

# Civil Service Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme

## General Council Report 1505

(Meeting/s of 25 June 2008)

That the Home Subsistence Rates be reviewed and any changes applied with effect from 1/7/2008 on the basis of the agreed formula.

### ***Background***

1. There are two rates of subsistence. The first are the day rates for official absences of at least 5 hours but less than 10 and absences in excess of 10 hours but less than 24 hours. The second are the overnight rates which cover official absences of up to 29 hours.

### ***Day Subsistence Rates***

2. The day subsistence rates are reviewed by reference to the movement from March to end March in the "eating out" element of the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

3. For the period March 2007 to end March 2008, the "eating out" element of the CPI increased by 3.89%. Accordingly it was agreed that the rate of the day subsistence allowance be increased by that percentage from 1 July 2008. The new day rates are set out in appendix I.

### ***Overnight Subsistence Rates***

4. In the past, the overnight subsistence rates were reviewed by the movement in the price of accommodation in an agreed list of 100 hotels. For 2007, due to the difficulties in obtaining all of the required information it was agreed that the accommodation element of the CPI would be used for 2007 and future years unless the price information available on the actual list of 100 hotels improved.

### ***Review of Overnight Rates 2008***

5. The 2008 review of the overnight rate based on the agreed list of 100 hotels was not possible again because of the poor information available. The staff side also felt that only using the accommodation element of the CPI was not accurate either because the overnight rate also contained provision for food as well. Following consideration of the matter it was agreed that the overnight subsistence rate for 2008 and for future years would be reviewed by the accommodation element of the CPI (60%) and the eating out element of the CPI (40%).

6. Using the new agreed review methodology (the accommodation and eating out element of the CPI) gives an increase of 1.4% in the overnight rates for 2008. However only 40% of this increase (0.6%) is applied to the Class A Rate.

7 The revised overnight subsistence rates are also set out in Appendix I and are

effective from 1 July 2008.

8 This report was adopted on 25 June 2008.

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Joan Byrne  
Staff Side Secretary

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Aengus O'Riain  
Official Side Secretary

### Appendix I for Agreed Report 1505

<b>Domestic Subsistence rates from 1st July 2008</b>				
Overnight rates				
Day Rates				
Class of Allowances	Normal Rate	Reduced Rate	Detention Rate	10 hours or more
	5 hours but less than 10 hours			
A Class	€145.32	€133.97	€72.64	€44.81 €18.28
B Class	€143.58	€122.81	€71.82	€44.81 €18.28

Agreed report

This report was adopted on 25 June 2008