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Your ref:  
Our ref:

15 September 2006

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Dear Colleague

1. NHS (SUPERANNUATION (SCOTLAND) SCHEME and COMPENSATION FOR PREMATURE RETIREMENT) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS 2006

I attach a draft set of amending regulations that take account of changes to the NHS Superannuation (Scotland) Scheme and the NHS Compensation for Premature Retirement Scheme and that are due to come into force on 2 December 2006.

The main purpose of the amending regulations is to implement in Scotland the proposed new provisions recommended jointly by NHS Employers (on behalf of the DH, Welsh Assembly and the Scottish Executive) and the NHS Trade Unions following their review of compensation arrangements in the NHS. As England and Wales, and Northern Ireland have their own legislatures, they will be preparing their own amending Regulations. The review forms part of the wider review of NHS Superannuation (Scotland) Scheme provisions and also takes account of the Age Discrimination aspects of the Equal Treatment Directive. The full consultation document is available on the NHS Employers website at <http://www.nhsemployers.org/pay-conditions/pay-conditions-505.cfm>

The draft regulations may be subject to change in the light of comments flowing from the NHS Employer consultation exercise which ended on Monday 11 September 2006 and also subject to final agreement by Scottish Ministers and HMT.

On this occasion, taking into account the wider consultation exercise already underway, we require comments on the draft regulations within four weeks please, by 12 October 2006. To assist with this, Annex A contains an expanded commentary on the proposed amendments.

Unless we are specifically asked to treat a response as confidential we may wish to publish in due course, responses to this consultation.

Yours sincerely

Mary Amos

Addressees

Chief Executives NHS Boards  
Scottish Partnership Forum  
SPensiR  
SPPA Technical Working Group  
BMA  
NHS Staff Council  
BDA  
AEEU  
CSEU  
UCATT  
UNISON  
MSF \_ Amicus  
Royal College of Nursing  
Royal College of Midwives  
Scottish Division Royal College of Psychiatrists  
Scottish General Practitioners Committee  
Institute of Health Service Management  
Scottish Practice Nurse Association  
HD – Directorate of Primary Care  
HD – Directorate of Human Resources  
Home Office, Police and Firemen’s Pension Schemes  
DHSSPS, Northern Ireland  
NHS Pensions Agency  
DOH  
DfES  
ODPM and DfT  
Women’s National Committee  
HM Treasury  
Savings, Pensions, Share Schemes Inland Revenue  
SE – Finance  
OSSE  
SPPA