

Civil Service Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme

General Council Report 1405

(Meeting/s of 31 January 2001, 27 March 2002)

Review of allowances paid to Civil Servants who undertake training in Dublin as part of their Decentralisation.

1. In presenting the claim the Staff Side said that the existing allowances of €69.83 (£55) per week for a non-householder and €114.28 (£90) per week for a householder had not changed since 1992. They also said that they were seeking an automatic review mechanism to be put in place thereby avoiding having to come through Council to seek reviews.
2. The Official Side sought to have the matter referred to the Travel and Subsistence Sub-Committee of Council. This was agreed by the Staff Side.
3. Following consideration and discussion of the matter at the Travel and Subsistence Sub-Committee agreement was reached on an increase in the allowances.
4. At the General Council meeting of 27 March, 2002, the report of the Subcommittee (attached) was before the Council. It was agreed to recommend that effect be given to the recommendation contained in Paragraph 4 of that report
5. This Report recording agreement was adopted on 27 March, 2002

Claim for a review of the ex-gratia allowances paid to Civil Servants who attend training courses in Dublin as part of their decentralisation

Report of the General Council Subcommittee on Travelling and Subsistence

1. The claim was discussed at meetings of the Subcommittee on 13 March 2001, 1 May 2001 and 20 February 2002.
2. The Official Side initially made an offer to increase the allowance to €146

(£115) for householders and to €89 (£70) for non householders, both increases to be effective from 1 January, 2001. It was explained that the increases offered, which represented an increase of about 27/28% over the existing rates, were not linked directly to either increases in the subsistence rates or in the Consumer Price Index but were roughly somewhere in between.

3. The Staff Side rejected this offer and proposed rates of €152 (£120) for householders and €95 (£75) for non-householders on the basis that they would withdraw their claim for an automatic review mechanism.

4. Following the Travel and Subsistence Sub-Committee meeting on 20 February, 2002 the Official Side made a revised offer on the basis proposed by the Staff Side. It was agreed therefore to recommend that, with effect from 1 January, 2001, the ex-gratia allowances paid to civil servants from provincial locations who volunteer for decentralisation and are required by Departments to spend an initial training period in Dublin prior to taking up duty at their new provincial centre be revised as follows:

- an ex-gratia payment of €152 per week may be paid if the officer was a householder at the provincial location, and necessarily had to retain the provincial household while staying in Dublin;
- an ex-gratia payment of €95 per week may be paid if the officer
 - was not a householder at the provincial location, or
 - did not have to retain a provincial household while staying in Dublin, or
 - is in a position to commute to Dublin during the training period

Agreed Report

This report was adopted on 27 March 2002