



Disclosure Team  
Ministry of Justice  
102 Petty France  
London  
SW1H 9AJ

Dr Laura Janes  
laura.janes@gstewart.cjsm.net

data.access@justice.gov.uk

23 June 2023

Dear Dr Janes,

**Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 230530047**

Thank you for your follow up email received on 30 May 2023 concerning FOI request 230504048, dated 4 May 2023, in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) since April 2015:

**“Can you please provide me with the following information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act?”**

**1. How many IPP termination applications have been referred by the Secretary of State for Justice to the Parole Board?**

**2. How many licences have been terminated?”**

Your request has been handled under the FOIA. I can confirm that the MoJ holds the information that you have requested, which is provided below.

It might be helpful to firstly explain that a new automatic referral process for the consideration of termination of IPP Licences launched on 23 September 2021. This introduced a process, which is now included in legislation, that places a requirement on the Secretary of State to automatically refer eligible IPP offenders to the Parole Board, for consideration of the termination of their licence. Where the Parole Board decides the licenced should not be terminated, the Secretary of State must automatically refer the case every 12 months for further consideration.

In these cases, and on receipt of a Termination Report provided by the Probation Service, the Parole Board is required to determine whether it is appropriate to terminate the licence. Cases are automatically referred to the Parole Board when the case reaches the eligibility point; currently set at 10 years following the offenders' first release from their IPP sentence, irrespective of whether they remain in the community or of any subsequent recalls and further sentences. This referral process enables the IPP licence, and as a result the IPP sentence, to be brought to a definitive end for more offenders.

Prior to September 2021, IPP termination cases were referred to the Parole Board upon application by the offender only. The first IPP termination application was received by the Public Protection Casework Section (PPCS) in July 2019.

Since July 2019, a total of 436 IPP cases have been referred to the Parole Board for the termination of the licence to be considered. In 152 cases, the Parole Board have made the decision to terminate the offender's licence. These figures include referrals up to and including May 2023 and are broken down further below by year of referral.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Referrals</b>	<b>Number of terminations</b>
<b>2019</b>	1	1
<b>2020</b>	3	2
<b>2021</b>	23	11
<b>2022</b>	229	93
<b>2023</b>	180	45
<b>Totals</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>152</b>

We have drawn these figures from administrative IT systems which, as with any large-scale recording systems, are subject to possible errors with data entry and processing and are therefore subject to change. It should also be noted that where the Parole Board do consider a case but decide not to terminate the licence, there will be a further automatic consideration of referral twelve months later. These figures therefore correspond with the total number of referrals to the Parole Board and does not reflect the number of offenders who have been subject to their consideration.

### **Appeal Rights**

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to the address below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gov.uk

Disclosure Team, Ministry of Justice

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely



**Chelsea Gorynska**  
**Public Protection Casework Section**