



“PAY NO BRIBE FOR BAIL” BRIEFING PAPER

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Acknowledgments

AdvocAid wishes to thank the Access to Justice and Security Programme for funding and supporting this policy report and Pay No Bribe for Bail campaign.

We are grateful to the Anti Corruption Commission for partnering with us in fighting corruption in the bail process. We thank the Sierra Leone Police, Judiciary and Legal Aid Board for their support and cooperative working relationships. Thanks to the civil society organisations that form the Pay No Bribe for Bail Coalition for their support. Special thanks to Joanna Howarth, Communications Consultant, for formatting this report and assistance to the campaign.

This report is dedicated to AdvocAid's staff who tirelessly work to create greater access to justice in Sierra Leone.

About AdvocAid

AdvocAid works with vulnerable girls and women caught up in Sierra Leone's legal system, which can often be unjust. Established in 2006, it is the only organisation in West Africa providing a holistic service that ensures women have access to their legal and human rights, and leave prison with brighter prospects.

Working in eight towns across Sierra Leone, AdvocAid ensures women and their children receive: access to justice via legal aid; are aware of their legal rights via educational outreach programmes; have access to education and economic empowerment programmes; receive the welfare support they need behind bars; and are prepared for release via a 'Moving Forward' programme. AdvocAid believes that a lot of what needs to change isn't the girls and women they support, but the system and society they're trapped within. They seek to change this in the long term through advocating for changes to the legal and welfare system, lobbying for amendments to laws, campaigning for social changes and holding Police Stations, Correctional Centres and Courts accountable to their actions.

In the nine years since it was founded, AdvocAid has successfully campaigned for and seen the introduction of: a commitment to abolish the death penalty and an official moratorium on executions; a new Legal Aid Act; a new Correctional Services Act and two separate detention facilities for women. Through our legal aid work, we have provided representation to over 2,300 women and secured the release of four women from death row.

Poverty and imprisonment frequently go hand-in-hand, both as the reason for women's offences and because women can rarely afford legal services, fines or bail. Alongside this, poor education means too many women don't know or understand their legal rights, resulting in admission to crimes they did not commit and no knowledge of their rights when arrested. Working in partnership with Ministers and Government departments, Correctional Centres, Police Stations, Courts, Civil Society Organisations, International Agencies and Grassroots organisations in Sierra Leone, AdvocAid aspires to achieve Education, Empowerment and Access to Justice for Women and Girls across Sierra Leone.

Corruption in the Bail Process

Background

During its nine years of delivering legal aid services in Sierra Leone, AdvocAid has become aware of many incidents where people are asked for a bribe when trying to access bail¹ at the police station or at court.

Inability to pay these bribes results in prolonged pre-trial detention, overcrowding in police and prison cells and human rights abuses. Government data provided to the International Centre for Prison Studies in 2014 show 57% of the prison population in Sierra Leone is awaiting trial, while a study by the Centre for the Study of African Economies in 2009 found that 66.4% of all prisoners were awaiting trial.²

Corruption in the bail process is a direct result of endemic corruption in the justice sector, lack of reporting of corrupt practices and a need for effective enforcement mechanisms against corrupt practices. It is also exacerbated by minimal understanding among the majority of the population about the bail process which creates a situation in which rights can be abused.

Endemic Corruption in Sierra Leone

Corruption is an endemic and widespread problem in Sierra Leone. In 2014, the West African country scored 31 on Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (0 being very corrupt and 100 very clean) and in the same year ranked 119 out of 175 in a survey that measures the perceived levels of public sector corruption worldwide.³ In 2013, Sierra Leone had the highest number of respondents admitting to having paid a bribe (84%) as recorded by Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer.⁴

Corruption negatively impacts on the justice system, and the lives of the most poor and vulnerable that come into contact with the justice system. The Sierra Leone Anti-Corruption Commission's National Corruption Survey in 2013 found that the police were perceived as the most corrupt institution.⁵ The judiciary came in second as the most perceived corrupt institution. 96% of Sierra Leoneans felt that corruption was still high and 60% felt that it had got worse over the past two years.⁶

Lack of Understanding of Bail

"I've learnt today that bail is free. My Aunty had a case at Congo Cross Police Station and had to pay Le 200,000 to bail her child."

Text from a viewer of AdvocAid's Police Case TV drama⁷ (2012)

¹ Bail is a written promise, known as a bail undertaking, that you will come to a certain court at a particular time and date and abide by any conditions included in the undertaking. Bail may be set by the police or the court. Once you are in court for a particular charge, only the court can set bail for you in relation to that charge. The court can change or remove bail set by the police in relation to that charge. The court may not require you to enter into a bail undertaking in every case. This will depend on the seriousness of the offence and the circumstances of your case.

² Open Society Foundations, Innovative Efforts, Proven Results: How Timap for Justice provides legal aid in Sierra Leone, available at <https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/sites/default/files/pretrial-justice-brochure-sierraleone-20150316.pdf>

³ Transparency International, *Corruption Perceptions Index*, available at <http://www.transparency.org/cpi2014/results> (accessed 19 September 2015)

⁴ BBC, *Which Country Pays the Most Bribes*, 9 July 2013, available at <http://www.bbc.com/news/business-23231318> (accessed 19 September 2015)

⁵ This was the same finding as in 2011 when the survey was previously conducted.

⁶ Africa Review, *Sierra Leone Police Retain the Most Corrupt Tag*, 20 July 2014 available at <http://www.africareview.com/News/Sierra-Leone-police-retain-most-corrupt-tag/-/979180/2391092/-/ixibin/-/index.html>

⁷ Police Case is a legal education TV drama produced by AdvocAid. For more information, visit AdvocAid's website or the Police Case Facebook page – www.facebook.com/policecasesierraleone

Bail is a complex process. A large number of people who encounter the justice system are poor and illiterate and police or court officials often prey on this lack of understanding to extort bribes for bail under the guise that there is a “fee” for bail or the bail process. In our experience, even many educated people are not clear about the bail process. For example:

During interviews for legal externships at AdvocAid in 2011, several law students at Fourah Bay College thought that there was a standard “fee” charged by the police to access police bail. They were surprised to learn that this is not the case and that these “fees” are actually bribes.

Sierra Leone has a two-tiered bail system where bail can be granted at the police station and court. When suspects who were released on police bail appear at court, the police bail is automatically revoked, but court bail is not automatically granted. This becomes a problem when a court does not sit or does not get to the cases of such detainees in the course of the day and contributes to the problem of pre-trial detention.⁸ It also opens accused persons to corruption at both the police station and the court.

At the police station, police officers can grant police bail - this is where a suspect is allowed to be free from detention but some conditions are applied, for example report to the police station on a regular basis, do not interfere with witnesses etc.⁹

Bail can also be granted at the Magistrate or High Court¹⁰. Conditions will also generally be applied, such as having a surety¹¹ who is a respectful member of society or who owns property. However, the court has discretion to grant bail without sureties.¹²

According to the Bail Policy of Sierra Leone 2009¹³, only persons held on serious offences must actually provide a cash deposit to secure bail¹⁴. In the remainder of cases it is the sureties who, should the accused person fail to appear in court, must pay the bail bond amount; a cash deposit is not required. This is referred to as a “bail bond” or “recognisance” or “pledge”.¹⁵ This is a promise by the surety to pay this amount if the person granted bail does not come to court or meet their bail conditions. The surety will have to show (through property title deeds or the job they hold) that they are in a position to pay this monetary promise. In practice, Sierra Leone’s justice system rarely requires an accused or surety to pay

⁸ Open Society Foundations, *Innovative Efforts, Proven Results: How Timap for Justice provides legal aid in Sierra Leone*, available at <https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/sites/default/files/pretrial-justice-brochure-sierraleone-20150316.pdf>

⁹ See further, Criminal Procedure Act 1965, section 80

¹⁰ See further Criminal Procedure Act 1965, section 79. A person charged with murder or treason can only be granted bail by the High Court (section 79 (1)).

¹¹ A ‘surety’ is a person who agrees in writing to pay a specific amount of money or to face a penalty if the accused (the person charged) fails to comply with their bail undertaking to appear in court. The agreement in writing is called a surety undertaking. It may be a condition of an accused person's bail that they have someone sign a surety undertaking for them before they are released from detention whilst their trial is on going. The court may set various requirements about who the surety should be i.e. a property owner, a professional person etc.

¹² See further Criminal Procedure Act 1965, section 79(7)

¹³ The Bail Policy for the Judiciary of Sierra Leone was adopted in 2009 following recommendations by a Bail Committee formed of members of the judiciary and judicial staff.

¹⁴ See further the interesting analysis by lawyer Sonkita Conteh in the GAVI trial where he argues that the vague basis for determining bail conditions provides a perception of “unfettered discretion” by the judiciary. He also argues that the rare decision by the court in this case to request a cash deposit to secure bail is not provided for in the Criminal Procedure Act 1965 and the provision in the Bail Policy 2009 stipulating cash deposits is legally questionable. Sonkita Conteh, *Bail in Sierra Leone's Courts: Through the lens of the GAVI trials*, 21 June 2013 available at <http://www.sierraexpressmedia.com/?p=58152>

¹⁵ Timap for Justice, Prison Watch Sierra Leone & UNDP, *The Socioeconomic Impact of Pre-Trial Detention in Sierra Leone*, Pg 41 available at: http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/Democratic%20Governance/Access%20to%20Justice%20and%20Rule%20of%20Law/The%20Socioeconomic%20Impact%20of%20Pretrial%20Detention%20in%20Sierra%20Leone_2013_EN.pdf

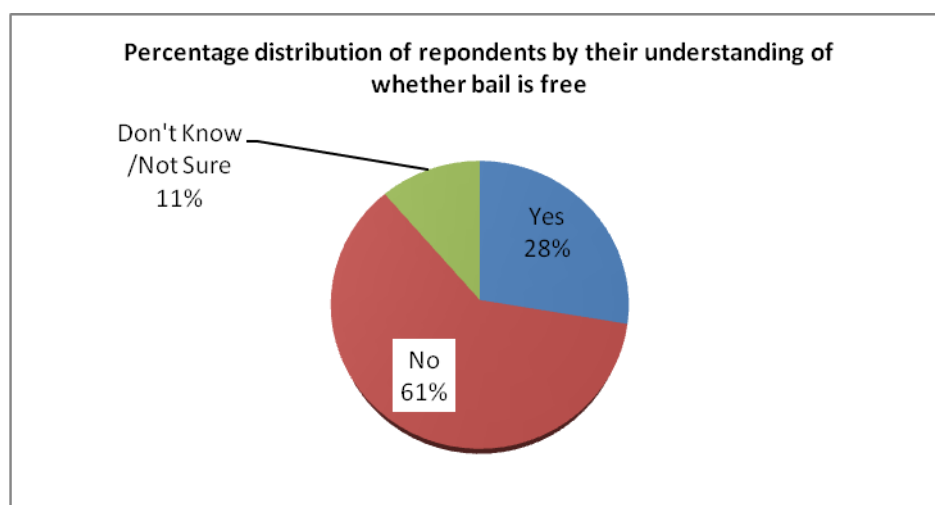
money into court as a guarantee, unlike a few criminal justice systems, such the USA. Even in systems where a cash deposit is required, this is to be returned if the accused attends all the court hearings and/ or meets their bail conditions.

There is no “fee” for the bail process itself i.e. to sign for police bail or register a bail bond at the court.

Unfortunately in Sierra Leone, police officers or court officials often use this lack of understanding within a complex process, to insist there is a fee for bail. For example, “You know the bail fee in court is much higher. If you pay at the police station, it is cheaper.” Or “You heard the Magistrate say that bail is granted in the sum of Le 400,000? Well, I will give you a discounted rate of Le 150,000.” Sometimes, bribes are asked for outright. Other times, money is asked for to “help” the process. “If you want your family member to be free, you need to pay Le 50,000 to cover paper and stationery.”¹⁶

In a survey conducted by the Centre for Accountability and Rule of Law (CARL)¹⁷ in December 2014, respondents were asked about their understanding about whether or not bail was free - 11% said they are not sure, while 61% said no. Only 28% of respondents actually understood bail to be free. The knowledge of bail being free was noted to be low amongst women who took part in the survey.¹⁸

Figure 1: From CARL July 2015 report, titled: *Human Rights and Accountability Mechanisms in the Sierra Leone Police*



Paying for Bail

CARL’s survey asked “Are people asked to pay for bail” in order to gauge people’s perception about the police.

¹⁶ These examples are taken from information provided by AdvocAid by clients who have encountered corruption in the bail process

¹⁷ An independent, not-for-profit organization that promotes a just society for all persons in Sierra Leone

¹⁸ Centre for Accountability and Rule of Law (CARL), *Human Rights and Accountability Mechanisms in the Sierra Leone Police*, July 2015 available at <http://www.carl-sl.org/home/reports/726-carl>

Table 1: From CARL July 2015 report, titled: *Human Rights and Accountability Mechanisms in the Sierra Leone Police*

Indicators	Are people asked to pay for bail? (Frequency and % of respondents within Gender & Occupations)											Responses	% TOTAL
	Motor drivers		Bike riders		Petty traders		Lawyers		Journalists				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
Yes	32 19.9%	x	77 47.8%	x	23 14.3%	39 83%	12 7.5%	1 2.1%	17 10.6%	7 14.9%	208	78.79%	
No	2 22.2%	x	4 44.4%	x	0	1 100%	3 33.3%	0	0	0	10	3.79%	
Don't know/ Not sure	18 60%	x	10 33.3%	x	2 6.7%	14 87.5%	0	0	0	2 12.5%	46	17.42%	
Total Respondents	52		91		79		16		26		264	100%	

Among the respondents, 78.79% said people are asked to pay for bail, while 3.79 % said no and 17.42% said they did not know if that is the case; i.e. whether people are asked to pay for bail.

CARL's survey also asked people if it is true that people paid for bail in order to gage knowledge as well as perception.

Table 2: From CARL July 2015 report, titled: *Human Rights and Accountability Mechanisms in the Sierra Leone Police*

Indicators	True, are people asked to pay for bail by the Police? (Frequency and % of respondents within Gender & Occupations)											Responses	% TOTAL
	Motor drivers		Bike riders		Petty traders		Lawyers		Journalists				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
Yes	32 19.9%	x	77 47.8%	x	23 14.3%	39 83%	12 7.5%	1 2.1%	17 10.6%	7 14.9%	208	78.79%	
No	2 22.2%	x	4 44.4%	x	0	1 100%	3 33.3%	0	0	0	10	3.79%	
Don't know/ Not sure	18 60%	x	10 33.3%	x	2 6.7%	14 87.5%	0	0	0	2 12.5%	46	17.42%	
Total Respondents	52		91		79		16		26		264	100%	

78.79% of the respondents said yes (people are asked to pay for bail by the police), 3.79% said no, while 17.42% said they did not know.

Research was conducted by Sierra Leone based organisations TIMAP and Prison Watch in 2011, focusing on the socioeconomic impact of pre-trial detention. They found a major obstacle for detainees was being able to meet the stiff bail conditions:

“Some 18% of detainees said that they were granted release on bail by the courts but they had not been able to comply with the conditions. Common conditions of bail include requirements to produce two sureties who are resident in the same city as the court and who are homeowners, and to produce title deeds as evidence of home ownership. Given that the vast majority of detainees themselves do not own land, they are unlikely to have family or friends who own land who would be able to stand surety.

“The average bail amount set for detainees in custody is 25 times the average weekly earnings of detainees. In other words, the average bail amount of detainees unable to make bail was equivalent to just more than six months’ of the average earnings of detainees...”¹⁹

The report continues to cover information on bribes, finding that bribes were most likely demanded at police level, and that these bribes were “more affordable” than bail.

“Some 13% said they had been asked for a bribe, and 90% of these cases involved the police asking for the bribe ... The average bribe amount actually asked is equivalent to four times the average weekly earnings of detainees, while the average bail amount is 25 times weekly earnings. This suggests that bribe amounts are “more affordable” than bail amounts.”²⁰

In 2014, AdvocAid conducted an informal survey in its areas of operation. We asked people what was the bribe amount that they had to pay for bail. The amount ranged from Le 40,000 to Le 50,000 at the police station (\$9 to \$11 USD) and between Le 150,000 and Le 200,000 at the court (\$34 to \$46 USD).

Therefore a situation of endemic corruption, lack of knowledge of the legal process and stringent bail conditions, results in bribes for bail being the norm in Sierra Leone. This practice has a significant impact on the most disadvantaged in society, those who have low incomes and limited education, and contributes to high pre-trial detention and prison overcrowding. As an AfriMap study found:

“The presence of illegal payments for police bail...often allow the powerful or well-connected to escape prison sentences much more often than the poor or marginalised.”²¹

Case Studies

AdvocAid’s day-to-day operations across Sierra Leone provide ample insight into corruption in the bail process. The following case studies have been collected from AdvocAid’s Paralegals, Legal Officer and Duty Lawyers, and demonstrate AdvocAid’s role in enforcing justice within the legal system.

In 2012, AdvocAid put up their “bail is free” legal education posters at a court in the provinces. A court staff member told us we were preventing them obtaining extra money as people would now know that they did not have to pay a fee for bail.

¹⁹ *The Socioeconomic Impact of Pre-trial Detention in Sierra Leone*, UNDP & Open Society Foundation, 2011 P.40-42

²⁰ Ibid

²¹ AfriMap and Open Society Justice Initiative, *Sierra Leone – Justice Sector and the Rule of Law*, 2014 available at: www.afri-map.org/english/images/report/Sierra%20Leone%20Justice%20Web.pdf

In 2012, AdvocAid's Freetown paralegal was monitoring the case of a woman who had been charged to Court. She was detained in Freetown Female Prison but had been granted bail at the Magistrate's Court.

Our paralegal called the surety so that they could come to court and complete the bail process. The surety informed our paralegal that a police officer at the Police Lock Up at the Law Courts had informed him that he must give her Le 150,000 before bail could be processed.

Our paralegal informed him that this is not the case and there is no cost to process bail. The police officer told our paralegal to go back to her office and she would make sure bail is sorted out. Our paralegal refused and said it was her job to make sure clients are assisted throughout the bail process.

Later on that day, three police officers threatened our paralegal. They said she was "pulling bread from their mouths" and that if she continued interfering in the bail process they would "stop her". She was threatened that "If she interferes in more bail cases then she will lose her life."

Our paralegal was visibly pregnant at the time.

She reported the matter to AdvocAid and we subsequently filed a complaint to the Complaints and Investigations Division of the Sierra Leone Police.

Our paralegal bravely insisted she would continue working and would continue going to the Law Courts. The police officers were eventually transferred but we are not aware that any further disciplinary action was taken against them.

In 2010 a mother tried to stand as surety for her daughter but was incorrectly told by police officers she would have to pay around \$10, which she could not afford. Her sons then made a second attempt and were incorrectly told by a prison officer that they would have to pay transport money for the prison officer to take his sister to court, money for the production order and money for the bail bond, totalling around \$17. It required intervention by an AdvocAid lawyer before the woman was granted bail without cost.

In 2011, a client's family member was asked for a bribe at a police station. He pointed to an AdvocAid Legal Education poster (endorsed by Inspector General Munu) stating "bail is free" which resulted in him not having to pay a bribe.

AdvocAid's paralegal supporting the case had to intervene in this instance, reinforcing to the Police that they had to respect the detainee's rights.

Legal Obligations

The **Anti-Corruption Act 2008** creates various offences relating to corruption and various penalties for corruption. Of note is the offence of abuse of office. Any public official, which would include police officers and court officials²², who uses his office to improperly confer an advantage on himself or any other person commits an offence and, if found guilty, can be fined not less than 30 million Leones or receive a prison sentence of not less than 3 years.²³

The **Police Disciplinary Regulations 2001** also provide for an offence of corrupt or improper practice, which is committed by a police officer:

- a) *“Improperly using or attempting to use his position as a member of the Force for his private advantage.*
- b) *Accepting directly or indirectly any gratuity, gift subscription or testimonial without the knowledge and permission of the superior police officer under whom he is serving or receiving any bribe...*
- f) *Improperly using or attempting to use his position as a member of the force for his private advantage.”²⁴*

Sierra Leone’s Constitution’s and **international human rights obligations**, such as the **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**, provide for various rights, such as the right against inhuman or degrading treatment, the right to liberty and security of the person and the right to a fair trial. Corruption in the bail process and its main consequence, excessive pre-trial detention, violate these and many other rights.²⁵

Sierra Leone is also a party to the **Africa Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption**.²⁶

²² Anti-Corruption Act 2008, section 1 available at <http://www.sierra-leone.org/Laws/2008-12.pdf>

²³ Anti-Corruption Act 2008 section 42. See also section 43 (abuse of position), section 44 (public officer using his office for advantage) and section 26 (corrupt acquisition of wealth)

²⁴ The (Police) Disciplinary Regulations 2001, Second Schedule, 2001, paragraph 9(31) available at <http://www.sierra-leone.org/Laws/2001-PDR.pdf>. See also paragraph 9(17) - *Failure to attend to any reasonable request made to him by any member of the public or lack in civility to any member of the public.*

²⁵ Constitution of Sierra Leone, 1991 available at <http://www.sierra-leone.org/Laws/constitution1991.pdf>. See in particular, articles 17, 20 and 23. Further, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, (ratified on 23 August 1996) available at <http://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/ccpr.aspx>. See in particular articles 7, 9 and 14.

²⁶ Africa Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption available at <http://www.au.int/en/content/african-union-convention-preventing-and-combating-corruption> (ratified 3 December 2008)

The “Pay No Bribe for Bail” Campaign and Coalition

In order to respond to some of these issues, AdvocAid is launching a “Pay No Bribe for Bail” Legal Education Campaign in partnership with the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC). This is supported by the Sierra Leone Police and the “Pay No Bribe for Bail” Civil Society Coalition.

The objectives of the campaign are to:

- Explain what bail is
- Make it clear that no “fee”/ bribe should be paid to the police or court officials in order to process bail
- Provide the ACC hotline number so people can report police stations and courts where they are asked for bribes for bail
- Provide the public with information about where to seek advice if they encounter corruption in the bail process
- Contribute to reducing corruption in the bail process

This campaign involves:

- Radio Infomercials – aired on radio stations nationwide
- Television Infomercial – aired on Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation, Star TV, AYW TV and Sign Africa
- Posters – to be displayed at police stations, courts and other public venues
- Media Campaign
- Social Media Campaign (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Whatsapp)
- Distributing Wrist Bands with the “Pay No Bribe For Bail” message
- Launch and stakeholder discussion

We are grateful for the initial funding from the Access to Justice and Security Programme to launch this campaign and hope to obtain more funding to expand and increase the outreach.

To access any of the campaign materials, please contact AdvocAid on: advocaid@gmail.com or +232 (0)33 572 526.

The “Pay No Bribe for Bail” Civil Society Coalition is a group of organisations that have provided input to the Campaign design and/or are actively involved in delivering the legal education messages. We are grateful for their support. They include:

- Centre for Accountability and Rule of Law
- Namati
- Prison Watch
- Timap for Justice
- Sierra Leone Bar Association
- Defence for Children
- Campaign for Good Governance
- Society for Democratic Initiatives
- Network Movement for Justice and Development
- Access to Justice Makeni
- Sierra Leone Association of Journalists
- U Report

If your organisation is interested in being part of this coalition, please contact AdvocAid on the details above. We are keen to engage as many organisations as possible in this campaign.

Suggested Areas for Further Research

This short briefing paper outlines the issues of corruption in the bail process but there are many areas of further research needed into the wider bail process. In particular further research is recommended to:

1. Collect data on: (a) bail decisions, including the factors relied upon by the trial court; and (b) decisions by appellate courts affirming or overturning the trial court's decision.
2. Collect data on the number of police bail applications granted and various conditions imposed.
3. Further research is needed taking into account gender perspectives and how the bail process impacts women i.e. as both accused and sureties.

Recommendations

AdvocAid's recommendations on how to proceed with combating corruption within the bail process in Sierra Leone:

To the Government of Sierra Leone

1. Provide greater support to the ACC, Independent Police Complaints Board, Human Rights Commission and Ombudsman to combat corruption and hold public officers to account for corruption in the justice sector.
2. Amend the Criminal Procedure Act 1965 to clearly detail how bail operates, including:
 - a. Guidelines setting forth the factors that police officers must—and may not—consider when determining police bail conditions;
 - b. Require the Magistrate or Judge to explain, when delivering a bail decision, that no “fee” needs to be paid to the Court Registrar or Court Staff to process bail and to explain who to report to if bribes are requested.
 - c. Bail should only be refused in cases involving the most serious crimes and clear criteria should be drafted to govern refusal decisions;
 - d. Guidelines setting forth the factors that Magistrates and Judges must—and may not—consider when determining bail conditions;
 - e. Guidelines concerning use of bail bonds and monetary bail. This should be used as a last resort, with other bail conditions (such as reporting requirements) used instead where possible. Where bail bonds are used, the amount should be proportionate to an accused person's income and within his or her means;
 - f. Specify guidelines on use of self-bail and that it should be granted for minor offences;
 - g. Allow the accused person to present testimony from family, friends, and others who can testify concerning matters such as flight risk, threat to public safety, and the impact that excessively high bail will have upon family members and friends;
 - h. Require the Magistrate or Judge to provide the reasons justifying the bail conditions set or the denial of bail entirely;
3. Provide the accused person with legal and other support (e.g. paralegal assistance, interpreter etc.) so they have assistance at the police station and can participate meaningfully in the bail hearing at court.
4. Ensure gender perspectives are taken into account by involving women's rights organization's (particularly with specialism on women impacted by the criminal justice system) in all policy developments and monitoring of the bail process.

5. Sponsor legal education programmes which educate the public about their legal rights, in particular not having to pay a bribe to access bail. Currently NGOs are left to source independent funds to support these legal education programmes.

To the Judiciary

1. Implement an anti-corruption strategy based on input from civil society, and make that strategy public.
2. Issue clear guidelines to all court officials that no bribes will be tolerated in bail matters and make clear the strict disciplinary measures to be taken.
3. Institute transparent investigations and take necessary disciplinary measures, including referring cases for prosecution, of court officials who engage in extortion, threats and other illegal acts, or who prevent members of the public from bringing complaints of court officials' misbehavior.
4. Court officials subject to investigations should be suspended, pending findings
5. Make public the number of complaints received annually, the number of complaints deemed to be valid, the number of investigations undertaken, and the results of those investigations.
6. Endorse and support legal education materials by civil society organisation's to be displayed at all courts.
7. Support the Legal Aid Board and Civil Society Organisations in delivering legal aid to accused persons, in particular advice and representation for bail matters.

To the Police

1. Implement an anti-corruption strategy based on input from civil society, and make that strategy public.
2. Hold senior police officers responsible for the foreseeable or repeated misbehavior of the officers under their command.
3. Issue clear guidelines to all police officers that no bribes will be tolerated in bail matters and make clear the strict disciplinary measures to be taken.
4. Initiate transparent investigations and take necessary disciplinary measures, including referring cases for prosecution, of police officers who engage in extortion, threats and other illegal acts, or who prevent members of the public from bringing complaints of police misbehavior.
5. Officers subject to investigations should be suspended, pending findings
6. The Complaint Discipline and Internal Investigations Department (CDIID) should make public the number of complaints it receives annually, the number of complaints it deems to be valid, the number of investigations that it undertakes, and the results of those investigations.
7. Conduct trainings with the CDIID to make sure it professionally responds to all complaints and can resist efforts to interfere in its disciplinary processes.
8. Endorse and support legal education materials by NGOs to be displayed at all courts.
9. Support the Legal Aid Board and Civil Society Organisations in delivering legal aid to accused persons, in particular advice and representation for bail matters.

To the Media

1. Work with Civil Society Organisations to provide legal education information to the public at no or low cost.
2. Investigate and report on issues regarding corruption in the justice system.

To Donors and International Development Partners

1. Provide greater support to the ACC, Independent Police Complaint Board, Human Rights Commission and Ombudsman to combat corruption and hold public officers to account for corruption in the justice sector.
2. Ensure gender perspectives are taken into account by involving women's rights organisations (particularly with specialism on women impacted by the criminal justice system) in all policy developments and monitoring of the bail process.
3. Provide support for legal education programmes which educate the public about their legal rights, in particular not having to pay a bribe to access bail.
4. Provide support for legal aid initiatives, particularly to organisations with a proven track record of successfully providing legal aid.