



HM Prison &
Probation Service



Humanity, Decency and Fairness – Nominee

Manjit Dhillon – APM



Manjit Dhillon has worked with APM for just 10 months. In this time she has come to be known as a very capable and valued member of the Yorkshire and Humber HMPPS CFO3 Team, developing deep and sustainable roots within HMP Moorland where she works incredibly effectively with staff and prisoners alike.

Staff can depend upon Manjit to be on-site to help with any difficult and/or underlying problems.



Recently a young man was transferred to HMP Moorland from HMP Lindholme and was soon part of Manjit's case load. As usual she quickly came to understand his many complex needs and started to work with him towards his imminent release date. She realised though that there was something he was not telling her and that was troubling him deeply.

After subtle investigation she discovered that it was not debt or bullying but something he felt he could not talk about to anyone; her response was to create a safe and comfortable environment in which over a series of days, the inmate could feel able to talk more openly. The prisoner trusted Manjit implicitly and so when she asked some very searching questions about his sexuality, he was fully aware that her integrity was sound, her non-judgmental attitude was genuine and her empathy was real.

A Transgender person can endure a truly terrible time in prison and often feels unable to be themselves for fear of recrimination; as such, the young man in question had suppressed his emotions for some time.

Manjit showed the young man care, compassion and a very genuine human and decent approach in dealing with the issues he was facing in custody and the fears he faced after release. She could have taken the easy option and given a 'standard' service that would have seen him leave with uncertainty in his life. Instead, she went the extra mile and sought out Transgender groups in the area he was to settle, secured accommodation that would suit his lifestyle and helped him to embed effectively in his new life (including support in seeking employment).

This is merely one example of how Manjit conducts her day to day work in HMP Moorland; with human decency and fairness. She will not accept no for an answer, she will not take the easy route and she will always do the best for the people she works with. She is a credit to APM and should be very proud of herself but she does not see her work as exceptional. She believes that everyone deserves the opportunity to make something of themselves and turn their life around.