

Reference No: ; **Date:** 09/01/2004

09/01/2004 LP:- Rest Time Credits for officers who attend emergency calls at Government offices

E109/70/02

9 January 2004

To: All Personnel Officers

Re: System of 'rest time credits' for officers who attend emergency calls at Government offices

Dear Personnel Officer,

I am directed by the Minister for Finance to refer to General Council Agreed Report No. 1425 (copy attached), covering arrangements for the introduction of a system of 'rest time credits' for officers called out between the hours of 10.00pm and 7.00am (Monday to Friday) or any period on Saturday and Sunday to attend emergency calls at Government offices.

The Federated Union of Government Employees (FUGE) put forward a claim at General Council for a system of 'rest time credits' for officers called out to Government buildings during unsocial hours. In light of the provisions of the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997 the following arrangements have been agreed:

- a compensatory rest period equal to the duration of the call-out will be provided to officers in the form of time off in lieu;
- one hour will be given where the call out lasts for less than one hour;
- henceforth, the time off in lieu will have to be taken within 2 weeks of the call-out and approved by management in advance.

The new arrangements apply as and from 26 January 2002, the date that FUGE lodged the claim. Officers who attended to emergency call-outs since 26 January 2002 should apply to their Personnel Sections for the restoration of any time off in lieu owed.

Yours sincerely,

Marie McLaughlin
Personnel and Remuneration Division