



The Commissioner for
Public Appointments

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The Right Honourable Lord Keen of Elie QC

30th of August 2018

Dear Lord Keen

RE: Appointment to the Prison Service Review Body

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed interim appointment without competition of Jerry Cope, as Chair of the Prison Service Pay Review Body, for a period of twelve months, until September 2018.

I acknowledge that the recent competition to appoint substantively was unsuccessful, and that none of the candidates were found appointable. You stated that the PSPRB is currently engaged in the Northern Ireland Prison Service 2018/19 Pay Round. Given this, and the fact that the role has already been vacant for a month, I am content with the proposed appointment.

I have noted your commitment to running a full recruitment campaign to appoint substantively in the future, and am grateful for the indicative timetable that the Ministry of Justice public appointments team has provided my office. The timetable allows adequate time to ensure a smooth transition, but I would be grateful if you could ensure that my office are provided with copies of the candidate pack and advert prior to the campaign launching, and kept updated on the recruitment campaign once it has begun.

All best wishes
Peter Riddell

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Commissioner for Public Appointments