

1. We monitor to ensure that people in custody are treated fairly and humanely.
2. We operate independently of the Prison and Immigration Services.
3. We are volunteers appointed by the Home Secretary to report on closed establishments on behalf of the community.
4. We have unrestricted access to prisons and immigration removal centres.
5. We listen to prisoners' and detainees' requests and complaints, privately and in confidence.
6. In prisons, we monitor the range and adequacy of programmes preparing prisoners for release.
7. We don't make the rules governing prisoners or detainees, but we see that these are properly applied.
8. We continually challenge things we are not satisfied with and take our concerns to the Home Secretary where necessary.

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Key messages

Monitoring fairness and respect for people in custody

