

UNGRIPP

Newsletter March 2022 - June 2022

As we head into the summer, UNGRIPP wanted to share the events of the past 4 months regarding the IPP sentence, and some of the things that are planned for later in the year.

We would like to begin by thanking everyone who has trusted us, supported us and joined us on this campaign journey that began for UNGRIPP in October 2020. We hope that as a collective we can continue to bring the injustice of the IPP sentence to the forefront of people's minds, to have it continually discussed and to have pressure added where it is needed in the hope that change will eventually happen and to ensure that those affected by it are never forgotten.

A round up of March - June 2022



ACTION

Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. This Bill has now passed into law. There is one change related to IPP. Every person serving an IPP who has been released from prison will now be automatically referred to the Parole Board 10 years after their FIRST release for a licence review, and once a year after that. The Parole Board will review their IPP licence and decide to a) leave it in place, b) remove it (which ends the sentence) or c) vary the licence conditions. For people in prison, *if* the Parole Board decides to remove the licence, that will *only happen if the person secures release at a separate Parole hearing* (so they must pass the release test first). Under previous law, the person serving IPP had to apply for a licence review. UNGRIPP has updated our guidance on how this new process will work. It can be found on our website: www.ungripp.com/ending-your-ipp If you are in prison, contact us and we can post a copy to you.

UNGRIPP has written to the 12 Regional Probation Directors to ask how they plan to implement the change in law.

The Independent Commission on Long-term Imprisonment by ICEVLTP report has been published. They are calling for 'an end to the injustice faced by IPP prisoners who have been imprisoned with no idea when they will be released' (June 2022). Please contact us at UNGRIPP if you would like more information about this report.



WORK IN PROGRESS

The Justice Select Committee IPP Inquiry report was due to be released in early Spring 2022 but due to the large amount of evidence that was submitted and disruption within government, there is a delay in publishing it. It is now expected to be published after the summer, sometime from September. UNGRIPP will share the outcomes of the report once it has been published.

Q&A session with Solicitor Dean Kingham

We ran an online session on 25th July where those affected by the IPP joined and asked questions to Dean Kingham, a solicitor who is very experienced in working with people serving an IPP. He covered the changes in the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022, the change to the criteria for Open conditions and the change to professionals recommendations during parole hearings. Please contact us at UNGRIPP if you would like more information about this session.

Support Directory

UNGRIPP are currently working on a directory of support organisations based in the community for those affected by the IPP. Our hope is that contact can be made with some of these organisation prior to release to support transition and resettlement.

CONTACT

UNGRIPP has an Email-a-Prisoner account and a postal address. If you would like us to contact you, please write to us and we will get in touch:

UNGRIPP, Unit 76570, PO Box 6945, London, W1A 6US



MEDIA WATCH FOR MARCH - JUNE 2022

The Institute of Now

- [IPP Unintended Consequences](#)

The Law Society Gazette

- [Left hanging](#)

The Economist

- [Too many British prisoners are still serving indefinite sentences](#)

The Justice Gap

- [IPP Scandal: Prisoners stranded as 'non-existent' offences added to files](#)

ITV News

- [No light at the end of the tunnel': Hundreds stuck behind bars under law abolished in 2012](#)
- [Thousands stuck behind bars under law abolished ten years ago](#)
- [The campaigners fighting to free relatives stuck behind bars under law abolished in 2012](#)

Hull Live

- [Hull woman's despair as partner remains on jail 13 years after being handed sentence of only a few months](#)

People News Chronicle

- [The mental torture of Britain's forgotten prisoners](#)

Insidetime

- [Bumbling along](#)
- [MP's prepare IPP report](#)
- [IPP families protest at Westminster](#)
- [Pins and needles](#)

The Sun

- [Banged up. My brother was jailed for three years...but nearly two decades later he's still locked up and he may never come home](#)

Open Democracy

- [Families' plea over 'barbaric' indefinite prison sentences for minor crimes](#)
- [Prisoners' may have been refused parole due to fake crimes on files'](#)

Russell Cooke

- [Banged up! Indeterminate Sentences of Imprisonment for Public Protection](#)

BBC Radio Live 5

- ['I started to realise my brother could die in prison'](#)

Trashfuture

- [Life Sentences by Stealth. Nate Interviews Sam Asumadu about IPPs](#)

OTHER UPDATES

- IPP Committee in Action Campaign group held their first March on the 27th of March. They walked from Downing Street to the Houses of Parliament and handed a letter into 10 Downing Street.
- From 21st of July, individual witnesses from the Ministry of Justice will no longer be allowed to make a recommendation to the Parole Board that somebody a) stays in closed conditions b) is moved to open conditions or c) is released. These witnesses are anybody who is employed by the Ministry of Justice. They will still be required to submit evidence at the hearing. See separate sheet for more information.
- Mr Raab, the current secretary of State for Justice has introduced a change to the progression of some people to a Cat D. For some cases the Secretary of State can now deny a move to a Cat D even if the Parole Board has granted this progressional move. See separate sheet for more information.

GET INVOLVED

- **Support Directory:** Please share any organisations that have helped you and we will add them to the directory.
- **Things you wish probation knew:** UNGRIPP are hoping to make a video that highlights key things people wish probation knew or considered when working with people who are serving an IPP sentence. Please write or email us with a comment that you would like to be included.
- **10 Years since the IPP was abolished:** UNGRIPP are beginning to think about ways to highlight the 10th year since the abolition of the IPP in December 2012. Please share any ideas you might have on how you would like this to be done.