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Newsletter of the Probation Service **November 2017** (Ireland)



Message from Director

The Annual North-South Public Protection Advisory Group (PPAG) Seminar, hosted this year by our Probation Board for Northern Ireland colleagues, was held in Stormont Parliament Buildings, in Belfast, earlier this month. It was very heartening to hear the variety of presentations, by colleagues from police, prisons and probation, North and South, reflecting good inter-agency and cross-border working. In addition, the success stories presented demonstrate the need to ensure that the cross-border co-operation, in probation and more widely in criminal justice matters, needs to continue in the years ahead, despite the challenges arising from Brexit, among others. The fourteenth edition of the *Irish Probation Journal* was also launched at the Seminar. It was great that several colleagues, who had articles – drawing from practice and research experience – published in this year's edition of the Journal, attended and participated in the Seminar. We look forward to next year's PPAG Seminar – the ninth in the series – to be held in Dublin.



Next month, I step down from my role as President of the Council for Penological Co-operation, the PC-CP. I was originally nominated by the Department of Justice

and Equality, and elected to the Working Group in 2013. Since then, it has been an honour to work with the PC-CP, developing and drafting standards in the fields of Probation and Prison work, for application across the Council of Europe Member States. I have, especially enjoyed my two years as Chair of the Working Group. As my term of office draws to a close, I wish the new Chair, Dominik Lehner, and Vice-Chair Attila Juhász, and all the Working Group members, every success for their tenure. The work of the PC-CP is vital in maintaining and developing standards in Probation and prison work in Europe. I also strongly believe that while we can learn from other services and experiences internationally, we in Ireland equally have much to contribute to our international colleagues, and must continue to do so.

The next edition of *Probation Works* will be published in January 2018.

Vivian Geiran
Director

Twitter: @VGeiran



Council of Europe News



The Plenary Meeting of the Council for Penological Co-operation

Vivian Geiran chaired the Plenary meeting of the PC-CP (Council for Penological Co-operation) working group, on 6-8th November, in Strasbourg. The meeting agenda, as part of the PC-CP work programme for this year, includes, inter alia, guidelines on practice regarding children of prisoners, development of a practice guideline on Restorative

Annual Human Rights Conference



The fifteenth Annual Human Rights Conference, hosted by the Incorporated Law Society, in partnership with the Probation Service, was held in Dublin on Saturday 7th October 2017. The theme for this year's conference was: *Inside Out: the human rights implications of imprisonment*. The conference was opened by Minister for Justice and Equality, Charlie Flanagan TD, and included presentations by Probation Service Director Vivian Geiran, Dr. Mary Rogan (Trinity College Dublin), Joan Deane (Secretary of AdVIC - Advocates for Victims of Homicide), Deirdre Malone (Irish Penal

Justice in probation and prisons in Europe, and revision of the commentary to the European Prison Rules. Work on these three projects was significantly advanced at this month's meeting. The Restorative Justice and Children of Prisoners documents was taken to the Plenary meeting this week of the European Committee on Crime Problems, for approval, before progressing for sign-off by the Committee of Ministers.

The meeting also heard presentations by Dr. Mary Rogan (Trinity College Dublin) on inspection and monitoring in maintaining prison standards; and from Dr. Marcelo Aebi, of the University of Lausanne, on the SPACE I and II (prison and probation respectively) statistics, and the progress on the next statistical report, due in early 2018. The Group also began planning for next year's (23rd) annual Conference of Directors of Prison and Probation Services, which will be hosted by Estonia, and will focus on joint working by probation and prison systems.

More information, including documents related to the work of the PC-CP are available through the following link:

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/prison/home>

The Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) documents are available at: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/cdpc>

Reform Trust), and two former prisoners.

The aim of this year's conference was to critically explore the role of prison in the Irish criminal justice system, whilst examining the impact that prison has on offenders, their human rights and society as a whole. The Conference offered an important assessment of the function of prison and the social justice issues it may raise, including cyclical problems of poverty, unemployment and drug abuse. The objective of the Conference was to provide an incisive analysis of these issues from both social and legal perspectives. It also allowed the audience to engage with the rights considerations around these issues.

Vivian Geiran's speech at the conference is available at the following link:

<http://www.probation.ie/EN/PB//WebPages/WP17000052>



Pictured above: Probation Service's Patricia Treacy, Sean Thompson, and Treasa Rushe-Carroll (right side of the table) distribute literature to attendees at the Annual Human Rights Conference.



Pictured above: This month's meeting of the Council for Penological Co-Operation (PC-CP) in session, in Strasbourg.

Conference for Directors General in Probation 2017

The 7th Conference for Directors General in Probation was hosted by the French-speaking DG Houses of Justice (Wallonia-Brussels Federation) in Brussels. The Conference for Directors General is a very important biannual CEP conference for the leaders and heads of probation bodies across Europe to meet, exchange experiences, address shared and cross-cutting issues and develop their network and co-operation.

The Conference was opened and closed by Gerry McNally, CEP President and included presentations by Vivian Geiran, Director of the Probation Service.

Many important topics and issues, as well as new developments were discussed during the two days of the Conference. The Conference featured impressive expert presentations on key strategic themes including, public value in criminal justice in Europe, managing organisational change and innovation, quality assurance in practice and addressing radicalisation in its many forms.

Probation in Numbers



This month (September 2017) there are:

7,984 Persons under Probation Service Supervision in the community;

1,456 Prisoners receiving probation assistance in custody;

2,028 People on Community Service

1,231 Persons on various types of post-release probation supervision

1,188 Women on probation Supervision in the community, and

221 Persons under eighteen years of age under probation supervision in the community

The monthly Probation Service 'snapshot' statistical table is available as:

<http://bit.ly/2BoEP1H>

The presentations and papers at the 7th Conference for Directors General in Probation now available on the Conference of European Probation (CEP) website news page at:

<http://www.cep-probation.org/presentations-7th-conference-directors-general-probation-now-online/>

Irish Prison Service DG Wins International Award



Pictured above; Michael Donnellan (second from right) receiving the ICPA Award in London, last month.

We send our warmest congratulations to our colleague, Michael Donnellan, Director General of the Irish Prison Service, for receiving the Head of Service Award 2017 from the International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA), at the Association's conference in London last month. This award recognises a Head of Service who has made a significant contribution to advance professional and humane prisons and corrections in their country.

Minister for Justice and Equality, Mr. Charles Flanagan warmly

Probation Service: Monthly Offender Population Report

Caseload	Community Regions (Based on 1st November 2017)**				In Custody	Total (Prisoners)
	Eastern	Midlands and South-East	South West	West and North West		
Total	3,482	1,739	1,480	1,322	1,436	3,440
By gender						
Female	160	738	281	181	92	1,362
Male	3,322	1,001	1,199	1,141	1,344	3,078
Under 18	14	32	32	32	0	121
18 and over	3,468	1,707	1,448	1,290	1,436	3,319
Totals:						
	Total Caseload, in community					7,964
	Total Caseload, in custody					1,436
	Grand Total, national Probation Service caseload					9,440
	The following are the major community supervision categories.					
	Probation Type Supervision***					3,167
	Community Service****					7,025
	Supervision in the Community Post Release from Custody****					2,231
	Community Return*****					60
	Life sentence prisoners on supervision in the community*****					91
	Sex offenders on supervision post release from custody*****					188

** Regions: Eastern: Dublin, Meath, Louth, Wicklow; Midlands and South East: Wick, Longford, Galway, Kerry, Tipperary, Wexford, Carlow; South West: Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Clare; West and North West: Mayo, Leitrim, Donegal, Fingert, Roscommon, Cavan, Monaghan, Down, Waterford, Derry.

*** Probation Type Supervision includes Probation Orders, Fully Suspended Sentence Supervision Orders, and Supervision During Discharge of Penalty.

**** Supervision in the community post release from custody includes both Suspended Sentences, Suspended Sentence Supervision, Community Release on Life Sentence, Release on approval in the community and Sex Offenders on approval in the community and release from custody.

***** Includes prisoners on the basis of appropriate or community post release from custody.

Book Launches



Pictured above; Emily Logan, Chief Commissioner of the Irish human Rights and Equality Commission speaking at the Hate Crime book launch.

Critical Perspectives on Hate Crime – Contributions from the Island of Ireland

On Friday, October 20, 2017 contributors, guests and colleagues gathered at the Royal Irish Academy on Dawson Street, Dublin 2 for the launch of *Critical Perspectives on Hate Crime – Contributions from the Island of Ireland*, edited by Amanda Haynes (University of Limerick), Jennifer Schweppe (University of Limerick) and Seamus Taylor (Maynooth University) and published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Emily Logan, Chief Commissioner of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission launched the book and there were valuable contributions by each of the editors highlighting significant themes.

Critical Perspectives on Hate Crime features a chapter titled Probation Practice and

congratulated Michael on receiving the award, saying: "To be chosen for this award by a worldwide organisation reflects very well not just on Michael Donnellan himself but on the Irish Prison Service as a whole. This recognition of Michael's leadership of the IPS is well deserved. Michael has overseen the implementation of Government policy in a number of areas. This includes a more joint approach to the management of offenders as reflected in the first Joint Strategy on Offender Management agreed between my Department, An Garda Síochána, the Probation Service and the Irish Prison Service that has been operating since September 2016... Michael has also been to the forefront in the introduction of rehabilitative initiatives in conjunction with the Probation Service, the aim of which is to protect the public and make Irish society safer."

Korean Ministry of Justice Visit

On 8th November the Probation Service was pleased to welcome a delegation from the Crime Prevention Policy Bureau (Probation Service), Ministry of Justice of Republic of Korea led by their Deputy Director, Jong-Phil Choi. The delegation visited Ireland as part of a tour to explore Juvenile Justice supervision practice and policy issues in Europe countries. The delegation members were impressed by the passion and work of everyone they met and conveyed

Offending Motivated by Hate and Discrimination contributed by Gerry McNally (The Probation Service) and Eithne McIlroy (PBNI) among over 25 thought-provoking papers.

Critical Perspectives on Hate Crime – Contributions from the Island of Ireland provides a unique insight into the lived realities of hate crime in Ireland and its treatment within the criminal justice system. The significance of the Irish experience is set within the European and global policy contexts with an overview of hate crime in Ireland, both north and south, and its differential treatment in each jurisdiction's criminal justice system. This is an important and timely book that highlights uncomfortable truths and challenging issues that must be addressed.



Pictured above; Regional Manager Ursula Fernee (left) and Dr. Marie Keenan.

Restorative Responses to Sexual Violence: Legal, Social and Therapeutic Dimensions

UCD Institute of Criminology & Criminal Justice and The School of Social Policy, Social Work & Social Justice on Thursday 23rd November hosted the Irish launch of "Restorative Responses to Sexual Violence: Legal, Social and Therapeutic Dimensions" edited by Estelle Zinsstag and Marie Keenan and published by [Routledge](https://www.routledge.com).

sincere thanks for a most informative visit and the Service's warm hospitality.

Confederation of European Probation (CEP) Newsletter

The most recent edition of the CEP (October 2017) newsletter – is available at the following link:

<http://createsend.com/t/t-EC6C1D6D4E9E33B7>

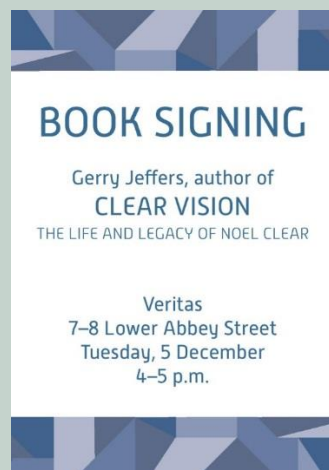


Europris Newsletter

The October 2017 EuroPris newsletter, a special edition on foreign nationals in prison and on probation, is available at:

Noeline Blackwell (CEO, Dublin Rape Crisis Centre) launched Restorative Responses to Sexual Violence: Legal, Social and Therapeutic Dimensions while Prof Ian O'Donnell (Law, UCD) delivered a response with Prof Michelle Norris (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice, UCD) chaired the event.

Dr. Marie Keenan has previously worked in the Probation Service and is a long-established researcher in the field of sexual violence. She is Lecturer and Researcher at the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice, University College Dublin. Dr. Estelle Zinsstag is a Senior Researcher at the Leuven Institute of Criminology in Belgium. Restorative Responses to Sexual Violence brings together leading international expert scholars and practitioners to offer theoretical and practical perspectives on restorative justice and sexual violence, to establish the empirical realities of restorative justice approaches in cases of sexual violence, and to consider how such approaches could be developed in the future.



Clear Vision, The Life and Legacy of Noel Clear

Clear Vision, the life and legacy of Noel Clear, a new biography written by Gerry

<http://myemail.constantcontact.com/EuroPris-Special-Edition-Newsletter-on-Foreign-Nationals-in-Prison-and-Probation-.html?soid=1110081848856&aid=EHUEAcCA6lc>



Words from the FNPP Coordinator



Every second year the EuroPris & CEP Expert Group on Foreign Nationals in Prison and Probation holds a workshop to keep stakeholders up to date on policy and operational initiatives and research. Our next workshop is in 2018. Since there are so many developments happening in the area of offenders and prisoners, the Expert Group initiated the launch of

The Probation Service and the Slovenian Ministry of Justice Visit



Pictured above: Representatives at the Slovenia/Ireland learning visit including Regional Manager Ursula Fernee and Judge Patricia McNamara

Jeffers, was launched November 16th in Richmond Barracks. Noel Clear was a Deputy Director of the Probation Service and is fondly remembered by many. A follow-up book signing has been arranged for December 5th in Veritas.

ACJRD 20th Annual Conference



The Brexit Impact on Criminal Justice Co-Operation in Ireland

The 20th Annual Conference of the Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development, "The Brexit Impact on Criminal Justice Co-operation in Ireland" was held on Friday, 6th October, 2017, at The Spencer Hotel, Excise Walk, IFSC, Dublin 1. The Conference was launched by Charlie Flanagan T.D. Minister for Justice and Equality and featured valuable presentations and workshops on Brexit and post-Brexit issues including the European perspective on Criminal Justice Co-operation, the Department of Justice and Equality response, human rights, asylum and immigration implications, radicalisation and counter-terrorism among others. Gerry McNally, Probation Service Assistant Director, contributed a workshop presentation titled Community Sanctions, Framework Decisions and Mobility in the European Union.

The Conference was very well attended and a great success with lively debate and discussion in plenary and workshop

Earlier this year representatives from the Ministry of Justice in Slovenia visited the Probation Service to learn about practice in Ireland, the role of the Probation Service in the criminal justice system, the service delivery structure and the processes of interagency and community engagement. The National Assembly in Slovenia adopted a new Probation Act in June that will become law in April 2018.

The study visit focused in particular on the role of the Probation Officer in court and the function and impact of Pre-Sanction Reports within the sentencing process. Further to those discussions, the President of the District Court and the Director of the Probation Service were pleased to respond to a request from the Ministry of Justice in Slovenia to present on the subject of Probation practice and Judicial engagement to their annual Criminal Law Seminar in Slovenia. A joint presentation was made by Judge Patricia McNamara and Ursula Fernee as part of a two hour session which focused on the introduction of Probation regulation in Slovenia. The Irish Ambassador to Slovenia delivered a short address to open the session which was attended by Judges from all courts across the country, legal executives and academics.

Participation in this event demonstrated the importance for the Probation Service of providing an efficient service to the judiciary, which is evidence informed and delivered within a timely and effective communication framework.

We wish the Slovenian

sessions.

The full conference programme as well as speaker and workshop presentations can be accessed and downloaded at <http://www.acjrd.ie/contents/352>

Tim Chapman Visit to Haymarket



Pictured above; Ursula Fernee and Tim Chapman at The Probation Service Restorative Justice Week event.

The Probation Service was delighted to welcome Tim Chapman, current Chairperson of the European Forum for Restorative Justice, to host an open conversation with staff in Haymarket on November 29th. This event marked both International Restorative Justice Week and the commencement of new legislation for victims of crime.

Irish Probation Journal 2017 (Volume 14)

Probation Service every success in this new, exciting and demanding phase of development

Travellers in Prison Initiative – Conference



Pictured above: Vivian Geiran (Right) with Anne Costello (Travellers in Prison Initiative), Minister of State, David Stanton TD, and other participants, at the TPI conference.

The Travellers in Prison Initiative (TPI) Conference was held in Dublin Castle on Friday 20th October. Speakers included Minister of State David Stanton TD, as well as a range of Traveller representative organisations, and Vivian Geiran and Irish Prison Service Director General, Michael Donnellan. A research report on women Travellers in prison was launched at the event. The TPI has been funded for the past three years, on a pilot basis, by the St. Stephen's Green Trust, the Irish Prison Service and the Probation Service. The Initiative will now be reviewed with a view to planning how to take the progress achieved, and lessons learned can be taken forward in a considered and structured way.



The fourteenth edition of the Irish Probation Journal was launched at the North-South Public Protection (PPAG) Seminar at the PPAG Seminar at Parliament Buildings, Stormont, Belfast on Friday, 10th November 2017.

Irish Probation Journal has, since 2004, been jointly published each year by the Probation Service and the Probation Board for Northern Ireland (PBNI). It is an authoritative and respected forum for contributors and readers interested in Probation policy, research and practice, related criminal justice.

Irish Probation Journal features a range of research studies, practice reports, policy commentaries and book reviews of relevance and interest to practitioners, policymakers, academics, legislators and students in the broad criminal justice and social policy fields.

Irish Probation Journal 2017 features original and significant papers on criminal justice themes and highlights the importance of partnership and research in probation and related fields. It. Papers examine presentence reports in Court, female prisoners' experience in transition from custody, community supervision options in Northern Ireland, understanding radicalisation and its impact on practice, image-based sexual abuse in Ireland and the challenges in leading probation in Ireland among many other important themes and subjects. In this year's 10th Annual Martin Tansey Memorial Lecture, Shadd Maruna

Coolmine European Federation of Therapeutic Communities Conference

Coolmine hosted the 16th European Federation of Therapeutic Communities (EFTC) conference in Dublin Castle, September 21st and 22nd 2017 past. It brought together over 250 people working in addition treatment, both frontline workers and those presenting research from their work, internationally. EFTC is a network of service providers across Europe dedicated to exchanging knowledge and research to make the best possible treatment and rehabilitation services available to those who need support. The conference was titled Pathways of Care to Recovery and was opened by Minister for Justice and Equality Charlie Flanagan.

There was over 60 presentations from US, Pakistan, Israel, Russia, Australia, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Austria, Norway, UK and of course Ireland.

For more information see EFTC on www.coolmine.ie.

makes the case that we should consider desistance as a social movement rather than an individual process.

As a forum for debate and dialogue *Irish Probation Journal* plays an important role in stimulating and fostering innovative thinking. *Irish Probation Journal* provides a valuable opportunity for academics, researchers and practitioners to share their knowledge, research findings and experience and to make a real impact on practice. It offers a forum for continuous learning and development not only for authors and readers but also for the wider criminal justice readership, international colleagues and researchers.

Irish Probation Journal 2017, as well as all previous editions and individual articles, is available online on the Probation Service [website](#) and the Probation Board for Northern Ireland [website](#) and on EBSCO host in colleges and libraries across the world.

Paper copies of Irish Probation Journal 2017 and most previous Irish Probation Journal editions can be requested, subject to availability, by sending an email to mcboland@probation.ie

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'news@probation.ie'**

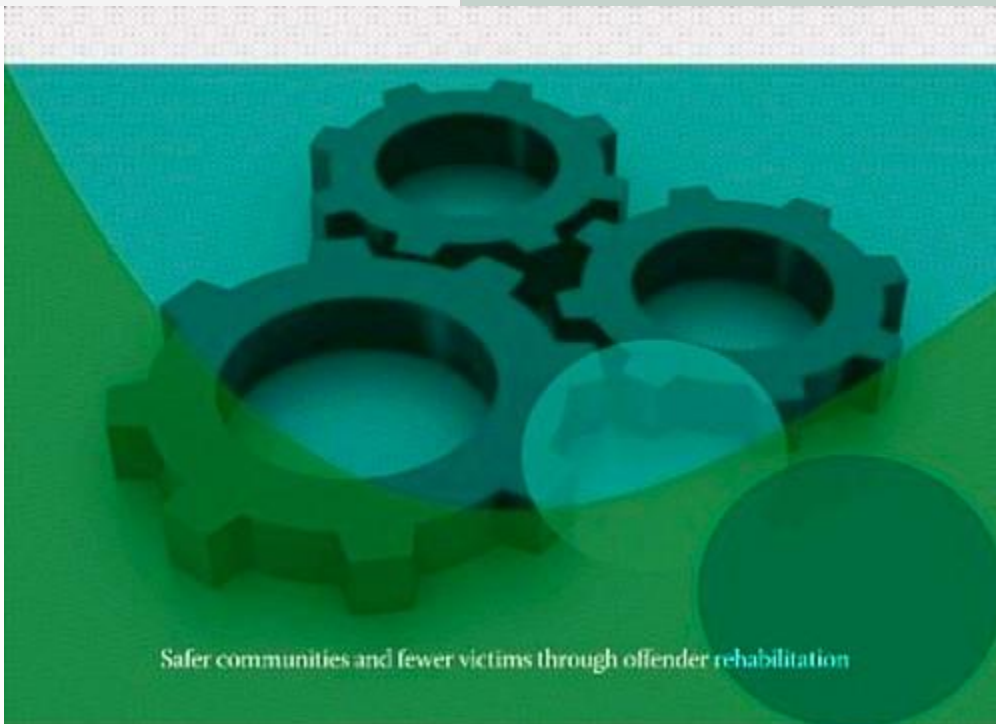
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