

## CUSTODY VISITING SCHEME: ANNUAL REPORT 2010

1. Details of the annual statistics for the Custody Visiting Scheme for 2009/10 and a comparison with the previous year, are attached as Appendix 1.
2. There are currently 44 Custody Visitors and each Custody Visitor Panel is responsible for one custody suite which is visited twice a week.
3. In 2009/10, Custody Visitors made a total number of 290 visits compared to 293 visits in 2008/09. Of the 3345 persons being detained at the time of the visits, 962 were unavailable to accept a visit for a number of reasons including in interview, asleep, doctors visit, detainee violent/drunk or Custody Visitor refusal. Of the 1451 detainees who were available and selected to be seen, 1390 (95.8%) consented to meeting the Custody Visitors and 61(4.2%) declined. In the previous year, there were 1565 detainees available to be seen and 1489 (95.1%) consented to a visit and 76 (4.9%) declined.
4. Of the detainees seen, 707 (47.4%) raised issues which related mainly to food/drink, additional bedding, information about their release, medical issues and phone calls. Last year, 753 (50.5%) detainees seen raised issues. The majority of issues raised by detainees were resolved at the time of the visit by the Custody Officer. Any issues, which cannot be resolved by the Custody Officer, are referred to the Chief Inspector responsible for custody for consideration and appropriate action. It is important to note, however, that the vast majority of reports received from Custody Visitors were complimentary about the conditions in the Custody Suites.
5. The Scheme continues to operate well in Cheshire and this was echoed in the recent Police Authority Inspection Report which stated that the scheme 'ensures the proper treatment of those detained including the most vulnerable' and referred to the increase in the acceptance rate of visits by detainees as a result of self-introduction by Custody Visitors.

APPENDIX 1

ANALYSIS OF VISITS MADE BY ALL THREE PANELS

<b>NUMBER OF VISITS MADE</b>	<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>
	<b>293</b>	<b>290</b>
<b>NUMBER OF DETAINEES</b> <i>(all persons held in custody at the time of visit)</i>	<b>3823</b>	<b>3345</b>
<b>DETAINEES NOT AVAILABLE FOR A VISIT</b>	<b>816</b>	<b>962</b>
<b>DETAINEES DECLINING A VISIT</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>DETAINEES CONSENTING TO A VISIT</b>	<b>1489</b>	<b>1390</b>
<b>DETAINEES NOT SELECTED FOR A VISIT</b>	<b>1442</b>	<b>932</b>
<b>DETAINEES RAISING ISSUES</b>	<b>754</b>	

<b>TIME</b>	<b>NO. OF VISITS</b>	
	<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>
00.00 - 06.00	1	
06.00 - 09.00	17	16
09.00 - 12.00	98	102
12.00 - 15.00	45	46
15.00 - 18.00	29	44
18.00 - 21.00	90	72
21.00 - 00.00	13	10

<b>DAY OF WEEK</b>	<b>NO. OF VISITS</b>	
	<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>
MONDAY	53	37
TUESDAY	40	44
WEDNESDAY	30	38
THURSDAY	27	33
FRIDAY	57	59
SATURDAY	39	45
SUNDAY	47	34