

“

From humble beginnings the Irish Council for Prisoners Overseas has flourished into a critical and unique element of our country's outreach to the most marginalised sector of our diaspora. In so many ways, you represent the very best spirit of solidarity in our community and I wish you well for your continuing vital work on all of our behalf.

”

President Michael D. Higgins. December 2015

Contact us at:

Irish Council for Prisoners Overseas
PO BOX 75693
London
NW1W 7ZT

Tel: 020 7482 4148
Email: prisoners@irishchaplaincy.org.uk
Website: www.irishchaplaincy.org.uk

&

Traveller Equality Project
PO BOX 75693
London
NW1W 7ZT
Tel: 020 7482 4148
Email: travellers@itihchaplaincy.org.uk

Irish prisoners outside of England and Wales should contact: Irish Council for Prisoners Overseas
Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference
Columba Centre,
Maynooth, Co. Kildare. Ireland
Tel: +353 (0)1 505 3156
Email: icpo@iecon.ie — www.icpo.ie

Looking ahead with Hope

Reg. Charity No. 1160365



The work of the Irish Chaplaincy in Britain is funded in part by grants from the Government of Ireland, the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, and by the support of many generous friends.

Irish

In a UK prison?

Irish
Council for
Prisoners
Overseas



What is the ICPO?

The Irish Council for Prisoners Overseas (ICPO) is a project of the charity, the Irish Chaplaincy in Britain, serving Irish prisoners and their families.

We work with any Irish person in prison in England and Wales and make no distinction about a prisoner's background, religion, conviction or prison status.

OUR AIMS:

- Justice and human rights for Irish prisoners and their families
- Focus public attention on issues affecting Irish prisoners
- Provide advice and information on issues such as repatriation and prison transfers
- Work closely with other organisations caring for the welfare of prisoners and their families
- Conduct research on issues affecting Irish prisoners

What do you do for Irish prisoners?

If you are an Irish prisoner we can help you by providing:

- Prison visits
- Advice and information
- Phone message service
If you cannot get through, please leave ONE short message with your name / number, prison and we will write back to you as soon as possible
- Contact with your family
- Family visit support
- Casework advocacy
- Representation of your concerns to the authorities
- Letters of support to court
- Signposting to other services
- Pen friend scheme
(two years minimum remaining to serve)
- Pastoral support

WE DO NOT PROVIDE LEGAL ADVICE

" I DON'T HAVE FAMILY, SO THE VISIT YOU MADE GAVE ME A SENSE OF BELONGING AND, ALTHOUGH I MAY BE ALONE, I KNOW THERE ARE PEOPLE ON THE OUTSIDE WHO CARE ABOUT ME.
HONEST TO GOD, THAT IS MAKING ME LOOK AT MY LIFE A LOT DIFFERENTLY."

SEAN

You are not alone.

There are about one thousand Irish people in over 100 prisons across England and Wales. We estimate that nearly half of these are from an Irish Traveller background.

According to the UK Government, Irish people are the second largest foreign national group in the prison system (March. 2018). We are aware that 235 new Irish prisoners contacted us in the past 12 Months, (Sept 2017). We supported 1,000 people in England/Wales over the same period.

ICPO is here to help

"THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER—I SINCERELY THANK YOU WITH ALL MY HEART AS I FOUND YOUR LETTER FULL OF CONCERN. WOW! I MUST HAVE READ IT 50 TIMES AND COUNTING.

IT CHEERS ME UP AND GIVES ME A LIFT. ITS CRAZY TO FEEL THAT A GREAT WEIGHT HAS BEEN LIFTED FROM MY SHOULDERS THANKS TO A LETTER FROM A COMPLETE STRANGER WHO NOW SEEMS LIKE A FRIEND."

TOM