, Dr Abdullah Bulbulia & Ms Wilhelmina Daly were appointed for three year terms. On 28/03/2012 Mr Paddy Murray was also appointed for a three year term. With the expiry of the office term of both Ms O'Connor and Ms Greene the Committee was reduced to four members and remained so until the re-appointment of Ms Angela O'Connor for a three year term in October 2012 which brought the Committee to five at year's end.

The Committee members appointed met every month with at least two members of the Committee making unannounced visits to the prison per month in addition to the scheduled monthly meeting. The Visiting Committee frequently visited the prison before/during/after the monthly meetings and have had access to every area of the prison. While visiting the prison the Committee has made it a priority to make themselves available to the prison population so as to address any issues arising at earliest opportunity.

During the course of the monthly meetings the committee met with Governor Dowling [*Or Deputy Governor Hughes*] who briefed them on the day to day issues pertaining to the operation of the prison and matters pertinent to the welfare of the prisoners detained within Arbour Hill Prison.

Visiting Committee 'Visits'.

At the next monthly meeting each 'Visiting Member' reported to the Committee on their visit during the previous month. In general the reports from the 'visits' were complementary apropos the very high standard of care provided to those incarcerated at this facility. The standard of hygiene and the cleanliness throughout every part of the prison is exemplary. Arbour Hill's kitchen is again in receipt of the EMERALD AWARD; [5TH consecutive year] this is the highest award available (nationally) in the E.I.Q.A.

Food

The quality of the food provided to the prisoners is excellent with a number of different needs being met in relation to diet, culture and religion. A twenty eight day rotating menu plan is in operation - and the preparation of the food is to the highest standard - as is evident by the awards achieved by the catering department:-

2008	EIQA Sapphire Award - National Winner.
2009	EIQA Emerald Award - National Winner.
2010	EIQA Emerald Award - National Winner.
2011	EIQA Emerald Award - National Winner.
2012	EIQA Emerald Award - National Winner.

Arbour Hill Prison although quite old, is totally refurbished and maintained to a very high standard *prisoner welfare* is the primary concern of the management and staff in Arbour Hill Prison and this was evident in every monthly visitor report. The physical environment of the prison is maintained to a very high standard, the cleaning regime is exemplary and one can only describe the prison environs as spotless.

Visits to Prisoners

Visits to prisoners at Arbour Hill are facilitated by appointment only: (10-00^{AM} to 12^{Noon} + 2-00^{PM} to 4-00^{PM} on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturdays. There are no visits on Thursdays or Sundays.) . In the visitor's waiting room there are play facilities for children who are awaiting a visit and tea/ coffee is also available.

Prisoner Visits and representations to the Committee

Two prisoners sought formal meetings with the Committee during the year:-

- 1) Requests were outside the Committee's remit; (*Operational Issues*) prisoner advised as to the correct process to progress his requirements.
- 2) This prisoner has a number of issues currently before the High Court; advised that as these issues are already before the courts it would not be

appropriate for the Visiting Committee to become involved as a High Court Judge is already deliberating on same.

This avenue of engagement with prisoners is an important function of the Visiting Committee. The members of the Committee have made themselves accessible both formally at the monthly meeting; and informally during prison visits to deal with any issue presented to them by the prison population. It is very important that prisoners have an independent complaints facility, notwithstanding how well, or how ill founded any complaint may be, its important that there be an independent assessor and that those incarcerated by the state are not denied an avenue of complaint independent of those in whose charge they are placed.

Workshops and Training

Notwithstanding the implementation of the “Transformation Process” and despite the inevitable pressure brought about by reducing staff numbers, the work and rehabilitation ethos of the prison has prevailed. The emphasis of this prison on training, rehabilitation and the participation in work and/or education of every prisoner is quite exemplary. It is noteworthy that on every occasion we visited the prison, the workshops and school were fully operational. The enthusiasm of the staff, the prisoners and indeed the teachers in the school is to be admired.

There are six separate work areas: -

Print.

Prints material for a number of government departments providing work and training for up to nine prisoners.

Fabric.

The fabric workshop produces the bed linen required within the prison service. Fire resistant bed-sheets and pillow cases are distributed throughout the country from this facility.

Braille.

The Braille room teaches Braille and transcribes books and periodicals into Braille for people who are visually impaired. This is the only workshop of its type in the country and also the only place in Ireland that repairs “Braille Machines”. The expertise and dedication evident here is more than impressive.

Woodwork.

The wood workshop provides furniture for a number of charities and occasionally for the prison itself. This workshop has been upgraded to provide training and work for the prisoners who are assigned here.

- Upgrade cell furniture.
- Supply furniture for Barretstown Castle.
- Environmental awareness support for charitable and public bodies.
[Bird Boxes, Bat Boxes etc].

Waste management.

The Waste Management area is a large area which recycles prison waste (*including electrical waste from other areas in the prisons estate*) and provides valuable training and work for a number of prisoners and in the past enabled a number of prisoners to get employment post release!

Kitchen.

The Catering Department is managed by prison staff, assisted by a number of prisoners, some of whom are undergoing certified training. It provides valuable training opportunities for the participants. The Industrial Manager in conjunction with the educational department co-ordinates and implements professional qualifications and training accredited by FETAC for participants. The performance of the catering area as acknowledged by afore mentioned EIQA awards is nothing short of extraordinary. The variety, quality and wholesomeness of the food provided is most impressive; not to mention the routine provision of specialist diets to cater for cultural, religious and medical needs.

Education

The provision of education is one of the rehabilitation tools available within Arbour Hill Prison. The Education Department is managed by Dublin City VEC. It provides learning opportunities from Basic Literacy to Degree level and beyond. The courses available are accredited by the Department of Education and include both the Junior and Leaving Certificate.

There are also FETAC and HETAC accredited courses available. A large percentage (76%) of prisoners participates in courses in the Education Department.

Additionally there is a considerable focus on Arts & Crafts as part of a holistic approach to personal development within an educational framework. Painting, Pottery & Stained Glass are just some of the artistic pursuits engaged in by prisoners. The Committee could not, but be impressed by the creative quality and artistic content of the work produced. Engagement in such activities is, in itself, therapeutic and we would very much like to see greater exposure of the artistic output as an acknowledgement of the commitment and skill of participants.

There is also a well stocked library available for prisoners to study and read for leisure. Due to staff shortage and to ensure that library opening times do not suffer due to staffing constraints, it is operated by a prisoner who has been trained by the DCC Library Services.

Building Better Lives

The Building Better Lives Programme was launched in 2009 and replaces the original Sex Offender Treatment Programme previously available in the prison. The programme is based on a Canadian Model and is empirically proven to be an effective intervention for the profile of the sex offender prisoner. Arbour Hill Prison is currently the centre of excellence for the treatment and rehabilitation of sex offenders. The programme is delivered by the psychology department. There are currently seven psychologists involved in the implementation of this therapeutic programme. The number of participants in the BBL is significantly higher than its predecessor with more than one hundred and thirty prisoners participating. Programme concludes with a three way meeting where a handover to the Probation Service takes place with a view towards a supported and in many cases, a supervised release, that will hopefully offer the best chance for a seamless integration back in to the community.

Other Treatment Programmes and Services Provided

In addition to the BBL programme Arbour Hill provides other treatment modules to assist in developing important life and social skills such as Anger Management, Successful Living, Preparation for Independent Living, Group skills, Thinking Skills and Alternatives to Violence Programmes. The St. Vincent De Paul, Legion of Mary, A.A., GROW & The Samaritans also provide valuable supportive services.

Listeners Programme.

This is an important service provided by willing and trained prisoners to their peers. *'The listeners'* are trained to listen to concerns, issues, and fears in a confidential setting. Training is provided by the Samaritans; this

service provides an important emotional support for fellow prisoners and may well be a contributing factor in the low level of self injury at this facility.

Medical & Services

Medical services including a 24 hour medical orderly/ 24 hour nursing cover, dental care, visiting Psychiatrist/ Psychiatric Nurse, Psychotherapist, Psychologists, Chiropodist, and optical services as required. The Committee notes that there are a number of very elderly and feeble prisoners who require constant medical attention and very high medical support.

Special Observation Room

[Part of the function of the Visiting Committee is to monitor the use of the Special Observation Room].

It was used on one occasions during the year.

- ✓ One that occasion prisoner threatened self harm and medical team decided on special observation as a precautionary measure; after 48 hours medical team decided to move prisoner back to ordinary cell, however the prisoner then requested to be returned to Special Observation Suite where re remained for a further 24 hours at which point he returned to his regular cell. Medical Officer visited the prisoner daily and nursing staff saw him at regular intervals throughout the duration of his stay in the Special Observation Suite.

✓

Deaths whilst in Custody.

We are very pleased to note that there were no deaths in Arbour Hill Prison During 2012.

Suicide

The Committee is pleased to note that there were no suicide attempts this year!

It is particularly noteworthy that Arbour Hill Prison did not have a single incident of self inflicted injury in the course of 2012. This simple stat may say more about the regime and modus operandi of this facility than anything this Committee could possibly say.

Complaints Procedure.

Any prisoner can request a complaint form from any member of staff at any time. All complaint forms are numbered and recorded; consequently once a form has been drawn down the '*complaint*' has to be pursued to a conclusion and retained for inspection by the *Inspector of Prisons* or other prison authority who might seek to have sight of same.

Probation service

This prison is very fortunate to have the service of a very active and dedicated probation team, consisting of two Probation Officers and one part time Senior Probation Officer. They work with prisoners both individually and collectively in addressing a broad range of issues.

- All new committals are interviewed within 3 working days of arrival.
- Individual offence work with (voluntary) prisoners.
- Facilitate group work, Anger Management, Group Thinking Skills.
- Complete Parole Board and repatriation / transfer and prisoner reports.
- Pre - release work, including referrals, notification and linkage with homeless services.
- Co - ordination of AA and GROW meetings.
- Liaise with family where relationships are strained or dysfunctional.
- Key participants in the delivery of Integrated *Sentence Management*.

Notwithstanding all of the above the Probation Service continues to assist prisoners in managing their time in custody, encouraging them to participate in education and rehabilitation programmes and provide support for them in reintegrating back into the community. Additionally they assess the potential risk that individual prisoners may pose to society and with increasing frequency have to provide or organise court imposed supervision, sometimes for many years post release.

Integrated Sentence Management (ISM).

In the course of 2012 ISM suffered a minor setback in that staff availability was reduced as a consequence of '*Transformation*', however we are hopeful that the ongoing roll-out of the same process will eventually produce '*dedicated staff*' to re-activate the process in early 2013. Late last year there were 140 prisoners within the process, in the course of 2012 as a consequence of releases and new committals this number dropped back to approx 125. Notwithstanding same prison authorities are confident that participation will be close to 100% by end of 2013. Each prisoner admitted to ISM has a Personal Development Plan with stated goals for his time in custody and provision for ongoing mentoring/support as well as periodic review. The prisoners selected are actively involved in developing and reviewing their own plan. Personnel from Prisons Operations, Psychology,

Education and Probation together with dedicated staff from Arbour Hill are now involved in the roll out of ISM. This programme is important as it is a mechanism for managing a prisoner's sentence; it assesses prisoners risks and needs, facilitates the development of a management programme for prisoners to best utilise their time in prison and assists in their reintegration back into society. ISM is particularly important in Arbour Hill Prison as it links with the Building Better Lives Programme.

- Again this year the Committee would like to express its concerns that despite the importance of this initiative there is still no specific staff or resources allocated to ISM!

Drug Free Prison!

The profile of prisoner, the prevailing ethos and the vigilance of management and staff in Arbour Hill Prison provides for a drug free facility. Visits are strictly monitored and prisoners are also monitored closely to ensure that there is no drug misuse within the prison. Random drug testing is part of the day to day routine at Arbour Hill and prisoners are acutely aware that if they wish to avail of the many excellent services that Arbour Hill has to offer, they are expected to be 100% drug free. It's encouraging to see that the vast majority of the prisoner population are very willing to support this approach!

Staffing.

Total staff level has fallen to 100 (*Dec 2012*): this is a cause for concern and we acknowledge that this scenario has produced sustained and ongoing difficulties for the remaining staff and management. They are to be complimented that all prisoner services have been maintained and are functioning as per normal.

Summary.

Arbour Hill Prison is very well managed, promoting an ethos of constructive support in a calm and caring atmosphere. The relationship between staff and prisoners although professional, is also a very humane and caring one. The ongoing development of the *Building Better Lives Programme* and Integrated *Sentencing Management* provide important initiatives not just within Arbour Hill Prison, but in the Irish Prison Service generally - and for the wider community at large, as they positively contribute to reintegration and risk management in the post release scenario. Additionally the staff and management are now in the early stages of implementing a new operational

system called “*Incentivised Regimes*”. This is a system designed to encourage and ‘*incentivise*’ positive participation in intervention therapies and educational opportunities during the currency of sentence.

Accommodation and post release support remain the big issues confronting persons who have served long terms in custodial care when discharged into a community where they are at best unwelcome and in many cases they are subject to persecution and harassment. There is an ethical and moral responsibility on any civilised society to make some provision for the care and support of such persons in the immediate aftermath of their discharge from a long period of custodial care.

The provision of such supports is a crucial factor in reducing recidivism and provides a mechanism through which ‘*needs & risks*’ can be managed and reduced. As in 2011 *Case Conferences* are scheduled well in advance of all such ‘releases’; all relevant parties are invited, but as this initiative lacks any statutory or legislative basis there are occasions when key services, with prime responsibilities, simply decline to become involved! It is to the credit of all at Arbour Hill that they have managed to locate accommodation and initiate contact with Community Welfare in every case; in many cases they have continue to source a range of supports varying across a broad spectrum of needs; e.g. Therapeutic, Psychological, Psychiatric and General Medical. Again this year the Probation Service is to be commended for their energy and industry in liaising with external agencies /charitable organisations without whom much of the current post release support would simply not be possible. In a small number of cases former prisoners are availing of “Voluntary Supervision” provided by the Probation Service. This is indicative of the level of ‘fear and isolation’ that many ex-prisoners feel on re-entry back into the wider community.

As a civilised and caring society there is an ethical, moral and indeed practical need to provide structures and supports for vulnerable people on discharge from custodial care. The fact that many of these people have sexual and/or behavioural problems merely accentuates the urgency of this requirement. Notwithstanding that it is our instinctive reaction to identify and empathise with ‘victims’ it’s imperative that we be cognisant of our responsibility to put in place structures that will assist offenders in ‘*risk management*’ and bring about a reduction in recidivism. Such an approach is not just in the interest of offenders but also addresses the interest of society as a whole, because it offers the most positive and constructive mechanism for returning offenders into the wider community, while being cognisant of their needs within a managed and structured support mechanism.

It's most regrettable that there is no specific legislation to address this 'gap' in our capacity to positively respond to the needs of some of the most isolated and rejected in all of society. It is abundantly clear to us that there is an enormous need for some type of supported transitional accommodation to facilitate acclimatisation and re-integration. The cost of such a provision would not be of major consequence in the overall context of the Justice/Welfare budgets. Such a development would finally bring to an end the 'merry go round' of who is, or is not, responsible for the care of such persons post release. As a humane and caring society we are not entitled to just abandon those who are vulnerable and alone, this is especially true when such persons have sexual/behavioural issues. Indeed it is very much in our interest that some structure be put in place to support such persons - and in so doing offer them the best possible chance of successful rehabilitation and reintegration back into the community. Programmes like *Building Better Lives* when enhanced by concepts such as *Integrated Sentence Management* are wonderful initiatives, however without a functioning post release support structure there are limitations on what can be achieved. Even a cursory 'strategic review' of our penal system could not but recognise that our penal policy requires an immediate re-think around *sentencing policy, supported reintegration* together with a greater emphasis on *accommodation and regimes*. Everything is not possible overnight, but we need to begin the process without further delay as not doing so merely imposes a cost that no enlightened society should or would wish to bear. In the interim many vulnerable and/or dysfunctional individuals will continue to be discharged into an unsupervised and unsupported abyss that inevitably results in a free fall back into the *criminal system - Gardai - courts* and finally *prison* - and then we start all over again!

Appreciation.

We wish to thank the Governor and staff for their co-operation and assistance and for their willingness and desire to create and sustain a pleasant and caring regime. It would be remiss of this Committee not to acknowledge the dedication, humanity and professionalism of everyone who contributes to making Arbour Hill such a positive and caring place.

The Chairperson and Members of the Visiting Committee, wish to express their thanks and appreciation to P J McAndrew, our ever diligent Secretary. P J is always available to us. He could not be more helpful, supportive and obliging. The Committee knows that we can always rely on him and he facilitates us unhesitatingly. We thank P J for his great work during the year.

This concludes the Arbour Hill Visiting Committee Annual Report for 2012.



Ms Rita Hayes _____ [Chairman].

Dr Abdullah Bulbulia. _____

Ms Wilhelmina Daly. _____

Ms Angela O'Connor. _____

Mr Paddy Murray. _____

Coiste Cuairte Chnoc an Arbhair – Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2012

A Chara

Leis seo, tá Tuarascáil Bhliantúil an Choiste Cuairte do Phríosún Chnoc an Arbhair don bhliain dar críoch an Nollaig 2012.

An Coiste Cuairte

Bhí an Coiste Cuairte do Phríosún Chnoc an Arbhair (ag tús 2012) comhdhéanta de bheirt bhall: Angela O'Connor Uas. & Ita Greene Uas.; [bhí téarma oifige na beirte ball sin le dul in éag in Aibreán 2012]. Ar an 21/01/2012, ceapadh Rita Hayes Uas., an Dr Abdullah Bulbulia agus Wilhelmina Daly Uas. ar feadh téarmaí trí bliana. Ar an 28/03/2012, ceapadh an tUasal Paddy Murray ar feadh téarma trí bliana. Mar gheall ar dhul in éag na dtéarmaí oifige de chuid O'Connor Uas. agus Greene Uas., laghdaíodh an líon ball ar an gCoiste go ceathrar ball go dtí gur athcheapadh Angela O'Connor Uas. ar feadh tréimhse trí bliana i nDeireadh Fómhair 2012. D'fhág sé sin go raibh cúigear ball ar an gCoiste ag deireadh na bliana.

Tháinig na baill den Choiste a ceapadh le chéile gach mí agus thug beirt bhall ar a laghad den Choiste cuairteanna neamhfhógartha ar an bPríosún gach mí, mar aon leis an gcruinniú míosúil sceidealta. Thug an Coiste Cuairte cuairt ar an bPríosún go rialta roimh chruinnithe míosúla, le linn cruinnithe míosúla agus tar éis cruinnithe míosúla agus tá rochtain aige ar gach cuid den phríosún. Agus cuairt á tabhairt aige ar an bPríosún, rinne baill den Choiste an-iarracht iad féin a chur ar fáil do phobal an phríosúin d'fhonn aghaidh a thabhairt ar aon saincheisteanna a tháinig chun cinn chomh luath agus is féidir.

Le linn na gcruinnithe míosúla, bhuail an coiste leis an nGobharnóir Dowling [Nó an Leas-Gobharnóir Hughes] a thug faisnéis don choiste ar na saincheisteanna laethúla a bhain le hoibriú an phríosúin agus ar cheisteanna a bhí ábhartha maidir le leas na bpríosúnach a bhí á gcoimeád laistigh de Phríosún Chnoc an Arbhair.

'Cuirteanna' an Choiste Cuairte.

Ag an gcéad chruinniú míosúil eile, thug gach 'Ball Cuairte' tuairisc don Choiste maidir leis an gcuart a thug sé/sí le linn na míosa roimhe sin. Ar an iomlán, bhí na tuairiscí ó na *'cuairteanna'* fabhrach maidir leis an gcaighdeán an-ard cúraim a cuireadh ar fáil dóibh siúd a bhí á gcoimeád ag an tsaoráid seo. Is eiseamláireach atá an caighdeán sláinteachais agus glaineachta ar fud gach coda den phríosún. Arís eile, fuair cistin Chnoc an Arbhair DÁMHACHTAIN NA SMARAGAIDE [don 5ú bliain as a chéile], is é sin an dámhachtain is airde atá ar fáil (sa tír) san E.I.Q.A.

Bia

Tá an bia a chuirtear ar fáil do na príosúnaigh ar chaighdeán den scoth agus freastalaítear ar roinnt riachtanais éagsúla ó thaobh aiste bia, cultúir agus creidimh de. Tá biachlár rothlach ocht lá is fiche i bhfeidhm – agus ullmaítear an bia de réir an chaighdeáin is airde – mar atá soiléir ó na dámhachtainí a bhain an rannán lónadóireachta amach:-

2008	Dámhachtain Saifre	EIQA - Buaiteoir Náisiúnta.
2009	Dámhachtain Smaragaide	EIQA - Buaiteoir Náisiúnta.
2010	Dámhachtain Smaragaide	EIQA - Buaiteoir Náisiúnta.
2011	Dámhachtain Smaragaide	EIQA - Buaiteoir Náisiúnta.
2012	Dámhachtain Smaragaide	EIQA - Buaiteoir Náisiúnta.

Cé go bhfuil Príosún Chnoc an Arhair measartha sean, tá sé go hiomlán athchóirithe agus cothabháiltear é de réir caighdeán an-ard. Tá *leas na bpríosúnach* ar an bpríomhchúram atá ar an lucht bainistíochta agus foirne i bPríosún Chnoc an Arhair agus bhí sé sin an-soiléir i ngach tuairisc chuairteora mhíosúil. Cothabháiltear timpeallacht fhisiciúil an phríosúin de réir caighdeán an-ard, tá an réim ghlantacháin eiseamláireach agus tá purláin an phríosúin gan smál.

Cuairteanna ar Phríosúnaigh

Éascaítear cuairteanna ar phríosúnaigh ag Príosún Chnoc an Arhair trí choinne amháin:

(10- 00 ^{AM} go dtí 12 ^{Meán lae} + 2-00^{PM} go dtí 4-00 ^{PM} ar an Luan, ar an Máirt, ar an gCéadaoin, ar an Aoine agus ar an Satharn. Níl aon chuairteanna ar an Déardaoin ná ar an Domhnach. I seomra feithimh na gcuairteoirí, tá áiseanna súgartha do leanaí atá ag feitheamh le cuairt agus tá tae/caife ar fáil freisin.

Cuairteanna Príosúnach agus uiríll chuig an gCoiste

Lorg beirt phríosúnach cruinnithe foirmiúla leis an gCoiste le linn na bliana:-

- 1) Bhí na hiarrataí lasmuigh de shainchúram an Choiste; (*Saincheisteanna Oibríochta*) tugadh comhairle don phríosúnach maidir leis an bpróiseas ceart chun a chuid riachtanas a thabhairt ar aghaidh.
- 2) Tá roinnt saincheisteanna a bhaineann leis an bpríosúnach os comhair na hArd-Chúirte faoi láthair; ós rud é go bhfuil na saincheisteanna sin os comhair na gcúirteanna cheana féin, cuireadh in iúl dó nár cheart don Choiste Cuairte a bheith páirteach iontu toisc go raibh na saincheisteanna sin á mbreithniú ag Breitheamh Ard-Chúirte.

Tá an bealach seo rannpháirtíochta le príosúnaigh mar fheidhm thábhachtach de chuid an Choiste Cuairte. Chuir na baill den Choiste iad féin ar fáil, ar bhealach foirmiúil ag an gcruinniú míosúil agus ar bhealach neamhfhoirmiúil le linn cuairteanna ar an bpríosún, chun déileáil le haon saincheist a chuir pobal an phríosúin in iúl dóibh. Tá sé antábhachtach go bhfuil saoráid neamhspleách ghearán ar fáil do phríosúnaigh. Beag beann ar cé chomh cruinn nó míchruinn atá aon ghearán, tá sé tábhachtach go bhfuil measúnóir neamhspleách ann agus nach ndiúltaítear bealach gearán atá neamhspleách ar an stát dóibh siúd atá á gcoimeád.

Ceardlanna agus Oiliúint

Beag beann ar chur chun feidhme an “Phróisis Bhun-Athraithe” agus in ainneoin an bhrú dhosheachanta a tháinig chun cinn mar gheall ar líon laghdaithe foirne, d’éirigh le hobair agus le héiteas athshlánaithe an phríosúin. Is an-eiseamláireach atá an bhéim a chuireann an príosún seo ar oiliúint, ar athshlánú agus ar rannpháirtíocht in obair nó in oideachas de chuid gach príosúnaigh. Is fiú a lua go raibh na ceardlanna agus an scoil go hiomlán feidhmiúil ar gach ócáid a thugamar cuairt ar an bpríosún. Ní mór díograis na foirne, na bpríosúnach agus, go deimhin, na múinteoirí sa scoil a urramú.

Tá sé réimse oibre ar leith: -

Priontáil.

Priontáiltear ábhar le haghaidh roinnt ranna rialtais, rud a chuireann obair agus oiliúint ar fáil do suas le naonúr príosúnach.

Fabraic.

Táirgeann an cheardlann fabraice na héadaí leapa is gá laistigh den tseirbhís príosún. Dáiltear braillíní agus clúdaigh philiúir atá dófhriotaíoch ar fud na tíre ón tsaoráid seo.

Braille.

Sa seomra Bhraille, teagasctar Braille agus tras-scríobhtar leabhair agus tréimhseacháin go Braille do dhaoine lagamhairc. Is í seo an t-aon cheardlann dá cineál sa tír agus is í an t-aon áit in Éirinn a dheisíonn “Meaisíní Bhraille”. Tá saineolas agus tiomantas den scoth le feiceáil anseo.

Adhmadóireacht.

Soláthraíonn an cheardlann adhmadóireachta troscán do roinnt carthanas agus don phríosún féin ó am go ham. Rinneadh uasghrádú ar an gceardlann seo chun oiliúint agus obair a chur ar fáil do na príosúnaigh a shanntar anseo.

- Troscán cillín a uasghrádú.
- Troscán a sholáthar do Chaisleán Bhaile Bhairéid.
- Tacaíocht feasachta comhshaoil do chomhlachtaí carthanachta agus poiblí. [Boscaí Éin, Boscaí Ialtóige etc].

Bainistíocht dramhaíola.

Tá an réimse Bainistíochta Dramhaíola ina réimse mór ina n-athchúrsáiltear dramhaíl an phríosúin (*Iena n-áirítear dramhaíl leictreach ó limistéir eile in eastát na bpríosún*) agus ina gcuirtear oiliúint agus obair luachmhar ar fáil do roinnt príosúnach. San am atá caite, chuir sé sin ar chumas roinnt príosúnach fostaíocht a fháil tar éis iad a scaoileadh!

An Chistin.

Tá an Rannán Lónadóireachta á bhainistiú ag foireann an phríosúin, le cúnamh ó roinnt príosúnach. Tá roinnt de na príosúnaigh sin ag dul faoi oiliúint dheimhniú. Soláthraíonn sé deiseanna luachmhara oiliúna do na rannpháirtithe. I gcomhar leis an rannán oideachais, déanann an Bainisteoir Tionsclaíoch comhordú agus cur chun feidhme ar cháilíochtaí gairmiúla agus ar oiliúint ghairmiúil arna gcreidiúnú ag FETAC le haghaidh rannpháirtithe. Tá feidhmíocht an réimse lónadóireachta, mar atá aitheanta ag dámhachtainí EIQA thuasluaite, a bheag nó a mhór iontach. Is an-suntasach atá éagsúlacht, cáilíocht agus folláine an bhia a chuirtear ar fáil; gan trácht ar an ngnáthsholáthar aistí speisialta bia chun freastal ar riachtanais chultúrtha, chreidimh agus leighis.

Oideachas

Tá soláthar oideachais ar cheann de na huirlisí athshlánaithe atá ar fáil i bPríosún Chnoc an Arbhair. Tá an Rannán Oideachais á bhainistiú ag Coiste Gairmoideachais Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath. Soláthraíonn sé deiseanna forbartha, idir Litearthacht Bhunúsach agus leibhéal Céime agus níos airde ná sin. Tá na cúrsaí atá ar fáil creidiúnaithe ag an Roinn Oideachais agus áirítear leo an Teastas Sóisearach agus an Ardeistiméireacht araon.

Tá cúrsaí creidiúnaithe FETAC agus HETAC ar fáil freisin. Glacann céatadán mór (76%) de phríosúnaigh páirt i gcúrsaí sa Rannán Oideachais.

Chomh maith leis sin, cuirtear béim shuntasach ar Ealaín agus Cheardaíocht mar chuid de chur chuige iomlánaíoch i leith forbairt phearsanta laistigh de chreat oideachais. Tá Péinteáil, Potaireacht agus Gloine Dhaite i measc roinnt de na gníomhaíochtaí ealaíne a nglacann na príosúnaigh páirt iontu. Bhí an Coiste an-tógtha leis an gcáilíocht chruthaitheach agus leis an ábhar ealaíonta a bhí sna saothair a táirgeadh. Tá sé teiripeach páirt a ghlacadh i ngníomhaíochtaí den sórt sin agus ba mhaith linn tuilleadh aschur ealaíne a fheiceáil chun aitheantas a thabhairt do thiomantas agus do scil na rannpháirtithe.

Tá leabharlann dhea-stocáilte ar fáil do phríosúnaigh, áit inar féidir le príosúnaigh staidéar a dhéanamh agus léamh ar son na fóillíochta. Mar gheall ar ghanntanas foirne agus chun a chinntiú nach n-imríonn srianta foirne tionchar diúltach ar amanna oscailte na leabharlainne, tá sí á hoibriú ag príosúnach a bhí oile ag Seirbhísí Leabharlainne Chomhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath.

Saolta Níos Fearr a Thógáil

Seoladh an Clár um Shaolta Níos Fearr a Thógáil i 2009 agus glacann sé áit an Chláir Chóireála do Chiontóirí Gnéis a bhí ar fáil roimhe sin sa phríosún. Tá an clár bunaithe ar Mhúnla Cheanada agus chruthaigh fianaise eimpireach é a bheith ina idirghabháil éifeachtach do phróifíl an phríosúnaigh is ciontóir gnéis. Is é Príosún Chnoc an Arbhair an t-ionad barr feabhais do chóireáil agus d'athshlánú ciontóirí gnéis faoi láthair. Tá an clár á sheachadadh ag an rannán síceolaíochta. Tá seachtar síceolaithe páirteach i gcur chun feidhme an chláir theiripigh seo faoi láthair. Tá an líon rannpháirtithe sa Chlár um Shaolta Níos Fearr a Thógáil i bhfad níos airde ná an líon rannpháirtithe sa chlár roimhe, agus tá níos mó ná céad duine is tríocha páirteach ann. Cuirtear an clár i gcrích trí chruinniú tríbhealach a thionól. Ag an gcruinniú sin, aistrítear an clár chuig an tSeirbhís Promhaidh d'fhonn scaoileadh faoi thacaíocht agus, i bhformhór na gcásanna, scaoileadh faoi mhaoirseacht a bhaint amach. Táthar ag súil go dtabharfaidh sé sin an deis is fearr le haghaidh comhtháthú gan uaim ar ais isteach sa phobal.

Cláir agus Seirbhísí Eile um Chóireáil a Chuirtear ar Fáil

Mar aon leis an gClár um Shaolta Níos Fearr a Thógáil, cuireann Príosún Chnoc an Arbhair modúil eile chóireála ar fáil chun cabhrú le scileanna tábhachtacha saoil agus sóisialta a fhorbairt. I measc na gclár sin, tá Bainistíocht Feirge, Maireachtáil Rathúil, Ullmhú do Mhaireachtáil Neamhspleách, Scileanna Grúpa, Scileanna Smaointeoireachta agus Roghanna Eile ar Fhoréigean. Cuireann Cumann Naomh Uinseann de Pól, Léigiún Mhuire, Alcólaigh gan Ainm, GROW fit agus na Samáirigh seirbhísí luachmhara tacaíochta ar fáil freisin.

An Clár Éisteach.

Seirbhís thábhachtach atá á cur ar fáil ag príosúnaigh thoilteanacha agus oile dá

gcuid piaraí is ea seo. Cuirtear oiliúint ar “na hÉisteoirí” in éisteacht le hábhair imní, le fadhbanna agus le hábhair eagla i dtimpeallacht rúnda. Cuireann na Samáraig an oiliúint ar fáil; soláthraíonn an tseirbhís seo tacaíocht mhothúcháinach thábhachtach do phríosúnaigh eile agus is féidir go bhfuil sí ag cur leis an leibhéal íseal féinchochair ag an tsaoráid seo.

Leigheas agus Seirbhísí

Áirítear le seirbhísí leighis clúdach giolla lachta/altranais 24 uair, cúram fiacra, Síciatraí/Altra Síciatrach ar cuairt, Sícteiripeoir, Síceolaithe, Cosla, agus seirbhísí optúla de réir mar is gá. Tugann an Coiste dá aire go bhfuil roinnt príosúnaigh an-aosta agus fhanna a bhfuil gá acu le cúram leanúnach leighis agus le tacaíocht an-ard leighis.

An Seomra Breathnóireachta Speisialta

[Tá sé mar chuid d’fheidhm an Choiste Cuairte faireachán a dhéanamh ar úsáid an tSeomra Breathnóireachta Speisialta].

Úsáideadh é ar ócáid amháin le linn na bliana.

✓ Ar an ócáid sin, bhagair príosúnach go ndéanfadh sé féinchochar air féin agus chinn an fhoireann leighis breathnóireacht speisialta a úsáid mar bheart réamhchúraim; tar éis 48 uair, chinn an fhoireann leighis an príosúnach a aistriú ar ais chuig a ghnáthchillín. Mar sin féin, d’iarr an príosúnach ina dhiaidh sin go dtabharfar é ar ais chuig an Seomra Breathnóireachta Speisialta, áit inar fhan sé ar feadh 24 uair eile go dtí gur fhill sé ar ais chuig a ghnáthchillín. Thug Oifigeach Leighis cuairt ar an bpríosúnach ar bhonn laethúil agus chonaic an fhoireann altranais é go tráthrialta i rith an ama a chaith sé sa Seomra Breathnóireachta Speisialta.

Básanna príosúnach agus iad faoi Choimeád.

Táimid an-sásta a thabhairt faoi deara nach raibh aon bhásanna i bPríosún Chnoc an Arbhair le linn 2012.

Féinmharú

Tá áthas ar an gCoiste a thabhairt faoi deara nach raibh aon iarrachtaí féinmharaithe i mbliana.

Is fiúntach a lua nach raibh aon teagmhas díobhála féindéanta i bPríosún Chnoc an Arbhair le linn 2012. Is féidir go gcuireann an staitistic shimplí sin níos mó in iúl faoin réim agus faoin modus operandi sa tsaoráid seo ná aon rud a d’fhéadfadh an Coiste a rá.

Nós Imeachta Gearán.

Is féidir le príosúnach ar bith foirm ghearáin a iarraidh ó bhall foirne ar bith ag am ar bith. Déantar gach foirm ghearáin a uimhriú agus a thaifeadh; chomh luath agus atá foirm tarraingthe anuas, ní mór an ‘gearán’ a leanúint go dtí go dtabharfar chun críche é agus ní mór í a choinneáil lena hiniúchadh ag Cigire na bPríosún nó ag údarás eile príosúin a d’fhéadfadh féachaint leis an bhfoirm sin a fheiceáil.

An tSeirbhís Promhaidh

Tá an-ádh ar an bpríosún seo foireann promhaidh atá an-ghníomhach agus an-tiomanta a bheith aige, rud atá comhdhéanta de bheirt Oifigeach Promhaidh agus Oifigeach Sinsearach Promhaidh páirtaimseartha amháin. Oibríonn siad le príosúnach ar bhonn aonair agus ar bhonn comhchoiteann araon chun dul i ngleic le raon leathan saincheisteanna.

- Cuirtear gach cime nua faoi agallamh laistigh de 3 lá oibre óna dteacht.
- Obair chiona aonair le príosúnaigh (dheonacha).
- Obair ghrúpa, Bainistíocht Feirge, Scileanna Smaointeoireachta Grúpa a éascú.
- Tuairiscí an Bhoird Pharúil agus tuairiscí aidsúichithe / aistrithe agus príosúnach a chomhlánú.
- Obair réamhscailte, lena n-áirítear atreoruithe, fógraí agus nascacht le seirbhísí do dhaoine gan dídean.
- Cruinnithe AA agus GROW a chomhordú.
- Idirchaidreamh a dhéanamh le teaghlach i gcásanna ina bhfuil caidrimh eascairdiúil nó mífhaidhmiúil.
- Rannpháirtithe tábhachtach i seachadadh na *Bainistíochta Comhtháite Pianbhreitheanna*.

D'ainneoin gach ceann de na nithe thuas, leanann an tSeirbhís Promhaidh ar aghaidh le cúnamh a thabhairt do phríosúnaigh a gcuid ama faoi choimeád a bhainistiú, tugann sí spreagadh dóibh páirt a ghlacadh i gclár oideachais agus athshlánaithe agus tugann sí tacaíocht dóibh agus iad ag ath-chomhtháthú isteach sa phobal. Ina theannta sin, déanann siad measúnú ar an riosca a bhféadfadh príosúnaigh aonair seasamh dó don tsochaí. Tá méadú ag teacht ar an líon cásanna nach mór dóibh maoirseacht arna forchur ag na cúirteanna a chur ar fáil nó a eagrú iontu. I gcásanna áirithe, leantar ar aghaidh leis an maoirseacht sin ar feadh blianta fada tar éis scaoilte.

Córas Comhtháite Pianbhreitheanna (ISM).

I rith 2012, cuireadh cúl ar ISM nuair a laghdaíodh infhaighteacht foirne mar gheall ar *'Bhun-Athrú'*. Mar sin féin, tá súil againn go dtairgfídh cur i bhfeidhm leanúnach an phróisis sin 'baill foirne thiomanta' agus go n-athghníomhachtóidh sé sin an próiseas go luath i 2013. Bhí 140 príosúnach laistigh den phróiseas ag deireadh na bliana seo caite. Mar gheall ar scaoilte agus ar chimithe nua, laghdaíodh an líon sin go dtí thart ar 125 príosúnach le linn 2012. Ina ainneoin sin, tá údaráis an phríosúin muineach go mbeidh rannpháirtíocht gar do 100% faoi dheireadh 2013. Tá Plean Forbartha Pearsanta ag gach príosúnach a ligtear isteach in ISM, agus is é atá sa Plean sin spriocanna luaite dá chuid ama faoi choimeád agus soláthar do mheantóireacht/thacaíocht leanúnach agus athbhreithniú tréimhsiúil. Glacann na príosúnaigh roghnaithe páirt ghníomhach ina gcuid pleananna féin a fhorbairt agus a athbhreithniú. Tá pearsanra ó na Rannáin Oibríochtaí, ó na Rannáin Síceolaíochta, ó na Rannáin Oideachais agus ó na Seirbhísí Promhaidh de chuid na bpríosún, mar aon leis an bhfoireann thiomanta ó Chnoc an Arbhair, páirteach i gcur i bhfeidhm ISM anois. Tá an clár seo tábhachtach mar gur meicníocht chun pianbhreith príosúnaigh a bhainistiú é; mar go ndéanann sé measúnú ar rioscaí agus ar riachtanais na bpríosúnach, mar go ndéanann sé éascú ar chlár bainistíochta a fhorbairt do phríosúnaigh ionas gur féidir leo an chuid is fearr a bhaint as a gcuid ama i bpríosún, agus mar go gcabhraíonn sé lena gcomhtháthú ar ais isteach sa tsochaí. Tá tábhacht ar leith ag baint le ISM i bPríosún Chnoc an Arbhair mar go nascann sé leis an gClár um Shaolta Níos Fearr a Thógáil.

- Arís i mbliana, ba mhaith leis an gCoiste a gcuid ábhair inní in iúl nach leithdháiltear aon fhoireann shonrach ná aon acmhainní sonracha ar ISM beag beann ar thábhacht an tionscnaimh seo!

Príosún atá Saor ó Dhrugaí!

A bhúi le próifíl na bpríosúnach, leis an éiteas atá i réim agus le faireachas an luchta bainistíochta agus foirne i bPríosún Chnoc an Arbhair, is saoráid atá saor ó dhrugaí é. Déantar dianmhonatóireacht ar chuirteanna agus déantar dlúthmhonatóireacht ar phríosúnaigh chun a chinntiú nach bhfuil aon mhí-úsáid drugaí laistigh den phríosún. Tá tástáil randamach drugaí mar chuid den ghnáthamh laethúil ag Príosún Chnoc an Arbhair agus tuigeann príosúnaigh go maith go bhfuiltear ag súil leo a bheith 100% saor ó dhrugaí más mian leo leas a bhaint as an iomad seirbhísí den scoth a chuireann Príosún Chnoc an Arbhair ar fáil. Tá sé spreagúil a fheiceáil go bhfuil formhór mór phobal an phríosúin an-sásta tacú leis an gcur chuige sin!

Líon Foirne.

Thit an líon iomlán foirne go 100 duine (*Nollaig 2012*): is cúis imní é sin agus aithnímid go raibh sé sin ina chúis le deacrachtaí leanúnacha don lucht foirne agus bainistíochta atá fágtha. Ní mór iad a mholadh toisc go bhfuil na seirbhísí príosúnach uile fós i bhfeidhm agus ag feidmiú mar a bhí.

Achoimre.

Bainistítear Príosún Chnoc an Arbhair go han-mhaith, agus cothaíonn sé éiteas tacaíochta cuidithí i dtimpeallacht atá socair agus dea-chroíoch. Cé go bhfuil caidreamh gairmiúil idir an fhoireann agus na príosúnaigh, is caidreamh an-daonnachtúil agus an-chomhbhách é. Tá forbairt leanúnach an *Chláir um Shaolta Níos Fearr a Thógáil* agus *Bainistíochta Comhtháite Pianbhreitheanna* ina dtionscnaimh thábhachtacha, ní amháin i bPríosún Chnoc an Arbhair, agus i Seirbhís Príosún na hÉireann i gcoitinne – agus don phobal níos leithne – toisc go gcuireann siad ar bhealach dearfach le hath-chomhtháthú agus le bainistíocht riosca i gcás iarscaoilte. Ina theannta sin, tá an lucht foirne agus bainistíochta i mbun na luathchéimeanna chun córas nua oibríochta ar a dtugtar *“Réimeanna Dreasaíthe”* a chur chun feidhme. Tá an córas sin deartha chun rannpháirtíocht dhearfach a spreagadh agus a *‘dhreasú’* i dteiripí idirghabhála agus i ndeiseanna oideachais le linn saolré pianbhreitheanna.

Tá cóiríocht agus tacaíocht iarscaoilte fós ar na príomh-shaincheisteanna roimh dhaoine a chuir téarmaí fada isteach faoi chúram coinneála nuair a scaoiltear iad isteach sa phobal. Ní bhíonn fáilte rompu de ghnáth agus, i mórán cásanna, bíonn siad faoi réir géarleanúna agus ciaptha. Tá dualgas eiticiúil agus morálta ar aon sochaí shibhialta soláthar de chineál éigin a dhéanamh do chúram agus do thacaíocht a chur ar fáil do dhaoine den sórt sin díreach tar éis iad a scaoileadh ó thréimhse fhada a chaitheamh faoi chúram coinneála.

Tá soláthar tacaíochtaí den sórt sin ina thoisic ríthábhachtach maidir le hatitimeachas a laghdú agus tá sé ina mheicníocht trinar féidir *‘riachtanaí agus rioscaí’* a bhainistiú agus a laghdú. Mar a bhí amhlaidh i 2011, sceidealtar *Comhdhála ar Chásanna* tamall maith roimh gach *“scaoileadh”* den sórt sin; tugtar cuireadh do na páirtithe cuí go léir ach, toisc nach bhfuil aon bhonn reachtúil ná reachtaíochta ag an tionscnamh seo, tarlaíonn sé ó am go ham go ndiúltaíonn seirbhísí tábhachtacha, a bhfuil dualgais thábhachtacha orthu, do pháirt a ghlacadh ann! Is mór an clú do gach duine ag Príosún Chnoc an Arbhair gur éirigh leo cóiríocht a fháil agus teagmháil a thionscnamh le Leas an Phobail i ngach cás; i

mórán cásanna, lean siad ar aghaidh le raon leathan tacaíochtaí a fhoinsiú do raon leathan riachtanas; e.g. Riachtanais Theiripeacha, Riachtanais Shíceolaíocha, Riachtanais Shíciatracha agus Riachtanais Leighis Ghinearálta. Arís i mbliana, ní mór an tSeirbhís Promhaidh a mholadh as a gcuid fuinnimh agus díchill maidir le hidirchaidreamh a dhéanamh le gníomhaireachtaí seachtracha/ le heagraíochtaí carthanachta. Gan na daoine sin, ní bheifí in ann cuid mhaith den tacaíocht reatha iarscaoilte a chur ar fáil. I líon beag cásanna, tá leas á bhaint ag príosúnaigh as “**Maoirseacht Dheonach**” atá á cur ar fáil ag an tSeirbhís Promhaidh. Léiríonn sé sin an leibhéal ‘eagla agus aonraithe’ a mhothaíonn cuid mhór iarphríosúnach agus iad ag teacht ar ais isteach sa phobal níos leithne.

Mar shochaí atá sibhialta agus comhbhách, tá gá eiticiúil, morálta agus, go deimhin, praiticiúil le struchtúir agus le tacaíochtaí a chur ar fáil do dhaoine leochaileacha agus iad á scaoileadh ó chúram coinneála. Cuireann an fhíríc go bhfuil fadhbanna gnéasacha nó iompraíochta ag cuid mhór de na daoine sin le práinn an riachtanais sin. D’ainneoin go ndéanaimid ceangal le ‘híospartaigh’ le hinstinn, tá sé tábhachtach go bhfuilimid feasach ar an bhfreagracht atá orainn struchtúir a chur i bhfeidhm a chabhróidh le ciontóirí i ‘**mbainistíocht riosca**’ agus a chuirfidh laghdú in atitimeachas ar fáil. Níl cur chuige den sórt sin chun leas na gciontóirí amháin, ach tugann sé aghaidh ar leas na sochaí ina hiomláine freisin, mar go dtairgeann sé an mheicníocht is dearfaí agus is cuidithí chun ciontóirí a thabhairt ar ais sa phobal níos leithne, agus tugann sé aird ar a gcuid riachtanais laistigh de mheicníocht tacaíochta atá bainistithe agus struchtúrtha.

Is mór an trua nach bhfuil aon reachtaíocht shonrach ar fáil chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar an ‘mbearna’ seo inár gcumas le freagairt go dearfach do na riachtanais atá ag roinnt de na daoine is leithlisithe agus is diúltaithe inár sochaí ar fad. Tá sé ríshoiléir dúinn go bhfuil gá ollmhór le cóiríocht idirthréimhseach faoi thacaíocht de chineál éigin chun cuibhiú agus ath-chomhtháthú a éascú. Ní bheadh an costas a bhaineann leis an soláthar sin tábhachtach i gcomhthéacs iomlán na mbuiséad Ceartais/Leasa. Chuirfeadh forbairt den sórt sin deireadh faoi dheireadh leis an ‘**áilleagán intreach**’ maidir le cé atá, nó nach bhfuil, freagrach as cúram a thabhairt do na daoine sin tar éis scaoilte. Toisc gur sochaí dhaonnachtúil agus chomhbhách sinn, nílimid i dteideal iad siúd atá leochaileach agus ina n-aonar a thréigean. Tá sé sin fíor go háirithe i gcás ina bhfuil fadhbanna gnéasacha/iompraíochta ag na daoine sin. Go deimhin, tá sé chun ár leas féin go gcuirtear struchtúr éigin i bhfeidhm chun tacú leis na daoine sin – agus, trí é sin a dhéanamh, an seans is fearr agus is féidir d’athshlánú rathúil agus d’ath-chomhtháthú isteach sa phobal a thairiscint dóibh. Tá cláir ar nós *an Chláir um Shaolta Níos Fearr a Thógáil* ina dtionscnaimh iontacha agus iad breisithe ag coincheapa ar nós *Bainistíocht Pianbhreithe Chomhtháite*. Mar sin féin, tá teorainn lenár féidir a bhaint amach in éagmais struchtúr feidhmiúil tacaíochta iarscaoilte. Níorbh féidir le ‘**hathbhreithniú straitéiseach**’ mear fiú ar ár gcóras pionósach teip air aithint go bhfuil athsmaoineamh láithreach ag teastáil maidir le *beartas pianbhreitheanna*, le *hath-chomhtháthú faoi thacaíocht* i dteannta tuilleadh béime ar *chóiríocht* agus ar *réimeanna*. Ní féidir gach rud a dhéanamh thar oíche, ach ní mór dúinn an próiseas a thosú gan tuilleadh moille toisc go bhfochuirfear costas nár cheart a bheith ar shochaí thuisceanach ar bith, ná nár mhaith le sochaí thuisceanach ar bith é a bheith uirthi, mura ndéantar amhlaidh. Idir an dá linn, leanfar le roinnt mhaith daoine leochaileacha nó mífheidhmiúla a scaoileadh go duibheagán nach ndéantar maoirseacht air agus nach dtacaítear leis, rud a bhfuil ina chúis dhosheachanta le titim ar ais go dtí an *córas dlí choiriúil* – *Gardaí* – *cúirteanna* agus *príosún* sa deireadh – agus tosaímid arís é ina dhiaidh sin!

Buíochas.

Is mian linn buíochas a ghabháil leis an nGobharnóir agus leis an bhfoireann as a gcomhar agus a gcúnamh agus as an toilteanas agus an dúil a bhí acu i réim thírúil agus chomhbhách a chruthú agus a choimeád ar bun. Bheadh sé sleamchúiseach mura dtabharfadh an Coiste seo aitheantas do thiomantas, do dhaonnacht agus do

ghairmiúlacht na ndaoine go léir a chabhraíonn le háit chomh dearfach agus comhbhách sin a dhéanamh de Phríosún Chnoc an Arhair.

Is mian leis an gCathaoirleach agus le Baill den Choiste Cuairte a mbuíochas a ghabháil lenár Rúnaí síordhícheallach, PJ McAndrew. Bíonn PJ ar fáil dúinn i gcónaí. Níorbh fhéidir leis a bheith níos cabhraí, níos tacúla agus níos garúla. Tá a fhios ag an gCoiste gur féidir linn i gcónaí a bheith ag brath air agus déanann sé éascaíocht dúinn gan bhraiteoireacht. Gabhaimid buíochas le PJ as a chuid oibre den scoth i rith na bliana.

Is é seo deireadh Thuarascáil Bhliantúil an Choiste Cuairte do Phríosún Chnoc an Arhair do 2012.

Rita Hayes Uas.

An Dr Abdullah Bulbulia

Wilhelmina Daly Uas.

Angela O'Connor Uas.

An tUas. Paddy Murray