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5 September, 2001

Regional Chief Executive
Eastern Regional Health Authority

Chief Executive Officer
Each Health Board

Secretary/Manager
Each Public Voluntary
and Joint Hospital Board
outside the E.R.H.A. region

Chief Officer
Each Mental Handicap and Specialist Agency
outside the E.R.H.A. region



DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH AND
CHILDREN
AN ROINN
SLÁINTE AGUS LEANAÍ

Shaping a
Healthier Future

Revision of Remuneration Under the Programme for Prosperity and Fairness

A Chara,

I am directed by the Minister for Health and Children to refer to the Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Employment between the Irish Congress of Trade Unions and Employers Organisations which forms part of the Programme for Prosperity and Fairness.

The Minister now conveys approval for the implementation of a 5.5% increase with effect from 1 October, 2001 to all grades.

Full details of the revised pay scales in both £IR and Euros are provided in the Consolidated Salary Scales booklet which is either enclosed or has been sent to your agency via e-mail. Please note that only *one* copy of this booklet will be sent to each agency. Please read the "Introduction" section of the booklet for instructions regarding this booklet.

The Minister wishes to remind you that the Programme for Prosperity and Fairness (Framework I, Annex I) states that:

"This Agreement:

- provides that no cost-increasing claims by trade unions or employees for improvements in pay or conditions of employment, other than those provided in Clauses 3 & 5, will be made or processed during the currency of the Agreement;*
- commits employers, trade unions and employees to promoting industrial harmony; and*
- precludes strikes or other forms of industrial action by trade unions, employees or employers in respect of any matters covered by this Agreement, where the employer or trade union concerned is acting in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.*



Where the parties cannot reach agreement through negotiations on any matter covered by this Agreement, they shall jointly refer the matter to the LRC/Labour Court or, where appropriate, to other agreed machinery. Where a dispute arises as to what constitutes a breach of the Agreement, that will be referred to the Labour Court and the parties shall agree to comply with its findings."

Consequently, no offers or commitments whatever should be made at any stage with regard to special increases, or for improvements or in conditions of employment of any grade, group or individual, without prior consultation with the Health Service Employers Agency.

Your 2001 allocation will be adjusted to take account of the cost of this increase from 1 October 2001.

Any queries in relation to this circular should be addressed to the Personnel Management and Development Unit, as detailed in the Consolidated Salary Scales booklet.



Frank Ahern
Director
Personnel Management and Development Unit