

SFJCCFD2

Maintain security and order in the custodial environment



Overview

This unit is about monitoring the physical security of the custodial environment (locks, bolts, alarms, the fabric of the building, and so on), observing people in custody, identifying potential breaches of security and order, and dealing effectively with these breaches when they occur. Monitoring may be direct or indirect through electronic means. It will cover normal activities within the custodial environment, moving people within the custodial environment, activities involving those in custodial care outside the custodial environment and dealing with visitors. Breaches of security and order can involve: damage to fabric, aggression against others and other forms of misconduct.

There are four elements

- 1 Monitor the physical security of the custodial environment
- 2 Monitor the security and behaviour of people in custody
- 3 Identify and respond to breaches of security and order
- 4 Restore security and order

Target Group

This unit applies to operational staff in custodial environments who have significant responsibilities for security and control.

SFJCCFD2

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Monitor the physical security of the custodial environment

- P1 check that all the physical aspects of the custodial environment are secure and in good working order
- P2 check that individuals in custody use the premises and other facilities according to organisational procedures
- P3 carry out patrols and random checks to the agreed standard of vigilance and security awareness
- P4 check that all security areas are clear of unauthorised individuals and items
- P5 use all security equipment according to organisational procedures
- P6 complete all records clearly and accurately, and forward them to the responsible colleague within agreed timescales

Monitor the security and behaviour of people in custody

You must be able to:

- P7 maintain observation during all operations in line with organisational procedures
- P8 gather and collate information that may have security implications
- P9 treat individuals courteously and uphold their rights at all times
- P10 Identify changes in mood and behaviour amongst individuals and groups
- P11 monitor communications and exchanges between individuals in custody and people from outside, in line with organisational procedures legal requirements
- P12 assess all available information for security and safety implications
- P13 provide complete and accurate reports of your observations promptly to the responsible colleague

Identify and respond to breaches of security and order

You must be able to:

- P14 correctly identify breaches of security and order
- P15 assess the nature and extent of the breach and respond appropriately
- P16 assess the risk of further breaches and take appropriate action to minimise this risk
- P17 identify the need for assistance and request it promptly
- P18 identify, assess and report the individuals concerned
- P19 seek advice from a responsible colleague before you file a report
- P20 identify the causes of the breach and assess and report on their implications for the security and safe running of the custodial environment
- P21 where requested, prepare recommendations for avoiding or minimising breaches

SFJCCFD2

Maintain security and order in the custodial environment

Restore security and order

You must be able to:

- P22 establish a dialogue with the individuals involved in the breach
- P23 deal appropriately with individuals and groups not involved in the breach
- P24 take effective and approved action to prevent further escalation of the breach
- P25 give a clear verbal caution before you take action
- P26 limit your actions to the level necessary to restore order and maintain security
- P27 respect the rights of individuals while restoring order
- P28 fully brief other staff who attend the incident
- P29 promptly identify the need for medical assistance and request it accordingly
- P30 accurately and correctly report and record the breach, and the action you have taken

SFJCCFD2

Maintain security and order in the custodial environment

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 your organisation's normal and emergency security procedures and policies
- K2 the different types of security system commonly used in custodial environments and how to check them for correct operation
- K3 the different types of electronic and audio-visual monitoring system commonly used in custodial environments, how to operate the technology and check systems for correct operation
- K4 parts of the fabric of the building, for example walls, windows etc., that could present a security risk, the condition they should be in and how to check them
- K5 the agreed procedures for the use of premises and other facilities by the individuals in custody
- K6 your organisation's procedures for patrolling
- K7 the common types of security areas in custodial environments, and the types of individuals and items that would not be authorised for them
- K8 how to monitor the common types of temporary structures and their typical security risks
- K9 the records that you must keep in regard to physical security, how to complete them and who you must pass them on to
- K10 observation techniques and the need for careful vigilance when monitoring people in custody
- K11 normal and abnormal moods and patterns of behaviour amongst the people you are monitoring, and the effects of substance misuse
- K12 group dynamics amongst the people being monitored, and the effects of peer group pressures
- K13 the personal histories and tendencies of individuals being monitored
- K14 how to assess security implications based on changes in mood and behaviour
- K15 the agreed procedures for monitoring communications between individuals in custody and people from outside, and the relevant legal requirements
- K16 your organisation's procedures for dealing with potential breaches of order and discipline
- K17 how to identify and assess the risk of further breaches taking place
- K18 the rights of people in custody
- K19 disciplinary procedures and the importance of seeking advice before proceeding formally
- K20 the importance of assessing breaches for their wider security implications, and reporting these and possible solutions
- K21 the importance of establishing a dialogue with the people involved, and how to do so

SFJCCFD2

Maintain security and order in the custodial environment

- K22 how to deal with individuals not involved in the breach
- K23 the types of effective and approved actions you can take for different types of breaches, and how to select one that is appropriate
- K24 the importance of giving a clear verbal caution before using physical force
- K25 approved restraint techniques, and how to apply them safely
- K26 how to identify when medical assistance is required and how to request it

SFJCCFD2

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