

Prison Governors Association

Representing: The Prison Governors of the United Kingdom since 1987



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Bulletin 834

8 July 2022

Dear Colleagues,

PGA Annual Conference 2022

The 34th PGA Annual Conference will take place between Monday 10 and Wednesday 12 October 2022 at the Radisson Blu Hotel near East Midlands Airport (Derby). HMPPS have granted facility time to allow a representative from each branch to attend.

Conference will start on Monday 10 October and registration will be open from 1100hrs. This year's main conference agenda has yet to be formalised, but the following is provided to give you an overview of how this year's conference will run on Monday:

- A session for new, and returning delegates, where the rules of debate and other procedural issues will be explained – This will be an informal session hosted by the chair of conference and chair of the standing orders committee
- Guest speaker contribution
- Wellbeing Session
- Q&A session

We intend to finish the evening with an informal, relaxed dinner where colleagues can spend some time networking, sharing good practice and learning gained from the last 12 months.

The remainder of conference, starting at 0900hrs on Tuesday 11 October will follow a similar format to previous years.

We have confirmation that the Deputy General, Phil Copple, will be addressing conference, and like previous years we have also invited both the Secretary of State for Justice and the Prisons Minister.

There is clearly some uncertainty who the elected ministerial officials will be at the time of our conference, but we will be pushing hard that time is set aside in the official diary – unlike last year, we will not be accepting any pre-recorded messages from the ministerial team...

There are some significance issues we are facing, more so than any previous year. The real uncertainty on the political front presents its own challenges. We are facing one of the most chronic staffing crises we have ever experienced which when set against an ever-increasing demand on capacity the whole CJS is at breaking point. The cost of living challenge, and a buoyant and complete job market is making the retention of good colleagues more and more difficult.

With the challenges we face, it has never been more important that the voice of our members is heard.

Representation of your establishment

If you intend to attend as your establishment or branch delegate, please complete the attached nomination form and return to (james.bryant01@justice.gov.uk). If you are unsure if you have a branch representative, please email James and he will explain what needs to happen.

Submission of Resolutions

We would ask that all establishments and branches hold a short meeting to discuss any resolutions your branch may wish to debate at this year's event. All resolutions to be debated at conference must be received at the PGA office by Friday 16th September, 2022. Resolutions submitted after this time run the risk of not being included.

You are asked to speak with another branch to second the resolution so that both Proposer and Seconder can be identified in the order paper. If you are unsure what this means, or you help in this please contact James for advice.

As in most years, debate at conference tends to cover a range of issues and topics, we would expect to see healthy debate about pay, working conditions and other matters impacting members daily working lives.

Conference is the place members set the work of the NEC for the following year. This year we would ask branches to consider what work you wish the NEC to pursue in relation to equalities, wellbeing, reform and how the PGA can support and recognise its members. Given the cost of living crisis, pay and Reward is more than ever an issue for members.

Below is a **non-comprehensive** list of topics which branches may wish to consult when considering submitting resolutions.

Wellbeing of Members	Diversity and Equalities
Pay and Reward	Government Policy Wider Criminal Justice Issues
Health and Safety in Prisons / of Members	Recovery / Reform / COVID
PGA Organisational Matters / Membership eligibility	Transfers / Career Progression
New Prisons / Expansion	Long Service / Membership Recognition (PGA)
Estate Group Issues	Human Resources / Finance Matters
Disciplinary Matters / Treatment of Members	Media / Communications / Engagement

Once your branch has agreed resolutions, please send them to James Bryant in the office (james.bryant01@justice.gov.uk). Similar resolutions from different branches may be composited where such a move is considered appropriate by the Standing Orders Committee. Branches concerned will be consulted if this is being considered. If there is any clarification you need about the contents of this bulletin, please get in touch with James, he will ensure that any questions are answered as soon as possible.

We will keep you updated as the agenda develops, and as usual James will be contacting members to confirm which establishment or branch, they are currently attached to, we look forward to seeing as many establishments and branches as possible this year.

Andrea Albutt
President

Mitch Albutt
National Officer

Carl Davies
National Officer