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National Offender
Management Service



Prisons and Organised Crime

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Operational context

- 137 establishments, 87,419 spaces
- Comprising Local, Closed Training, Open and Resettlement, Women's and Young Offender establishments
- Also includes 8 high secure prisons with 6,000 spaces
 - Includes small units for particularly dangerous/risky prisoners. Currently contains 2 x SOC nominals in Special Secure Unit.



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Secure and dynamic communities

- Approx. 860,000 inter prison transfers and 180,000 receptions/transfers p.a.
- Prisons move prisoners to:
 - Serve the needs of the courts
 - Manage risk
 - Address offending behaviour
 - Meet resettlement needs
- Prisons open to:
 - Staff
 - Visitors
 - Workers
 - Police
 - Solicitors
- Strong performance on security, control and order
 - Escapes – 30 in 1999/2000; 4 in 2009/10; no Cat A escapes since 1995.
 - Absconds - 907 in 1999/2000; 273 in 2009/10 (a record low)
 - Drug use – 24.4% of prisoners tested positive in 1996/97; 7.8% in 2009/10
- Against a a changing and growing population
 - October 2010 population was 85,495. In June 1993 (when the now Justice Secretary was Home Secretary) the prison population was 44,246.
 - Proportion of prisoners serving sentences for violence increased from 20% to 27% in the last 10 years
 - Prisoners serving longer sentences with 1,300 indeterminate sentenced prisoners



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The policing context:

- Circa 200 PIO's (Crime and CT)
- 43 Force investment
- PAS- multi agency
- Challenging environment- operationally and politically.



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Organised crime in prisons:

- Police (ACPO) assessment from OCG mapping– circa 2,400 in prison
- But risk is not uniform and competing priorities:
 - CT
 - Drugs and contraband
 - Violence
 - Gangs



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Challenges and risks

- Working with police and other LEAs in compliance with Organised Crime Strategy,
- To detect and counter serious organised criminality, and
- Handling OCG intelligence effectively,

Whilst;

- Maintaining order and control,
- Running effective regimes, and
- Making defensible decisions.



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Working with Law Enforcement Agencies

- Developing enhanced Inter-Agency intelligence sharing capabilities.
- OCG Mapping in prisons to identify threats and hotspots
- Effective PIO Tasking and Co-ordination
- Ensure that existing operational tactics are maximised:
 - Serious Crime Prevention Orders
 - Financial Orders and Default Notices
 - Covert opportunities



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The future- What we will be doing

- Improve law enforcement prison intelligence infrastructure
 - National Crime Agency?
- Sharing of data with new Organised Crime Coordination Centre
- Develop improved management information framework in Police Advisers Section for the management of organised criminals in prisons
- Development of 'The Organised Crime Toolkit' (enhanced operational capacity linked to risk for Serious Organised Criminals).



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Conclusion

- SOC one of the challenges we face and are managing together.
- SOC presents real risks to the protection of the public and the good order and control of prisons.
- Intelligence, enforcement and disruption opportunities will be exploited.
- NOMS and PAS will work in partnership with other criminal justice partners.
- Effectively contributing to the developing future SOC Strategy



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Discussion