



## MONITORING THE QUALITY OF PRISON LIFE

During your time in prison, problems, difficulties and worries may arise. The IMB are here to help.

## WHAT IS THE INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD?

Maghaberry and Magilligan Prisons and Hydebank Wood Young Offenders Centre and Prison each have an Independent Monitoring Board (IMB), (formally known as the Board of Visitors).

Members of each IMB are drawn from the general public. Appointed by the Secretary of State, IMB members act as independent observers of all aspects of the prison regime and as such have free access at all times to the prison to which they are appointed. The work is voluntary and unpaid.

A rota of IMB members ensures that each prison is visited on a weekly basis. If you have a request or problem, you have an entitlement under the Prison Rules to speak with a member of the IMB.

## HOW CAN THE INDEPENDENT MONITORING BOARD HELP YOU?

Any matter you raise will be dealt with fairly and independently from the Prison Service. If your request cannot be dealt with immediately, it will be taken forward on your behalf with whoever is responsible. Although IMB members are always willing to see you about any matter and without any conditions, it is best if you to try to resolve the matter in the first instance with the class officer.

The IMB will respond to your request as soon as possible, depending on how difficult your problem is and the time needed by the IMB to obtain an answer.

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