

Monday, 3 March 2008

News release

Howard League for Penal Reform sends review team to Jersey to investigate child protection issues

The Howard League for Penal Reform can confirm today (Monday, 3 March) that it will be sending a review team to Jersey to examine issues around the treatment of children in care in Jersey.

The Howard League for Penal Reform has consultative status with both the United Nations and Council of Europe. We have many years experience of conducting independent inquiries into the treatment of children in the penal system and have a legal department that represents children and young adults in custody.

The review has the following terms of reference, agreed with the Jersey government:

- *To examine existing policies and procedures to safeguard the welfare and wellbeing of children in the penal system in Jersey and to make recommendations about how these may be improved.*

Director of the Howard League for Penal Reform, Frances Crook, said: "We hope that the review team we are sending can provide positive recommendations on what Jersey should do to be more in line with UK and international standards of child protection.

"There is an opportunity now for Jersey not just to do things more like the mainland but actually far better, and we hope to encourage that."

The review team will comprise of Ms Lynne Ravenscroft and Mr Jon Fayle.

Lynne Ravenscroft is a trustee of the Howard League for Penal Reform. She was a magistrate for 23 years, serving on the Council of the Magistrates' Association, where she led a campaign about children abused through prostitution. She served on the Magisterial and Equal Treatment Committees of

the Judicial Studies Board, and is researching the history of juvenile justice in the UK. She now serves on the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal.

Jon Fayle worked at the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales from 1996 to 2006, most recently as the head of policy for the juvenile secure estate. He is now a consultant working with the Local Government Association and various charities, including the Howard League.

The review team will visit Jersey on 31 March and 1 April.

Further information

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