

IL/AV 77-18

Sonia Crozier, Executive Director
Probation and Women
HMPPS

(By email – no hard copy to follow)

7th June 2018

Dear Sonia,

Thank you for your letter of 4th June, in reply to our request for an update on when formal pay modernisation talks will be able to commence.

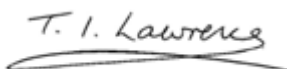
Your warm words in the fourth paragraph are noted. However, they offer little comfort to our members. The substance of the letter merely re-states the reality that we've had to endure since any formal or even informal negotiations were suspended in late 2016.

We've been told for many, many months that your remit has been submitted to the Treasury and awaits their approval. We still have no indication how much longer we'll be expected to wait, even for the courtesy of being able to begin negotiations. This is neither credible nor acceptable.

Further, we are obviously concerned about the validity of a business case submitted in 2017, in the early part of the last financial year. We have not seen the business case. Therefore, on this specific point, I must ask for urgent clarification on what, "progressing to a full remit in which to negotiate" means? Do remit submissions have a use by date? Our concern is that by the time we get approval to formally negotiate, your remit will be insufficient to provide enough scope for serious and genuine negotiation. The scale of the challenge facing us should not be under-estimated.

I look forward to the specific clarifications.

Yours sincerely



IAN LAWRENCE
General Secretary