

## Detainee Dignity ICV Checklist



ICVA had a theme of detainee dignity for 2019/20. This checklist is designed to accompany the 'Dignity and Independent Custody Visiting' bitesize training course and act as a guide for ICVs to use when in custody. The checklist is split into the stages of custody although we recognise that ICVs will not always see all parts of the custody process. This is followed by some general dignity points/checks. Please note there is a separate training module/checklist specifically for PACE Code C and menstrual care, although this checklist will include some of the top level considerations.

### Booking in

- Where possible, does booking in take place in private/discreetly?
- Are detainees made aware of their rights and entitlements including menstrual care, female officers, etc.
- Are detainees made aware that toilets are pixelated?
- Are staff interacting with detainees in a manner that is dignified for the detainee?

### In the cell

- Does the detainee have access to menstrual products if they need them?
- Does the detainee have access to toilet paper in their cell?
- Is the detainee aware of/received their entitlements to a shower/exercise/reading material?
- Has the detainee been able to retain their own clothes or been provided with a well-fitting custody tracksuit and shoes/plimsolls?
- Is the detainee in anti-rip clothing?
- Does the detainee report having been treated with dignity in custody?

### When looking at the custody record (with permission)

- Check that detainees have been offered to speak to an officer of the same sex in private if they wish, and that menstrual protection has been offered.
- Check that if the detainee does not have toilet paper in cell, this has been recorded within the risk assessment.
- Check that entitlements such as showers and reading materials have been recorded as offered.
- If the detainee is not in their own clothing, check that the risk assessment contains details of the decision made and reasons for the decision.

### When completing your report

- Report on rights, entitlements and wellbeing as normal.
- Note if you have not been able to access the custody record and why.

If you have had access to the custody record:

- Note if the detainee was in replacement or anti-rip clothing.
- Note if the custody record includes detail on why clothing had been removed.

- Please make a note of whether the custody record contains further risk assessment to determine the ongoing use of the replacement or anti-rip clothing.
- Comment on the quality of the custody record information regarding detainee dignity.

#### **General Detainee Dignity**

- Remember humour is a great tool in custody when used appropriately – where humour is used, do all detainees look comfortable and engaged in the interaction?
- Individual care can contribute to detainee dignity, are detainees being treated as individuals in the suite, (allowed to retain wedding ring etc.)?
- Remember that autonomy is an important part of detainee dignity and ensure this is a feature of your interactions, make sure you allow detainees to make their own choices on visits/custody records/accessing entitlements etc.
- If you see good examples of custody staff treating detainees in a dignified manner – report it!
- If you are concerned as to detainee dignity – report it!

#### **Scheme managers**

- Please highlight any problems, themes or strengths to your PCC.
- Please report themes and issues to ICVA as part of your quarterly report.