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3rd July 2007.

HSE HR Circular 013/2007

To: Each Asst. National Director of Human Resources, HSE HR Manager, Each Voluntary Hospital/Agency

Re: Reckonability for superannuation purposes of days lost during 1999 nurse's strike.

I refer to the above matter. Under the terms of Labour Court Recommendation No. 18763 dated 9th November 2006, nurses are now entitled to reckon for superannuation purposes, any days lost during the 1999 nurse's strike i.e. the 9 day period from 19th October 1999 to 27th October 1999. This service is to be reckoned for pension purposes on the same terms as applied in the case of those covered by Agreed Conciliation and Arbitration Report 4/2004 which dealt with the reckoning of days in a similar dispute involving the certain secondary school teachers who were members of ASTI.

In accordance with the terms of the recommendation the following arrangements should now be put in place for all nurses whose date of retirement is on or after 1st July 2007: -

- Any period of absence without pay due to the industrial action from 19th October 1999 to 27th
 October 1999 will now be reckonable for pension purposes.
- Service is reckonable subject to payment of the appropriate superannuation contributions in respect of the days being reckoned.
- Superannuation contributions due will be calculated based on pensionable remuneration at the date of retirement.
- All nurses with less than maximum reckonable service must reckon the service for superannuation purposes.
- Any period of absence without pay due to industrial action will not be reckonable in the case of nurses whose reckonable service, excluding this period of absence, already exceeds the maximum reckonable service permissible under the superannuation scheme.

Please ensure that the above arrangements are put in place with immediate effect.

The HSE - EA will arrange a meeting with the Nursing Alliance to consider possible strategies for implementing this decision in respect of those nurses who were employed in the public health service during the course of the 1999 dispute and who have since retired from the service. Details of the outcome of this meeting will be circulated in due course.

Any enquiries regarding this matter should be addressed to your Area Pensions Department or the Pensions Section, HR Services Centre, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim at 071 9820400.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Mc Donald,

National Director of Human Resources.

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