

THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

National Health Service in Scotland Management Executive

St. Andrew's House Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Dear Colleague

NHS HOUSES AND GARAGES: REVIEW OF RENTS

Summary

1. This letter advises on alterations to the rentals of NHS houses and garages for 1994-95.

Action

2. Those responsible for the management of NHS houses should be made aware of the alterations to rental levels and make arrangements for implementation.

Background

- 3. Paragraph 7 of NHS Circular No 1975(GEN)69 issued on 3 October 1975 indicated that the rents of health service houses and garages would be reviewed annually, having regard to the levels of rents for local authority houses and garages. This was last confirmed in NHS MEL(1993)32 issued on 17 March 1993.
- 4. The latest available information shows that at 30 September 1993 the average rent of a local authority house was 7.5% more than at the same date in 1992. Managers, therefore, should review the rents of all staff houses and garages for which they are responsible (including those let to retired staff) so that the basic rent for 1994-95 is increased by 7.5% ie to 194% of the 1985 gross annual value. The revised rents should be brought into effect from the first complete rental period after 1 April 1994.
- 5. Trusts own their assets and are responsible for their management including that of houses and garages. Trusts will be guided in their decisions on asset management by 2 general principles the need to make best use of public assets and to act in the best interest of patient care. As far as houses and garages are concerned the first consideration is expected to be predominant. Trusts while not bound to follow the detailed

18 March 1994

Addressees

For action: General Managers, Health Boards

Unit General Managers

General Manager, State Hospital

General Manager, Common Services Agency

For information: Chief Executives and Chief Executives Designate, NHS Trusts

General Manager, Health Education Board for Scotland

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instructions in this circular may therefore wish to be guided by the increases charged by local authorities as a means of moving towards economic rents.

Yours sincerely

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H R McCALLUM Director of Estates