

REPORT: Appointment to the Independent Prison Monitoring Board

11th April 2024

Background

The Independent Prison Monitoring Board was established in April 2017 according to The Prison (Independent Monitoring Board) Regulations ('The regulations').

The Regulations provide that the Board must satisfy itself of:

- (a) the treatment and welfare of the prisoners;
- (b) the state of the premises of the prison; and
- (c) the administration of the prison.

In 2022 the Board carried out 32 Monitoring Visits to HMP La Moye and looked into 38 applications made by Prisoners at HMP La Moye.

The IPMB provides a vital safeguard to ensure the correct treatment of people detained at HMP La Moye and is a central feature of the island's move towards demonstrating compliance with the UN Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT) requirements.

The regulations provide that the Minister must appoint the members of the Monitoring Board and must appoint from the membership of the Monitoring Board a chairman and a deputy chairman.

Recruitment of new Members

Further to vacancies arising on the Board, a recruitment campaign was undertaken on 19/01/2024 to seek new members in accordance with Government of Jersey recruitment guidelines. Six applications were received through Gov.je, with five attending for interview. The board was looking for a minimum of three new members, however since then a member has informed the Chair of their decision to resign when the new members are onboarded.

Following these interviews, it was deemed that four of the interviewees were suitable for appointment.

Two interviewees are awaiting the outcomes of their DBS checks, however two applicants have valid DBS checks. Further to this, it is recommended that the Minister appoints those two applicants with DBS checks; Peter Rutherford and Joanna Lovergine as Members of the Board.

These two appointments will bring the total membership of the Board to 12 members.

The term of appointment for all members is for 4 years.