

**Independent Custody Visiting Association**  
**Checklist for Independent Custody Visitors**  
**High Profile Incidents - ICV Response**  
**August 2019**



Those detained as part of a high-profile arrest may experience a great deal of stress during their time in custody due to the nature/severity of the offence. The treatment of detainees under these circumstances is incredibly important, in particular where there are children or vulnerable adult detainees, and/or where detention times are extended up to 96 hours. The below represents a brief checklist for ICVs when carrying out extra visits to this group of detainees. ICVs may also wish to consider the culture of the suite and make notes as to how the suite feels, and how the staff at the suite are interacting with the high-profile detainee(s).

**When you arrive in custody**

- Ask how long the detainee(s) has been in custody.
- As far as is practicable, visit all high-profile detainees in custody at the time of the visit.
- Prioritise visits to children or vulnerable adults.

**During your visit**

- Check on rights, entitlements and wellbeing as you would for any visit.
- If the detainee is a child or vulnerable adult, check that an AA has been requested and that they have attended, making note of repeat visits.
- Check that the detainee is aware of any extensions of detention time and the reasons for that extension.
- Check additional arrangements such as:
  - Has the detainee had access to varied food?
  - Have showers been regularly offered?
  - Has the detainee been offered regular exercise and fresh air?
  - Has the detainee been offered reading materials/a radio?
  - Has the detainee been offered nicotine replacements if needed?
  - Has the detainee been able to make additional phone calls?
  - If the detainee is a child, have visits or varied arrangements been made to lessen the impact of detention? (Arrangements such as additional time with AA/family member, time out of cell etc.).
- Ask the detainee if you are able to check the custody record

**When looking at the custody record (with permission)**

- Check how long the detainee has been in custody.
- Does the custody record detail offers of the entitlements above regardless of the detainees acceptance/refusal?

**When completing your report**

- Note how long the detainee has been in custody.
- Report on rights, entitlements and wellbeing as normal.
- Report on whether the detainee has been offered regular showers, daily exercise, varied food etc.
- Note if you have not been able to access the custody record and why.

If you have had access to the custody record:

- Report when the detainee came into custody and how long they have been there.
- If an AA has been requested, note the time of request and arrival of the AA.

**This document has been approved by the National Police Chief Council.**