



**POLICE CUSTODY INSPECTION FRAMEWORK**

Expectation	Evidence	Healthy custody test
<b>STRATEGIC: FORCE WIDE</b>		
<p>1. There is a policy focus on custody issues at a chief officer level that is concerned with developing and maintaining the custody estate, staffing custody suites with trained staff, managing the risks of custody, meeting the health and wellbeing needs of detainees and working effectively with colleagues in the health service, immigration service, youth offending service, criminal justice teams, CPS, courts and other law enforcement agencies.</p>	<p>There is an ACPO lead for Safer Detention and Handling of Persons in Police Custody.</p> <p>There is a Police Authority member with responsibility for custody and an effective Custody Visitors scheme.</p> <p>There is effective liaison between the police and the local YOT manager.</p>	<p>Safety</p>
<p>2. There is an effective management structure for custody that ensures that policies and protocols are implemented and managed and that there are mechanisms for learning from adverse incidents, rubbing points or complaints.</p>	<p>Check that there are arrangements for ensuring a sufficient pool of trained staff in custody suites (training, succession planning, gender balance of staff).</p> <p>Check staff access to training materials and IPCC learning the lessons circulars.</p> <p>Check that security and safety is assured and that custody suites can be evacuated safely in emergencies (physical security, CCTV, keys, ligature points and knives, detainees with disabilities, contingency plans).</p> <p>Check that there are formal arrangements for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• delivering health care and working with partners in local community mental health teams,</li> <li>• drug testing and treatment,</li> </ul>	<p>Safety Respect</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• providing a duty solicitor scheme</li> <li>• providing an appropriate adult scheme</li> <li>• detainee escort</li> <li>• providing an electronic custody system and security of documents and DVDs /tapes</li> <li>• formal arrangements for bail management</li> <li>• Check that practices are monitored and that there is a mechanism for learning from adverse incidents, complaints or investigations, and improving practice.</li> <li>• Check that the observations of independent custody visitors are responded to.</li> </ul>	
3. Maintenance of facilities only occurs when the suite is closed down.	Check maintenance regime and staff interviews.	Safety
<b>INDIVIDUAL CUSTODY SUITES</b>		
<b>TREATMENT AND CONDITIONS</b>		
<p>4. Custody staff are aware of the risk of harm from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attempted suicide</li> <li>• Drugs ingestion</li> <li>• Medical conditions</li> <li>• Alcohol</li> </ul> <p>and these risks are assessed, monitored and managed appropriately.</p>	<p>Check the procedure with the custody sergeant and check custody records.</p> <p>What training is provided?</p> <p>Are all custody staff trained? Is there a system to report near misses?</p> <p>How are staff coming on shifts informed of any risks?</p> <p>How are the risks of high numbers coming into custody at</p>	Safety

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	<p>peak times managed?</p> <p>What happens if the detainee is not willing or able to cooperate with risk assessment?</p> <p>Are cells checked thoroughly for any unauthorised items between use?</p> <p>Do staff understand the importance of regular monitoring and rousing, and that rousing means eliciting a verbal or physical response?</p> <p>Check the level of CCTV and any life signs monitoring,</p> <p>Check with detainees what level of attention they have received from custody staff.</p> <p>Check that keys to cells and ligature knives are available promptly in an emergency.</p>	
<p>5. Custody staff are aware of any risk of harm to others and this is managed appropriately. Detainees are not placed in cells together unless a risk assessment indicates that it is safe to do so. Risk assessments include whether the detainee has previous convictions for racially aggravated offences.</p>	<p>Check the risk assessments of any detainees currently sharing a cell.</p>	<p>Safety</p>
<p>6. Holding cells are equipped with call bell systems and their purpose is explained to detainees. They are responded to</p>	<p>Check that call bells are provided and are working. Check that detainees understand what they are for.</p>	<p>Safety</p>

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within a reasonable time.	Check custody records.	
<p>7. Holding areas, cells, interview and detention rooms are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• clean,</li> <li>• free from graffiti,</li> <li>• in good decorative order,</li> <li>• of a suitable temperature,</li> <li>• well ventilated,</li> <li>• well lit,</li> <li>• equipped with somewhere to sit,</li> </ul> <p>free of ligature points</p>	<p>Check these features and whether cells are certified as clear of graffiti before they are occupied.</p> <p>Check cleaning schedules and policy on clearing up spills.</p> <p>Check facilities for detainees with disabilities.</p> <p>Check what the policy is if detainees graffiti or damage the cells.</p>	Safety Respect
<p>8. A smoking policy for staff and detainees is enforced that respects the right of individuals to breathe clean air in the custody suite.</p>	<p>Check the smoking policy and whether a smoking area is provided.</p> <p>Check with detainees.</p> <p>Check also that nicotine replacement is available after six hours and that detainees are informed of this.</p>	Safety Respect
<p>9. Detainees are provided with suitable meals that cater for special dietary requirements, and drinks at appropriate intervals.</p>	<p>Check that meals are provided and that they take account of special dietary requirements.</p> <p>Check with detainees whether they are provided with suitable food and drinks.</p> <p>Check that food is prepared in a hygienic environment and that staff preparing food have received food hygiene</p>	Respect

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	training.	
10. Detainees are provided with a mattress, pillow and clean blankets if held overnight.	<p>Check that bedding is provided.</p> <p>Check that bedding is laundered between uses.</p> <p>Check the clean bedding store and custody records.</p> <p>Check with detainees.</p>	Respect
11. Detainees are able to use a toilet in privacy, and toilet paper and washing facilities are provided.	<p>Check the facilities and access to them, and ask custody staff and detainees whether these are sufficient, including for detainees with disabilities.</p> <p>Check whether there is privacy screening or whether the view of the toilet is occluded on CCTV monitors.</p> <p>Check that toilet paper and soap are provided.</p> <p>Check with detainees.</p>	Respect
12. Detainees whose clothing is taken for forensic examination are provided with suitable alternative clothing before being released or transferred to court.	<p>Check that a supply of alternative clothing is available. Ask when it was last used.</p> <p>Check with defence solicitors whether their clients are released with replacement clothing.</p>	Respect
13. Detainees who are held for more than 24 hours are able to take a shower and a period of outdoor exercise.	<p>Check the custody records and speak with detainees.</p> <p>Check whether there is an outdoor exercise area.</p>	Respect

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	Does it have the appearance of being used regularly? If not, check what the barriers are to its use.	
14. Those held in custody for several days are provided with suitable reading material. Visits are also allowed, and changes of clothing, especially underwear are facilitated.	<p>Check whether these things can be provided.</p> <p>Check custody records and check with detainees.</p> <p>What are the visiting facilities? Are they suitable?</p> <p>How are changes of clothing facilitated?</p>	Respect
15. Custody suite staff have received fire safety training and evacuation procedures are practiced frequently.	Check training records and fire evacuation drills.	Safety
16. Any other findings	Observation.	Safety
<b>HEALTHCARE</b>		
17. The decency, privacy and dignity of detainees are respected.	<p>Check arrangements with the custody sergeant.</p> <p>Check custody records.</p> <p>Speak to any detainees in custody</p>	Safety Respect
18. Detainees are treated by health care professionals and drug treatment workers in a professional and caring manner that is sensitive to their situation and their diverse needs, including language needs.	<p>Ask detainees about their treatment and check any clinical notes or notes made by arrest referral workers.</p> <p>Check for any use of interpreters or telephone translation.</p> <p>Check that women can see a female doctor on request.</p> <p>Are there arrangements for a chaperone to be present if</p>	Respect

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	required?	
19. Clinical governance arrangements include the management, training and supervision and accountability of staff.	<p>Interviews with Custody Manager.</p> <p>Check contract for FME services.</p> <p>Check whether doctors are contracted solely to FME duties when on duty and whether hours of work are appropriate.</p> <p>Interview a variety of health care professionals.</p> <p>Where is the line manager based? What are the arrangements for contact?</p>	Safety Respect
20. Patients are treated by health care staff who receive on-going training, supervision and support to maintain their professional registration and development. Staff have the appropriate knowledge and skills to meet the particular health care needs of detainees in police custody.	<p>Check training records.</p> <p>Check job descriptions, arrangements for appraisal.</p> <p>Where are professional registration details held?</p> <p>What is the system for verifying registration?</p> <p>Arrangements for clinical supervision?</p> <p>Skills &amp; training needs analysis?</p>	Safety Respect
21. All equipment (including resuscitation kit) is regularly checked and maintained and all staff (healthcare and custody staff) understand how to access and use it	Check that equipment is maintained and that staff know how to use it.	Safety

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effectively.	<p>Check equipment logs and training registers.</p> <p>Ask staff if they know the location of equipment.</p>	
<p>22. Detainees are able to request the services of a health care professional in and out of hours, and to continue to receive any prescribed medication for current health conditions or for drug maintenance.</p>	<p>Check with custody staff what the procedure is for calling a doctor.</p> <p>Is there a log of calls and responses?</p> <p>Check arrangements for out of hours cover.</p> <p>Check with detainees whether their health needs have been met.</p> <p>Who is able to administer the medications?</p> <p>Examine custody records and clinical notes.</p> <p>Check with defence solicitors, and cross-reference with any complaints concerning health care provision.</p>	<p>Safety Respect</p>
<p>23. A liaison and/or diversion scheme enables mentally disordered detainees to be identified and diverted into appropriate mental health services, or referred on to prison health care services.</p>	<p>Check the arrangements with the custody sergeant.</p> <p>Speak with mental health professionals.</p> <p>What works well, what are the barriers to effectiveness?</p>	<p>Safety Respect</p>
<p>24. Clinical examinations are conducted out of the sight and preferably out of the hearing of police officers. Treatment rooms provide conditions that maintain decency, privacy</p>	<p>Check the arrangements for clinical examination.</p> <p>Check with detainees.</p>	<p>Respect</p>



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and dignity. Infection control facilities are implemented. There is at least one room that is forensically clean.	Check the conditions of treatment rooms and infection control facilities and procedures.  Speak to any custody nurses about procedures.	
25. Detainees are offered the services of a drugs or alcohol arrest referral worker where appropriate and referred on to community drugs/alcohol teams or prisons' drugs workers as appropriate.	Check the arrangements with the custody sergeant. Speak to drug or alcohol arrest referral workers.  Check with detainees.	Safety Respect
26. A liaison and/or diversion scheme enables mentally disordered detainees to be identified and diverted into appropriate mental health services, or referred on to prison health services.	Check the arrangements with the custody sergeant.  Speak with mental health professionals.  What works well, what are the barriers to effectiveness?	Safety Respect
27. Police custody is not used as a place of safety for section 136 assessments except where the detainee needs to be controlled for his or her own safety or the safety of others.	Check the local arrangements with custody managers.  Is a log kept of Section 136 detainees?	Safety
28. Each detainee seen by health care staff has a clinical record containing an up-to-date assessment and any care plan conforms to professional guidance from the regulatory bodies. Ethnicity of the detainee is also recorded.	Check that a sample of clinical records from the last six months includes record of problems, diagnosis, treatment and referral letters, and that ethnicity is recorded.  Check that records are kept confidentially, in line with Caldicott guidelines.	Safety Respect.
29. Any contact with a doctor or other health care professional is also recorded in the custody record, and a record made of any medication provided. The results of any clinical	Check the arrangements for recording health interventions and transferring information about medication with the detainee.	Safety Respect

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examination are made available to the detainee and, with detainee consent, his/her lawyer.	<p>Check also how the results of clinical examinations with detainees' legal representatives are disclosed.</p> <p>Check with defence solicitors.</p>	
30. Information sharing protocols exist with all appropriate agencies to ensure efficient sharing of relevant health and social care information.	<p>Check understanding of any protocols with health care and custody staff.</p> <p>Do protocols exist with health providers in the area, e.g. local A&amp;E, MH Trust etc?</p> <p>Is information received from A&amp;E if the detainee is sent out for treatment and returns to custody?</p>	Safety
31. All medications on site are stored safely and securely, and disposed of safely if not consumed. There is safe pharmaceutical stock management and use.	<p>Check arrangements for the storage dispensing, and disposal of pharmaceuticals. Are they appropriately labelled?</p> <p>Do health professionals carry medications? If so, are they in a secure container at all times?</p> <p>How is administration of medications recorded?</p> <p>Are medications brought in by the detainee returned to them when they are released?</p>	Safety
<b>INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS</b> <i>To inspect these expectations check with detainees directly or proxies for them such as solicitors, appropriate adults, ICVs and/or</i>		

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<i>FMEs.</i>		
32. Detention is appropriate, authorised and lasts no longer than is necessary. In the case of immigration detainees alternative disposals are expedited.	<p>Check reasons for initial detention and subsequent review by inspector, superintendent or magistrate.</p> <p>Check that DNA samples are taken and identity verified for all immigration detainees</p> <p>Check that there is regular contact with BIA for immigration detainees, ensuring due diligence in the progression of their cases.</p> <p>Establish how many times detention or an extension of detention has been disallowed.</p> <p>Check that juveniles are not held overnight unless there is an outstanding warrant and a need to present at court the following morning.</p> <p>Are parents or carers able to visit children if they are held overnight?</p>	Safety Respect
33. Detainees, including immigration detainees, are told that they are entitled to have someone concerned for their welfare informed of their whereabouts. Any delay in being able to exercise this entitlement, such as phoning a person concerned for the welfare, is authorised at the level of inspector or above. They are asked if they wish to see a doctor.	<p>Check with detainees that they have been informed of their rights and entitlements, and that this is recorded in custody records.</p> <p>Check that this information is displayed in the custody suite.</p>	Respect

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<p>34. Detainees who have difficulty communicating are adequately provided for with staff who can communicate with them or interpreters.</p>	<p>Check what translation services are available, when they would be used and by whom.</p> <p>Check that leaflets are available in different languages.</p> <p>Look at usage of telephone interpretation services.</p>	<p>Respect</p>
<p>35. There are special arrangements for detained young people that cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the limited use of restraints,</li> <li>• the conduct of any strip search</li> <li>• location in unlocked detention rooms close to the custody desk where possible for observation purposes,</li> <li>• separation from adults at all times including in showers and exercise yard,</li> <li>• specially trained officers allocated until the appropriate adult arrives</li> <li>• whether appropriate adults are indeed appropriate for the task</li> <li>• the capacity for the relative, guardian or appropriate adult to remain with the juvenile detainee during waiting periods, in the detention room if necessary.</li> </ul>	<p>Check custody log for any persons aged 17/18 years or younger.</p> <p>Check there is a separate policy for the detention of juveniles that refers to the use of restraints, location in the custody suite, how and by who strip searches are conducted, that the detainee is looked after until the appropriate adult arrives, and that it is possible for the appropriate adult to remain with the detainee during waiting periods.</p> <p>Are any of the custody staff trained in child welfare and subject to regular vetting procedures in line with existing legislation?</p> <p>Are all custody staff 'screened' for child protection purposes?</p>	<p>Safety Respect</p>
<p>36. Female detainees are able to be dealt with by female staff, or where this is not possible, hygiene packs for women are routinely provided. Staff are aware that the</p>	<p>Check custody records for evidence that the vulnerability of women in custody is appreciated and regular observation and support provided.</p>	<p>Safety Respect</p>

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<p>impact of detention on women is different to the impact on men, and adopt their level of observation and support appropriately.</p>	<p>Check with female detainees if their hygiene needs are being met.</p>	
<p>37. Persons detained who have dependency obligations are catered for.</p>	<p>Check for any arrangements with outside agencies or Social Services to provide child care for detainees who are sole carers.</p> <p>Check any arrangements made for elderly dependants with outside agencies such as age concern.</p>	<p>Safety</p>
<p>38. Detainees are able to have a solicitor present when interviewed by police officers. Those under the age of 17 or vulnerable adults or those with learning disabilities are not interviewed without a relative, guardian or appropriate adult present. Solicitors and advocates arrive promptly so as not to unnecessarily prolong the period in custody. Detainees are able to consult with legal representatives in privacy.</p>	<p>Check custody records for evidence that PACE procedures have been followed and for the length of time that elapses before solicitors or advocates arrive. Is the 'appropriate adult' appropriate?</p> <p>Check video and audio tapes, especially if detainees claim to have experienced oppressive conduct.</p> <p>Is there evidence of repeated and understood caution, advice on the right to a solicitor, the presence of an appropriate adult?</p>	<p>Safety Respect</p>
<p>39. Detainees are not interviewed by police officers whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or if medically unfit unless in circumstances provide for under PACE.</p>	<p>Check custody records.</p> <p>Check with detainees and defence solicitors.</p>	<p>Safety Respect</p>
<p>40. Suitable legal advice is available for both police detainees and immigration detainees.</p>	<p>Check on the availability of a duty solicitor scheme, and on the availability of solicitors who specialise in immigration advice.</p>	<p>Respect</p>
<p>41. Detainees are not subject to inhuman or degrading</p>	<p>Check custody records.</p>	<p>Respect</p>

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treatment in the context of being interviewed, or in the denial of any services they need. They are allowed a period of 8 hours continuous break from interviewing in a 24 hour period.	Check with detainees and defence solicitors.	
42. Detainees are not handcuffed in secure areas unless there is a risk of violence to other detainees or staff.	Check the security routines with the custody sergeant. Check custody records and the property store. Check with detainees.	Safety Respect
43. Those charged appear at court promptly either in person or via video link.	Ask custody sergeants what the arrangements are with the local court. Check custody records. Check with defence solicitors. Check via link facilities	Respect
44. Detainees know how to complain about their care and treatment. They are not discouraged from doing so but are supported in doing so where necessary.	Ask custody sergeants how prisoners are informed about complaints procedures. Check records of complaints and their outcomes. Check with detainees.	Respect
45. There is an effective system in place for reporting and dealing with racist incidents.	Check the racist incident log. Are incidents reported to Professional Standards departments? Would any trends be picked up locally?	Respect

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	Check how detainees are treated with defence solicitors.	
46. All custody suites hold a copy of the PACE Code of Practice C, and detainees, including immigration detainees, know they are able to consult it. Detainees or their legal representatives are able to obtain a copy of their custody record on release, or at any time within 12 months following their detention.	Check whether this is the case, and  Check with detainees whether they are aware of its existence.	Respect
47. Pre release risk management is conducted and vulnerable detainees are released safely.	Check custody for evidence of pre-release risk management in accordance with SHDP.	Safety