

**POA Circular 23/2009**

4th February 2009

Dear Colleagues

**FACILITY TIME AND BRANCH MEETINGS**

Action	Information
England/Wales <input type="checkbox"/>	England/Wales <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scotland <input type="checkbox"/>	Scotland <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Northern Ireland <input type="checkbox"/>	Northern Ireland <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Special Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/>	Special Hospitals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Private Sector <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Sector <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

We wrote to the Prison Service and Ministry of Justice on the 30th January 2009, seeking approval for facility time for branches to report back from the Special Delegates Conference and update members on the latest information on WFM and the Offer.

Unfortunately, our request has been refused. This is clearly an indication of the Ministry of Justice, NOMS and Prison Service attitude towards industrial relations and proves that they do not want you or this Union to update our members.

As a result of this decision, we are left with no option but to ask all those branches affected by WFM to call branch meetings as and when they feel it necessary prior to the commencement of duty and or in the lunch time outside of the prison.

We must insist that all members are at the gate in time for the start of their shift, in line with the arbitration decision from ACAS at Bristol over start times.

We have copied the letter from Jack and the decision in respect of start times, which should be used if local Governors try to prevent you from holding the meeting.

We also suggest that you contact the local press and media to cover these meetings.

You must remember that it is vital you update your members as and when correspondence is circulated either by the employer or your Union prior to and during the ballot.

Thanking you in anticipation of your total support and co-operation in this matter.

**REMEMBER  
USE YOUR VOTE WISELY  
VOTE NO - REJECT THE OFFER ON WFM**

Yours sincerely

Yours sincerely

**COLIN MOSES**  
National Chairman

**BRIAN CATON**  
General Secretary

**For and On behalf of the National Executive Committee**

**Enclosure**

**1939  
70  
2009**

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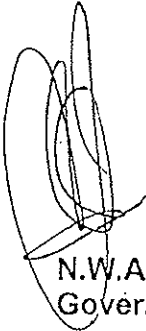
**HMP BRISTOL**

## **Memo**

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To: Mick Hilliam  
From: N.W.A. Wall  
Date: 20 September 2001  
Re: Your letter of 31 August 2001

Following your letter of 31 August and our deliberations with ACAS yesterday I can confirm that the advice I have received from Industrial Relations Section is that staffs start time is from the gate.



N.W.A. Wall  
Governor 1

Mr NWA Wall  
Governor 1  
HM Prison Bristol  
Cambridge Road  
Bristol BS7 8PS

31 August 2001

### **FTA Finishing Times**

Dear Mr Wall,

Following on from our conversation re: the above, and to help our submission to ACAS should it prove necessary, could you please confirm, or comment on, the points listed below.

Staff are not obliged to be at their post at the start time of the shift, but at the Gate for the said start time.

If all staff with 07.30 hrs start time arrived at that time then the 07.45 unlock would not take place, it does so because of the goodwill demonstrated by a considerable number of staff.

I note on the information sheet for next week that you are on Annual Leave, therefore an immediate response would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Mick Hilliam  
Branch Chairman.



Ministry of  
**JUSTICE**

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Colin Moses & Brian Caton  
POA  
Cronin House  
245 Church Street  
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4 February 2009

*Dear Colin & Brian*

#### **FACILITY TIME FOR POA BRANCH MEETINGS**

Thank you for your letter of 30 January about arrangements for POA branch meetings to report back from your special delegates conference last week.

I, and the NOMS Board, have sought to support union engagement throughout the negotiations on Workforce Modernisation and NOMS has provided facilities to assist that process. NOMS provides generous facility time arrangements for national and branch officials, as well as time off for staff to attend branch meetings and conferences.

With regard to facility time for branch meetings following your special delegates conference, NOMS provided paid time off for staff to have branch meetings in advance of your conference and for delegates to attend the conference itself. NOMS will facilitate further POA branch meetings at establishments, but quite properly these should be held in members' own time.

I have no wish to impede the internal democratic process of your union and NOMS will continue to support union engagement on joint business.

*Yours,*  
*Jack*

**JACK STRAW**