

Advance Copy



THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

National Health Service in Scotland  
Management Executive

NHS  
MEL(1993) 60

St. Andrew's House  
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Dear Colleague

**HOSPITAL MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF: LOCUM  
TENENS ENGAGED THROUGH PRIVATE AGENCIES**

**Summary**

1. This circular introduces revised ceilings for payments to locum agencies from 1 April 1993.

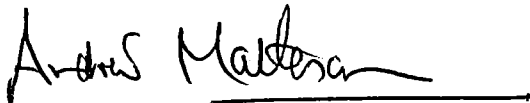
**Action**

2. Health Boards/Trusts are asked to ensure that:-

- as a condition of receiving this increase, agencies must agree to increase the hourly rates they pay locums;
- this circular is copied to Unit General Managers for action as required.

3. Details of what is required are set out in the attached Annex.

Yours sincerely



A J MATHESON  
Director of Manpower

23 April 1993

Addressees

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Health Boards

Chief Executives,  
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## LOCUM TENENS ENGAGED THROUGH PRIVATE AGENCIES

1. SOHHD/DGM(1991)71 set out the ceilings for payments to locum agencies. The ceilings have been revised from 1 April 1993.
2. From that date, the maximum authorised payments to locum agencies will be as follows:

| GRADE                | RATE PER HOUR<br>£ |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| House Officer        | 9.79               |
| Senior House Officer | 11.17              |
| Registrar            | 11.88              |
| Senior Registrar     | 12.59              |

These payments are gross and include all commission, employers' National Insurance contributions and VAT. Contracts agreed before 1 April should continue at the old rates until they expire. Where no such contract applies and where locums have been engaged at the old rates after 1 April, you should backdate the new rates to that date.

3. The revised rates represent an increase of 1.5% in the old ceilings. Agencies should be advised of the terms on which Boards are prepared to engage locums. The terms should continue to be consistent with the model procedures set out in Annex 1 of SHHD/DGM(1990)2.
4. A condition of receiving this increase is that agencies must agree to increase the hourly rate paid to locums by 1.5%. Boards should take steps to ensure that agencies are doing so.