



THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

Department of Health

**NHS
MEL(1998)19**

NHS Management Executive
St. Andrew's House
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

24th March 1998

Dear Colleague

REGULATORY FEES FOR NURSING HOMES IN SCOTLAND

Summary

1. The fees payable in Scotland for the regulation of homes in terms of the Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Act 1938 are to be increased with effect from 1 April 1998 and thereafter phased at annual intervals. This represents the first increase in these charges since 1 August 1991.

2. The revised arrangements introduced in the Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 are detailed in Appendices A and B to this letter.

Action

3. Health Boards are requested to make this MEL and attachment available to all with an interest in the registration and inspection of nursing homes. The Health Board registration and inspection teams are requested to pass copies of the guidance to all nursing homes registered in the Health Board area and to make copies available to any prospective nursing home owner on request.

Yours sincerely

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Performance Management
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Management Executive

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REGULATORY FEES FOR NURSING HOMES IN SCOTLAND

Introduction

1. The fees payable in Scotland for the regulation of homes in terms of the Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Act 1938, have not increased since 1991. The effect has been that the cost of the regulation process has outstripped income from this source by a significant margin, resulting in Health Board funds being diverted from patient care to offset the costs incurred. It has always been the intention that the reasonable costs of this statutory process be met by home owners and that the regulatory fees cover the costs incurred by Health Boards in carrying out this function. To bring income closer to the costs of regulation, the fees payable for the registration of nursing homes in Scotland will increase from 1 April 1998 and further increases will take place from 1 April 1999 and 1 April 2000. The revised fees are set out in the table at Appendix B.

2. Premises providing any day care services referred to in sections 10(2)(c) of the Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Act 1938 will continue to be subject to the same statutory registration and inspection process and be subject to the same charging regime referred to above. The annual continuation fee and other charges where relevant, will apply from 1 April 1998 and any new premises seeking registration after that date will be subject to the full range of charges set out at Appendix B.

Current Position

3. Regulatory fees are payable by care homes registered under the provisions of the Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Act 1938 and supporting Regulations. The fees are paid to the registering authority - the Health Board and are set out in the Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Regulations 1990 and Amendment Regulations 1991. The revised charges introduced under the provisions of the Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 1998 are set out in the table at Appendix B.

Increased Fees

4. Fees for the various aspects of the registration process set out in items 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Appendix B will increase to the levels set out there up to 2000-2001. Thereafter charges under these arrangements will be subject to review.

5. From 1 April 1998, the first annual continuation fee will become payable on the date of registration.

Dual Registration

6. The arrangements for Homes registered separately for nursing and residential care will continue as at present. The care home will pay separate initial registration fees to both the Health Board and the Local Authority and an annual fee to each based on the number of beds registered with each authority.

Non Profit (Voluntary Sector) Homes

7. In terms of Section 1A of the 1938 Act whether to exempt non-profit homes from the current and proposed registration fees will in each case continue to be at the discretion of the Health Board. Health Boards should review their policy on this each year.

APPENDIX B

Column 1 Matter in respect of which fee is payable	Column 2 Prescribed fee from 1 April 1998	Column 3 Prescribed fee from 1 April 1999	Column 4 Prescribed fee from 1 April 2000
1. Application for registration	£900	£1050	£1295
2. Annual continuation of registration (payable on registration date and annual anniversary of the registration date thereafter).	£30 per patient bed/day place	£45 per patient bed/day place	£65 per patient bed/day place
3. Application under section 1(3F) of the Act for a variation in any condition of registration such as is mentioned in section 1(3D) or (3E) of the Act and specified in the certificate of registration.	£150	£225	£325
4. The issuing under section 1(3) of the Act of a new certificate following any variation, made as a result of an application under section 1(3F) of the Act, in the conditions under section 1(3D) or (3E) of the Act subject to which the registration has been granted.	£20	£30	£55