

Prison Governors Association

Representing: The Prison Governors of the United Kingdom since 1987



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Bulletin 816

27 October 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Prison Service Pay Review Body

We would like to draw to members attention the attached letter, sent from the Chair of the Prison Service Pay Review Board, Tim Flesher, to The Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP, Deputy Prime Minister, Lord Chancellor & Secretary of State for Justice, dated the 22 October 2021, the letter is attached in its entirety, and we would encourage members to read and reflect on the contents.

Those who attended our conference this year will recall that we debated pay. Part of this debate was whether the PGA should continue to engage with the Prison Service Pay Review Body (PSPRB), or alternatively negotiate direct, with Government through HMPPS. We believe this letter illustrates why it is important for us to remain engaged with the PSPRB, rather than negotiating direct with Government – If nothing else, the PSPRB adds a level of openness and transparency which we value and remain committed to.

We support the views expressed in this letter and continue to call on Government to respect all the recommendations made by the PSRRB in the spirit they are made. Over recent years the PSPRB have made recommendations which Government have ignored. It is without doubt had the recommendations been accepted to significantly increase prison officer pay, we would not be experiencing the recruitment and retention issues that are causing us such significant concern. We fear that the media hype that the public sector pay freeze is now over may be too late to halt the ever-increasing number of resignations, but please be assured that we will be working hard to influence next

year's PSPRB recommendations to significantly increase the pay and conditions of all across HMPPS.

We are due to meet the PSPRB today (27/10/21) where we will be sharing our support further.

Many thanks,

Andrea Albutt
President

Mitch Albutt
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