

OPCAT COVID-19 Report on inspections of nine prisons under the Crimes of Torture Act 1989

Title of OPCAT COVID-19 Report	Status	Recommendation	Corrections' response to Recommendation as at November 2021
ARWCF - 8 June 2020	Completed	All wāhine are able to spend at least one hour each day in the fresh air.	<p>Under current COVID-19 Alert Levels, split unlock regimes are organised which allows women to spend one hour outside of their cells (not including time to make legal calls etc.). There are now also yards attached to the end of the wings in the Programmes and Assessment unit, which allows the women easier access to the yards. In the other High-Security units, where practicable, the women are given time out in the yards.</p> <p>If the individual refuses/declines their time outside, it is documented in the offender notes. The Operational Assurance team also conduct regular reporting on minimum entitlements within the prison space.</p>
	Completed	Wāhine subject to quarantine and isolation have access to a television in their cells.	Prior to the inspection, work had commenced to install televisions in the cells for women who were subject to quarantine and separation. These units now have a television in each cell.
Auckland Prison - 1 June 2020	Completed	All prisoners are able to spend at least one hour each day in the fresh air.	<p>Under the normal operating model there are several regimes in place within units 12 and 13 due to the Maximum-Security nature of those units. The requirement to safely manage social distancing with Maximum-Security prisoners, as well as the 14-day separation of newly received prisoners, to manage the COVID-19 risk, means an increased number of regimes are required under this context. This has meant that the one-hour exercise daily has been alternated daily between the yard and day room.</p> <p>Staff safety is a paramount consideration, particularly in the Maximum-Security environment. Ensuring that the health and safety of both staff and prisoners in the context of COVID-19 is also a significant consideration. We are committed to enabling a regime that provides for at least one hour per day in the fresh air for all prisoners in these units as soon this can be implemented safely. This will be in place by, or at Alert Level One, when pre-COVID unit regimes will resume.</p>

			<p>In every unit there is also an unlock log being completed. The Senior Corrections Officers completes the unlock log which is counter signed by the Principal Corrections Officer. The Operational Assurance team also regularly report on minimum entitlements within the prison estates.</p> <p>Maximum-Security prisoners are entitled to an hour of yard time or to use the yard attached to their cell. Other units utilise their yards wherever practicable.</p>
Auckland Prison - 1 June 2020	Completed	Prisoners are given their initial phone call on admission to the Prison.	Corrections accepted this recommendation and can confirm all prisoners receive their initial phone call on admission to Auckland Prison.
Arohata Prison - 1 June 2020	Completed	Women subject to separation are able to spend at least one hour each day in the fresh air.	Following the inspection, Corrections has confirmed that all women are now receiving one hour of fresh air each day.
MECF - 30 June 2020	Completed	Prisoners have access to hand washing facilities and products when in recreation areas.	Hand sanitisers were installed in mid-2020. Residential managers monitor these, and refill as required. Taps for prisoners to wash their hands are available in some yards.
	Completed	Prisoners have access to cleaning materials	Spray bottles are available upon request and several mops and buckets are available. Prisoners are offered the opportunity by staff every second day to use the mop and bucket to clean their cell. There are wing allocated wing cleaners for most units. Prisoners are also provided with paper towels.
Rimutaka Prison - 31 May 2020	Completed	Ensure that unit staff maintain complete and accurate records of time out-of-cell	Following the inspection, a working group has developed a new unit diary for all High/Medium units. This diary was implemented on 16 May 2020. It includes a record of the time the men enter and exit their cell/wing and requires the unit Principal Corrections Officer to review it and sign it daily to ensure records are complete and accurate.
ASCF - 28 May 2020	Completed	Prisoners accommodated in the House Blocks have access to hand cleaning	Common area toilets and individual prisoner cells contain hand cleaner. In addition, wing support workers are provided with additional cleaning supplies including disinfectant. They

		facilities and products when in recreation areas.	generally remain unlocked during midday lock and later in the afternoon to conduct cleaning of common areas.
	Completed	Prisoners' have access to cleaning materials.	<p>Weekly and monthly packs are distributed to all prisoners in the house blocks. These packs include soap, shampoo, wipes, scourer pads and cutlery.</p> <p>In addition, prisoners are offered the opportunity to access spray bottle, mop, and a bucket to clean their cells. In House block's 1 & 3 (voluntary segregation block and Low-Security block) there is a prisoner employed to distribute cleaning products and equipment, as requested by prisoners. This is overseen by staff.</p> <p>In house block 2 (High Security block) at the fortnightly prisoner forum meeting, the wing representative is allocated cleaning supplies for each wing and they distribute as required. This is also overseen by staff.</p>
Christchurch Women's Prison - April 2020	Completed	Women in separation are able to spend at least one hour each day in the fresh air.	Following the inspection, Christchurch Women's Prison took immediate steps to amend the regime of women in prison. All women now have access to fresh air for at least one hour daily.