

## **National Negotiating Council for the Probation Service**

**To: The Chair of the Probation Trust  
The Chief Executive of the Probation Trust  
(Copy enclosed for the Head of Human Resources)  
The Secretary to the Probation Trust  
Members of the NNC**

6 July 2010

### **NNC CIRCULAR NO.6/2010**

Dear Madam/Sir

#### **Napo AGM - Thursday, 7- Saturday, 9 October 2010**

The Napo Annual General Meeting will take place from 7 to 9 October 2010 in Scarborough. Discussions at the National Negotiating Council have previously highlighted the benefits of union members attending Trade Union Conferences and AGMs.

Where possible, the NNC would like once again to encourage Probation Employers to agree requests for one day's paid special leave to attend this year's Napo AGM. It should be recognised that there are two groups of employees who may wish to attend the Conference which is both a representational and professional forum, attracting speakers whose contributions will strongly focus on matters relevant to continuing professional development.

Where employees are attending in the capacity of accredited representatives, it is expected that time off to attend the Conference is already included within the local facilities agreement and this should be a factor in local discussions. The second group are individual Napo members for whom release would be subject to the usual considerations when authorising special leave, for example ensuring that the operational needs of the service are met.

It is recognised that Trusts are under increasing pressures to reduce costs and this may well be a barrier to special leave being able to be agreed that neither party can find a way through. The Joint Secretaries remain available to assist if that would be helpful.

Yours faithfully

**Christine Lawrie  
Jonathan Ledger**

**Joint Secretaries**

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