06 Staff Matters

Good Practice examples for Working with Foreign National Prisoners

Relevant CoE Foreign Prisoners Recs	Country & Description of Initiative	National, regional or Local Initiative	Legal basis, budgetary issues	Further Information
7 38.0 Staff Selection Persons who work with foreign prisoners shall be selected on criteria that include cultural sensitivity, interaction skills and linguistic abilities.	Estonia; In every prison there is a foreign prisoner's coordinator. The coordinator's tasks are to provide counseling and to aid prisoners in dealing with prison authorities. Foreigners coordinator also helps with applying for documents.	National		merike.tartu@just.e e
	The Netherlands; Direct recruitment at Ter Apel Prison when it changed role to only hold foreign prisoners. While retaining and retraining existing staff, additional staff were recruited directly from the public from a diverse range of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds and with linguistic abilities to better reflect the prison's new role and population.	Ter Apel Prison		t.bagchus@dji.minj us.nl
7 39.1 Staff Training Staff involved in the admission of foreign prisoners shall be appropriately trained to deal with them.	England & Wales: Electronic 'E-learning' has been developed and rolled out nationally as a first stage 'over view' of the needs of Foreign National Offenders. When completed, this is further developed through 'class room' training for staff to enable then to have a greater depth of understanding of the needs of this group of offenders.	National	Implemented regionally. No budgetary impact assessment	Chapman, Brian [HMPPS] Brian.Chapman@no ms.gsi.gov.uk
7 39.2 Staff Training Persons who work with foreign prisoners shall be trained to respect cultural diversity and to understand the problems faced by such prisoners.	 Denmark: 2015 Report on Nyborg Prison's Departure/Deportation Wards (Units). This report, in English, looks at the two Departure Sections of Nyborg Prison which has a capacity of up to 28 men. This comprehensive Report includes sections on; 13. Management Summary 14. Work Activities 15. Deportation instructions 16. Staff experience with target group 17. Level of conflict 18. Cooperation with Police Norway: 2 initiatives; (i) Four day programme for the professional development of staff working with foreign prisoners; 1st day information on Afghanistan, 2nd day of cross-cultural understanding, 3rd on motivational interviewing and 4th on human trafficking, modern day slavery and the identification of victims. (ii) In development, raising staff competency in observing, identifying & 	National-only) Prison		Further Information from Project Officer Tina Isling, Project Oowner Annette Esdorf or from Henrik.Marker@kri minalforsorgen.dk See attached report 5.27.4a Report on Nyborg Prison Denmark Kristin Opaas Haugli, Reintegration coordinator / Adviser Kristin.Opaas.Haugl i@kriminalomsorg.r o and
7 39.3 Staff Training Training programmes shall be evaluated and revised regularly to ensure they reflect changing populations and social circumstances.	sharing self-generated knowledge from their specialist role. Programme acknowledging professional development in new practice area needs to build on staff-groups skills & knowledge combined with external support & contribution.			Ploeg Gerhard (KDI Gerhard.Ploeg@kri minalomsorg.no
7 39.4 Staff Training Training programmes shall be evaluated and revised regularly to ensure they reflect changing populations and social circumstances.				

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7 39.5 Staff Training Persons who deal with foreign suspects and offenders shall be kept informed of current national law and practices and international and regional human rights law and standards relating to their treatment, including this recommendation.	Belgium: Noorderkempen Regional Prisons; Legal advice and assistance for social workers and prisoners concerning residency status, expulsion and (voluntary) repatriation. Also see 7 39.2 Norway	Local Initiative (4 prisons Noorderkempen)	Member of non- profit organization CAW De Kempen	www.cawdekempen .be
7 40.0 Specialist Roles Appropriately trained specialists shall be appointed to engage in work with foreign prisoners and to liaise with the relevant agencies, professionals and associations on matters related to such prisoners.	HMPPS England & Wales; foreign prisoners are identified as a particularly vulnerable group who require support and care. The delegation of the Committee for the Prevention of Torture observed the positive practice of appointing a dedicated foreign prisoners officer, who could meet and provide advice to each new foreign national and serve as a point of reference. Further, concerted efforts being made to provide foreign nationals with clear information on immigration procedures, through surgeries and information packs, are to be encouraged. It is not a mandatory requirement to have a dedicated foreign prisoners officer, though with a foreign prisoner population in England & Wales of 12%, many do.	National advice, not mandatory	Not applicable	HMPPS link; Adrian.Chen@noms .gsi.gov.uk
7 41.0 Policy Evaluation The authorities shall regularly evaluate their policies for dealing with foreign suspects and offenders on the basis of scientifically validated research and revise them where appropriate.	Denmark: 2015 Report on Nyborg Prison's Departure/Deportation Wards (Units). This report, in English, looks at the two Departure Sections of Nyborg Prison which has a capacity of up to 28 men. This comprehensive Report includes sections on; 19. Management Summary 20. Work Activities 21. Deportation instructions 22. Staff experience with target group 23. Level of conflict 24. Cooperation with Police	Prison specific report	Not relevant	Further Information from Project Officer Tina Isling, Project Oowner Annette Esdorf or from Henrik.Marker@kri minalforsorgen.dk See attached report, 5.27.4a Report on Nyborg Prison Denmark
	England & Wales: The St Giles Trust, a charity, has evaluated the impact of their first foreign national 'Peer Advisor Scheme' at HMP Huntercombe, a foreign national- only prison. Serving prisoners were trained to become qualified advice workers, able to provide immigration and resettlement advice to their fellow prisoners. The results of the 2 year programme will be of interest to those shaping resettlement services for foreign prisoners in other prisons. The St Giles Trust won the Robin Corbett Award for Prisoner Rehabilitation for its work at HMP Huntercombe.	Local to HMP Huntercombe though may be rolled-out nationally.	Not applicable	Further Information from The St Giles Trust and Report https:// www.stgilestrust.or g.uk/misc/ The%20Peer%20Ad visor%20Model%20i n%20Prisons%20- final%20final.pdf