

## Bingham Centre Events

The Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law invites you to attend the following panel discussion:

### The Prisoners Left Behind: Imprisonment For Public Protection After Its Abolition

4 March 2014, 18:00-19:30, Parliament Chamber, Inner Temple  
1.5 CPD hours

#### Speakers

**Lord Lloyd of Berwick**, former Lord of Appeal in Ordinary

**Lord Faulks QC**, Minister of State

**Sir David Calvert-Smith**, Chairman of the Parole Board

**Juliet Lyon**, Director of the Prison Reform Trust

**Pete Weatherby QC**, barrister, Garden Court North Chambers

The meeting will be chaired by **Sir Sydney Kentridge QC**

#### Summary

Several rule of law issues are engaged as follows:

- More than 5,000 prisoners remain in indefinite detention under sentences of imprisonment imposed for public protection (IPP) between 2005 and 2012. More than half have exceeded their tariff and are waiting to come before the Parole Board.
- In the case of 773 prisoners the tariff was two years or less. But IPP was imposed because until 2008 the sentence was mandatory. 350 of these prisoners have exceeded their tariff by four years or more.
- Parliament abolished the IPP sentence in 2012. Ken Clarke, the Minister who introduced this amendment, said that IPPs were *'unclear, inconsistent and have been used far more than was ever intended... That is unjust to the people in question and completely inconsistent with the policy of punishment, reform and rehabilitation'*.
- In 2012 Parliament made specific provision for handling the backlog. The Justice Secretary was given power to vary the release test. But he has so far declined to exercise that power, even though at the current rate of release it will be nine years before the backlog is cleared.
- In several cases the ECtHR has found that the continued detention of IPP prisoners was arbitrary and in breach of their Convention rights. There are more cases in the pipeline.

Attendance is free of charge, but places are limited.

To register for this event, please email Stephen Hains: [s.hains@biicl.org](mailto:s.hains@biicl.org)



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