

Staff survey methodology and results

HMP Bronzefield

August 2025

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Staff survey methodology

A survey of staff is carried out at the start of every inspection, the results of which contribute to the evidence base for the inspection.

HMI Prisons researchers developed an online questionnaire consisting of structured questions exploring the experience of staff in the establishment. There are also four open questions which allow staff to describe their experiences and tell inspectors anything else they think is important. These comments are not published or shared with the establishment.

Distribution

HMI Prisons researchers provide a link to the survey embedded in a covering email. The covering email explains the purpose of the survey, that participation is voluntary and gives assurances about confidentiality and anonymity, enabling staff to give their informed consent to participate. This email is sent to the establishment with a request that it is forwarded to all staff working at the establishment; an HMI Prisons researcher is copied into this email to provide assurance. Additionally, researchers distribute postcards to wing offices for the attention of staff about details of the online survey which included the link.

Survey response

The survey was sent to 446 email addresses at Bronzefield. Staff were given seven days to complete the survey. We received a total of 108 completed questionnaires.

We cannot be sure that every member of staff working at the establishment received the email. Furthermore, because the online survey is set up to enable multiple responses from a single device (to facilitate participation by those who share computers), it is possible that individuals may have completed the questionnaire more than once. It is therefore not possible to provide an accurate response rate.

Full survey results

The full survey results for staff at Bronzefield provide a breakdown of responses for only the structured questions. Percentages have been rounded and therefore may not add up to 100%.

The full inspection report is available on our website at: https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmiprisons/inspections/

Staff survey

Q1	Please tick the option which most clos Frontline operational staff Operational manager Health care staff Education, skills and work staff Administrative staff Other staff				11 (10%) 2 (2%) 15 (14%) 22 (20%)		
Staff	well-being						
Q2	How well is the establishment support Very well Quite well Neither well nor poorly Quite poorly Very poorly				32 (30%) 17 (16%) 23 (21%)		
Q3	How would you describe your morale Very high High Neither high nor low Low Very low Oner well-being				33 (31%) 24 (22%) 27 (25%)		
Q4	Please indicate to what extent you agr						
	Reasonable steps are being 54 (50 taken to keep prisoners safe	lly Somewhate agree (40%) 43 (40%)	disagree) 5 (5%)	disagree 5 (5%)	,		
Lead	Leadership in this establishment						
Q5	How clearly are the top priorities of th Very clearly Quite clearly Not very clearly Not at all clearly I don't know the top priorities				37 (34%) 46 (43%) 14 (13%) 6 (6%)		

Q5a	To what extent do you agree or disagree with this establishment's prioritie Strongly agree	34 (33%) 40 (39%) 13 (13%) 11 (11%)
Q6	Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree that your knowledge are sufficient to do your job well (e.g. training and development opportunities) Strongly agree	: 53 (49%) 43 (40%) 10 (9%)
Q7	How often do you meet with someone (a manager or mentor) to discuss he progressing in your role? About once a month	63 (58%) 20 (19%) 4 (4%) 10 (9%)
Q8	Please rate the quality of support you receive from your line manager: Very good	17 (16%) 8 (7%)

Q9 Please use the scale to rate the following statements:

	Always	Often	Occasionally	Never	Don't know
Governors/directors and senior managers in this establishment are approachable (e.g. they take time to listen)	31 (29%)	25 (23%)	33 (31%)	16 (15%)	3 (3%)
Governors/directors and senior managers in this establishment acknowledge and celebrate good work	29 (27%)	30 (28%)	37 (34%)	11 (10%)	1 (1%)
Governors/directors and senior managers set high standards of behaviour for staff	33 (31%)	24 (22%)	37 (35%)	12 (11%)	1 (1%)
Governors/directors and senior managers challenge poor behaviour by staff	22 (20%)	23 (21%)	40 (37%)	18 (17%)	5 (5%)
Governors/directors encourage staff to reflect on and learn from their mistakes	22 (20%)	31 (29%)	25 (23%)	17 (16%)	13 (12%)
Governors/directors use feedback from prisoners, staff and others to generate ideas, create plans and measure progress	25 (23%)	33 (31%)	21 (20%)	16 (15%)	12 (11%)

Raising concerns

Q10 Do you know what the formal procedure is to raise concerns (whistleblowing) in this establishment?

Yes	82 ((76%))
No	26 ((24%))

Q11 Have you formally raised concerns about this establishment?

Yes	12	(11%))
No	96	(89%))

Q12 Would you formally raise concerns if you had any?

No	6 (6%)
Don't know	17 (18%)

Q14	Who or what organisation did you raise your concern to? A colleague	10 1 0 0 1 1 4 2
	Other	. 2
Q15	Were your concerns taken seriously? Yes No Don't know	` ,
Q16	Was any effective action taken in response to the concerns you had raised Yes	? 0 (0%) 11 (92%) 1 (8%)
Q18	Have you ever witnessed staff behaving inappropriately towards prisoners establishment? Yes	30 (28%)
Q19	Have you ever witnessed staff behaving inappropriately towards each othe establishment?	r at this
	Yes No Don't know	, ,