HMP & YOI Deerbolt
Family/Significant Others Policy
2019

“To make the community of Deerbolt an aspirational and inclusive family in readiness for the men in our care to return to their own families”

Governor M. Lewis
Head of Reducing Re-Offending
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Summary

HMP & YOI Deerbolt is a key partner within the Tees & Wear Prison Group with particular emphasis placed on caring for young men aged between eighteen and twenty four years of age. Our men are from a wide range of geographic and socio demographic areas from within the United Kingdom.

To ensure the delivery of the 2019 to 2020 strategic vision from the Office of Reducing Re-Offending the foundation is based on the strategic objective of Prisons that are positive places.
Our overarching aims

The overreaching aim of this policy is to provide a framework for effective management and development of family and significant others services within HMP & YOI Deerbolt. Deerbolt forms part of the Tees Wear Prisons.

The document will assist providers of services to deliver a co-ordinated and consistent approach and is formulated based on links to other strategies already in existence.

The vision of HMP & YOI Deerbolt is to:

- Helping to maintain family and significant others ties.
- Improving parenting skills of residents and improving their knowledge of their children’s and siblings education experience by using the NEPACS Family Support Worker to deliver ‘Dads at Deerbolt’
- Developing a family friendly focus in prisons where the needs of troubled families are supported.
- Providing an environment that fosters the improvement in the relationships between a man and their family and significant others through our visiting opportunities.
- For those men who do not receive family visits a mechanism is created to allow for different support.
Our Vision

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The Pathway

The three key aims of this pathway strategy are:

- Create an environment and structure that encourages family relationships which will provide better understanding of relationships on release
- Ensure that all individuals are provided with support mechanisms that will encourage supportive relationships both in custody and on release
- Provide an environment where family members, individuals and extended supportive relationships take place safely

To support delivery of this strategy in HMP & YOI Deerbolt, our policy consists of the following elements:

- What is happening now?
- What else can be done?
- Agreed plans and ambitions
- Agreed measures of improvement

The management of the progression of this pathway policy will take place at the reducing re-offending meeting, this pathway policy is a live document and the policy will be updated if necessary at that meeting and the actions will be monitored and reviewed at this forum.
HMP&YOI Deerbolt Visiting Schedule

Tuesday: 1.45pm – 15.45pm
Thursday: 1.45pm – 15.45pm
Saturday: 1.45pm – 15.45pm
Sunday: 1.45pm – 15.45pm

The Visitors Centre operated by NEPACS will open at 12.00pm and will close at 4.30pm.

The current allocation for Family Days are:

- 15th April 2019 Parent & Significant adult morning
- 18th April 2019
- 28th May 2019
- 27th June 2019 Parent & Significant adult morning
- 29th July 2019
- 26th August 2019 Parent & Significant adult morning
- 26th September 2019
- 22nd October 2019 Parent & Significant adult morning
- 12th November 2019 Parent & Significant adult morning
- 23rd December 2019
- 23rd January 2020 Parent & Significant adult morning
- 25th February 2020
- 26th March 2020
- 30th April 2020 Parent & Significant adult morning

Assisted visits are available for families on low income who may struggle with the cost of travel to visit their family member. Information is given in the visits centre or can be found by contacting the following- assisted.prison.visits@noms.gsi.gov.uk or call 01833 63 3349.

Booking information:
To book online, visit: www.gov.uk/prison-visits
### What is happening now?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Create an environment and structure that encourages family relationships which will provide better understanding of relationships on release</td>
<td>Work with NEPACs to provide 3rd Party Support in family disputes, including family court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure that all individuals are provided with support mechanisms that will encourage supportive relationships both in custody and on release</td>
<td>We work with NEPACs to provide support to both prisoners and family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide an environment where family members, individuals and extended supportive relationships take place safely</td>
<td>We provide a comfortable environment for visits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide consistent access to electronic means of family contact such as e-mail a prisoner</td>
<td>We hold regular family days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residential Officers participating on Hidden Sentence Training</td>
<td>We use the Ashley Dunn suite to deliver bad news</td>
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What else could be done?

Create an environment and structure that encourages family relationships which will provide better understanding of relationships on release

- Improve the visitor centre experience
- Hold focus groups with families
- Families’ concerns about mental and physical health should be properly recorded and action taken

Ensure that all individuals are provided with support mechanisms that will encourage supportive relationships both in custody and on release

- Develop external support contact points for those who have been in the care system
- Move the eligibility criteria from being led by the IEP system
- Chaplaincy to create a branch of Prison Visitors for young men who are isolated
- Identify those prisoners who do not get visits on reception

Provide an environment where family members, individuals and extended supportive relationships take place safely

- Improve the visitis centre experience
- Embed the frequency of Family Days to become part of the routine
- Hold focus groups with families
- Promote Family support during times of crisis
- Ensure visits start on time
### Agreed plans and ambitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Create an environment and structure that encourages family relationships which will provide better understanding of relationships on release</th>
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<tr>
<td>ACE training to be rolled out to Prisoner facing staff</td>
<td>Identify and support socially isolated young men</td>
<td>Update information in the Visitors Centre &amp; Visits Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deliver recommendations from Lord Farmer</td>
<td>Increase the frequency of Family Day visits</td>
<td>Risk Assessments consider all risks that may impact on family relationships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide inclusive visitors centres which supports the families of our prisoners</td>
<td>Work with staff, individuals and partners to provide emotional and practical support when encouraging relationships</td>
<td>Work with partners to deliver interventions that promote safeguarding elements for relationships such as the Parenting Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work with the NPS and CRCs to establish family circumstances for resettlement (such as HDC)</td>
<td>Adhering to child protection procedures, including the monitoring of visits, correspondence and our PIN phones</td>
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### Agreed measures of improvement

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<tr>
<td><strong>Quartley Visitor surveys to be launched</strong></td>
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<td>April 2020</td>
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<td>Standing agenda item at Reducing re-offending meeting</td>
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<td>Socially isolated men to reduce in number by participating in objective pathways</td>
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<th>Provide an environment where family members, individuals and extended supportive relationships take place safely</th>
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<td>Launch the &quot;hidden voice&quot; incentive.</td>
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Sources of information & support

Strategy Lead for HMP & YOI Deerbolt
Governor M Lewis
HMP & YOI Deerbolt Bowes Road Barnard Castle DL129BG 01833 63 3000

Barnardo’s locked out
www.barnardos.org.uk

Beyond Youth Custody
www.beyondyouthcustody.net

Prison Reform Trust
www.prisonreform.org.uk

The Care Leavers Association
www.clinks.org.uk

National Information Centre on Children of Offenders
www.nicco.org.uk

NEPACS
Supporting a positive future for prisoners and their families.
20 Old Elvet Durham DH1 3HW 0191 3757278
www.nepacs.co.uk
Notes