

Mary Molyneux

Week Commencing 10 April 2017
Rota Visit(s): Tuesday 11, Thursday 13 and Saturday 15 April 2017

1. General Comments

Headcount 461 on Thursday. Very busy. Quite a few issues related to **D2159** and **D1255** under Adults at Risk DSO, highlighting need for clarity on accountabilities and multi-disciplinary approach between Home Office, G4S and Healthcare. **D1255** was discharged and returned to **DPA** with G4S escort on 12/4/17 and **D2159** was back to hospital with bed watch on 13/4/17, with return to Brook expected 18/4/17.

The Command Suite was opened late Friday night for a Serious Incident: c 40/50 detainees in a 'protest' on Dove Courtyard and refusing to come in. Eventually disbanded itself, after officers went in to the courtyard to help a detainee who had fallen ill. Some detainees charged at the staff, resulting in two assaults on staff. It seems that after this, the rest of the detainees wanted to go in voluntarily. It all resulted in six men on rule 40, with uses of force on three of them – two rule 40 for the assaults and four identified from CCTV as inciting the protest. I had literally got as far as the front door at home when Oscar called to say that the protest was over and all the men had gone in and the Command Suite was closed at 11pm. Communication from the Oscars was excellent throughout – numerous calls being updated from before Command Suite opened until it closed.

I went in on Saturday morning to see those in CSU/attend the rule 40 reviews. To me, it was unclear why it all started, with the rule 40 men giving a mix of reasons, ranging from unhappy with immigration, protesting about food to I thought it would be 'fun'. No apparent single theme, six different nationalities and a mix of detainees who had been at Brook for some time and newer arrivals.

2. Mandatory Visits

Scheduled Wing: A

ARUN WING	0 Applications	1	ACDTs	1SLP
A long queue for lunch when I got there – about 30 detainees and backed up the stairs. Noisy, but orderly. There had been a problem with roll count on Thursday, but at 1.20pm and still with a line, two men came up to me from the queue to complain angrily that lunch regime on the Wing was often like this - they said rarely lunch before 12.50 and sometimes 1.10pm.				

Another complained about the ventilation, saying it often blew dust and affected his breathing. I said I'd ask about the A/C maintenance regime.

Generally, the Wing looked a bit scruffy, but it was clean especially around the bins and all working well in the laundry.

On another visit, a detainee pushed past me to gain access to the Wing after I (and another detainee) had told him several times that I couldn't let him in. Pointed him out to Wing officer who quickly gave him a firm warning.

BECK WING	0 Apps	3	ACDTs	2 SLPs
-----------	--------	---	-------	--------

The new electronic security barrier at the entrance wasn't live yet, as waiting on new ID swipe cards. It came up at the Security Meeting (below): aim is to reduce use of staff time at the door so they can be better used on the Wing.

Reviewed ACDTs and SLPs. Staff told me there was a shortage of phones leading to delays in getting them for new arrivals. Men could do calls to lawyers etc by going to Welfare.

The B Courtyard was closed when I looked, but clean.

CLYDE WING	1 Applications	4	ACDTs	3 SLPs
-------------------	----------------	---	-------	--------

A man was shouting at officers about having to share three to a room. The officers said they were getting quite a bit of this now. (See Security Meeting -below.) I found the Wing to be dirty on both days: bins near full even before lunch and used bedding under stairs in food bin area; chicken bones and butt ends and accumulated dirt on the stairs and tables dirty before lunch one day and still not cleaned at 2pm after lunch. But the shower areas were clean and all ok in the laundry.

I had quite a bit of time on this Wing: reviewed ACDTs and SLPs. **D2559** has been on food refusal but not saying why and little engagement. Although later he did come and ask for help to make a phone call. Also, various queries to follow, including on **D2462** for rule 35 (below), paid work, **D381** says he is considering a civil case for slander, diabetic food requirements, BID and legal aid access and if it's possible to stop DVLA selling an impounded car to cover fines.

One man asked why the Shop no longer sold smaller £5 packets of tobacco. The cheapest now is £11/12. He says it 'forces' detainees to go for the cheaper option of spice or to have to buy tobacco from other detainees – who are probably spice dealers and will sell tobacco at inflated prices and maybe even spike it with spice. I learned later from E Wing staff that <30g pouches have been withdrawn due to legislation. Presumably all part of the drive to reduce smoking.

The courtyard wasn't in use, but looked tidy.

DOVE WING	0 Applications	1	ACDTs	SLPs
------------------	----------------	---	-------	------

I didn't spend much time on this Wing. No particular issues when I was there and it looked in good shape. The Courtyard looks very good with new benches in. By my count, about 70 men there on a sunny morning.

EDEN WING	0 Applications	4	ACDTs	SLPs
------------------	----------------	---	-------	------

A lot of time here this week. On Tuesday, attended the doctor's examination of **D2159** and then his ACDT C/W review. Also spoke briefly to the doctor after. **D2159** appears to hear (eg responded to doctors' requests to squeeze hands and poke out tongue), but just would not engage with anyone. He looks painfully thin and very weak. There were concerns that if he did choose to start eating again, it needed to be managed or could cause health problems. Healthcare were to do a plan that could be followed by both Wing staff and the Kitchen. His situation was also discussed at the 8.30am Director's Meeting and a Healthcare meeting later, and there was clearly a lot of senior/management and Healthcare focus on how he should best be cared for both now and longer term and whether he remained fit for detention or a flight (as I recall, he is scheduled for removal to Italy on 21/4). The paramedics who would fly with him ('aero-medics'?) had come in on Wednesday evening and assessed him fit to fly at that time.

D2159 was taken to hospital in a scheduled ambulance on Thursday morning for more detailed assessment. I saw him being taken from E Wing to the ambulance and he showed no sign of resistance and had been told where he was going. I heard that there are also concerns that he is starting to develop bed sores. Apparently he had a slice of toast and a couple of mouthfuls of tea in hospital on 14/4 and senior G4S had visited him. But he still will not engage or say what he wants, which presents a real difficulty in managing for him – including if he was to be released. So, there will continue to be issues around both his care and fitness for detention or removal if he returns from hospital as scheduled for 18/4.

D1255 (he told me his name was **NAME IRRELEVANT** but I'm not sure of that): another subject of a lot of Home Office, G4S and Healthcare focus when I was in on Tuesday. Main concerns were around his care and welfare such that, even if he was to be released as not suitable for detention, there first needed to be a plan for him as there were indicators of mental health issues and also did not appear to be capable of making his own way back to **DPA**. Questions about who was responsible for what, but eventually a co-ordinated plan was agreed (including informing his NHS contacts in **DPA**) and he was released on Wednesday - with two G4S officers

accompanying him to **DPA** and then back that night. I spoke with **D1255** on E Wing on Tuesday and (in a very quiet and quite withdrawn way) he said that detention had caused his current problems, but he would be able to change his behaviour to what it was before if released – eat properly, wash himself and his clothes. He kept saying that he had friends in **DPA** and a room to stay. He also said that he could get to **DPA** alone if given a ticket – I don't think that there was any way he could have. He had previously been in CSU and when I finished talking with him it was lock-up time and he wanted to go back there, rather than E Wing. Staff and I tried to cajole him to his room, but he made a move to run away to CSU – staff blocked him and then bundled him into his room. In my view, it was all done reasonably and without any harm whatsoever to the detainee, but I was later surprised that there was no use of force report – given that we usually see them for even minor contacts.

Learning from **D2159** and **D1255** cases in particular, I think that there are plans for G4S, Healthcare and Home Office to hold regular scheduled multi-disciplinary meetings on the more complex adults at risk cases.

Spent time with ACDT man **D1368** who had sewn his lips together and not wanting to eat. He got his translator on the phone: issues are mainly around immigration, but he also complained that some staff (or Healthcare?) had main fun of him and his sewn lips. I gave him a Complaint Form in Farsi. Later in the week, I heard that he'd asked Healthcare to remove the stitches and I saw him out and about on E Wing looking much happier.

D2141 due to be removed to Poland, but says he will be homeless. A Polish speaking officer (Alex), whom he clearly placed a lot of trust in, was doing a great job both of translating in his ACDT review but also she had made efforts to contact Red Cross in Poland and then a local social worker in Poland to see if they could help.

CSU	5 Detainees	7 Rule 40	0	Rule 42
Numbers are as at 15/5/17 am. In CSU: D151 D275 D523				
D343	and D1103	Also on r 40 on E Wing D2497 (on constant watch) and D417 All except D417 were involved in the Friday night incident. Attended all their r 40 reviews, most denied involvement or wouldn't engage in meaningful way, and r40 was extended to late Monday 17/4 for all except D343 with Home Office seeking transfers out for the five. D343 was contrite, saying he was just trying to be heard about his immigration – he has RDs for Somalia on 17/4 and came off r40 on Sunday evening.		

D2497 was on constant watch because he threatened to hang himself when taken to CSU. He wouldn't engage at all during his review -to the point where I wondered if he spoke English, but staff said he did. Later in the morning, he indicated he wanted to talk and a fellow detainee acted as interpreter. **D2497** said he pushed/assaulted the officer on Friday night because it triggered memories of his family being killed. He eventually apologized and agreed that he would speak with the mental health nurse. He says he has claimed asylum, but it wasn't clear what stage it was at or maybe had failed.

D417 on for refusing to share and scheduled for The Verne that day, but then refused to go and so back on r 40 on E Wing. But by Sunday afternoon he agreed to share and back on wing. Other calls during the week: 10/4 **D1255** off r40; 11/4 **D1971** needed full search before charter due to self-harm concerns; 11/4 **D2159** and **D1020** on and later off due to concerns for own well-being; 13/4 fight **D170** and **D2056** and a refusal to share; 15/4 **D3778** on for damage to property and threatening staff, and 16/4 **D672** refused to go on escorted RDs and threatening harm to self and others, locked in his room on D Wing but agreed to come out later and walk down to CSU.

HEALTHCARE - AND HOME OFFICE REF RULE 35

A number of visits for help with diabetic man's App and questions on two rule 35 reports status

below. Also observed doctor's visit with [D2159] on E Wing.

On r 35: in my report for rota for w/c 19/12/16, I said that 'it looked to me that the steps and timelines set out in the newish DSO 09/2016 were being followed' by the Home Office staff at Brook. 'Mainly to log and keep track of the wait for the r35 decision from the responsible person and ensure that it was done in the required timeframe. Besides the entries in CID, there was an additional reminder tool at Brook with a large whiteboard showing live cases, deadlines and responsible people.'

Based on a check of two (out of six) outstanding rule 35 cases listed on the whiteboard this week, I don't have the same confidence. For [D2462] his r35 torture report had gone to a TCU caseworker who (from info on the board) asked for it to be retyped due to typing errors and bad grammar. Which 'stopped the clock' on the otherwise tight deadlines for making a r35 decision. I saw [D2462] and his report on C Wing. It had some typos and wouldn't get top marks in an English class, but I thought that the import was very clear and was there really any material benefit from a retype. Further, from the board it didn't appear that BH HO had chased the retype anyway, or a further info request from a caseworker on [D2499] r35 medical report.

Questions from all this: - monitoring quality and training of BH's r 35 doctors; - power of caseworker to stall the process; - is the chasing up procedure being followed consistently at BH HO; - impact on detainee, as the clock doesn't stop for him. In fact, the delay and having heard nothing seemed to be having a detrimental effect on [D2462]

I should say that both Healthcare and HO staff were very helpful and open in answering queries.

KITCHEN

Visited twice on Thursday. Spoke with John about whether any impact from increasing numbers. He said nothing they couldn't manage with more use of existing equipment. Generally, just what he described as two small niggles: the main wings now have two trolleys each and there is sometimes a delay in getting all trolleys back (which G4S does). I happened to be there later when the last lunch trolley came back in at 2.45pm. Second, the paid-work co-ordinator works shifts and if he isn't in, not clear who covers if the Kitchen is trying to sort staff issues.

The 'Halal' signs are no longer over some of the stoves – apparently they interfered with the vent operations. The food in prep looked very good – especially lots of nice looking vegetable in a Thai curry and I had a good quality butterbean curry on A Wing at lunch. I've always found the atmosphere in the Kitchen to be positive and good working between detainees and regular staff.

Visited later and got help sorting out an App about special food requirements for diabetics or others.

3. Optional Visits

ACTIVITIES

The 'Reading Room' is being converted to a cinema/games room. Chairs and equipment are in and Juls is just waiting for sound. I understand it will be a use and booking system similar to that for the Cultural Kitchen, and also be manned. As well as movies, there may be x-box type games.

ART ROOM

With the Cultural Kitchen, the happiest place at BH. I was there for about 10 minutes and always at least a dozen detainees there – but never the same 12. There is now a sewing machine – Sara brings in material remnants she has. Several men were making bags and one had made a statement waistcoat (some red furry lining), trousers and a bowtie to wear for his bail hearing. (Sadly, he lost.) A great atmosphere and lots of focussed activity and Sara has a very positive working relationship with the detainees.

BARBER'S SHOP AND SHOP

The Barber's shop was busy each time – I saw two different barbers.

The Shop: I went inside to see what tobacco they sold, after a query from a man on C Wing. The Aramak staffer was doing a good job of handling a lot of orders not in English.

CHAPLAINCY

CULTURAL KITCHEN Just one man in, cooking Indian curry for six to share in the courtyard with friends.

CONTROL ROOM

Not visited.

EDUCATION

Just happened to be closed when I passed. There will be an extra teacher – Juls said applications had just closed.

GYM

Very busy, and still no sound system.

IT SUITE

Busy, although the IT suite outside A Wing was quiet.

LIBRARY

Not very busy, but it was very sunny outside.

Welfare/Legal Aid: Next available regular appointment was 14 days away, with Easter in between. The emergency appointment slots were all already full – up to 13 days away. Even with public holidays, this all still seems a long wait.

RECEPTION / DISCHARGE

Six men here on Tuesday at about 8am, a few of them sleeping. I spoke with two, who said they had arrived at 1.30/2am. One should have gone to Morton Hall but he was told there was some problem there. Both had been offered a hot meal – the M Hall man refused his ‘as a protest’ (I think he may have turned out to be one of the men leading the Dove Courtyard protest on Friday night). Reception was steadily busy a few other times when I went through.

Spoke with two men in Departures as I was leaving on Thursday – one to Albania and one to Azerbaijan. Both were happy to be going. Two more there on Saturday.

VISIT CENTRE

Not visited.

VISIT HALL

Tuesday morning Home Office and lawyer meetings, plus video link hearings. All running smoothly and friendly interaction between staff and detainees. Staff said morning visits like this were easier to manage – the schedule was quite set. Afternoon visits tended to have more ad hoc meetings added and more difficult to locate detainees especially if it was free association time.

4. Meetings Attended

Attended the Director’s morning meeting on Tuesday and Thursday – a good way to get an overview and potential problems. Items included: 13 men had gone on a charter to Germany early on Tuesday morning, with two use of force.

Discussion about observations for food/fluid refusals now there is not an automatic need to open ACDT. Michelle Brown emphasized need to try to observe whether detainees were actually eating – ie, not enough just to see if food was picked up at the servery or the shop. Similarly, even if they have eaten, has it been retained and not vomited up.

Shortage of unlocked and available mobile phones.

Security Meeting 11/4/17

Use of force increase and handcuffs up significantly over last month – tied to increase in charters?

Detainee of Interest meetings to cover healthcare and wider issues too – not just security.

Trends/hotspots: - reduction in illicit substance use; - increase in aggression and violence towards staff; and - managing down number of detainees preventing removal by going on netting.

Large increase in throughput – result of Home Office project working? Also, increase in use of charters.

Rise in SLPs, especially due to Adults at Risk DSO.

4/5/17 Border Force sniffer dogs trial starts.

Impact of three to a room? Not resulting in increase in detainee on detainee violence, but in refusals to share and related problems for staff dealing with.

5. Upcoming Charter Flights

18/4/17 Pakistan

6. Outstanding matters to be addressed

- None

7. Points to be discussed at the next IMB meeting

IMB

- Monitoring food/fluid refusals
- Three to a room questions
- Rule 35 – HO processes and quality of medical reports

HOME OFFICE

- Rule 35 process and delays
- Wait time for a legal aid appointment

G4S

- Shortage of mobile phones.
- Sound system in the gym.
- Maintenance/cleaning regime for A/C.

MARY MOLYNEUX

7 July 20

Previous week's Rota IMB Member:

Joyce Turner

Next Week's Rota IMB Member:

Gareth Jones