

DC 06/07
IMM 04/07

To: ALL BOARD CHAIRS

C.C. Governors
National Council
National Tutors

9 March 2007

Dear Chair

As you will recall, Sir Peter Lloyd announced in DC 26/06, IMM 24/06 that he would be standing down as President of the National Council in April 2007, having fulfilled the role since April 2003.

I am very pleased to be able to tell you that Gerry Sutcliffe and Liam Byrne (Immigration Minister) have decided to appoint Dr Peter Selby as the next President of the National Council. Dr Selby has been Bishop of Worcester since July 1997, and was in addition appointed Bishop to HM Prisons in 2001; he is retiring from both posts in September 2007.

Dr Selby combines an understanding of the prison and detention system with experience of working with volunteers and operating in organisations at a national level, with a national profile. His concern for prisons and the criminal justice system extends back to 1965 when he served as an intern chaplain at San Quentin Prison in California as part of his ministerial training. Since then, criminal justice and refugee issues have been consistent features of his work in the Church of England. In the 1980s he served as Chair of the Asylum Committee of the Refugee Council and was appointed as co-chair of the London and Southwark Dioceses Penal Affairs Group during the same period. As well as being the Bishop of Worcester he is the Bishop to HM prisons and acts as bishop to the chaplaincy service and also spokesperson for the Church of England/Church in Wales on penal issues. He has regularly participated on the All-Party Parliamentary Group in Penal Affairs and the

Crossbench group of peers discussing criminal justice issues. As Bishop, Dr Selby is used to having a public profile and has appeared regularly in the media.

Having met Dr Selby, I can confirm that he shows a commitment to the values of IMBs and is aware of many of the issues surrounding the work of Boards and the National Council. He also wants to ensure that they receive the profile and the level of public awareness that they deserve.

I should be grateful if you would bring this DC to the attention of your Board colleagues.

Norman McLean
Head of the IMB Secretariat