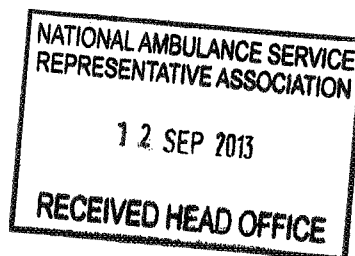


Our Ref: 12/0188/PER

1 \ September 2013

Michael Dixon  
Chairman  
National Ambulance Service Representative Association  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Station House,  
The Waterways  
Sallins  
Co. Kildare



Dear Mr. Dixon,

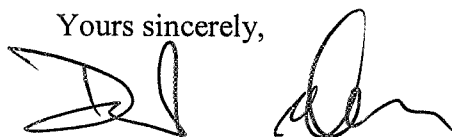
The Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Mr Brendan Howlin, TD, has asked me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29 August 2013 regarding the operation of the provision for one hour overtime free under the Haddington Road Agreement by 39 Hour staff.

The context of this provision was the proposal to secure extra hours working from all public service staff to contribute to the continued provision of necessary public services to the public to the maximum extent possible in a period of severely constrained resources when demand for those services have never been higher. I understand that during the prolonged negotiations leading to the Haddington Road Agreement, the Union negotiators on behalf of their members forcefully made the point that those employees, including your members, who already worked a 39 hour week should not be required contribute additional hours when many fellow public servants were only being brought to that level under the Haddington Road Agreement. They were ultimately successful in what were difficult negotiations but given all public servants were required to make a contribution to reduced costs the agreed temporary contribution was reached at one hour overtime free until 31 March 2014 only.

The measure is implemented based on the first hour overtime (irrespective of the premium rate it attracts) being worked free. Accordingly in financial terms it is the first hour at the appropriate rate (i.e. time + quarter, time + half or double time) which is free up to 31 March 2014 only

I trust this clarifies the issue raised.

Yours sincerely,



Michelle O'Connor,

Private Secretary to the Minister for Public Expenditure & Reform.

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