

Civil Service Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme

General Council Report 1463

(Meeting/s of 27 April 2005, 30 November 2005)

To review the subsistence rates for the UK.

Background

1. Rates of subsistence allowances for civil servants travelling abroad on official business, other than to the UK, are derived from rates calculated by the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office which are issued three times a year. Subsistence rates for staff travelling to Great Britain were last amended in 2003.

2. At the General Council meeting of 27 April 2005, the Staff Side lodged a claim to review the subsistence rates for the UK. With the agreement of the Official and Staff Sides the claim was referred to the T&S subcommittee. The matter was discussed at the subcommittee meetings of 17 May and 7 November 2005.

Offer

3. The Official and Staff Sides agreed that existing arrangements for determining subsistence rates for staff travelling on official business to Northern Ireland would remain unchanged. Arising from the discussions at subcommittee and taking account of the lack of a review mechanism for the subsistence rates payable to staff travelling on official duty to Great Britain, the Official Side proposed that the following arrangements be put in place:

- subsistence rates for staff travelling on official business to London and elsewhere in Great Britain would be determined on an annual basis by reference to movements, if any, in the UK CPI element for restaurants and hotels in the period November to November. The rates would be determined in time for inclusion in the Circular in which the January rates of Subsistence Allowances Abroad are published;
- the 1 January 2006 rates of subsistence for officers travelling to London and elsewhere in Great Britain would be calculated by reference to movements in the appropriate element of the UK CPI in the period January 2003 to November 2005.

4. The Staff Side accepted the Official Side's proposal.

5. This agreed report was adopted on 30 November 2005.

Agreed report, recording agreement.

This report was adopted on 30 November 2005