

NEWS UPDATE

JUNE 2009 | A MONTHLY DIGEST FOR PROBATION BOARDS AND TRUSTS

NOMS TO ACT ON PA PROPOSALS IN TRUST FREEDOMS REPORT

■ By **Christine Lawrie**
Chief Executive



I am delighted to be able to say that NOMs have committed, in a formal written response, to take forward the PA sponsored trust flexibilities report.

They will be acting on many of its ideas and recommendations and others will be used as a springboard for innovation. Where recommendations cannot be implemented clear reasons are given.

The response will be formally launched by NOMs at two national events in three or four weeks' time.

Promoting this agenda has been a priority for us as members of the Probation Trusts Programme Board. We have long believed the move away from a one-size-fits-all, nationally directed service would only be successful if trusts were given genuine control of their own business

and the freedom to innovate. Without freedoms, trusts would find themselves unable to unlock their full potential so we are delighted the report has been so well received.

Greater flexibility will allow local probation leaders and staff to make better use of scarce resources, respond to local need and deliver services which best protect the public in their area.

AN ELECTION IS NEARING.... DO YOU KNOW YOUR MP?

The Probation Association is giving thought to strengthening its channels of communications with the main political parties.

Before we make any formal approaches we would like to find out who our members are already talking to, informally or otherwise.

We are aware that many of our members have good relations with politicians and are keen to ensure that we do not cut across any existing channels or on-going conversations.

In order to best brief and influence key

figures with a single, unified voice, we would like to map our collective political connections.

Also - is there anything that we could do to facilitate such conversations? Perhaps you have an idea for a direct approach that we could assist with?

● Please contact PR and Communications Manager Neil Lampert with all information and ideas on 07891 348815 or via email at nlampert@probationassociation.co.uk

SEMINAR PROVIDES CHANCE TO INFLUENCE NEXT IPPF

NOMS is currently reviewing the Integrated Probation Performance Framework (IPPF) and is embarking on a series of consultative meetings with stakeholders as part of this process.

The next iteration of the IPPF will be crucial to trusts.

Chairs, Chief Officers and Chief Executives have the opportunity to contribute to a seminar on the subject, being hosted jointly by the Probation Association and the Probation Chiefs' Association.

The seminar will be held at the Jolly St

Ermins Hotel, Caxton Street, London on 7 July. The event starts at 10am.

"This opportunity for Chairs and Chiefs to meet NOMS colleagues and influence the development of a flexible performance framework capable of balancing local and national priorities is one not to be missed," said Ian Fox, the Association's Policy Development Manager.

● For more information contact Ian Fox at the Probation Association on 0203 008 7930 or via email at ifox@probationassociation.co.uk

OFFICE DIARY

4 June	<i>Chief Executive:</i> meeting with Robin Wilkinson, HR Director, NOMS
5 June	<i>Governance Services Manager:</i> Board Governance Training Day
10 June	<i>Chief Executive & Governance Services Manager:</i> Meeting with Phillip French, NOMS ICT <i>Chair:</i> NOMS Agency Audit Committee meeting <i>Chair and Chief Executive:</i> Meeting with Jack Straw <i>Governance Services Manager:</i> Probation Property Board meeting
11 June	Probation Association Council Meeting
15 June	<i>Chief Executive:</i> Trusts Governance Project Board meeting
16 June	<i>Employment Relations, Pay & Policies Manager:</i> SCCOG Joint Working Group meeting <i>Employment Relations, Pay & Policies Manager:</i> Chief Officer Forum <i>Chief Executive:</i> Academy Executive Group meeting
17 June	<i>Governance Services Manager:</i> Probation Qualification Framework (PQF) Project Board meeting
19 June	<i>Employment Relations, Pay & Policies Manager:</i> Public Sector People Management Association (PPMA) HR Conference <i>Governance Services Manager:</i> Secretaries' Group meeting
22 June	<i>Employment Relations, Pay & Policies Manager:</i> NNC Joint Working Party
23 June	<i>Employment Relations, Pay & Policies Manager and Human Resources Manager:</i> ER Workshop <i>Employment Relations, Pay & Policies Manager:</i> Probation Qualification Framework meeting
24 June	<i>Governance Services Manager:</i> NPS ICT Board meeting <i>Chief Executive:</i> Probation Trust Programme Board meeting
26 June	<i>Governance Services Manager:</i> PQF Reference Group meeting <i>Projects Manager:</i> Future Options Round Table meeting
29 June	<i>Chair, Chief Executive and West Yorkshire Chair Stan Hardy:</i> Meeting with Shadow Justice Minister Edward Garnier MP
30 June	<i>Employment Relations, Pay & Policies Manager:</i> HR Strategic Board meeting <i>Employment Relations, Pay & Policies Manager:</i> NOMS Union Consultation meeting

NEW PA WEBSITE TO BE LAUNCHED THIS MONTH

Work is nearing completion on a new, modern and user-friendly PA website.

The site will feature new sections and a weblog from Christine Lawrie, which will be accessible from the homepage.

Through her blog, Christine will provide updates on PA news and emerging government policy. There will be the facility to comment on her posts.

"The new site will project the Association as a modern, professional and authoritative organisation," said PR and Communications Manager Neil Lampert.

"This site will be completely public-facing and password-free."

Members will receive direct notification of the launch, scheduled for later this month.