

CUSTODY VISITORS STATISTICS FOR JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2010¹

Please note that figures quoted are provisional and are subject to revision.

Part One – Monitoring the treatment of detainees in line with PACE, human rights provisions and Code of Ethics

1. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory visits

Custody Visitors made 294 visits during July to September 2010, 24% more than the number of visits carried out in July to September 2009 (237). Of these, 8 visits were not carried out for various reasons (see Table 2) and were deemed to be invalid.

Custody Visitors classified 237 out of the 286 valid visits (83%) as satisfactory. The Tyrone / Fermanagh team recorded the highest level of satisfaction (91%) while visits to the Antrim SCS recorded the lowest level of satisfaction (60%).

Table 1: Number of visits made to each station, July to September 2010²

Panel	Station	Satisfactory visits	Unsatisfactory visits	Total number of valid visits
Belfast/Antrim	Antrim Road	10	2	12
	Grosvenor Road	12	1	13
	Musgrave Street	17	5	22
	Strandtown	13	0	13
	Antrim	16	3	19
	Ballymena	17	0	17
	Lisburn	14	3	17
	Bangor	13	0	13
	Sub-total	112	14	126
Down/Armagh	Banbridge	17	7	24
	Downpatrick	6	3	9
	Lurgan	14	4	18
	Newtownards	0	0	0
	Newry	0	0	0
	Sub-total	37	14	51
North-West	Coleraine	13	7	20
	Limavady	19	0	19
	Strand Road	8	5	13
	Waterside	6	3	9
	Sub-total	46	15	61
Tyrone/Fermanagh (Ty/Fer)	Dungannon	15	4	19
	Enniskillen	12	0	12
	Omagh	12	0	12
	Sub-total	39	4	43
Antrim SCS	Antrim SCS	3	2	5
Total valid visits		237	49	286

¹ Newtownards and Newry are only opened on a temporary basis throughout the year.

² These figures exclude the 8 aborted visits.

- The reason why 8 visits were not carried out is given in Table 2.

Table 2: Reason why visits were not carried out, July to September 2010

Date	Custody suite	Reason why visit was not carried out
13-Jul-2010	Coleraine	Visit aborted as Custody Visitor did not show up.
21-Jul-2010	Antrim Rd	Visit aborted as DP was being booked in and took considerable time.
21-Jul-2010	Musgrave St	Visit aborted after 15mins as there was a violent detainee and the suite was very busy.
02-Aug-2010	Musgrave St	Custody Suite closed due to possible TB infection.
11-Aug-2010	Antrim	Visit aborted after waiting 26minutes. Informed by Sgt that custody staff were busy with booking DP's amongst other things.
02-Sep-2010	Musgrave St	Aborted - Booking in an aggressive DP and very busy, told we would need to wait 20 minutes.
13-Sep-2010	Omagh	Custody suite was closed.
17-Sep-2010	Dungannon	Due to communication difficulties I did not receive the message to say that the visit had been changed to Enniskillen.
Total visits not carried out 8		

Table 3: Visits aborted by Panel, July to September 2010

Panel	Total Visits	Visits aborted	Percentage of visits aborted
Belfast/Antrim	126	5	4
Down/Armagh	51	0	0
North-West	61	1	2
Ty/Fer	43	2	4
Antrim SCS	5	0	0
Total	286	8	3

2. Reasons for concern³

A full list of reasons for concern regarding the treatment of detainees is given at Table 4.

**Table 4: Reasons for concern regarding treatment of detainees by panel:
July to September 2010**

Reason		Belfast/ Antrim	Down/ Armagh	North- West	Ty/Fer	Antrim SCS	Total
Treatment / Rights of Detainees	Code of Practice	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Being told their rights	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Informing somebody	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Legal advice	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Checks on detainees carried out	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Requiring an appropriate adult	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Requiring Interpreter	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Review of detention	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	2	0	0	0	0	2
Health and Well Being	Adequate bedding	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Adequate food and drink	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Dietary needs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Access to loo/washing	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Replacement clothing	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Medical attention	0	1	0	0	0	1
	8 Hours rest in 24	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Exercise	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Oxygen checks	2	5	1	0	0	8
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	2	7	1	0	0	10

A full list of reasons for concern regarding the conditions of detention of detainees is given at Table 5.

**Table 5: Reasons for concern regarding conditions of detention:
July to September 2010**

Conditions	Belfast/ Antrim	Down/ Armagh	North- West	Ty/Fer	Antrim SCS	Total
Heating	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lighting	0	2	1	0	0	3
Ventilation	1	0	0	0	0	1
Alarm	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cleanliness	1	2	0	1	0	4
Safety/Security Hazards	5	2	10	3	0	20
Sanitation	2	1	3	0	2	8
Faulty Equipment	3	3	1	0	0	7
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	12	10	15	4	2	43

³ Total of reasons in Tables 4 & 5 may sum to more than total of unsatisfactory visits because of multiple reasons for some visits.

Part Two - Monitoring the effectiveness of the scheme

Visits made

Custody Visitors made 294 visits during July to September 2010, 57 more than in July to September 2009 (237).

Table 6 shows the number of visits made to each station during July to September 2010. Active stations for which the monthly target number of visits were not equalled or exceeded are indicated in italics, as are those teams that did not equal or exceed the monthly target number of visits for all stations in their area.

Table 6: Number of visits made to each station, July to September 2010

Panel	Station	Guideline number of visits ⁴	Actual number of visits
<i>Belfast/Antrim</i>	<i>Antrim Road</i>	15	13
	Grosvenor Road	12	13
	<i>Musgrave Street</i>	27	25
	Strandtown	12	13
	<i>Antrim</i>	21	20
	Ballymena	15	17
	<i>Lisburn</i>	18	17
	<i>Bangor</i>	15	13
	Sub-total	135	131
Down/Armagh	Banbridge	21	24
	Downpatrick	9	9
	Lurgan	18	18
	Newtownards	0	0
	Sub-total	48	51
North-West	Coleraine	18	21
	Limavady	15	19
	<i>Strand Road</i>	24	13
	Waterside	3	9
	Sub-total	60	62
Tyrone/Fermanagh	Dungannon	15	20
	Enniskillen	9	12
	Omagh	12	13
	Sub-total	36	45
Antrim SCS	<i>Antrim SCS</i>	6	5
Total valid visits		285	294

⁴ Guideline Number takes into account any station closures. Guideline numbers were revised in May 2010.

The majority of the 294 visits were carried out between Monday and Friday (79%), whereas only 62 of visits were carried out on Saturday and Sunday (21%). Most visits were made on Monday (53, 18%), whereas the least number of visits were made on Saturday (24, 8%), followed by Sunday (37, 13%).

Table 7: Days of visits, July to September 2010

Day	Belfast/ Antrim	Down/ Armagh	North- West	Ty/Fer	Antrim SCS	Number of visits	%
Monday	29	9	5	9	1	53	18
Tuesday	17	8	15	4	0	44	15
Wednesday	23	8	11	4	0	46	16
Thursday	17	6	9	10	0	42	14
Friday	16	11	11	10	0	48	16
Saturday	12	3	2	6	1	24	8
Sunday	17	6	9	2	3	37	13
Total	131	51	62	45	5	294	100

Almost nine tenths of the visits (258, 88%) were made between 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (a 12 hour period). Between midnight and 9 a.m. 18 visits (6%) were carried out. Almost three tenths of all visits (82, 28%) were carried out between 6 and 9 p.m. All 5 Antrim SCS visits were carried out between 9am and 3pm.

One visit took only 5 minutes while the longest visit took 119 minutes. The average length of the visits was 30 minutes.

Table 8: Times of visits, July to September 2010

Time	Belfast/ Antrim	Down/ Armagh	North- West	Ty/Fer	Antrim SCS	Number of visits	%
0.00 – 9 am	9	3	3	3	0	18	6
9 am – noon	21	10	8	15	3	57	19
Noon – 3 pm	24	8	8	15	2	57	19
3 pm – 6 pm	41	2	12	7	0	62	21
6 pm – 9 pm	32	24	23	3	0	82	28
9 pm – 24.00	4	4	8	2	0	18	6
Total	131	51	62	45	5	294	100

Detainees seen by custody visitors

There were 509 detainees held at the time of these visits, of which visitors saw 232. 118 detainees refused to be seen, and 159 detainees were not seen for other reasons.

Table 9: Team activity, July to September 2010

Panel	Valid Visits	Detainees held	Detainees seen	Detainees refused	Detainees not seen – other reason
Belfast/Antrim	126	298	144	67	87
Down/Armagh	51	76	36	26	14
North-West	61	89	33	17	39
Ty/Fer	43	44	18	7	19
Antrim SCS	5	2	1	1	0
Total	286	509	232	118	159

Reasons for not seeing detainees

Table 10 shows a full list of the reasons why detainees were unable to see visitors.

10: Reasons for detainees not seeing Visitors, July to September 2010

Reason	Belfast/Antrim	Down/Armagh	North-West	Ty/Fer	Antrim SCS	Total
Refusal	67	26	17	7	1	118
Being interviewed	28	3	14	6	0	51
Being processed	4	0	1	2	0	7
Being discharged	5	1	1	1	0	8
Asleep	30	2	8	4	0	44
Intoxicated/drugs	2	2	3	1	0	8
Abusive/dangerous	3	3	0	2	0	8
With solicitor/GP	9	2	9	2	0	22
Permission refused by Appropriate Adult	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/Unknown	6	1	3	1	0	11
Total	154	40	56	26	1	277

Refusal rates

Table 11 shows the refusal rate by custody suite (calculated as the number of detainees who refused to be seen as a percentage of the number that were held in custody at the time of the visit). The overall refusal rate for July to September 2010 was 23%. Excluding Antrim SCS (due to the small numbers) the refusal rate varied from team to team with the Tyrone/Fermanagh team recording the lowest refusal rate (16%, 44 held and 7 refusals), while the Down/Armagh team recorded the highest rate of refusal (34%, 76 held and 26 refusals).

Table 11: Refusal rate by custody suite, July to September 2010

Panel	Station	Valid Visits	Detainees held	Detainees refused	Refusal rate (%)
Belfast/ Antrim	Antrim Road	12	28	3	11
	Grosvenor Road	13	39	5	13
	Musgrave Street	22	75	16	21
	Strandtown	13	25	8	32
	Antrim	19	52	16	31
	Ballymena	17	22	5	23
	Lisburn	17	32	7	22
	Bangor	13	25	7	28
	Sub-total		126	298	67
Down/Armagh	Banbridge	24	45	18	40
	Downpatrick	9	12	3	25
	Lurgan	18	19	5	26
	Newtownards	0	0	0	0
	Newry	0	0	0	0
	Sub-total		51	76	26
North-West	Coleraine	20	31	4	13
	Limavady	19	25	5	20
	Strand Road	13	28	8	29
	Waterside	9	5	0	0
	Sub-total		61	89	17
Tyrone/Fermanagh	Dungannon	19	23	3	13
	Enniskillen	12	8	1	13
	Omagh	12	13	3	23
	Sub-total		43	44	7
Antrim SCS	Antrim SCS	5	2	1	50
Total		286	509	118	23

Custody records checked

There were a total of 329 custody records checked by visitors. This means that the custody visitors checked the custody records of 65% of detainees who were seen or were not seen because they were asleep/intoxicated/on drugs.

Table 12: Custody Records Checked, July to September 2010

Panel	Valid Visits	Detainees held	Custody records Checked	Percentage Checked
Belfast/Antrim	126	298	202	68
Down/Armagh	51	76	60	79
North-West	61	89	45	51
Ty/Fer	43	44	21	48
Antrim SCS	5	2	1	50
Total	286	509	329	65

There were 104 detainees who refused a visit but allowed their custody records to be checked.

Delay to visits

Of the 286 valid visits made during July to September 2010, there were 18 (6%) occasions when custody visitors were delayed by more than 10 minutes and these are detailed below. The reasons for delay are taken from the CV2 forms.

Table 13: Delays to visits by panel and station, July to September 2010

Panel	Station	Total number of delays greater than 10 mins
Belfast/Antrim	Antrim Road	1
	Grosvenor Road	2
	Musgrave Street	3
	Strandtown	1
	Antrim	4
	Ballymena	2
	Lisburn	3
	Bangor	1
	Sub-total	17
Down/Armagh	Banbridge	0
	Downpatrick	0
	Lurgan	1
	Newtownards	0
	Newry	0
	Sub-total	1
North-West	Coleraine	0
	Limavady	0
	Strand Road	0
	Waterside	0
	Sub-total	0
Tyrone/Fermanagh	Dungannon	0
	Enniskillen	0
	Omagh	0
	Sub-total	0
Antrim SCS	Antrim SCS	0
Total valid visits (which were delayed)		18

Table 14: Reason for delays to visits, July to September 2010

Date	Time delay (mins)	Custody suite	Reason for delay
03-Jul-2010	18	Lisburn	Delay due to Sgt dealing with violet DP.
05-Jul-2010	15	Bangor	Delay due to detainee being booked in.
07-Jul-2010	14	Antrim Rd	Delay due to suite being busy.
07-Jul-2010	11	Musgrave St	Delay due to staff shortages and suite being busy.
08-Jul-2010	17	Antrim	Delay due to changeover of staff.
10-Jul-2010	19	Lisburn	Delay into custody suite due to booking in DP.
11-Jul-2010	18	Grosvenor Rd	Delay in entry due to staff changeover.
11-Jul-2010	12	Musgrave St	Slight delay due to suite being busy.
13-Jul-2010	20	Musgrave St	Delay due to suite being busy.
21-Jul-2010	15	Lurgan	Delay due to custody suite being very busy.
28-Jul-2010	12	Ballymena	Reason for delay - detainee being booked in.
07-Aug-2010	15	Strandtown	Delay due to custody officer being on phone.
18-Aug-2010	25	Antrim	Delay due to custody suite being busy.
02-Sep-2010	15	Grosvenor Rd	Custody Sgt was on the phone - reason for delay.
06-Sep-2010	14	Lisburn	Reason for delay: Custody sgt was booking in a detainee on arrival.
14-Sep-2010	15	Antrim	Delay of 15 minutes due to the custody suite being busy dealing with queries when we arrived.
20-Sep-2010	16	Antrim	Suite was really busy.
20-Sep-2010	12	Ballymena	Sergeant was booking in detainees.
Total valid visits (which were delayed) 18			

Antrim Serious Crime Suite

During July to September 2010, 5 visits were made to Antrim Serious Crime Suite. There were 2 detainees held at the time of these visits, 1 of which were seen. One detainees refused to be seen and 1 detainee gave consent for their interview to be observed.