

**HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTORATE
PAY AND EMPLOYMENT UNIT**

Chief Executives of HSC Bodies¹;

For information:

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Your Reference: **HSC (JNF) (4) 2011**

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Dear Colleagues

**AGENDA FOR CHANGE: EXTENSION OF PROTECTION FOR EXISTING ON
CALL ARRANGEMENTS FROM 1 APRIL 2011**

1. This Circular should be read in conjunction with Circular HSC (AfC) (5) 2010, issued on 5 November 2010. The content of this Circular has been agreed with locally recognised trade unions.
2. The current national pay protection arrangements in respect of on-call will cease with effect from 31 March 2011; this is in accordance with paragraph 2.33 of the NHS terms and conditions handbook. The NHS Staff Council has agreed that after that date the arrangements for staff providing on-call cover must be agreed locally in partnership.
3. In Northern Ireland the Regional Joint Negotiating Forum has set up a sub-group to develop new on-call arrangements for the HSC. This work is being undertaken in partnership and continues to make steady progress. In order to allow time to reach agreement on a proposal for consultation with staff the Regional Joint Negotiating Forum has agreed that current protection of the existing on-call arrangements will be extended to 30 June 2011.

¹ The Health and Social Care Board, HSC Trusts, the Public Health Agency, the Business Services Organisation, the Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service Agency, the Northern Ireland Guardian ad Litem Agency, the Northern Ireland Practice & Education Council for Nursing, Midwifery & Health Visiting (NIPEC), the Northern Ireland Social Care Council (NISCC), the Patient & Client Council, the Northern Ireland Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority and the Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency (NIMDTA)

Action

4. HSC employers should ensure that staff on Agenda for Change terms and conditions of service who provide on-call cover continue to receive payments in line with their existing arrangements.

Enquiries

5. Enquires about the contents of this Circular should be directed to the Pay and Employment Unit of the Human Resources Directorate, Room D1, Castle Buildings, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3SJ, telephone 028 90522832, email; p&e@dhsspsni.gov.uk.
6. Employees should direct personal enquiries to their employer or their trade union.

Further Copies

7. Copies of this Circular can be obtained from the Department's website at www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/publications. A copy of the NHS Terms and Conditions of Service Handbook can be downloaded from the NHS Employers website at:
http://www.nhsemployers.org/sitecollectionDocuments/afc_service_handbook_aw_010708.pdf.

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