PRISON
REFORM
TRUST

Prison Reform Trust
15 Northburgh Street,
London EC1V 0JR

Tel: 020 7251 5070
contact@prisonreformtrust.org.uk
www.prisonreformtrust.org.uk

Martin Jones CBE
Chief Executive
Parole Board for England and Wales
10 South Colonnade
London
E14 4PU

26 August 2022

Dear Martin,

Outcome of recommendations for open conditions

You will know of PRT's concerns about the potential impact of recent changes to Parole Board rules. We would like to find out whether the new criteria appear to be changing the outcome of parole hearings, and in particular what the impact has been of the introduction of new criteria for the consideration of moves to open conditions.

We would like to find out both whether those changes are making a difference to the recommendations parole board panels make, and also to whether those recommendations are accepted by the Secretary of State. To do that we would like to compare outcomes for a typical period before the rules came into force, with what has happened since.

To that end, we hope you may be able to supply us with the following information:

For the 12 month period leading up to the implementation of new criteria for moves to open on 6 June 2022 or for a convenient period of your choice:

- In relevant cases considered by the board, how many resulted in
    - Decisions to release
    - Recommendations for open conditions
    - Recommendations to remain in closed conditions

- And of those recommendations for open conditions, how many were accepted by the Secretary of State and how many rejected.

And the same data for cases considered since 6 June 2022.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Registered Charity No. 1035525
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 2906362
Registered in England and Wales

With best wishes



Peter Dawson
Director
Prison Reform Trust