

JUSTICE PRESS RELEASE

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JUSTICE warns of dangers if Prisons Inspectorate lost

JUSTICE today warned that the safety of prisoners in our overcrowded jails could be compromised if proposals to merge the office of HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, due to be debated in the House of Lords today, become law.

The current system of inspection – internationally lauded as an example of good practice – is to be replaced by a combined inspectorate of justice, community safety and custody: it risks, however, losing some of its independence from government.

Sally Ireland, Senior Legal Officer (Criminal Justice) at JUSTICE, said:

‘Our chronically overcrowded prisons need proper inspection to help prevent avoidable deaths in custody and to help ensure that prisons are safe places.’

Chairman of Council Lord Alexander QC Director Roger Smith
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