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International Centre for Prison Studies

Annual Report 2004

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Statement of Purpose

The International Centre for Prison Studies assists governments and other relevant agencies to develop appropriate policies on prisons and the use of imprisonment. It carries out its work on a project or consultancy basis for international agencies, governmental and non-governmental organisations.

It aims to make the results of its academic research and projects widely available to groups and individuals, some of whom might not normally use such work. These include policy makers, practitioners and administrators, the media and the general public. Such dissemination will help to increase an understanding of the purpose of prison and what can be expected of it.

Aims

- To develop a body of knowledge, based on international covenants and instruments, about the principles on which the use of imprisonment should be based, which can be used as a sound basis for policies on prison issues.
- To build up a resource network for the spread of best practice in prison management worldwide to which prison administrators can turn for practical advice on how to manage prison systems which are just, decent, humane and cost effective.

Objectives

To carry out, organise and publish research into the purposes of imprisonment and to make this available to policy makers, practitioners, administrators, the media and the general public.

To disseminate information about the international covenants and instruments relating to detention and imprisonment in a manner which is accessible to prison personnel.

To share experience about how the international instruments relating to detention and imprisonment should be applied in practice.

To undertake practical prison projects, which take account of the cultural, social and financial realities in the countries involved, at the request of international agencies, national governments and non-governmental organisations.

To develop and evaluate models of best practice.

To build up a database of good models of prison management and effective projects and to make this available on a worldwide basis.

To make use of an international network of individuals and agencies with a record of achievement in this field of work.

To organise seminars and conferences and to publish reports which will further these objectives.

The Year's Work

During 2004, the Centre continued to develop its work under two main themes:

- **Creating a knowledge base**

This recognises the need to provide a set of internationally accessible reference points for practical prison reform. All too frequently until now those who wish to implement such reform have had to begin with a blank sheet of paper, feeling their way by a process of trial and error. As a means of helping them, ICPS has set out to develop what is sometimes called the knowledge base for the whole subject of imprisonment, good prison practice and alternatives to prison. Starting from the international covenants and standards which have been agreed by governments, a body of reference texts and examples of good practice is being put together and published in a form which can be easily used.

- **Applying the knowledge base**

Once the knowledge base has been created it needs to be capable of application in real life situations. The Centre assists this process by undertaking a series of practical prison reform projects in a variety of countries and regions. These projects are all carried out within the context of the international standards relating to imprisonment. ICPS becomes involved in them in a variety of ways. Sometimes there is a direct approach from official sources within the country or region concerned. Sometimes, as in the case of the project with the World Health Organisation to promote better prison and public health, they are centred on themes which have been identified as requiring particular attention. Other projects, such as that with the pre-trial detention prisons in Russia, have a more specific focus.

Creating a Knowledge Base

A Human Rights Approach to Prison Management: Handbook for prison staff

This handbook, which the Centre published in 2002, describes the internationally agreed standards on the use of imprisonment and conditions of detention and provides guidance for prison staff as to their implementation. It provides a basis for good prison management which can be applied in every prison system in the world. The principles which are described are based on the international human rights standards agreed by the member states of the United Nations and the handbook makes the link between these standards and practical prison management. It demonstrates that in addition to providing an appropriate framework for the management of prisons, this approach can be very effective in operational terms. The handbook is aimed at a wide readership, intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental. Above all, it is intended for those who actually work in prisons and who deal with prisoners on a day to day basis.

Over 70,000 copies of the handbook have been distributed around the world to intergovernmental agencies, national prison administrations and non governmental organisations. The handbook is now available in Albanian, Amharic, Arabic, Armenian, Chinese, English, Georgian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Serbo-Croat, Spanish and Turkish. It is available for free download in a number of languages from the ICPS website. Publication of the handbook was funded by the Human Rights Policy Department of the UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office.

In the course of 2004 several workshops were held to mark the publication of the handbook in a number of languages. These are described in more detail later in this report. At the request of the organising bodies, multiple copies of the handbook were distributed at several international meetings organised by bodies such as the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the Council of Europe, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the World Health Organisation.

The original publication of the handbook and several of the translations were sponsored by the UK Foreign Office. Other translations were funded by the Swedish Helsinki Committee, the International Committee of the Red Cross, Penal Reform International, the Japanese Correctional Association and the Council of Europe.

Guidance Notes on Prison Reform

In 2004 ICPS produced a set of *Guidance Notes for Prison Reform* as a follow-up to the Handbook. The Guidance Notes were written to assist all those who undertake, evaluate, fund or are simply interested in the process of prison reform.

There is a real need in many countries for properly focussed projects to deal with the terrible abuses of human rights which occur in many prisons in the world and in recent years a great deal of work has been done to improve the observance of human rights in prisons. Some of this work has been successful but much of it has not and some of it has even made the situation worse for the prisoners concerned. In the course of our work it has become clear that, as countries move to increasing openness and democracy, very often one of the first institutions which governments seek to reform is the prison, because this can be an obvious symbol of their determination to provide greater access to justice, public safety and good governance. But although they may have the ambition to reform, governments are often unsure where to begin the process.

Similarly, when faced with requests to provide assistance, many potential partners who have no direct experience of working in the prison environment find themselves at a loss to know where to break into the complex world of the prison. The problems can seem so overwhelming that it is difficult to know how to make a start. In the same way, potential funders often do not have a sound basis from which to assess whether a project proposal will actually have any impact on the fundamental problems which need to be dealt with. The *Guidance Notes* are intended to help these dilemmas.

From our experience in working in prisons around the world and from discussions with other bodies working in this field, we have come to the conclusion that there are a number of clearly identifiable problems which are consistently present in the prison setting. In all countries at least one of these problems will be present, in some countries there will be several of them, in a few countries will face most of them.

The *Guidance Notes for Prison Reform* describe the most common issues which are likely to trigger prison reform projects. The *Notes* set out under different headings what is known about a topic and how best it might be addressed. A wide variety of sources have been used, including the work of intergovernmental human rights bodies, many governments, individuals and non-governmental organisations which have carried out prison reform projects, and evaluations carried out by universities and other bodies. Wherever possible, examples are provided, not only of the problems which can be encountered, but also of good practice from which others can learn. There is also a brief bibliography of some key reference texts. The *Notes* are presented in loose leaf format so that each one can be used on its own.

The 15 *Guidance Notes* are grouped as follows:-

1-3 cover aspects of project design and measurement

4-6 suggest solutions to three deep-seated prison problems, namely overcrowding, the conditions of pre-trial detention, and bringing prisons within the rule of law

7 looks at the important structural question of the prison as a civil rather than a military institution

8-10 cover various aspects of prison management and suggest how they can be improved

11-12 concentrate on matters external to the prison, that is, inspection, monitoring and the involvement of civil society

13-14 consider projects relating to specific groups of prisoners, namely women and children

15 looks at developing alternative ways of dealing with sentenced persons other than by imprisonment

The *Guidance Notes* try to hit a balance between identifying general principles which can be applied in all geographical and cultural settings, while at the same time providing practical examples which can be applied in different environments. The hope is that they will provide useful reference points for all those involved in prison reform. They are written in non-technical language and can be understood by the lay person. Many of the solutions which they propose can be implemented at minimal cost.

The *Guidance Notes* were launched in January 2005 in the UK Foreign Office by the Minister responsible for Human Rights. They are available in hard copy from ICPS and can also be downloaded electronically from our website.

Humanity in Prison

One of the challenges which face prison staff in all countries is how to treat prisoners with humanity while meeting all the requirements of security and good order. The need to do so is widely accepted but prison staff need help to clarify what this means in practice. In 2003 ICPS published a book entitled *Humanity in Prison: Questions of definition and audit*. The book had two objectives. In the first place, it set out to provide a working definition of 'humanity' as regards the treatment of people who have been deprived of their liberty. Secondly, it offered a proposal for the measurement of 'treatment with humanity' in the prison setting.

The book was the outcome of a project which looked at humanity in the Prison Service of England and Wales. Copies were distributed widely throughout the Prison Service and the audit tool which it contained has been used in a number of prisons to survey the reactions of prisoners and staff about humanity in the prison environment. It has also been made use of in a number of other countries and has been translated into Dutch.

Website

The Centre's website (www.prisonstudies.org) has established itself as an important tool for improving knowledge and information about prisons and prison reform. Many of the Centre's publications, including the Handbook in several languages, can be downloaded. The site is regularly updated to include examples of projects currently underway and other reference documents, such as major presentations given by senior staff of the Centre, many of which are available for free download.

By means of the website staff of the Centre respond to frequent requests for information and advice from policy makers, researchers, the media and practitioners around the world. The website has sections in English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish and is currently undergoing a major review.

World Prison Brief *Online*

World Prison Brief *Online* is part of the Centre's website. It offers a guide to the use of imprisonment throughout the world. Information is provided on the Ministry responsible for prisons, contact details of the prison administration, the prison population total and the rate per 100,000 of the national population, the prevalence in the prison population of pre-trial/remand prisoners, of women, of juveniles and of foreign prisoners, the number of prisons, their capacity, the level of occupancy and recent prison population trends.

No other website offers such a comprehensive database of information on world prison systems. The visual map interface and the world maps, which are colour-coded according to each country's prison population rate, enable the data to be understood easily.

During 2004 the information was again updated monthly, as were the lists that were introduced in the previous year showing the prison systems in rank order, from the highest to the lowest, in respect of prison population totals and rates per 100,000 of the national population, occupancy rates and the percentage of pre-trial/remand prisoners, female prisoners and foreign prisoners within the prison population.

Further progress has been made in terms of the comprehensive nature of the World Prison Brief data. For example, prison population totals and rates are now available for more than 210 prison systems, information on pre-trial/remand prisoners and female prisoners for more than 170 and on occupancy rates for more than 160.

We are grateful to our contacts around the world who provide the information which allows us to update the site regularly and also to our other correspondents who raise issues about the data we provide.

Intergovernmental and other links

The Centre values its contacts with intergovernmental and similar agencies, which have an important contribution to make in spreading knowledge of the principles of prison reform and good prison practice. During 2004 these contacts included the following:

Council of Europe

The Director continued to provide expert assistance to the Council of Europe in its task of re-drafting the European Prison Rules. This work will be completed in 2005.

The Centre's Projects Director continued to chair the Council of Europe's steering group for the reform of the prison system in Armenia and an Associate was involved with a similar group on reform in Georgia.

World Health Organisation (Europe) Health in Prisons Project

WHO is the main intergovernmental organisation for action on all health matters. It is particularly influential among the governments of the countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, where it works through its regional headquarters in Copenhagen. Since 1996 it has had a Health in Prisons Project, which has sought to be a driving force towards innovation in prison health, linking prison health more closely with public health frameworks. The Centre's work in 2004 with WHO is described in more detail in the later Health in Prisons section.

European Parliament

In view of the expansion of the European Union from 15 to 25 members in 2004, the European Parliament invited ICPS to undertake a review of prison conditions in the 25 countries and to provide a report for the parliament.

Applying the Knowledge Base

Health in Prisons

There is now wide understanding that there can be little possibility of real reform of prison conditions in many countries unless there is an improvement in the health provision for prisoners. The appalling prison conditions which still exist in many countries lead to widespread general ill health among prisoners. The conditions within many prisons leave prisoners, and sometimes staff, particularly vulnerable to infectious diseases. Given the fact that almost all prisoners will one day return to the community and also the regular movements into and out of prisons, this means that such illnesses will inevitably be communicated to the wider community. For these and other reasons it is essential that the arrangements for providing health care to prisoners should be closely linked to general health provision for the public.

Throughout 2004 ICPS continued its close co-operation with the World Health Organisation (Europe) Health in Prison Project (HiPP), based within the Unit for promoting Lifestyle, Environment and Development. The Centre continued to be an active member of the project task force and assisted in the development of the project website, particularly the Russian section. Members of the Centre took part in the conference on drugs and harm reduction organised by WHO in the Netherlands in October 2004.

In April 2004 the Centre organised a roundtable to exchange experiences of creating close organisational links between prison health and public health among colleagues from some of the countries which have been at the cutting edge of this work. Our intention was to provide a forum where those most closely involved could share their experiences with a view to helping other countries which might wish to go down a similar road. In the first part of the roundtable colleagues from England, France, Norway and Australia (New South Wales) and representatives of the WHO (Europe) Health in Prisons Project made brief contributions describing arrangements for the delivery of prison health care in each country. The second part of the meeting took the form of an open discussion covering the following themes:

- What was the policy environment which led to the transfer of prison health to the public health sector?
- What were the main elements of the process of transfer?
- What were the obstacles to successful implementation of the transfer?
- How can the outcomes now be evaluated?
- What advice can be given to other countries who are thinking of making a similar transfer?

The findings of the conference have been published as a report which is available in hard copy from ICPS or can be downloaded from the website.

Improving human rights in places of detention in Russia

For several years ICPS has managed a project of co-operation between the Russian Federal Prison Administration and the Prison Services of England & Wales and Northern Ireland to improve conditions in pre-trial prisons (SIZOs) in Moscow City. At the request of the Russian partners, work was undertaken in 2004 to disseminate the lessons learned in Moscow throughout the federal districts of Russia. This follow-up project was co-sponsored by the Global Opportunities Fund and the Ford Foundation.

Partners from Moscow and the United Kingdom ran a series of workshops in the federal districts, concentrating on methods of improving the human rights situation for prisoners and personnel. They assisted local staff in producing a human rights gap analysis, using the handbook *A Human Rights Approach to Prison Management*, and in putting together action plans on how to tackle issues which they had identified through the gap analysis. Local human rights ombudsmen and prosecutors who have inspection powers in Russia were also engaged in the workshops and the work received positive press coverage from local and national media. At one of the prisons in the Urals, the project team met with Mr Lukin, the Presidential Human Rights Ombudsman, who voiced his support for the work.

The project was endorsed by the Deputy Minister of Justice of Russia, Yuri Kalinin, who sent an official letter of appreciation to the British Ambassador. In it he expressed his thanks for continued support of the work to develop and enhance the observance of human rights in the Russian penal system, and for making available in Russian the handbook *A Human Rights Approach to Prison Management* to prison staff.

The prison population in Russia continued to reduce and was about 760,000 in January 2005. As result, there was less overcrowding and a higher staff to prisoner ratio, leading a greater opportunity for continuing reform.

Chile

ICPS has been working on prison reform projects in partnership with the Gendarmería de Chile (the Prison Service) since March 2001. These projects are part of a wider programme of criminal justice reform initiated by the Government of Chile. During 2004 the ICPS team continued to work in partnership with the project team within the Planning Department of the national headquarters.

In 2004 the project team concentrated on four main areas:

- Working with the senior management team at headquarters and the Regional Directors to develop a strategic planning model based on international human rights standards, and to develop business processes to support the delivery of

human rights to prisoners and staff. This work complemented the work which had been developed in the pilot programme in the earlier stages of the project.

- Implementing the roll-out of the strategic planning process developed in the Region of Valparaiso to all the regions for a comprehensive, organisation wide human rights approach to the management of prisons.
- Integrating the major initiative of the new ‘concession’ prisons within the strategic planning framework to ensure these prisons met the international standards for human rights as they opened.
- Developing the Training School curriculum to incorporate the learning from the project.

The human rights approach to prison management is now accepted at all levels of the Gendarmería. The strategic planning models that are now being implemented at national, regional and local levels are all based on international human rights standards. The outcome of this work has been an improvement in attempts to ensure that the conditions and treatment of prisoners and staff reach acceptable standards. Examples of real improvements were given in last year’s annual report and evidence continued during 2004.

In the second half of 2004 the project included three visits to the United Kingdom. The first was by the Minister of Justice, Señor Luis Bates Hidalgo, and the second by the Director Nacional of the Gendarmería, Señor Juan Carlos Perez, and one of his deputies. In November 2004 there was a more detailed visit for a key group of senior prison managers.

The Ministry of Justice had previously expressed interest in extending community based sentences. In July 2004 the ICPS project team was augmented by an Associate who is a former Chief Probation Officer for discussions and workshops with senior ministry officials and a national non-governmental organisation.

These projects have been funded by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Brazil

Prisons in Brazil are among the most violent and dangerous in the world. In December 2002, following the election of new government, ICPS accepted an invitation to become involved in a project to improve the performance of prison managers in the state of Sao Paulo in implementing the international standards on human rights for prisoners and staff. This project continued throughout 2004. The partners were ICPS, the Centre for the Study of Public Security and Citizenship in Rio de Janeiro, the Prison Administration in Sao Paulo, the federal Ministry of Justice and the Centre for Comparative Criminology and Criminal Justice in the University of Wales. The project is funded by the UK Foreign Office.

Following the five workshops which took place in 2002/3, a further three workshops were delivered in 2004. The first two concentrated on developing the management skills of the participants to help them to deliver the changes required within the Sao Paulo Prison Administration (SAP) and their prisons to implement the international human rights standards on which the previous workshops had concentrated. During

the course of 2004, senior managers of SAP were increasingly integrated into the Project. Dr Nagashi Furukawa, the Head of SAP continued personally to champion the aims of the project and members of his senior staff became regular contributors and participants in the work of the project, as was the head of the staff training school.

In 2003 there had been a national launch in Brasilia of the Portuguese version of the handbook *A Human Rights Approach to Prison Management* and 40,000 copies were distributed into all states in the country. In March 2004 there was a formal regional launch of the handbook in Sao Paulo, chaired by the State Secretary for Justice

In May 2004 several of the senior staff involved in the project in Sao Paulo visited the United Kingdom, accompanied by a representative from the federal prison administration and a representative from the State of Paraná for a comparative study of prison administration.

The final activity of the first phase was a further peer evaluation exercise in which representatives from the four participating prisons visited each other's prisons to assess the changes which had taken place. Despite a background of increased overcrowding and a serious riot in one of the prisons involved, there was recorded evidence of significant improvement in a number of areas. These included a new kitchen and a new workshop in one prison and a workshop in a second prison; staff training and improved staff communication systems introduced in two prisons; NGOs introduced in the semi open prison to expand education classes; improved and more sensitive searching methods for visitors. The second evaluation also confirmed that there is still significant room for improvement and that changing behaviour and attitude is far more difficult than short term physical changes. It reinforced the learning that strategic planning and constant monitoring of performance is essential to long term change.

An independent evaluation of the project has been commissioned and will be completed in 2005. Its findings will be incorporated into phase two of the project, which began in 2005 and is designed to build up the capacity of the National Penitentiary Department to disseminate the learning from the pilot project in Sao Paulo, first of all to two other states and gradually throughout the country.

Peru

In April 2004 ICPS contributed to an international seminar held in Lima, organised by the Comisión Episcopal de Acción Social (CEAS). As part of its pastoral work CEAS has a formal agreement with the prison service in Peru within which it runs a number of training workshops for prison staff. The international seminar had as its theme 'The administration of justice and the processes of reform'. After the seminar ICPS continued to provide an informal consultancy to CEAS and this led to an invitation to return to Lima in April 2005 to take part in a second international seminar and to lead a number of regional workshops.

Colombia

During 2004 ICPS was involved in two activities in Colombia working with the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Bogotá.

In the first of these, ICPS was commissioned by UNHCHR to carry out a review of the Colombian prison service's security and control procedures, and the extent to which these conform to international human rights standards. The project placed particular emphasis on a comparative study of the written procedures and the way that these are applied in practice.

In order to complete this review an ICPS Research Consultant made a preliminary visit to the country in May and then returned for three weeks in October. As well as visits to several prisons the review also included consultation with a range of government and non-government agencies.

At the end of October the Director of ICPS and the Research Consultant were two of the main speakers at an international seminar on prison reform organised by UNHCHR in Bogotá. The theme of the seminar was 'Human rights and prison administration and reform in Colombia' and other participants included the Vice-Minister of Justice and the Director General of the Prison Service.

St Helena

During February and March 2004 ICPS carried out an evaluation and training programme with the Prison Service on St Helena at the invitation of the St Helena Government and with funding from the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

In the first phase of the project an ICPS Research Consultant visited the island and carried out an assessment of the island's prison facilities and procedures against the benchmark of international human rights standards. Because of the island's isolated location in the South Atlantic, with no air access, its small prison houses all categories of prisoners – men, women and juveniles, and both pre-trial and convicted. It also has to serve as the detention facility for the island's police force.

As part of this first phase of the project the ICPS consultant also delivered a one-week training course in international human rights standards to all Prison Service staff. The main tool used for both the assessment and training was the handbook *A Human Rights Approach to Prison Management*. The St Helena Police Service is also responsible for police and prison facilities on Ascension Island and as part of the project the ICPS consultant carried out an assessment of the new prison on Ascension.

In the project's second phase, the St Helena Prison Service's Principal Officer visited the United Kingdom for a four week training programme organised by ICPS and kindly facilitated by HM Prison Service of England and Wales. During this programme she undertook placements at two contrasting English prisons and also attended a short course at the Prison Service's Staff Training College.

Sudan

In January 2004 ICPS led a five-day workshop in Sudan on Juvenile Justice procedures. The workshop was organised by the British Council office in Khartoum and funded by the Dutch Embassy. The main purpose of the workshop was to try to improve access to justice for young Sudanese in conflict with the law. The main activities were focused on Wad Medani, capital of Gezira State and Sudan's second city. The city was chosen because of the strong interest shown by the Head of the State Judiciary and the fact that the state had no dedicated juvenile court facilities. At the time of the project the only juvenile court in Sudan was located in Khartoum. The workshop participants included state magistrates, prosecution and defence lawyers, social workers and senior prison service officers. The specific objectives for the workshop were to increase awareness of juvenile justice issues amongst the participant groups and to help to establish dedicated juvenile court procedures in the state.

Libya

In September 2004 ICPS began a new partnership with the Ministry of Justice of Libya and the Judicial Police which is responsible for the management of the prisons. This followed a preliminary visit made in 2003 by the ICPS Projects Director to the Judicial Police.

The Director of the Judicial Police has endorsed the aim of the project which is 'to improve the standard of human rights in Libyan prisons'. The ICPS project team is working with a project team from the Judicial Police led by the Deputy Director. The objectives of the project are:

- To raise awareness amongst officials and managers of prisons of the handbook *A Human Rights Approach to Prison Management*.
- To create capacity within the prison system to develop and deliver training workshops on the 'Human Rights Approach to the Management of Prisons'.
- To train staff to carry out evaluations of the performance of each of their prisons against international human rights standards.

The core text for the project is the Arabic version of *A Human Rights Approach to Prison Management*. It is planned to circulate this widely amongst the prison staff during the course of the project.

The first activity involved the partners establishing the working structure of the project and visiting different prisons to be involved in the project. A four day workshop enabled participants to acquire an understanding of international standards relating to prisons, based on the United Nations Covenants and Instruments, the extent to which these are embraced into Libyan Law, and how they can be used to develop action plans for improvement. The workshop appeared to have effectively engaged senior personnel in the Judicial Police as well as the participants.

A study visit to the United Kingdom was arranged for the Director of the Judicial Police, Brigadier Belqassim Gargoom. During his visit, he examined the role of the Prison Service within the context of the criminal justice system, held discussions with the Director General of the Prison Service of England & Wales, visited a number of

prisons, saw the format of staff training, and considered the extent to which the international standards are integrated into the work of the Prison Service of England & Wales.

The project will continue throughout 2005 with funding from the UK Foreign Office

United Kingdom

The Restorative Prison Project

This project, which was funded by the Northern Rock Foundation, began in 2000 and ended in June 2004. It had two main objectives. The first was to generate debate about the purpose of imprisonment and prisons. The second was to encourage practical changes in the way prisons are run. To achieve this, the project defined change under four headings or 'pillars'. These were:

- Create a new structural relationship between the prison and surrounding community.
- Provide opportunities for prisoners to work for others.
- Introduce more awareness into prisons of victims and their experiences.
- Develop reconciliatory ways to resolve disputes and conflicts within prisons.

The progress of the project has been fully reported in previous annual reports. During the final months of the project in 2004 all prisons in the North-East Area of England were actively engaged in enabling prisoners to do work for the benefit of the community. Most of this work was undertaken in workshops at the prisons but for a number of prisoners there was also an opportunity to work outside in the community prior to release as part of their resettlement plans. In the North East and North West Prison Service Areas experience gained during the course of the project's work influenced long term planning for the resettlement of prisoners.

One of the great challenges of a project such as this is to create an exit strategy which ensures that the lessons of the project continue to bear fruit at both practical and policy levels. This was achieved in this project. At a practical level, the launch of the North East Restorative Community Partnership (NERCP) at a celebratory event hosted by the Mayor of Gateshead in Saltwell Park in July 2004 symbolised the Area Prison Service's commitment to the principles that the project had worked to put into practice. The Area Manager has retained a former member of prison staff who worked as an ICPS Associate on the project to co-ordinate the continuing work with local authorities, major charities such as the National Trust and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and with a wide variety of voluntary groups involved in education, youth and sports activities. Through the work that they have done, many prisoners have developed new interests and motivation to continue similar work after their release.

At a policy level, a number of partnerships have been created and important agencies have become involved. One of the most significant of these has been the Local Government Association (LGA), the body which represents all local authorities in the country. Local authorities have a statutory responsibility to develop what the government has called Crime Reduction Strategies. The LGA has led the way in

demonstrating the need for local authorities to build up links with prisons which hold people who come from and will return to local communities. Throughout 2004 ICPS worked in close partnership with the LGA as it developed its work in this field.

A overall review and assessment of the impact of the project will be published in 2005

Justice ReInvestment

This new project began in July 2004 with the aim of considering more effective ways of responding to local crime and disorder. The project began from a recognition that most crime happens locally, in streets, on estates, in shopping centres, in neighbourhoods, and its effects are felt locally. The investigation of crime is carried out locally by the police. Yet once the police work is over and the matter passes into the hands of the criminal justice process, local authorities normally have no involvement in what happens thereafter. This is despite the fact that it is local authorities that are responsible for keeping their areas safe and for providing the services to deal with a range of social problems. Decisions about criminal justice expenditure are taken at the national level and local authorities have no control over the spending of criminal justice budgets.

The Justice ReInvestment Project has set out to examine the practicality of other models of decision making and funding and to assess the effectiveness of more locally determined decision-making to address what are fundamentally local concerns. The project is funded by the Northern Rock Foundation.

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales

In 2003 HM Chief Inspector of Prisons asked ICPS to provide a complete set of references to international human rights standards for the series of Expectations which she and her staff use when inspecting prisons. In 2004 she asked for a similar set of references for the Expectations she has when inspecting immigration removal centres. The Centre provided the references and the new Expectations will be published by the Chief Inspector in 2005.

Staff of the Centre

The Centre was fortunate to recruit Rob Allen as its new Director at the end of 2004. He took up post at the beginning of March 2005. Andrew Coyle remains with the Centre as Professor of Prison Studies.

Abigail Martin, the Centre's Administrative Assistant, left in the course of the year and was replaced first by Lucy Hendry and then by Andrew Edwards.

Vivien Francis, one of the Centre's Research Associates, left at the end of June 2004 when her work with the Restorative Prison Project came to an end.

The bulk of the international project work was again carried out by our wide circle of Associates, to whom we are extremely grateful.

We are also indebted to the interns and volunteers who worked in the Centre in the course of the year.

Director
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Professor of Prison Studies
Andrew Coyle CMG

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Donors and Project Funders

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