

National Negotiating Council for the Probation Service

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To: Deputy Directors, National Probation Service
Chief Executive Officers, CRCs
CRC HR Leads
Director of HR, NOMS
Members of the NNC

NNC CIRCULAR NO. 6/2014

Trade Union Annual Conferences

UNISON Police and Justice Conference

UNISON's Police and Justice Conference will take place on 16 and 17 October in Southport.

Napo AGM and Conference

Napo's AGM and Conference will take place on 9 to 11 October in Scarborough.

Discussions at previous National Negotiating Council meetings have previously highlighted the benefits of union members attending trade union conferences and AGMs.

There is no statutory requirement for union members or representatives being paid for time off taken on trade union activities.

However, as on previous occasions, where possible, the NNC would like once again to encourage Probation Employers to agree to requests for one day's paid special leave to attend this year's UNISON Police and Justice Conference or the Napo AGM. Please also bear in mind the fact that Napo is also a professional association and their AGM agenda contains a number of sessions which its members often attend for professional development purposes.

Release would be subject to the usual considerations when authorising special leave, for example ensuring that the operational needs of the service are met.

The Joint Secretaries remain available to assist if that would be helpful.

Lynne Last
Ian Lawrence
Joint Secretaries