



Jersey

**PRISON (BOARD OF VISITORS)
(JERSEY) REGULATIONS 1957**

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PRISON (BOARD OF VISITORS) (JERSEY) REGULATIONS 1957

Arrangement

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Jersey

PRISON (BOARD OF VISITORS) (JERSEY) REGULATIONS 1957¹

THE STATES, in pursuance of Article 6 of the Prison (Jersey) Law 1957,² have made the following Regulations –

Commencement [[see endnotes](#)]

1 Interpretation

In these Regulations –

“Law” means the Prison (Jersey) Law 1957;³

“prison rules” means rules made under Article 29 of the Law.

2 Constitution of Board of Visitors

- (1) The Board of Visitors to be constituted in pursuance of Article 6 of the Law shall consist of not less than 7 Jurats of the Royal Court appointed by the Superior Number of the Royal Court within the first 3 weeks of the month of December in each year.
- (2) If for any reason the number of members of the Board of Visitors falls below 7, the Superior Number of the Royal Court shall, as soon as may be, appoint to the vacancy or vacancies, and any such appointment shall have effect as if it had been made at the time of the annual appointment of the Board.

3 Term of office

Members of the Board of Visitors shall hold office until their successors hold their first meeting.

4 Chairman and Vice-Chairman

The Board of Visitors shall at its first meeting appoint a chairman and a vice-chairman and shall, if a casual vacancy occurs in either office, fill the vacancy as soon as possible.

5 Visits to prison

Members of the Board of Visitors shall pay frequent visits to the prison and at least one member of the Board shall visit the prison once between each meeting of the Board.

6 Times of meeting

The Board of Visitors shall meet at the prison once a month to discharge its functions under these Regulations or, if the Board resolves that, for reasons specified in the resolution, less frequent meetings are sufficient, not less than 8 times in 12 months.

7 Rota and Quorum

- (1) The Board of Visitors shall at its first meeting arrange a rota of attendance at the prison and fix a quorum of not less than 3 for the purpose of carrying out its duties.
- (2) The quorum fixed in pursuance of paragraph (1) shall not be required for performing a function which in accordance with an express provision of these Regulations or of prison rules may be performed by a smaller number.

8 Vacancies

The powers of the Board of Visitors shall not be affected by vacancies, so long as the quorum for meetings is sufficient.

9 Minutes

The Board of Visitors shall keep minutes of its proceedings.

10 Inquiries, etc.

The Board of Visitors shall co-operate with the Minister and with the Governor in promoting the efficiency of the prison, and shall make inquiry into any matter specially referred to it by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bailiff or the Minister, and report thereon.

11 Abuses

The Board of Visitors shall bring all abuses in connection with the prison which come to its knowledge to the notice of the Minister immediately.

12 Adjudication report, etc.

- (1) The Board of Visitors shall hear and adjudicate on such offences as are reported to it in accordance with prison rules.
- (2) The Board of Visitors shall furnish such information with respect to the offences reported to it, and its awards, as may from time to time be required by the States or the Minister.

13 Access to prison

- (1) The Board of Visitors shall have free access to all parts of the prison and to all prisoners, and may see such prisoners as it desires, either in their cells or in a room out of sight and hearing of officers.
- (2) The Board of Visitors shall hear and investigate any application which a prisoner desires to make to it, and if necessary shall report the same, with its opinion, to the Minister.
- (3) This Regulation shall apply to a member of the Board of Visitors in like manner as it applies to the Board of Visitors.

14 Sick prisoners

The Board of Visitors shall attend to any report which it receives to the effect that the mind or body of a prisoner is likely to be injured by the conditions of his or her imprisonment, and shall communicate its opinion to the Minister. If the case is urgent, it shall give such directions thereon as it deems expedient, communicating the same to the Minister.

15 Diet

The Board of Visitors shall inspect the dietary of prisoners and if it finds the quality of the food unsatisfactory it shall report the matter to the Minister and note the same in its minutes, and the Governor shall immediately take such steps thereupon as may be necessary.

16 Books

The Board of Visitors may inspect any of the books of the prison and a note of any such inspection shall be made in its minutes.

17 Additional letters, etc.

The Board of Visitors, in any case of special importance or urgency, may allow a prisoner to receive an additional visit or to write or receive an additional letter or may extend the period of any visit.

18 Buildings

The Board of Visitors may inquire into the state of the prison buildings and, if any repairs or additions appear to it to be necessary, shall report thereon with its advice and suggestions to the Minister.

19 Annual and other reports

The Board of Visitors shall make an annual report to the States at the end of each year with regard to all or any of the matters referred to in these Regulations or in prison rules, with its advice and suggestions upon any such matter, and it may make such other reports to the States or to the Minister as it considers necessary concerning any matter relating to the prison to which, in its opinion, attention should be drawn.

20 Permissions and consultation

The Board of Visitors shall, before granting any permission which it has power to grant under these Regulations or under prison rules, satisfy itself by consultation with the Governor that it can be granted without interfering with the security, good order and proper government of the prison and the prisoners therein, and if after such permission has been granted its continuance seems likely to cause such interference, or a prisoner has abused permission granted to him or her or has been guilty of misconduct, it may suspend or withdraw the permission.

21 Citation

These Regulations may be cited as the Prison (Board of Visitors) (Jersey) Regulations 1957.

ENDNOTES**Table of Legislation History**

Legislation	Year and No	Commencement
Prison (Board of Visitors) (Jersey) Regulations 1957	R&O.3828	29 June 1957
States of Jersey (Amendments and Construction Provisions No. 7) (Jersey) Regulations 2005	R&O.47/2005	9 December 2005

Table of Endnote References

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- ¹ *These Regulations have been amended by the States of Jersey (Amendments and Construction Provisions No. 7) (Jersey) Regulations 2005. The amendments replace all references to a Committee of the States of Jersey with a reference to a Minister of the States of Jersey, and remove and add defined terms appropriately, consequentially upon the move from a committee system of government to a ministerial system of government.*
- ² *chapter 23.775*
- ³ *chapter 23.775*