UPDATE ON HMIP INDEPENDENT REVIEWS OF PROGRESS

We wrote to you in November 2018 to inform you of plans to pilot Independent Reviews of Progress (IRPs) for HMP Nottingham and HMP Woodhill, which have since been successfully carried out.

I note that HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, Peter Clarke, has recently written to you with an update on IRPs. As you are aware, the IRP process was launched following your Committee’s recommendation that HM Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) should be given additional resources to follow-up on their recommendations. The purpose being to assess progress in implementing the recommendations from previous inspection reports, to support improvement in prisons, and to identify barriers to progress. It is currently envisaged that there will be 15 - 20 IRP visits each year.

I am writing to inform you that as of last month, HMIP has carried out IRPs at HMPs Exeter; Chelmsford; The Mount and Birmingham and has a programme of further prisons they intend to visit.

HMIP will publish its first IRP report for HMP Exeter on 21 May 2019. All reports will be available online. HMPPS will publish its response to individual IRPs on the relevant prison finder page of the gov.uk website.

Yours ever,
Robert

ROBERT BUCKLAND QC MP