

# Prison Governors Association

Representing: The Prison Governors of the United Kingdom since 1987



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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **PRISON GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION – PRISON CAPACITY**

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The Prison Governors' Association (PGA) has written to the Lord Chancellor regarding the Government's dereliction of duty in its failure to introduce legislative change to reduce the time prisoners spend in custody to manage the prison population prior to Parliament being prorogued.

<https://prison-governors-association.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Lord-Chancellor-SoS-Justice-Letter-Overcrowding-240524.pdf>

Despite continued warnings from His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS), the PGA, and others that the demand for prison spaces will outstrip supply, it is likely that HMPPS will find itself in a position where it is unable to accept prisoners from courts within weeks.

The institution of sensible, but unprecedented measures to release some prisoners up to 70 days early in order to free up space will not have sufficient impact to prevent putting the public at increased and unnecessary risk through the inability of the criminal justice system to get people that pose a risk to the public into custody. It is also likely to result in a direct and unsustainable impact on the ability of Police Forces to deliver their core roles of protecting the public by detecting and preventing crime.

Our criminal justice system is in a state that would have been almost unimaginable just a few years ago, and one of which this Government and the nation should be rightly ashamed.

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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 the PGA at [pga@justice.gov.uk](mailto:pga@justice.gov.uk) or telephone James Bryant, PGA Office Manager, on 07846 021597 who can take requests for interviews.

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