

**HOUSE OF COMMONS WELSH AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:
SUPPLEMENTARY EVIDENCE**

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I. ALCOHOL FINDS IN PRISON

I.1 Between January 2016 and March 2018 there were 8,133 incidents where alcohol was found in prisons in England and Wales.¹

I.2 There were 227 alcohol finds in Welsh prisons in 2017.

I.3 Despite holding just 48% of the total prison population in Wales, 84% of all alcohol finds were at HMP Parc in 2017.

Figure I.1 – The number of incidents where alcohol was found in prisons in Wales, 2016 to 2017²

HMP	2016	2017
Berwyn	-	10
Cardiff	20	10
Parc	187	191
Prescoed	7	1
Swansea	13	15
Total	227	227

Source: The Ministry of Justice

I.4 HMP Parc (11 per 100 prisoners) recorded the highest rate of alcohol finds in Wales in 2017. The second highest rate was at HMP Swansea (3 per 100 prisoners) followed by HMP Cardiff (1 per 100 prisoners).³

I.5 There were more alcohol finds at HMP Parc in 2017 (191) than at HMP Altcourse (22), HMP Birmingham (45), HMP Oakwood (110) and HMP Rye Hill (10) combined.⁴

¹ Data were obtained from the Ministry of Justice via the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

² There were no figures provided by the Ministry of Justice for HMP Usk.

³ The average populations were worked out using population levels from March, June, September and December 2017 – HMP Cardiff (745), HMP Parc (1,726) and HMP Swansea (442). The Ministry of Justice does not provide a separate population breakdown for HMP Prescoed and HMP Usk. HMP Berwyn was excluded because the prison was only fully operational from February 2017.

⁴ This was the same in 2016: HMP Parc (187), HMP Altcourse (28), HMP Birmingham (23), HMP Oakwood (49) and HMP Rye Hill (11). All of these establishments were operated by G4S in 2016 and 2017.

2. DRUG FINDS IN PRISON

2.1 There were a record 656 drug finds in Welsh prisons in the year ending March 2018.⁵

2.2 While the number of prisoners held in Wales (excluding HMP Berwyn) has increased by 9% since 2013⁶, there has been a 475% increase in the number of drug finds in Welsh prisons during this period.⁷

2.3 The number of drug finds in English prisons increased by 200% between 2013 and 2018.⁸

Figure 2.1 – The number of incidents where drugs were found in prison, years ending March 2013 to 2018

HMP	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Cardiff	21	37	67	137	111	151
Parc	92	79	169	275	333	383
Prescoed	0	0	1	11	10	11
Swansea	1	21	7	23	55	110
Usk	0	0	0	2	1	1
Total	114	137	244	448	510	656

Source: The Ministry of Justice

2.4 There were 46 drug finds at HMP Berwyn in the year ending March 2018.

2.5 During 2018, HMP Swansea (26) had the highest number of drug finds in Wales per 100 prisoners. HMP Parc (22 per 100) recorded the second highest rate followed by HMP Cardiff (21 per 100) and HMP Berwyn (6 per 100).⁹

⁵ Annual HM Prison and Probation Service digest: 2017 to 2018 (Chapter 9) –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/annual-hm-prison-and-probation-service-digest-2017-to-2018>

⁶ The average prison population in Wales was 3,114 in the year ending March 2013 and 3,408 in the year ending March 2018 (excluding HMP Berwyn). See - <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/prison-population-figures>

⁷ This figure excludes HMP Berwyn.

⁸ From 4,137 in 2013 to 12,408 in 2018. Annual HM Prison and Probation Service digest: 2017 to 2018 – <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/annual-hm-prison-and-probation-service-digest-2017-to-2018>

⁹ The average populations were worked out using population levels from March, June, September and December 2017 – HMP Berwyn (521), HMP Cardiff (745), HMP Parc (1,726) and HMP Swansea (442). The Ministry of

Figure 2.2 – The number of drug finds per 100 prisoners, broken down by establishment in Wales, year ending March 2018

HMP	Population	Incidents	Per 100
Berwyn	723	46	6
Cardiff	730	151	21
Parc	1728	383	22
Swansea	423	110	26
Usk/ Prescoed	527	12	2

Source: The Ministry of Justice

Justice do not provide a separate population breakdown for HMP Prescoed and HMP Usk. The combined rate, however, is 2 per 100 prisoners at HMP Usk/Prescoed.

3. HOMELESS AT PRISON RECEPTION

3.1 A quarter (24%) of all prisoners presented as homeless entering prison in Wales in 2017.¹⁰

Figure 3.1 – The number of receptions that presented as homeless in Wales in 2017

HMP	2017	Receptions	% as Homeless
Cardiff	844	3002	28.1
Parc	20	353	5.7
Swansea	364	1697	21.4
Total	1228	5052	24.3

Source: The Ministry of Justice

3.2 In spite of an increase in the number of prisoners who presented as homeless in Wales in 2017, the percentage marginally fell between 2016 (24.8) and 2017 (24.3).¹¹

¹⁰ This information is recorded using the basic custody screening tool at prison reception. The data were obtained from the Ministry of Justice via the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

¹¹ For information on the number of Welsh prisoners (based on home local authority) who presented as homeless in 2016 and 2017 please contact Sarah Bradbeer at University of South Wales (Sarah.Bradbeer@southwales.ac.uk).

4. HMYOI PARC: SAFETY IN CUSTODY¹²

4.1 The Young Persons' Unit at HMYOI Parc is a facility managed by G4S on the same site as HMP Parc in Bridgend. The Unit holds boys under the age of 18 and has a Certified Normal Accommodation of 64 (HMIP, 2018a).

4.2 In 2017 there were 40 children being held at the Young Persons' Unit.¹³

4.3 14 children from Wales were held at the Young Persons' Unit in 2017. 65% of young people held at the unit were from Youth Offending Team (YOT) regions outside of Wales.

4.4 Serious concerns were raised in HMIP's annual report for 2016/17 about the safety levels within custodial institutions for children across England and Wales. Within his most recent annual report, HM Chief Inspector of Prisons (2018b: 33) identified that children "continued to feel unsafe" in Young Offender Institutions in England and Wales.

4.6 Following an inspection of HMYOI Parc in October 2017, HMIP (2018a) reported that in the six months leading to September 2017, 23 boys had carried out 35 acts of self-harm.

Figure 4.1 – 'Behaviour management' incidents at Parc YOI, year ending December 2017¹⁴

HMYOI Parc	Incidents
Self-harm	64
Number of victims of proven assault where the victim was a young person ¹⁵	113

¹² *Imprisonment in Wales: A Factfile* (published in June) presented figures taken from the Ministry of Justice's *Safety in Custody Statistics* bulletin. The figures for self-harm, prisoner-on-prisoner assaults, assaults on staff and disturbances at HMP Parc included incidents recorded at the adult and Young Persons' Unit. I was informed by the Ministry of Justice in March 2018 that incidents at both facilities are aggregated because they do not have a "simple way of separating incidents involved under-18s from those involving adults".

¹³ This average figure was calculated using readings from March, June, September and December 2017. The data were obtained from the Youth Justice Board via the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

¹⁴ The Youth Justice Board state that data from April 2017 onwards are unpublished and unvalidated. These figures are not routinely published at establishment level and data received from the establishments through monthly returns is validated through a reconciliation process on an annual basis. The data from April 2017 onwards have not yet gone through the reconciliation process. These explanatory notes accompanied the data that were obtained from the Youth Justice Board via the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

¹⁵ According to the Youth Justice Board, the sum of the number of victims may not equal the number of incidents of assault. This is because one incident of assault may have more than one victim.

Number of victims of proven assault where the victim was NOT a young person ¹⁶	40
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Source: Youth Justice Board

4.7 There were 64 incidents of self-harm recorded at the Young Persons' Unit in 2017.

4.8 Although the Ministry of Justice's *Safety Statistics in Custody* data fail to provide a disaggregated breakdown of incidents at the adult and Young Persons' Unit at HMP Parc, data recently obtained from the Youth Justice Board show that the rate of self-harm per 100 prisoners only marginally decreases when the number of incidents recorded at the unit in 2017 are subtracted.

Figure 4.2 – Self-harm incidents at HMP Parc including and excluding the Young Persons' Unit in 2017

Self-harm incidents	Population	Incidents	Rate per 100
Parc (including YOI)	1,726	1,576	91
Parc (excluding YOI)	1,686	1,512	90

Source: Youth Justice Board

4.9 HMP Parc (adult only) recorded the highest rate (90 incidents per 100 prisoners) of self-harm in Wales in 2017. The second highest rate was at HMP Swansea (68 per 100 prisoners) followed by HMP Cardiff (33 per 100 prisoners) and HMP Usk and Prescoed (2 per 100 prisoners).¹⁷

¹⁶ The Youth Justice Board state that the victim of a proven assault can either be recorded as 'Victim was a young person' or 'Victim was NOT a young person'. 'Victim was NOT a young person' includes any staff members or visitors who were the victim of a proven assault. Due to the way the data are collected it is not possible to breakdown the victim was NOT a young person category further into staff members or visitors.

¹⁷ The average populations were worked out using population levels from March, June, September and December 2017 – HMP Cardiff (745), HMP Parc (1,686), HMP Swansea (442) and HMP Usk/Prescoed (528).

REFERENCES

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons (2018a) – *Report on an unannounced Inspection of Young Persons' Unit at HMP & YOI Parc*. 16-26 October 2017.

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