

FROM: [REDACTED] (S40)
Strategic Policing Policy & Sponsorship Branch
28th September 2022

See distribution list below

1. [REDACTED] (3/10/22)
2. Naomi Long

**INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD (IMB) – REQUEST TO LAUNCH A
COMPETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBERS**

Issue: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Timing: Routine.

**Presentational
Issues:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 06/10/2022). (S40)

FOI Implications: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

**Financial
Implications:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

**Shared Future
Proofing:** N/A

**Legislative
Implications:** N/A

**Justice Comm.
Referral:** N/A

**Executive
Referral:** N/A

Recommendation: It is recommended that you:

Note

- the contents of this submission

Agree the following documentation:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- if you would like to increase the maximum tenure of IMB members from nine to 15 years.

Background

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Tenure of IMB Members

15. The current legislation, the Prisons and Young Offenders Centres Rule (Northern Ireland) 1995, allows for members to be appointed for a three year term, and Departmental policy is that they can serve a maximum of three terms. Previously, in September 2009, approval was given to allow the maximum tenure that an IMB member could serve to be reduced from 12 years (4 terms of 3 years) to 9 years (3 terms of 3 years). This was done in an attempt to bring the appointment of Board members more in line with other Northern Ireland Public Appointments and to reflect the regulations of the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments (OCPA) at that time. Appointments to the IMB were not regulated by the OCPA then, nor are they now regulated by CPANI.

16. Minister you may wish to note that the tenure for IMB members in England and Wales is a maximum of 15 years, with the ability to return after a 3 year break.

17. Having engaged with Volunteer Now around improving volunteer recognition for IMB members they have made it clear to us that it is becoming increasingly difficult to secure volunteers for many roles. This has been borne out in our need to break the three year recruitment cycle and recruit two years in a row in an attempt to secure enough members.

18. Therefore, Minister may wish to consider altering the department's current policy such that members could apply to serve beyond three terms (nine years). This would allow those five members who are currently on an extension to remain. It would also allow former members to reapply.

19. Should you decide that an increase in the number of terms is appropriate we can make the necessary changes to the competition documentation. There will be no requirement for legislative change on the basis that the current legislation only stipulates that members are appointed for a three year term. We have spoken to CPANI and been advised that as the appointment is not regulated by them any changes to tenure would be a Departmental decision.

Power to make appointments (S42)

[REDACTED]

Recommendation

21. It is recommended that you:

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Decide

[Redacted]

- if you would like to increase the maximum tenure of IMB members from nine to 15 years.

Signed,

[Redacted] (S40)

Strategic Policing Policy & Sponsorship Branch

[Redacted] (S40)

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