



LETTER SENT BY EMAIL ONLY

Audrey Nicoll MSP
Convenor
Criminal Justice Committee
The Scottish Parliament
EDINBURGH
EH99 1SP

18 November 2024

CO-108-2024

Dear Convenor

ILL HEALTH RETIRAL (IHR) AND INJURY ON DUTY (IOD)

I write to provide an update, following a request received on 31 October 2024, on the length of time individuals are waiting to hear about the outcome of their request for an ill health retiral or injury on duty award.

This update follows [correspondence sent to the Criminal Justice Committee on 30 August 2024](#), reporting on improvements made during 2023 to strengthen and improve the IHR and IOD processes so that applications are dealt with as swiftly as practicable.

At the end of September 2024 (Q2), for those with an appointment with a Statutory Medical Practitioner (SMP) for consideration of an IHR, the average wait time was 5-months. The average length of time for those officers approved by the Scottish Police Authority in September was 13-months.

At the end of September 2024 (Q2), for those with an appointment with an SMP for consideration of an IOD, the average wait time was 4-months. The average length of time for those officers approved for IOD award by the Scottish Police Authority in September was 6-months.

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The number of live IHR and IOD cases on 31 September 2024 was 58 and 48 respectively. Of these, 15 (9 IHR and 6 IOD) cases have been ongoing for over a year with the main reason for delay attributed to external factors, e.g. waiting for specialist report from medical professionals or the officers' own choice to progress an appeal. Three cases have been subject to appeal. No complaints have been received which relate to the IHR or IOD process.

I trust this update is helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Brown." The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

LYNN BROWN OBE
Chief Executive