SHARED ACCOMMODATION CELL RISK ASSESSMENT - COMPATIBILITY GUIDELINES

The following table summarises prisoner categories and attributes to consider before placing two prisoners in a shared cell.

Prisoner Category	Details	Prisoner Category Compatibility
Remand - Accused	Remanded in custody for trial or further court appearances	Remand Accused Prisoners only (Co-accused prisoners should not share a cell)
Remand - Convicted	Convicted and remanded awaiting sentence	Remand Convicted Awaiting Sentence Prisoners preferred (Sentenced prisoners may be considered as a second option)
Sentenced	Convicted and sentenced to imprisonment	Sentenced Prisoners preferred (Remand Convicted Awaiting Sentenced Prisoners may be considered as a second option)
Young Adult - Non Unit Placement	Young Adult (18-20) - Assessment of Placement for Young Adult (APYA) determines Youth Unit on Non-Youth Unit placement	Young Adult 18-20 and Adult Prisoners
Young Adult - Youth Unit Placement	Any Young Adult under 18	Young Adult 18-20
Adult	20 years or older	Adult (20 and over) and Older Adults (55 and above)
Older Adult	(55 and above)	Adult (20 and over) and Older Adults (55 and above)
Segregation Section 58	Segregation for "Security, Good Order or Safety"	Single Accommodation Cell only
Segregation Section 59	Segregation for "Protective Custody"	"Protective Custody" Prisoners only
Segregation Section 60	Segregation for the "Purpose of Medical Oversight"	Single Accommodation Cell only
Transgender	Transgender Prisoner	Trans people must be placed in a cell on their own and not double-bunked with another prisoner. This may be overridden by the General Manager Custodial if two trans people with the same gender identity choose to be placed in a shared cell. The General Manager Custodial must consider the suitability of the two trans people to be placed in the same cell using the Shared Accommodation Risk Assessment (SACRA).

Other Factors	Details	Considerations
Prisoner Request	Prisoner requests a particular person to share a cell with	Are there any risks identified that would prevent these two prisoners from sharing a cell together?
Prisoner Confirmation	Confirm with the prisoners whether they know their potential cell mate	Are there any risks identified that would prevent these two prisoners from sharing a cell together?
Security Classification	Confirm Security Classification of the prisoner	Prisoners classified maximum security **must** be placed in a single cell. Prisoners classified high security **must not** be placed with prisoners classified as minimum security. Prisoners classified as low / low medium security can be placed with any other security classification, except maximum security prisoners.
At Risk	Prisoner is deemed to be "At Risk" of self harm and requires regular staff observation	The prisoner is to be placed in a single cell. There may be situations where the prisoner will benefit from having a suitable cell mate. Consult with Health staff before making this decision.
Sex Offender	Check SACRA report - Prisoner has historical or present sexual offending against children.	Is there a high risk of harm if placed with mainstream prisoners? Does the prisoner need to be on Segregation, Section 59? Can the prisoner be placed with another sex offender if safe to do so?
Offending History	Confirm offending history (sexual/violent only)	How vulnerable is the prisoner likely to be based on age, offending history, offence type, and experience in any form of custody? Would they benefit from being celled with a supportive, low-risk cell mate? Would they gain more confidence on their own?
Prison Experience	First time prisoners may have difficulty adjusting to prison life or prisoner culture	How vulnerable is the prisoner likely to be based on factors such as age, offending history, offence type, and prior experience in any form of custody? Would they benefit from being celled with a supportive, low-risk cell mate? Alternatively would the prisoner develop greater confidence if accommodated independently?
Age Group	Check SACRA report - Confirm relative age groups. Similar aged prisoners may have similar interests or life experience in common	Is there risk of one prisoner standing over or threatening the other prisoner because of a significant age difference? Are there any age-specific risk factors to consider if the prisoner is an older adult (55 and above) that could impact their suitability or compatibility for cell sharing? For example, are there any health needs or mobility issues that might impact on their suitability for sharing a cell. Alternatively, a compatible cell mate can provide social interaction and companionship, which can positively contribute to wellbeing.
IOMS Alerts / Other Risks	Check SACRA report and current crime prevention information	How is the alert relevant to sharing cell accommodation with others? e.g. Non Association Alert - “Not to associate with Prisoner X”
Gang Affiliation	Check SACRA report - Evidence of gang association from records, knowledge of staff, CPIC and evidence such as gang related tattoos	Least suitable for shared cell accommodation with rival gang members, more vulnerable prisoners, or sex offenders. Be wary of strengthening gang factions with your cell sharing placement decision.
Prisoner's physical characteristics	The prisoner is slightly built, frail or heavy set / muscular	Is there a risk of one prisoner standing over or threatening the other prisoner because of a significant difference in size or strength?
Cultural or Religious Identity	Prisoner clearly identifies with a cultural or religious group that may give them positive support in a prison environment.	Like with like whenever possible to encourage positive interactions based on common understandings. Especially useful to identify a suitable cell mate when English is a second language.
Violence to Others	Prisoner has been involved in incidents in prison involving actual or threatened violence toward others.	May present a violent risk to others. Must consider any available evidence or analysis that the prisoner presents a risk to other prisoners. Considered least suitable for sharing cell accommodation with others.
Alcohol / Drug Abuse	Check IDU status - A prisoner’s alcohol or drug dependency could pose a risk to a cell mate if they continue to pursue its use in prison.	Like with like whenever possible – Non IDU together, IDU together. Always consider if the IDU prisoner is likely to coerce or stand over their cell mate into trafficking or using contraband?
Mental Health	Prisoner has a current mental health need that causes concern. Prisoner has been remanded for a psychiatric assessment. Under current management in the Unit or placed in a location to manage the mental health need.	Vulnerable to being intimidated and/or stood over by others. Is there also a risk of escalation? May potentially be violent toward others. Consult with Health staff before making cell placement decision.
Special Needs	Prisoner has a physical or intellectual disability. Ongoing conditions only.	Disability may mean the prisoner is vulnerable from others. Depending on the disability a greater need for privacy, cell space may be required, or assistance from a helpful cell mate. Consult with Health staff before making this decision.
Health Needs	Prisoner has significant health risks i.e. infectious diseases (such as Hepatitis or HIV).	The prisoner may have to be accommodated separately or be more appropriately accommodated in a shared cell. Refer to 'HS 5-1-1 Notification of Health Status form' provided by Health or consult with Health staff before making cell placement decision.
Employment	Prisoner required to work in Industries or other work related areas that require early unlock on a regular basis.	The prisoner may have to be accommodated separately or be more appropriately accommodated with another prisoner taking into consideration their employment activity.
Significant Personal Event	A significant personal event is brought to staff attention such as the death of a family member, a prisoner may benefit from separation from others or having a cell-mate to support them in such a personal crisis. Explore these options with the prisoner when completing the POM [M.05 Prisoners at risk of self harm] (assessment) generated by such an event.	Consider the risk of self harm or suicide as the most significant risk first. If not at risk, determine if sharing a cell or not having a cell mate will benefit the prisoner as support through their personal crisis. Ask the prisoner open ended questions regarding the situation and their personal preference.