

UNGRIPP

Newsletter October 2024 - February 2025

As we begin 2025, UNGRIPP wanted to share the events of the past four months regarding the IPP sentence, and highlight some of the things that are planned for later in the year.

We must thank everyone who has trusted us, supported us and joined this campaign. We hope that as a collective we can continue to bring the injustice of the IPP sentence to the forefront of people's minds. We will continue to press for change to get justice for those affected by the IPP sentence.

A round up of October 24 - February 2025



UPDATE



Parliamentary events

IPP is regularly being raised in the House of Lords and the House of Commons through debates and questions. There were longer debates about IPP in the House of Lords on the 22nd October, 15th November and 12th December and in the House of Commons on the 22nd October and 29th October.

Victims and Prisoners Act IPP Changes

On the 1st November the first phase of changes to the IPP Licence conditions began. We shared a guide of these changes with our previous newsletter. Please get in touch if you would like another copy.

Justice Select Committee

On the 22nd November a letter was sent by the Chair of the Justice Committee to MP Nicholas Dakin & Lord Timpson, encouraging the Government to reconsider establishing an expert committee to explore the options for re-sentencing.

MP Drop in session

On the 15th January UNGRIPP hosted a drop in for MPs to find out more about IPP sentences. 23 MPs and peers came and offered their support, many attending because of letters from their constituents.

Longford Trust Award

UNGRIPP was honoured to receive The Longford Trust award in November. We dedicate the award to all those whose lives have been damaged by the IPP sentence, those who have survived it, those who are still living it and those who have sadly died because of it.

Howard League Helpline

Between October and December The Howard League set up a helpline to answer questions about the IPP licence changes in the Victims and Prisoner Act.

Another coroner report highlights IPP

In November a fifth coroner report highlighted the role IPP played in the death of a man serving the IPP sentence.

Who is your MP?

Following on from the MP drop in session we wanted to gain more support from MPs. In order to do this we need to find out how many people are affected by IPP or have loved ones affected by IPP who live in the area an MP represents. If you would like to help with this, please send us details of your local MP or the MP of your loved one. If you are unsure, you can share the postcode and we can find out who the MP is for that area.

HMPPS IPP STAKEHOLDER MEETING

In 2023 we asked people affected by IPP if they wanted us to attend the HMPPS IPP stakeholder meetings in order to challenge the action plan that is being put forward as a way to fix IPP. 81% of people wanted us to attend these meetings.

In 2024 we attended four of these meetings, James Timpson attended the last meeting. During the last meeting we pushed on a number of issues, some of these were:

- What plans had been made to ensure a quick implementation of the February Licence changes.
- Our concerns around staff awareness of the licence termination.
- We asked for clarity around the eligibility criteria for Risk Assessed Recall Review (RARR) and whether legal aid was available to appeal decisions.
- The length of time people were spending on recall.
- The lack of accountability.
- The lack of measurable targets included in the action plan.

HMPPS have now released the most recent action plan. Please let us know if you would like our overview of it and we will get a copy out to you. We plan to ask for your feedback on specific aspects of it in the coming months.

The next IPP Stakeholders' meeting will take place in June. Once we know the agenda for the meet we will share it with you so you can input directly if you want to.

Our stance on the action plan remains the same: No action plan will fix this injustice, but our aim is to ensure we hold HMPPS to account within these meetings.

NEXT STEPS

- Implementation of Phase 2 of the Victims and Prisoners Act: From 1st February 2025 there will be a reduction in the qualifying period for all IPP licence reviews from ten years after first release to three years for IPP and two years for DPP after first release.
 - Ask people to contact their MP to ensure they are aware of IPP and the damage it causes.
 - Continue to bring the issue of IPP in front of Parliamentarians through various events - similar to what we did with the MP drop in session.
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WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Write to your MP and tell them how the IPP sentence is affecting you.
 - Ask family members to find out who their new MP is.
 - Contact the new MP and share their/your experience about IPP.
 - Ask them to speak to the Secretary of State for Justice about how they are going to fix IPP.
 - Ask them to support the call for resentencing.
 - Share who these MPs are with us so we can add pressure too.
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OTHER UPDATES

- A campaign has been set up for those serving an OLR. The campaign group is called [NOLR](#).
 - We would like to continue to heighten the voices of those affected by IPP by sharing people's stories anonymously on our social media platform 'The Forgotten'. If you or a family member would like to share your/their experience of the IPP, please write to us at UNGRIPP, Unit 76570, PO Box 6945, London, W1A 6US or email us at: theforgotten@ungripp.com
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MEDIA WATCH – October 2024 to February 2025

Sky News

- [Almost 2,000 ex-offenders to have 'lifetime licences' terminated - but campaigners want IPP sentences 'gone'](#)
- [Prisons crisis: 'Horrific indictment' of UK justice as thousands languish on indefinite jail terms, says UN torture expert](#)

BBC News

- [My brother will die in jail without law change](#)
- [Mum's anguish over son's 'endless' prison sentence](#)

Laura Janes

- [Justice Secretary announces when changes affecting people serving IPPs will start](#)

The Justice Gap

- [Prisoners given minimum terms of less than six months still imprisoned after 16 years](#)
- ['Long-awaited day' arrives with reform of controversial IPP sentence](#)

A Lawyer Writes

- [IPP reform today](#)

ITV News

- [Roddy Russell is warning that his brother, who is serving an indefinite sentence, could die in prison](#)

LBC

- [Government rejects calls to resentence prisoners with no release date, as campaigners warn ministers have 'blood on their hands'](#)

GB News

- [Dad goes on the run from prison over 'unfair' recall amid claims he rekindled spark with mother of his children](#)

The Standard

- [Prisoners held on indefinite terms should have sentences reviewed, peers told](#)

The Independent

- [Indefinite jail terms excluded from flagship sentencing review to end prison overcrowding crisis](#)
- [Former top judge demands help for prisoners 'left to rot' under 'morally wrong' indefinite jail terms](#)
- [Father goes on the run to escape 'unfair' indefinite recall to prison over his love life](#)
- [If our prisons are at breaking point, why are prisoners given a 12 month sentence still there 19 years later?](#)
- ['Torturous' indefinite jail term robbed son of whole adult life before he died in a cell at 34, mother says](#)
- ['Don't be on wrong side of history': Indefinite jail terms compared to Post Office and Infected Blood scandals](#)
- [Fishmongers' Hall hero warns of more IPP prisoner suicides as he is finally freed from indefinite jail term](#)
- [Stop scaremongering over prisoners trapped by indefinite jail terms, ministers told](#)
- ['He's been punished enough': Family's plea for prisoner who set himself alight under indefinite jail term](#)
- [Is there any hope that IPP prisoners will be released by this government?](#)
- [Father who set himself alight on indefinite jail term refused hospital care as family loses hope](#)

Guardian

- [Five still in jail 16 years after being given IPP sentences of below six months, data shows](#)
- [Peers say not reforming IPP sentences could cause another Post Office scandal](#)
- [The IPP sentencing scandal has left hundreds locked up without hope. When will Labour free them?](#)
- [90 people have taken their own lives already. How many more do they want?' The Labour peer taking on the scandal of '99-year' sentences](#)
- [Delays and neglect led to death of prisoner serving IPP sentence, jury finds](#)
- [Man on the run after being recalled to UK prison indefinitely makes plea to minister](#)

MEDIA WATCH - October 2024 to February 2025

The Howard League

- [A long-awaited day for many on IPP sentences](#)

Doughty Street Chambers

- [Court of Appeal allows out of time appeal against IPP](#)
- [Jury finds neglect and multiple serious failures contributed to the death of IPP prisoner](#)

The Week

- [IPPs: the prisoners serving never-ending jail sentences](#)

Yahoo News

- [‘He’s been punished enough’: Family’s plea for prisoner who set himself alight under indefinite jail term](#)

Prison Reform Trust

- [IPP reform – a case study in achieving change](#)

CCJS

- [Imprisonment For Public Protection Sentence 'Reproducing Itself Like A Virus'](#)

Insidetime

- [Progressive transfers for ISPs](#)
- [Why I’m campaigning for justice](#)
- [The weight of my IPP has been lifted at last](#)
- [Government blocks moves to open conditions](#)
- [Dear Government, here’s a New Year gift](#)
- [Prisoner hoped suicide would change IPP policy](#)
- [IPP licence reform kicks in](#)
- [Commander of the COMP1s](#)
- [Penal reform campaigners welcome Gauke sentencing review](#)
- [Only 1 in 15 prisoners takes a risk-reducing course](#)
- [Changes to Imprisonment for Public Protection \(IPP\) sentence](#)
- [Changes to Imprisonment for Public Protection \(IPP\) sentence](#)
- [One-third of IPP prisoners are in the wrong prisons](#)
- [End death sentences](#)
- [Peers debate Lord Woodley’s Bill to resentence IPP prisoners](#)
- [Broken laws, broken hearts, unbroken spirits](#)
- [Timpson says SDS40 hasn’t brought spike in recalls](#)
- [Fight Club \(senior members’ branch\)](#)
- [No help for ex-IPPs](#)
- [Recalls are key to the capacity crisis](#)
- [No names, but plenty of talent](#)