

A DECADE OF DELAY

UNGRIPP Statistical Briefing – Update December 2025

11-YEAR PRISON PROJECT

The IPP prison population is declining at a minimal rate, projecting an unacceptable timescale for the resolution of this crisis. This figure includes both unreleased individuals and those who have been recalled. As of December 2025, 2,422 people remain in prison under IPP sentences—a slight decrease from 2,486 in the previous quarter. This figure includes both unreleased individuals and those who have been recalled

- **Rate of Decline:** The decrease in the IPP prison population has averaged just **3%** over the past four quarters.
- **The Projection:** At this current rate, it will take a **minimum of 11 years** to release everyone currently serving an IPP sentence.
- **The Legacy:** This timeline means the IPP will persist for **31 years** since its introduction and **24 years** after its official abolition.

OVER-TARIFF

The Deepening Injustice. The vast majority of people serving an IPP sentence who have never been released are being detained far beyond their minimum term.

- **Total Never Released:** 946 people.
- **Post-Tariff Status:** 940 of those individuals (**99.4%**) are currently over-tariff.
- **Extreme Delays:** 73% (689 people) are over-tariff by **10 to 20 years**, representing a 2% increase since the last quarter

Breakdown of the **689** People Serving **10–20** Years Over-Tariff

<i>Original Tariff Length</i>	<i>Number of People</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
less than 2 years	167	24%
2–4 years	391	57%
4–6 years	116	17%
6–10 years	15	2%

RECALL: A VICIOUS CYCLE

The large number of people recalled back to prison on an IPP Sentence demonstrates the difficulty individuals face transitioning back into society, often leading to extended time back in prison.

- **Total Recalled:** **1,476 people** are currently back in prison on IPP recall.
- **Reason for Recall:** **77%** of these recalls were for **no further offence**.
- **Duration: Average:** The average time someone on an IPP sentence spent in prison on recall is **26 months**.

THE HUMAN COST: SELF-HARM AND SUICIDES

The psychological toll of the IPP sentence is stark, with high rates of self-harm and suicide among those serving the sentence.

SUICIDES

- **94 people** have taken their own lives while serving an IPP sentence in prison.
- In 2024, **four people** serving an IPP sentence died by suicide.
- IPP suicides accounted for **4% of all suicides in prison** in 2024.
- The rate of suicides by those serving IPP is **40% higher than the overall prison population and 60% higher than those serving a life sentence.**

SELF-HARM

- The self-harm rate among the IPP population remains critically high and is **double that of those on other sentences.**
- In 2023, there were **3,245 recorded incidents** of self-harm involving both unreleased and recalled people serving an IPP sentence.

URGENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The current statistical trends demonstrate that the IPP crisis will not resolve itself through slow change. The government must introduce immediate, effective measures to end this tragedy.

1. **IPP Reform:** The IPP sentence should be reformed, and every person serving an IPP should be resentenced or have their sentence reviewed/reconsidered and set according to the principle of proportionality.
2. **Set Release Date:** Those serving the sentence who are still in prison should be given a set release date by the Parole Board.