



Ministry  
of Justice

**Lord Timpson**  
Minister of State for  
Justice

Independent Monitoring Board  
HMP/YOI Parc  
Heol Hopcyn John  
Bridgend  
CF35 6AP

**MoJ ref:** SUB126681

23 September 2025

Dear Chair,

**HMP/YOI PARC: INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR 1 APRIL 2023 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

Thank you for providing your Board's annual report on HMP/YOI Parc. I am sincerely grateful to you and your colleagues for your dedication and resilience in capturing your helpful observations especially as you operated with a severely depleted complement of Board members throughout the reporting period and ended the year with a critically low number. I would like to commend the Board for your collective commitment and hope the situation has improved since and continues to improve.

I was deeply saddened to read that nineteen prisoners died during the reporting year. Whilst eleven of these deaths were due to natural causes or older prisoners on palliative care, every death in our care is a tragedy and I offer my heartfelt condolences to the friends and family of all the deceased. I would like to reassure the Board that recommendations made by the Prisons and Probation Ombudsman are taken very seriously.

I have read your report with care and appreciate the Board's continued concerns about prisoners subject to Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) sentences, particularly the uncertainty around their release date and the associated impact. Currently there are approximately 70 IPP prisoners at HMP/YOI Parc. All IPP panels are attended by a Governor grade at HMP/YOI Parc to ensure progress is well understood and barriers that require prison intervention/support can be supported at a strategic level.

As the board will be aware, HMP/YOI Parc has a psychology contract with Forensic Psychology Consultancy (FPC) Ltd, which includes the requirement for FPC to provide some case management support for IPP prisoners. Their contract also includes psychological therapy to reduce reoffending which is delivered on a one-to-one basis, and this has been targeted towards IPP prisoners in some instances to support their progression. Furthermore, Wales Restorative Approaches Partnership (WRAP) are currently halfway through a two-year project aimed at supporting IPPs in custody. This includes specifically working in HMP/YOI Parc given the IPP population. HMP/YOI Parc is also working with the Prison Reform Trust and their Building Futures Programme which works with prisoners serving over ten years to identify improvements to the prison system for this cohort.

As mentioned in my previous letter, the Government is determined to support the rehabilitation of IPP prisoners through a refreshed Action Plan, published on 15 November 2024 in our IPP Annual Report, and available online at Gov.UK. As of 31 March 2025, there were a total of 2,544 IPP prisoners in custody, of which 1,012 have never been released and 1,532 were recalled.

Whilst the first six months of 2024 presented serious concerns and there is no doubt there are issues at HMP/YOI Parc, it was encouraging to learn that the measures taken to address the ingress of contraband resulted in a substantial increase in illicit items being found and confiscated. I was also pleased to read that the prison had implemented a Prisoners Accord that challenges negative banter and homophobia together with the setting up of a buddy system to welcome new LGBTQ+ prisoners. The launch of the LGBTQ+ prisoner football team, which received recognition from across Wales and beyond, should also be lauded.

I am grateful for your comments around the Director's measures to make improvements and your support of his key objectives. I am encouraged by the collaborative approach you plan to take over the next year to support these through your monitoring work. HM Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) comments in response to the prisoners' property issue is set out in the attached annex.

The Lord Chancellor and I continue to appreciate the invaluable role played by members of Independent Monitoring Boards throughout the estate and we extend our gratitude for your continued hard work and dedication on behalf of HMP/YOI Parc.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James', written in a cursive style.

**Lord Timpson**  
**Minister for Prisons, Probation, and Reducing Reoffending**

## **HMP/YOI PARC: INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1 APRIL 2023 – 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

### **HMPPS comments on matters raised in the report**

#### **Prisoners' Property**

The Board's concerns about the handling of prisoners' property are noted and this is an area to which HMPPS is currently giving further attention. A common area for problems is when excess prisoner property is forwarded on when a prisoner transfers. When Prisoner Escort Custody Service (PECS) suppliers transfer property within the volumetric control limits of the Prisoners Property Framework there are few complaints for lost property overall. It is therefore key that prisoners comply with volumetric control limits, since anything within those limits will transfer with them.

Since the reporting period covered by the report, there have been updates made to the policy ensuring HMP/YOI Parc is aligned with the Prisoners' Property Policy Framework. Given that property is one of the main topics of complaints by prisoners at HMP/YOI Parc, regular meetings take place involving the Senior Leadership Team at the prison and relevant parties to ensure the appropriate action is taken to rectify any issues that arise.