



**The Professional Trades Union for Prison,
Correctional & Secure Psychiatric Workers**

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TO: ALL POLITICAL EDITORS, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENTS AND
INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENTS

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

POA CALL FOR CAMPAIGN TO ASSESS AND ADDRESS UNPRECEDENTED RISE IN WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

Official reports identify that the level of serious violence throughout the prison estate and other workplaces has risen dramatically.

Serious assaults on prison staff are up 48% in the last year according to the latest data from NOMS with serious assaults prisoner on prisoner up 38% in the same period.

In general assault incidents in prisons were up 12% and assaults on staff up 15% in the last 12 months.

The POA believe that the year on year budget cuts and staff shortfalls across the prison estate are the main underlying cause for the increase in violence.

The POA call on a Joint Union campaign to protect workers in the public and private sector from all acts of violence.

End.

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