



INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING PANEL – 25 JANUARY 2016

**INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING ASSOCIATION (ICVA) SCHEME MANAGERS
CONFERENCE**

REPORT BY THE SCHEME MANAGER

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To inform Panel members about the ICVA Scheme Managers Conference which took place in Birmingham on 30 November and 1 December 2015.

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 The annual Scheme Managers conference of the Independent Custody Visiting Association (ICVA) was held at the International Convention Centre in Birmingham on 30 November and 1 December 2015. The conference was well attended by Scheme Managers.

2. CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

2.1 The conference speakers were:

- John De Souza, Home Office
- Clive Burgess, HMIP
- Katie Kempen, Chief Executive ICVA
- Mark Restall, Volunteer Management Consultant
- Bryan McFadyen, Scottish Police Authority
- Paul Norton, West Midlands OPCC

2.2 John De Sousa, Home Office

John shared the Home Office perspective on the role of Independent Custody Visiting and how important the role was. He led open discussions on how Scheme Managers could best deliver Independent Custody Visiting Schemes in the current economic environment and the support required by Scheme Managers to meet their statutory responsibility. Unfortunately, he was unable to provide reassurance regarding the funding of ICVA in the future.

2.3 Clive Burgess, HMIP

Clive provided attendees with an update on the HMIP/HMIC inspections of custody and the perspective on the role of Independent Custody Visiting within the wider inspection framework and the impact of vulnerable detainees on the custody estate and visit process.

He then led an open discussion in relation to joint inspections and inspection action plans and how ICVs can be involved.

2.4 Katie Kempen, Chief Executive, ICVA

Katie gave an interactive session which focussed on ICVA's roles and responsibilities and how it interacted with schemes. Scheme Managers happily fed back their views to inform the ICVA business plan.

2.5 Mark Restall, Volunteer Management Consultant

Mark shared his knowledge with the attendees giving an overview of some of the key considerations for the effective management of volunteers. He utilised a number of 'real' Independent Custody Visiting case studies and encouraged delegates to contribute with their own experiences.

2.6 Brian McFadyen, Scottish Police Authority

Brian provided the attendees with an explanation of how the Scottish Police Authority had amalgamated 8 custody visiting schemes and the difficulties that had been experienced due to the disparity of the processes and practices. Following consultation, Scotland now enjoyed one scheme and had a national ICV policy in place.

2.7 Paul Norton, West Midlands OPCC

Paul led a discussion on key issues that faced schemes regarding the management of volunteers.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 Panel members are asked to note the contents of this report.

Yvonne Fenwick
Scheme Manager