

IN THIS EDITION OF PROBATION WORKS: Probation in Numbers, New IPS Director General, Retirement of Jersey Probation Chief, CEP Sex Offender Conderence, RAN Training, Kickstart, We Make Good, UK-Irish Criminal Justice Co-Operation Network and more...



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## ***Newsletter of the Probation Service (Ireland) January 2019***



### **Message from Director**

As we end the first month of this new year, there are a number of significant changes coming down the tracks for us. The Department of Justice and Equality's Transformation Programme will continue to 'ramp up,' with the establishment of new management and divisional structures, and the development of new functional divisions and units. In the Probation Service itself, we also look forward to progressing a major project to develop and put into operation a modern, evidence-informed probation practice framework, specifically developed for and in the Irish context. To assist us in this project, we have engaged external consultants, who will work closely with the Probation Service organisation and our business partners and stakeholders, as well as directly with our staff, to build the new practice model, based on the foundation of what we already do well, and aligned with evidence-informed practice.



We also look forward to the publication, in the coming weeks, by the Central Statistics Office, of the latest recidivism outcome study, in respect of persons who were under Probation supervision during 2011 and 2012. The availability of accurate data is essential, for evaluation studies such as that on recidivism, as well as to inform organisational management and development. It is also more important than ever, in the modern Data Protection context, that the personal data records we keep are accurate and up to date, as well as appropriately managed. That is why we are launching our 'Counting What Counts' initiative, to run over the coming months, and which will remind staff to focus consciously on improving and maintaining our data quality, particularly in relation to basic, key

information items in our records management and case tracking systems. These items, or data variables, provide the building blocks to inform many of the key decisions we make, as individual practitioners, and as an organisation. We must ensure they are accurate, 'clean' and clear of defects or gaps. I hope that the 'Counting What Counts' initiative will enable all of us to see more clearly the value of our data, as well as helping us to do our jobs better and deliver the best services that we can.

The next edition of *Probation works* will be published in March 2019.

*Vivian Geiran*

Director

Twitter: @VGeiran



## Probation in Numbers



This month (January 2019) there are:

**8,379** Persons under Probation Service Supervision in the community;

**1,471** Prisoners receiving probation assistance in custody;

**2,090** People on Community Service

**1,230** Persons on various types of post-release probation

## New Director General at Irish Prison Service



The new Director General of the Irish Prison Service, Ms. Caron McCaffrey, was appointed by Minister Charlie Flanagan TD with effect from Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December. Caron has worked in the Prison Service for twelve years, most recently holding

supervision

**1,273** Women on probation

Supervision in the community, and

**219** Persons under eighteen years

of age under probation supervision in the community

The monthly Probation Service 'snapshot' statistical table for January 2019 is available at:

[Click Here](#)

Probation Service: Monthly Offender Population Report

Caseload	Community Regions (Point in Time January 1 2019)*				In Custody	Total (Persons)
	Eastern	Midlands and South East	South West	West and North West		
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,551</b>	<b>1,835</b>	<b>1,514</b>	<b>1,479</b>	<b>1,471</b>	<b>9,850</b>
<b>Of Whom:</b>						
<b>Female</b>	476	282	287	228	66	1,339
<b>Male</b>	3,075	1,553	1,227	1,251	1,405	8,511
<b>Under 18</b>	122	36	29	32	1	220
<b>18 and over</b>	3,429	1,799	1,485	1,447	1,470	9,630
<b>Totals:</b>						
						<b>Total Caseload, in community: 8,379</b>
						<b>Total Caseload, in custody: 1,471</b>
						<b>Grand Total, national Probation Service caseload: 9,850</b>
<b>The following are the major community supervision categories.</b>						
						<b>Probation Type Supervision**: 3,123</b>
						<b>Community Service: 2,090</b>
						<b>Supervision in the Community Post Release from Custody***: 1,230</b>
						<b>Community Return****: 56</b>
						<b>Life sentence prisoners on supervision in the community****: 89</b>
						<b>Sex offenders on supervision post release from custody****: 185</b>

**\*Regions**

Eastern: Dublin, Meath, Louth, Wicklow

Midlands and South East: Kildare, Laois, Offaly, Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford

South West: Cork, Clare, Limerick, Kerry

West and North West: Galway, Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim, Longford, Roscommon, Cavan, Monaghan, Donegal, Westmeath

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

\*\*\* Supervision in the community post release from custody includes Part Suspended Sentences, Temporary Release Supervision, Community Return, Life Sentence Prisoners on supervision in the community and Sex offenders on supervision in the community post release from custody.

\*\*\*\* Already included in the total of supervision in community post release from custody.

responsibility for Corporate Affairs, HR, Finance and Estate Directorates. The Probation Service welcomes Caron's appointment, wishes her well in her new role, and looks forward to working with Caron and all her colleagues, to progress our shared strategic goals.

## The Criminal Justice (Mutual Recognition of Probation Judgments and Decisions) Bill 2018

The Criminal Justice (Mutual Recognition of Probation Judgments and Decisions) Bill 2018: Order for Second Stage was moved on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019, in Dail Eireann by Minister David Stanton and agreed.

The Second Stage debate followed with preliminary speeches by the Minister and designated spokespersons from the various parties. The full text of the debate can be accessed at <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/debate/dail/2019-01-22/30/>

The EC Framework Decision 2008/947/JHA on the application of the principle of mutual recognition to judgments and probation decisions with a view to the supervision of probation measures and alternative sanctions (<http://eurlex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:337:0102:0122:EN:PDF>) enables persons who have been sentenced to a supervised non-custodial sanction in another EU Member State than where they live, to serve their sentence in their home country.

The Criminal Justice (Mutual Recognition of Probation Judgments and Decisions) Bill 2018 will transpose EC Framework Decision 2008/947/JHA into Irish law and facilitate the transfer of probation measures and alternative sanctions

## Probation in the Media



An article on the work of the Probation Service has been published in the latest (January 2019) edition of 'eolas' magazine. The magazine is distributed to senior executives in Government Departments and organisations in the civil and public services, including criminal justice, local authorities, health and educational institutions, bodies and agencies.

The article is available at the following link:

<http://www.eolasmagazine.ie/unlocking-the-capacity-to-change/>

## Retirement of Jersey Probation Chief



Pictured: Brian Heath – 3<sup>rd</sup> from left – receiving a gift from Jersey Police colleagues, on the occasion of his retirement [photo credit: Jersey Police].

We send heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Brian Heath, who retired as Chief Probation Officer with Jersey Probation and After-Care Service at the end of last

to and from Ireland.

The Bill will now be scheduled for 3rd (Committee) Stage. A date has not yet been fixed for that Committee Stage.

## Kickstart Update

A new jobs initiative to support the development of social enterprises and increase employment for people with criminal convictions was launched in the Probation Service last July. The Kickstart' Seed Fund programme was developed jointly by the Probation Service and the Irish Prison Service, as part of the Department of Justice and Equality's Social Enterprise Strategy, '*A New Way Forward*'.

A total of €300,000 was approved for the programme under the Dormant Accounts Disbursement Scheme. The programme provides matching grants of up to €30,000 to organisations providing employment to former offenders and persons leaving prison, including grants to support Feasibility Studies and Market Research initiatives, and grants for Start Up and Development Costs.

While social enterprise is a new and alternative approach to reducing recidivism in Ireland, statistics from the UK indicate that 95% of ex-offenders who work in a social enterprise do not re-offend. This provides a very significant social benefit, not just for those in the criminal justice system, but also for society generally.

The Probation Service issued a Call for Proposals seeking applications and 29 applications for funding were received.

month. Brian, who is also a Board member of the Confederation of European Probation (CEP), has been a great colleague, and a strong voice for probation in Europe, and worked directly with us here in Ireland on a number of occasions.

## Radicalisation Awareness Network Training

In the run up to Christmas 2018, the Probation Service hosted a very topical training event in Haymarket Headquarters, a two day "Train the Trainer" programme whose aim was to raise awareness about Radicalization and extremism.

International best practice supports a multi-agency approach to recognizing and addressing areas of concern in this area , therefore participants were represented from An Garda Síochána, the Irish Prison Service and colleagues from the Probation Board for Northern Ireland (PBNI), alongside our own Probation staff from our Research, Learning and Development unit and across the Service regions.

Training was delivered by Mr Maarten van Leyenhorst and Ms Mirte Loeffen from the Radicalization Awareness Network , both very experienced and specialist trainers in their field . The event was opened and everyone welcomed by Ailish Glennon, Regional manager, who highlighted the importance of multi-agency co-operation in this field. Having representatives from

The assessment process included key personnel expertise from the Irish Prison Service and the Probation Service, and independent external expertise drawn from the Social Enterprise and Business Sectors.

Seven organisations were approved for funding under Category A for Feasibility Studies & Market Research. Nine organisations were approved for funding under Category B for Start Up and Developmental Costs.

The list of recommended applicants and proposed levels of funding have been agreed by the Director of the Probation Service, the Department of Justice and Equality and the Social Enterprise Steering Committee. The Department of Rural and Community Development, which has responsibility for the Dormant Accounts Fund Process, has also approved the list of funded organisations.

The next steps in the process include the conducting of a due diligence process, and the preparation of funding offer letters and agreements for the successful organisations. It is intended that the Probation Service will be engaging with the successful organisations in the near future.

## Probation Service and Prison Administration Conference

Una Doyle, Deputy Director, presented at the Probation Service and Prison Administration Management Conference in Latvia, 6th December 2018. The Probation Service in Latvia is currently going through a process of restructuring, based very much on the Irish Probation



across the criminal justice system, from all corners of the Island of Ireland and Europe brought a richness and breath of knowledge and expertise into the training room.

The two day event achieved its overall aim, allowed participants put their skills into practice as well as forge new links and networks with colleagues.

For further information on the Radicalization Awareness Network please click [here](#).



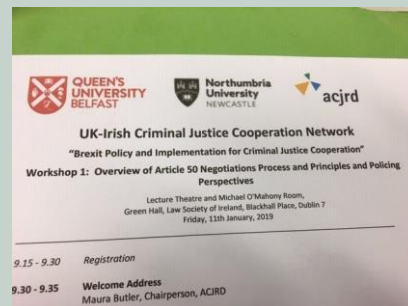
Pictured top: Instructors Maarten Van Leyenhorst and Mirte Loeven from the Radicalisation Awareness

Service Regional Structure. Una presented on our Probation Service structure and model of service delivery. Una also co-facilitated a workshop with Mihails Papsujevičs, Head of the Latvian Probation Service, for all Probation Service Managers. The workshop focused on "Professional Governance and Oversight - the Role of the Manager."



Pictured: Una Doyle, Deputy Director, with Mihails Papsujevičs, Head of the Latvian Probation Service, in Riga, Latvia

## UK-Irish Criminal Justice Co-Operation Network



UK-Irish Criminal Justice Cooperation Network held its first workshop meeting in Dublin on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at the Law Society, Blackhall Place.

Network funded by the EU Commission  
Pictured bottom: Staff from various agencies in attendance at RAN training.

## CEP Conference on Sex Offender Management, Riga, 2018

On the 22nd and 23rd of November 2018, delegates from all over the world gathered in Riga for the first CEP (Confederation of European Probation) International Conference on Sex Offender Management. It was a very successful first edition. A lot of knowledge sharing and networking was done by the participants during these two days. The conference was organised in close cooperation with the Latvian State Probation and Prison Service and was officially opened by CEP Secretary General Willem van der Brugge and Imants Jurevičius, Project Manager of the Latvian State Probation Service and CEP Vice-President. Presentations from Audrey Alards, chair of the CEP Sex Offender Expert Group, which included the results of a survey that was carried out by the group and from Dr. Mechtild Höing on the concept and operation of Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA).

The second part of the first conference day consisted of workshops. The participants were split up in four groups and participated in two workshops each. The ranged from [Dr.Kieran McCartan's 'Understanding and re-framing sexual abuse'](#) as a public health matter to 'The challenges of working with sex offenders

The network is an initiative funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council and is led by Northumbria University, Queen's University Belfast and the Association of Criminal Justice Research and Development (ACJRD) and will run for 18 months with further workshops in June, September and December 2019 and a final conference in March 2020

The UK-Irish Criminal Justice Cooperation Network works as an interactive "think tank" and an environment for constructive and frank exchange of views and ideas. The network brings together policymakers, practitioners and academics with different expertise, policy area experience and perspectives to explore and consider the impact and implications of Brexit for criminal justice co-operation between Ireland and the UK. Gerry McNally, Assistant Director represented The Probation Service at the first workshop.

The first meeting was a lively and productive event with contributions from criminal justice bodies and interests from North, South, East and West. Further information on the event and the network will be available shortly on the ACJRD website at [www.acjrd.ie](http://www.acjrd.ie)

## We Make Good



November 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 was a special day. Not only did it mark International Social Enterprise Day but it also saw the opening of the We Make Good pop-up shop here in Haymarket. A social enterprise in its own right, We Make Good sell top quality products made by other social enterprises from around the country that employ people who have experienced

in a small island community' from Probation colleagues from the island of Jersey. A joint presentation on ['Understanding and working with people who use child sexual abuse material'](#) by Maggie Brennan from Cork and Virginia Soldino, Spain, was particularly interesting.

In the plenary session that followed we were informed about the approach for working with sexual offenders in Latvia which was described as a new journey upon which they are embarked.

On the second day presentations from Wineke Smids, Sweden, about their treatment programme for sex offenders and Marianne Fuglestved, Denmark, told the participants about the Danish supervision model MOSAIK, which is an offender supervision framework model. Before the start of the programme on the second day of the conference, a special event took place: the official launch of the Circles Europe Association.

The conference was very stimulating in general and is the first on behalf of the Special Interest Group. On a positive note for ourselves participation in the conference confirmed that we in the Irish Probation Service are very much to the fore in our approach to management of this challenging group of offenders

**Brian Dack**  
Assistant Director

difficulties in securing work; people with disabilities, refugees, members of the Traveller community as well as people with a history of offending. Four Probation funded projects, operating their own manufacturing social enterprises, had their beautiful products for sale (PACE SE, UC Solutions, The Solas Project and Cairde Enterprises).

Open for five weeks, the shop surpassed targets by 50% earning over €30,000. As it is a social business run by a charity (Quality Matters), the income generated is being reinvested into the development of the model, extending the range of products and exploring new business opportunities for Irish social enterprises.

We Make Good co-founder, Joan Ellison, said, 'The feedback and the support from the public has been overwhelming positive. There was enormous appreciation for the care and attention that went into the products and there was an element of surprise. People's idea of what social enterprise can achieve changed the moment they entered the shop. This was what we aiming for, part of our vision is changing the perception of social enterprise and what people can achieve when given a real second chance'.

Caroline Gardner, the other co-founder, is looking forward to the year ahead: '2019 is about bringing the success we have had with the public to the state and business sectors. State agencies can lead the way in showing that it's not just what staff are doing that creates social impact, every element of the business can contribute to a more equal and fair society. Just like the shop, we are out to prove that with the right supports SE can produce as good as any commercial operation – while giving people a second chance that makes the world of difference for them and their families,' Caroline said.

The We Make Good online shop will launch in February with a wider range of products and social enterprises involved. Watch this space: [www.wemakegood.ie](http://www.wemakegood.ie)

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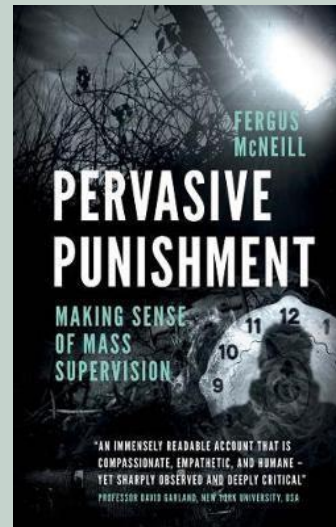
Pictured: Audrey Alards (Dutch Probation), Chair of the Sex Offender Expert Group, peaking at the conference.

## James P. Organ, the 'Irish System' and the Origins of Parole

For those of you who are interested in the history and development of the Irish Criminal Justice system, below is a summary of a paper presented at the recent Irish Criminology Conference in UCD by Assistant Director of the Probation Service Gerry McNally on James P. Organ, the 'Irish System' and the Origins of Parole in Ireland.

Sir Walter Crofton, following his appointment as Director of the Irish Convict Prisons in 1854 introduced what has become known as the "Irish System" in the governance of Convict Prisons in Ireland the and management of convicts serving penal servitude sentences. Following the effective ending of

## Pervasive Punishment, Fergus McNeill – Book Review



I always look forward to reading Fergus McNeill's latest writings on probation, community supervision and criminal justice issues. His incisive observations and posing of challenging questions prompt serious reflection on what we, as probation professionals, do, why we do it and how it impacts the people and communities we profess to help.

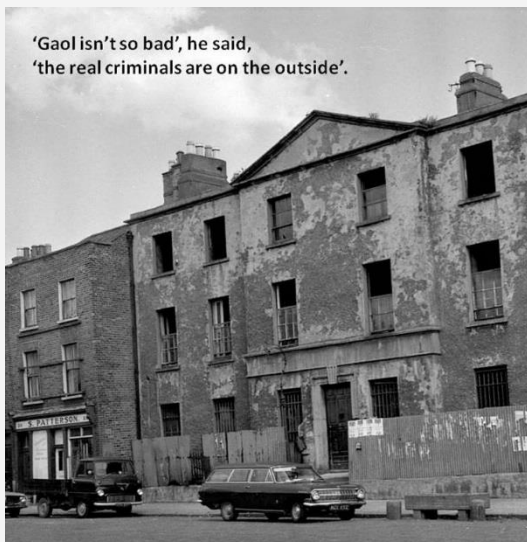
In his new book, *Pervasive Punishment: Making Sense of Mass Supervision*, Fergus questions the presumption of 'good' in supervision and its expansion, highlights the impact of the polity on work practice and shines a light on the often unseen 'lived experience' of probation. Fergus uses a mixture of story-telling, insights from research and supervisee narratives in pictures and music to probe the 'hollowing' of probation practice, a retreat from relationships and discretion and an excessive focus on the exercise of power and authority. A 'Christmas Carol'-like dystopian view of the future in his story is a most effective device to confront this drift.

This is an easy book to read and a very uneasy read. Its

transportation to Australia as a sentence in the early 1850s there were serious concerns regarding how to manage the previously transported convicts as numbers grew rapidly.

Based on experimental and innovative work in sentence management on Norfolk Island Prison Colony and innovative systems in France, Germany and Spain, Crofton devised a system of staged sentence management, intermediate prisons and supervision after release in Ireland, now known as the Irish System.

In the later stages of their sentences convicts who had met behaviour standards in their sentence were transferred to Intermediate prisons at Smithfield and Lusk where they underwent further education and training for release, were tested on short releases or tasks outside of the prison and finally, could be allowed full release to employment under supervision.



Pictured: Smithfield Prison

James Patrick Organ, a Dublin adult education teacher, was appointed as

structure and multi-media engagement ensures that the challenges are clear and unavoidable. It is a must read for every thinking probation professional and already, in January, a candidate for probation book of the year.

Gerry McNally

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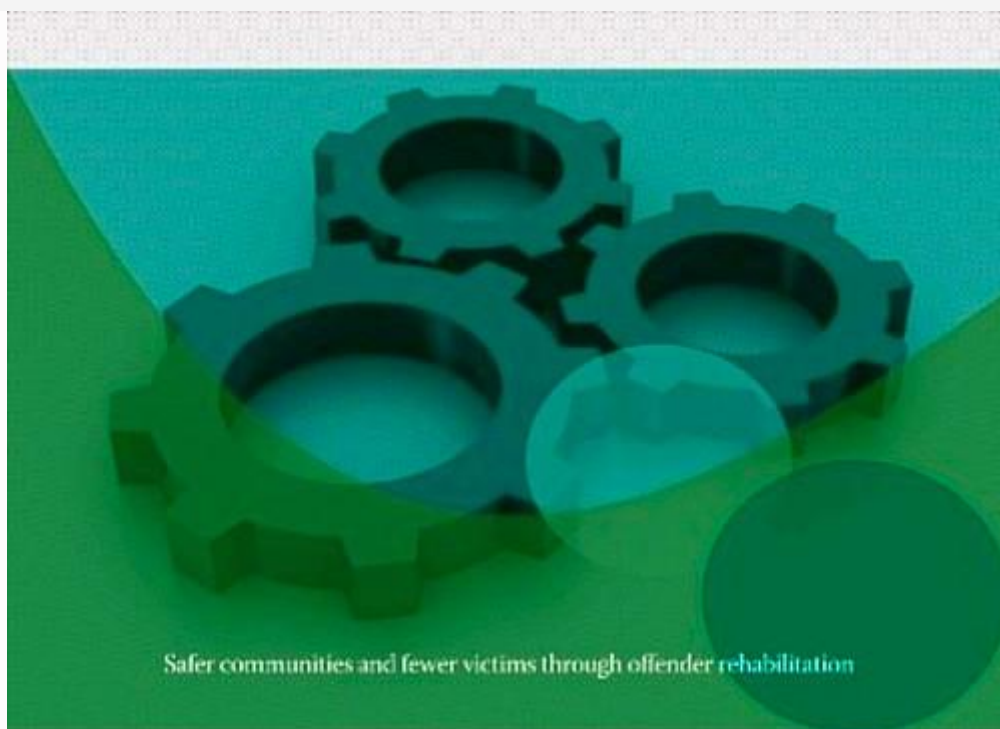
lecturer at Smithfield and Lusk Prisons with responsibility for preparation for release and supervision of the released convicts. He was appointed as Inspector of Released Convicts in 1855, providing work placements as well as individual support and supervision in the Dublin area. The Irish System, especially the Intermediate Prison, preparation for release and post-custody supervision elements, was extremely successful and lauded internationally. It was a major influence in the development of parole systems in Europe and in America

James Organ published his lectures in 1858, wrote copious reports on his activities and, with Walter Crofton, published papers for meetings and international conferences. As the first Inspector of Discharged Convicts James P Organ is recognised as the world's first official Parole Officer (and possibly Probation Officer) and 'father' of the parole systems based on his practice. James P Organ continued very successfully as lecturer at Smithfield and Lusk Prisons and as Inspector of Discharged Convicts until his early death in 1869.

During the 1860's there was also a significant focus shift in criminal justice policy and practice in the UK and Ireland from reform to punishment. While the Irish System flourished internationally, it withered and died in Ireland after the retirement of Sir Walter Crofton in 1862 and the death of James Organ in 1869; its champions and leaders. Smithfield Prison, the first Intermediate prison closed in 1871 and is now the site of the Priory Grove houses in Smithfield.

2019 will be the 150th anniversary of the death James Patrick Organ. It is planned that during this year and next a series of publications, events and presentations will seek to revive the memory of James Organ, his exceptional legacy, his innovative model of practice and monumental achievements and also help to restore him to his honoured place in criminal justice history.

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