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13 March 2007

Dear Mike

PAY FOR GROUPS COVERED BY THE PAY NEGOTIATING COUNCIL (PNC) FOR 2007/8

Following the Secretary of State's announcement that the Government has agreed to accept the recommendations of the Nursing and other Health Professions Review Body, we are authorised to write to you setting out our proposals for the pay uplift for the staff groups on Agenda for Change contracts that fall within the remit of the PNC.

This letter also represents the view of the health department in Wales.

The Government has decided that the review body's recommended increase to the Agenda for Change pay scales of 2.5% should be staged. Therefore, in order to preserve the integrity of the pay spines and to ensure the principle of equal pay for equal value, we propose that there be:-

- a 1.5% uplift on all pay points from 1st April 2007 with the remainder of the uplift being paid from 1st November 2007; and
- a 1.5% uplift in the minimum and maximum of the High Cost Area (HCA) Supplements for Inner London, Outer London and the Fringe from 1st April 2007 with the remainder of the uplift being paid from 1st November 2007.
- The allowances paid under the interim unsocial hours regime (Section 2 paragraph 2.6) to ancillary staff undertaking rotary or alternating shifts will also be increased in line with the general pay award.

This offer is in line with the pay award that has been announced by the Government in relation to the staff groups covered by the pay review body.

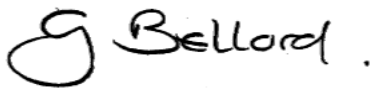
We propose that national recruitment and retention payments where in payment will be uplifted in line with the increases in basic pay. This is, however, without prejudice to the outcome of the national partnership review of these payments.

We are keen to implement this award as soon as possible to ensure that all staff covered by the Agenda for Change agreement are able to benefit as soon as is practical. As you know we are unable to issue a pay circular to employers for the Agenda for Change groups until the PNC round has been concluded.

We understand that the Staff Side organisations will need to consult with their constituent groups and hope that this letter provides you with the information that will enable you to do so. We are not convinced that a plenary meeting of the PNC is necessary at this stage.

It would be helpful to have some indication as to when the Staff Side might in a position to respond.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G Bellord". The letter "G" is large and stylized, followed by "Bellord" in a cursive script.

On behalf of

JOE BRAYFORD
Chair, Employer's Side of the
Pay Negotiating Council

Copy: Gill Bellord NHS Employers
Colin McGowan Scottish Executive
Ian Stead NAW
David Bingham Northern Ireland