

Operating statement for the year ended 31 March 2004

Balance sheet at 31 March 2004

	2004	2003		2004	2003
INCOME			ASSETS EMPLOYED		
Grants	97,416	27,314	Fixed Assets		
Donations	5,829	3,226	Tangible Assets	3,640	2,371
Subscriptions	4,244	3,922			
Conferences & publications	1,204	8,019			
Deposit interest	230	785	CURRENT ASSETS		
Other income		2,304	Sundry debtors	750	750
Rowntree Trust re: legal challenge		6,389	Cash at bank	30,020	44,592
	<u>108,923</u>	<u>51,959</u>		<u>30,770</u>	<u>45,342</u>
EXPENSES			CREDITORS		
Wages	80,711	28,263	Amounts falling due within one year	25,854	9,498
Publications & reports	13,962	11,568		<u>25,854</u>	<u>9,498</u>
Rent	10,186	2,420			
Staff pension	4,146	2,420	NET CURRENT ASSETS	4,916	35,844
Stationery	3,903	3,852		<u>8,556</u>	<u>38,215</u>
Website	3,757	1,182			
Telephone	2,885	2,390			
Recruitment	2,798				
Conferences	2,714	8,751			
Audit	2,118	1,089	CAPITAL EMPLOYED		
Annual report	1,458	3,924	Revenue Reserves	8,556	38,215
Post	1,442	3,700		<u>8,556</u>	<u>38,215</u>
Newsletter	1,295	5,152			
General expenses	1,093	2,719	MOVEMENT ON RESERVES		
Legal fees	805	6,297	Balance forward	38,215	71,741
Insurance	782	723	Deficit for year	(29,659)	(33,526)
Professional fees	776	99		<u>8,556</u>	<u>38,215</u>
Equipment maintenance	761	333			
Travel	483	29			
Library	250	368			
Temporary staff	200				
Training		631			
Depreciation of equipment	2,057	1,995			
	<u>138,582</u>	<u>85,485</u>			
DEFICIT FOR YEAR	<u>(29,659)</u>	<u>(33,526)</u>			

Irish Penal Reform Trust

Annual Report 2004

53 Parnell Square West, Dublin 1, Ireland. Tel: +353-(0)1-874-1400 Fax: +353-(0)1-873-3174 Email: info@iprt.ie Web: www.iprt.ie

As Chair of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the Irish Penal Reform Trust's 2004 Annual Report.

During the past year, the IPRT was at the forefront of campaigning on a broad range of prison, criminal justice and human rights issues. IPRT representatives were regularly featured in the media, providing critical commentary on a wider range of issues than ever before. We made submissions to Government, lobbied elected officials, organised a series of successful public events, launched an impressive new website, collaborated on a number of international projects and moved into new premises. Indeed, 2004 was a year in which the IPRT consistently punched above our weight. This is due in no small part to the dedication of our staff, our Board, our volunteers and our members. To all of you I offer thanks for a job well done.

Despite our many successes in 2004, funding was - and remains - the IPRT's key challenge. While the year saw an increase in total fundraising, and diversification of our sources of income, stable core funding remains elusive. It is no longer possible or wise for us to look to a single philanthropic body for core financial support, which means that IPRT funding remains a very hand-to-mouth affair. As a result, we have been forced to reduce staff for the present, and to reduce our activities

to a certain extent. The future sustainability and growth of the IPRT depends on our ability to attract a number of key major donors willing to make multi-year funding commitments. This objective will remain central to the efforts of the Board and the Executive Director in 2005.

Chairperson's Report 2004

by Edward Boyne

At the 2005 AGM, I will step down as Chair after serving two years in the position. I am pleased with our achievements during that time, and believe that the basis for our future growth has been firmly established.

It is essential that our organisation continue to grow in strength and influence. As stated by Mary Robinson last year when accepting the position of Honorary President of Penal Reform International, "Often voiceless and forgotten, prisoners

are among the most vulnerable groups in any society. Time and time again they are subjected to multiple abuses of their human rights and are provided with little or no means to seek redress."

Here in Ireland, prison as a response to crime is not working by any measure. The prison population is at an all time high, and the Government plans to increase it further. Prison is too often used as a first option - rather than a last resort - in our increasingly punitive society. Alternatives to prison are not being taken seriously despite the high cost of incarceration. The Probation service is neglected and overlooked by policy-makers. Ireland's high rate of recidivism shows that prison cannot be claimed to act as any sort of deterrent.

The need for the IPRT's campaigning presence has never been greater, and we must all work together to ensure that our voice for justice and human rights grows stronger with each year. Thank you to those who have supported our work in 2004. We look forward to your continued support in the years to come.

www.iprt.ie

"Ireland's most comprehensive internet resource on prisons, prisoners' rights and critical criminal justice"



IPRT

Irish Penal Reform Trust

CAMPAIGNS & PUBLIC EVENTS

IRELAND'S LEADING VOICE FOR PRISON REFORM

2004 confirmed the IPRT's status as Ireland's leading voice on prisoners' rights and prison reform. Whether promoting prisoner voting rights, sensible prison drugs policy, proper mental health care, and prison syringe exchange or opposing prison expansion, electronic tagging, mandatory drug testing, mandatory sentencing, and prison privatisation, the IPRT successfully brought our message to the media, elected officials and the public. We were pleased to see many opposition parties - and even one Government Junior Minister - publicly supporting our positions, adopting our recommendations, and raising our concerns in the Dáil.

PROMOTING YOUTH JUSTICE REFORM

The IPRT continued to work for youth justice reform through our involvement in the Irish Youth Justice Alliance. Founded in 2002, the Alliance is driven by collaboration between the IPRT, the Children's Rights Alliance, the Irish Council for Civil Liberties and the Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice. IPRT Board member Dr. Ursula Kilkelly was a prominent commentator on youth justice issues in the media throughout the year, and the Alliance made a formal submission to Department of Justice Project Team on the Irish Youth Justice System (available at www.iprt.ie/iprt/1105).



Dr. Jean Long and Dr. Joe Barry joined the IPRT and Merchant's Quay Ireland to launch "Prison Needle Exchange: Lessons from a Comprehensive Review of International Evidence and Experience"

PROMOTING HIV PREVENTION AND PRISON SYRINGE EXCHANGE

In November, the IPRT and Merchant's Quay Ireland hosted the European launch of a report on prison syringe exchange co-authored by IPRT Executive Director Rick Lines and published by the Canadian

HIV/AIDS Legal Network (available at www.iprt.ie/iprt/1052). Over 50 people attended the launch, which featured presentations by Dr. Jean Long of the Health Research Board and Dr. Joe Barry of Trinity College Dublin. The event was chaired by Merchant's Quay Director and IPRT Board member, Tony Geoghegan.

PROMOTING ALTERNATIVES TO PRISON

In September, the IPRT made formal submission the National Crime Council on the use of incarceration and the importance of finding alternative ways of dealing with offending (available at www.iprt.ie/iprt/997). Authored by IPRT Board members Claire Hamilton and Patricia Brazil, the submission examined the use of a range of non-custodial sentences/sanctions, restorative justice and juvenile justice reform.



Kim Pate, Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies, was a keynote speaker at the IPRT conference held at the Dóchas Centre for Women.

SISTERS INSIDE: WOMEN, PRISON AND HUMAN RIGHTS

In June, the IPRT organised a major conference on women and prison at the Dóchas Centre for Women. Speaking at the conference were Kim Pate, Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies and Ivana Bacik, Reid Professor of Law at Trinity College Dublin. The conference was opened by John Lonnergan, Governor of Mountjoy Prison. Over 100 people attended the conference, including over 30 women prisoners held in the Centre.

PROMOTING RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

The IPRT continued to support restorative justice initiatives in 2004. In May, we hosted a forum featuring Jim Consedine from New Zealand, who is known internationally for his work in the restorative justice movement. The IPRT also sat on the steering committee of an All-Ireland consultation project to identify opportunities for collaboration on restorative justice efforts.

PROMOTING PRISON DRUGS POLICY REFORM

In September, the IPRT made a formal submission to the Mid-term Review of the National Drugs Strategy (available online at www.iprt.ie/iprt/953). The submission outlined the failure of the current National Drugs Strategy to adequately address prisons, and made recommendations for change based upon international best practice and human rights and health standards. The IPRT's subcommittee on HIV/AIDS and drug policy organised an outreach campaign among community and voluntary groups that generated broad support for our submission.

LOBBYING IN THE DÁIL

In 2004, the IPRT was in regular contact with Government and Opposition TDs, and enjoyed good relationships with all opposition Justice Spokespeople, as well as with several Government TDs. We generated strong support for many IPRT initiatives among the opposition parties, which resulted in dozens of Parliamentary Questions being asked on issues related to our efforts and produced debate both in the legislature and in the Oireachtas Justice Committee on our concerns. Our thanks to the TDs who supported our work in 2004.



Baroness Vivian Stern, Secretary General of Penal Reform International, was the keynote speaker at the IPRT Annual Lecture.

VIVIAN STERN DELIVERS IPRT ANNUAL LECTURE

In April we were pleased to welcome Baroness Vivian Stern to Dublin to deliver the IPRT Annual Lecture. Baroness Stern is one of the best-known prison reform advocates in the world. A co-founder of Penal Reform International, she has served as the organisation's honorary Secretary General since 1989 and is currently Senior Research Fellow at the International Centre for Prison Studies, King's College London.

INTERNATIONAL WORK

IPRT ASSISTS UN IN DRAFTING GLOBAL STRATEGY ON HIV IN PRISONS

In December, IPRT Executive Director Rick Lines was invited by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to act as Team Leader in drafting a global strategy on HIV/AIDS for the UN. This draft strategy will be presented for feedback at an international delegates' meeting in Vienna in February 2005.



L to R: Anya Sarang (Central and Eastern European Harm Reduction Network); Rick Lines (Irish Penal Reform Trust); Arnaud Wasson-Simon (AIDS Action Europe)

DUBLIN DECLARATION ON HIV/AIDS IN PRISONS

In February, the IPRT initiated and coordinated the writing and launch of the Dublin Declaration on HIV/AIDS in Prisons in Europe and Central Asia (available at www.iprt.ie/iprt/1204). The Declaration outlines the rights of prisoners to HIV prevention and treatment services and was endorsed by over 90 non-governmental organisations and experts from over 20 countries. The Declaration was launched internationally during an inter-governmental conference on HIV/AIDS in Dublin, and now serves as an important tool for HIV and prisoners' rights advocates across the region.

INTERNATIONAL WATCH ON EDUCATION IN PRISONS

The IPRT is the Irish partner in International Watch on Education in Prisons, a UNESCO-affiliated initiative based in Brussels. In November, IPRT Board member Gearóid Ó Loingsigh completed and submitted a detailed survey of the current provision of prison educational programmes and services in Irish prisons that will be included in the 2005 report of International Watch.



IPRT Executive Director Rick Lines briefs Bulgarian prison health officials.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MISSIONS TO ROMANIA AND BULGARIA

In 2004, the IPRT acted as a Technical Assistance Advisor to the Ministries of Justice of the next EU accession countries Romania and Bulgaria. These missions were sponsored by UNICEF and the Canadian Public Health Association. IPRT Executive Director Rick Lines worked with officials from the Justice and Health ministries in each country to develop strategic work plans on HIV/AIDS in prisons.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

The IPRT was invited to speak at a number international conferences in 2004, in countries as diverse as England, Serbia and Tajikistan. Among the highlights were presentations before the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna in May (available at www.iprt.ie/iprt/85) and the World Health Organization's European Network on Health in Prisons in The Netherlands in October.

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

IPRT IN THE NEWS

The IPRT continued to be a major media presence in 2004, and during the year we were cited in almost 200 reports covering all major television, radio and print outlets and also in the regional media. The success of our communications and media strategy enabled the IPRT to promote our opinions widely, and in many cases to frame the debate on prison issues.

NEW WEBSITE AND NEW LOGO

In August, the IPRT launched our new website (www.iprt.ie) and unveiled our new organisational logo and design. Our website is Ireland's most comprehensive internet resource on prisons, prisoners' rights and critical criminal justice, and

contains an extensive searchable archive of materials. This has been an important tool in promoting our agenda, and in ensuring that information on penal reform is easily accessible to our members, journalists, students, elected officials and members of the public.



New IPRT logo

NEW OFFICE

After several years at Swanbrook House, the IPRT moved into new premises in December. Our new address is 53 Parnell Square West, Dublin 1.

FAREWELL TO PAULA SWORDS

In 2004, the IPRT bid a sad farewell to our Administrator, Paula Swords, who moved on to other opportunities. Our thanks to Paula for her dedication to the IPRT and her excellent work.

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

As a campaigning non-governmental organisation that receives no funding from Government, the IPRT's work would not be possible without the support of our members and our funders. We would like to gratefully acknowledge the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, the Allen Lane Foundation, the St. Stephen's Green Foundation, the Community Fund of Ireland, the Cork Street Fund, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, and the Irish Youth Foundation for their generous financial support in 2004.

Board of Directors

Edward Boyne (Chair)
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Executive Director:

Rick Lines