



Recent Announcement

Dutch prisons open family units inspired by G4S run prison

A long-standing relationship between HM Prison & Youth Offender Institute Parc in Wales and the Dutch Ministry of Justice (MoJ) has resulted in the opening of two new family intervention style units in the Netherlands.

Over the past decade, Parc has pioneered working with prisoners and their families to help facilitate rehabilitation and reduce reoffending, including the opening of the UK's first Family Interventions Unit in 2010.

As well as sharing best practice with the four other UK based G4S-run prisons – Altcourse, Rye Hill, Oakwood and Birmingham – other UK establishments are now following suit.

The relationship with the Dutch MoJ began seven years ago, when Head of Family Interventions Corin Morgan-Armstrong met one of its directors, Fokko Drent, at a conference in London.

A number of visits to Parc and the Netherlands have taken place in the years since, while 13 interns from Hanze University in Groningen, who gain police clearance with the help of G4S Netherlands, have completed six-month placements at the Welsh prison.

Now, family units and interventions working to Parc's model have been established at PI Veenhuizen and PI Leeuwarden, which Corin recently visited.

"They've really embraced what we've set up at Parc, just stepping into the family lounges felt very similar to what we have here in Wales," he said.

"In the 10 years we've been doing this work I have been fortunate enough to visit and share our model with correctional establishments across five continents, and I have seen that the fundamental problems and solutions are similar wherever you go.

"We really believe that working with prisoners and their families makes a huge difference to all involved, as has now been endorsed through the MoJ commissioned Lord Farmer Review, so it's fantastic to see it being adopted in other countries."

[Click here to read more about the family focused reform taking place at HM Prison Parc.](#)

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G4S Australia & New Zealand

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