**Use of Force Training Dispensation Update**

The following guidance updates HMPPS Governors, Directors of Privately Managed Prisons and those responsible for contracted service delivery, on dispensation arrangements and HMPPS expectations in relation to use of force (UoF).

Exceptionally, and in response to the outbreak of COVID 19, all UoF qualifications were provided dispensation from the requirement to complete refresher training, given to all staff who practice Use of Force.

In current response to the COVID 19 pandemic both National C&R training centres have resumed training and prioritised delivery on Use of Force Instructor and Use of Force Advanced revalidation to meet demand. We recognise that not all staff have been able to access courses within the 30 April 2022 deadline and there is a need to retain the skills and experience of staff.

**Instructors:**

* All Use of Force Instructors must complete a revalidation course by 30 April 2022 to continue to have accreditation to deliver training. Only staff within this category will be able to teach post 30 April 2022.
* Those who are unable to complete a revalidation course by 30 April 2022 will be provided an opportunity to attend a revalidation course but are not accredited to deliver after this date. If Use of Force Instructors are unable to revalidate by 30 April 2022 but wanting to remain an Instructor they will be provided a training window from 30 April 2022 - 31 October 2022 to attend a revalidation course. They will not be permitted to deliver UoF training during this period. Any Instructor who is not revalidated within this period will have to complete the initial Use of Force Instructor course.

**Operation Tornado eligibility**

* Advanced C&R trained staff must complete a refresher course by 30 April 2022 to remain eligible for Operation Tornado commitment.
* Those who are unable to attend by 30 April 2022 will not be able to participate in Operation Tornado duties after this date. Those staff who are unable to revalidate by 30 April 2022 but wanting to continue will be provided a training window from 30 April 2022 - 31 October 2022 to attend a refresher course. Staff will not be permitted to participate in Operation Tornado duties during this period and staff who did not complete Advanced refresher training within this period will have to complete an initial UoF Advanced course.

For further information on any information contained in this guidance please contact the UoF queries functional mailbox (UOFQueries@justice.gov.uk)