



# ICV NEWS

The newsletter for  
Derbyshire's Independent Custody Visitors

NOVEMBER 2018

## WELCOME TO THE NOVEMBER EDITION OF DERBYSHIRE'S INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITORS NEWSLETTER

ICV News has been designed to keep you informed and updated on any National and Local news, including training events, dates for the diary and any current issues.

What do you think of our ICV Meme at the top of the newsletter? Let us know!



**Derbyshire  
Police and Crime  
Commissioner**

Protecting Communities,  
Fighting Crime

## UPDATES FROM ICVA

### 60 SECONDS TO SAVE A LIFE

Please watch the attached video that has been circulated to officers and police contacts. Click [here](#) to watch.

### INQUEST NEWSLETTER

The latest INQUEST Newsletter has been released. This month it covers an increased use of force reported by the Metropolitan Police, developments following the Death of Thomas Orchard in Devon and Cornwall and the fact that police will not face any criminal prosecutions following the death of Sheku Bayou in Scotland. If you would like to read it, please click [here](#).

### RESEARCH WITH FEMALE DETAINEES IS LIVE

ICVAs research regarding female detainees and their experiences in police custody has begun. Five anonymous police areas are taking part in the research which involves ICVs asking additional questions to female detainees. The Scheme Managers will be interviewed in the future by academics from the universities of Cardiff, Sheffield and Warwick to give their point of view. We look forward to seeing their findings and sharing them with you.

### CELL CALL BUTTON - REMINDER

In other regions have found issues with cell call buttons now working, however, after this was reported numerous times and escalated, a new system was put in. Cell call buttons are often mentioned in inquest reports, working cell call buttons are central to detainee safety. Make sure you are checking these on your visits.

## BLOG FROM SUSSEX SCHEME MANAGER - A NIGHT IN CUSTODY

Sarah Friend, scheme manager from Sussex, spent a night in the cells in order to help her to better understand what detainees experience in her area. She has written a blog about it, which you can read [here](#).

## NORFOLK/SUFFOLD INSPECTION OF POLICE CUSTODY

The report for Norfolk/Suffolk joint inspection of police custody was released this earlier this month. Sherry from ICVA has provided a brief overview of the report below:

- This is a balanced report.
- The report includes positive comments regarding the collaboration of the forces, particularly in terms of governance and clear joint accountability for custody.
- The report praised partnership arrangements to support people with mental ill health and reported a significant drop in the number of those detained under s136.
- The report comments on good interactions with detainees in general and specifically with some detainees exhibiting challenging behaviours.
- The inspectorate notes that there was good provision for religious observance and commented positively on Norfolk and Suffolk's 'autism champions'.
- One of the main areas of concern commented upon in the report was use of force. The inspection team noted that there was insufficient recording, including not recording the use of spitguards, and inaccurate data.
- Anti-rip clothing was noted as being over-used to being 'almost routine' and the inspectorates comment that there was not always an appropriate risk assessment prior to their use.
- Two examples of use of force were recorded as being of particular concern: that of a detainee suspected of internally secreted drugs remaining handcuffed in cell for several days despite being constantly observed by staff, and also an example of prone restraint being used for a longer period of time than thought necessary by the inspectorate.
- The overview for female detainees is a mixed bag, with detainees being routinely offered menstrual care and a great example of the custody staff accommodating a breast-feeding mother. However, concerns were recorded around the availability of female staff and a delay in making caring arrangements for a detainees 13 year old child.

## UPDATE FROM DERBYSHIRE

This is the month that the CRR pilot will be evaluated at the SPA Board meeting and the decision will be formally made to run this method of oversight alongside our ICV scheme. This means we can finally shout about the amazing job that our Independent Custody Reviewers have been doing over the last few months. We have taken the CRR to ICVA and also shown our colleagues at the helm of other schemes and all feedback has been positive.

This has left us looking at the next phase. We would now like to trial a new form of visiting which will include periods of observation as well as conversations with detainees in order to get a better overview of the custody environment. This will start with Liz and Emily taking a trip into both custody suites to see how we think this new process will work. We will be asking our current ICRs to help us trial this new method and will be inviting them to an information day soon.

We really look forward to telling you more about this in due course.

Exciting times are ahead!