

An inspection of contingency asylum accommodation – visits to Penally Camp and Napier Barracks

News story

Inspectors from ICIBI and HMI Prisons are visiting both sites during the week beginning 15 February.



In line with [S.52\(2\) of the UK Borders Act 2007](#), the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICIBI) has sought the assistance of [Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons](#) (HMIP) with ICIBI's inspection of contingency asylum accommodation, specifically Penally Camp and Napier Barracks, Folkestone.

HMIP's involvement will enable ICIBI's inspection to progress at pace, without having to divert resources from other 'live' inspections, and it will also mean that ICIBI can benefit from HMIP's knowledge and experience of inspecting large institutional settings, particularly during the current pandemic.

Inspectors from ICIBI and HMIP are planning to visit both sites during the week of 15 February.

The inspection visits will comprise:

- interviews with accommodation service provider staff and any other persons providing onsite services to the residents
- interviews with residents
- a review of relevant locally-held documentary evidence (e.g. local rules, information, risk assessments, complaints logs, etc.)
- an assessment of the premises and onsite facilities
- separate short surveys of staff and residents (distributed in advance of the visits).

Following the site visits, HMIP will produce a written report of its findings

which will be appended to ICIBI's inspection report for publication by the Home Secretary in due course. As with all ICIBI inspections, the Independent Chief Inspector will raise any matters requiring urgent attention with the Home Office, or directly with ministers, in advance of submitting his full inspection report.

The '[call for evidence](#)' for this inspection closes on Friday 19 February 2021.

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