



Office of Manpower Economics

PRISON SERVICE PAY REVIEW BODY
8TH FLOOR
FLEETBANK HOUSE
2-6 SALISBURY SQUARE
LONDON EC4Y 8JX

Direct Telephone Line 020 7211 8257
E-mail elizabeth.waterfall@beis.gov.uk

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/prison-services-pay-review-body>

Peter May
Permanent Secretary for the
Department of Justice, Northern Ireland
Rm B5.10, Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SG

1 March 2019

BY EMAIL

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your letter dated 28 February, regarding the Department's decision in relation to the recommendations made by the Prison Service Pay Review Body (PSPRB).

The PSPRB reached its recommendations based on the evidence that you and the Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS) presented to us, alongside that from workforce representatives and staff on our visits. As explained in our report, we sought to retain the key elements of NIPS' proposals but placed greater emphasis on NIPS' priority of delivering fair and equitable consolidated increases for all staff, in line with the increases seen elsewhere in the UK public sector.

Our recommendations were constructed to require the same total paybill increase as the NIPS' proposals, which both yourself and NIPS management informed us was affordable. Although we understand that it is ultimately your choice how you respond to our recommendations, we are disappointed with this outcome, given the assurances we received during the oral evidence sessions that this cost envelope was affordable.

Looking ahead to the next round, I would welcome your assurance that we will receive the remit letter soon to avoid further delays in staff receiving their 2019 pay award. I



would further ask that greater clarity is provided by both the Department of Finance and NIPS in regard to affordability in your 2019 evidence.

Yours Sincerely
Jerry Cope

Jerry Cope
Chair, Prison Service Pay Review Body