

# Prison Governors Association

Representing: The Prison Governors of the United Kingdom since 1987



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John Attard  
Dave Hoskins  
Mark Icke

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT – TEMPORARY CLOSURE: HMP BLANTYRE HOUSE**

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The Prison Governors' Association (PGA) is surprised to learn this morning that NOMS are to temporarily close HMP Blantyre House in Kent. The PGA has not been consulted on this decision and it leaves us with some major concerns as to the under-usage of the capacity within the open estate.

We are led to believe that this decision has been borne out of the inability to recruit enough prison officers into some of the prisons in the South of England, and in particular the Isle of Sheppey in Kent, which has been widely reported by most media outlets.

NOMS have previously stated there would be no further prison closures in this Parliament and therefore the PGA will seek assurances that this is just a temporary measure and there are no further planned temporary or permanent prison closures.

National Officers  
PGA

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Note for editors:

The Prison Governors Association was founded in October 1987 to represent the higher operational managers in the Prison Service in England and Wales. The PGA was placed on the register of Trade Unions on 6 November 1987 (No. 639T). On 28 July 1988 the Certification Officer under the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974 issued the Prison Governors Association with a Certificate of Independence. The status of the Prison Governors Association is that of an independent registered Trade Union.

For more information contact Stephen O'Connell, President, and / or John Attard, Dave Hoskins or Mark Icke, National Officers via the PGA office (Tel: 0300 047 5781 or 0300 047 5780).

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