

Follow-up inspection of the Harku territory of Harku and Murru Prison

In order to assess whether the recommendations made on 31 January 2014 have been followed, advisors to the Chancellor of Justice paid an unannounced follow-up visit to the Harku territory of the Harku and Murru Prison.

The residential building of the detainees, the surrounding walking areas, the prison library and the mothers and children section were visited during the follow-up inspection. The advisors to the Chancellor of Justice also inspected the reports about the use of physical force, service weapons, special equipment or restraining measures that had been prepared from 1 February 2014 to 1 July 2014.

As a result of the inspection the Chancellor of Justice makes the following recommendations and proposals to the Harku and Murru Prison:

- to equip the walking areas surrounding the residential building (the walking areas by both ends of the building and the walking enclosure) with measures that offer protection against the weather and sufficient resting facilities. I still advise building a wall in the walking enclosure that would protect against wind and to place enough benches in the walking areas by the ends of the residential buildings (particularly important for elderly detainees) and to equip the walking areas by the ends of the buildings with sufficient roofing so that all persons walking at the same time could find shelter from precipitation;
- to organise a health check for the person against whom physical force, a service weapon, special equipment or restraining measure was used immediately after the end of the direct coercion. Also, the Chancellor of Justice once again makes the recommendation to document the activities of the medic who carried out the health check more diligently so that the report includes the date and time of the check in addition to the name of the medic;
- the Harku and Murru Prison should analyse the use of the premises for hygiene procedures consistently to avoid problems and, if necessary, consider again the establishment of new premises required to guarantee personal hygiene. The need to establish new facilities is likely to become particularly urgent should the intended completion deadline of the new Tallinn Prison buildings complex be postponed.