Circular 0040/2008

To the Chief Executive Officer of each Vocational Education Committee

Revised Pay for Craftspersons Employed in Vocational Educational Committees with effect from 1 March 2008

Dear Chief Executive Officer,

I am directed by the Minister for Education and Science to refer to the application in the education sector of the terms of Towards 2016 and the associated pay agreement, and to convey the approval of the Minister for the implementation, in respect of Craftspersons in your scheme, of the revised pay rates contained in the schedule to this circular letter and of the tool allowance (see below), with effect from 1 March 2008. This letter will be made available on the Department’s website (www.education.ie), under Post Primary Division.

The revised pay rates have been introduced as a result of the implementation of Section 27.17 of Towards 2016, which provides for an increase of 2.5% with effect from 1 March 2008.

The payment of this increase is dependent on verification of co-operation with flexibility and ongoing change, satisfactory implementation of the agenda for modernisation, maintenance of stable industrial relations and absence of industrial action in respect of any matters covered by the Towards 2016 agreement. The Secretary General, in consultation with the Education Sector Performance Verification Group (ESPVG), which carried out an assessment of the extent of progress and co-operation reported by the VEC Partnership Forum, has decided that the level of progress achieved during the period warrants the payment of the relevant pay increase.

Part time staff

The pay of part-time staff may be revised, in accordance with the normal arrangements, by reference to the pay of whole-time staff to which they are related for pay purposes.

Pensions
Pensions in the course of payment on 29th February 2008 to former Craftspersons may be adjusted by reference to the revised salary scales (excluding the tool allowance), as set out in the schedule.

**General**

Please provide a copy of this letter to staff members, as appropriate. Any queries, at VEC level, regarding the implementation of the letter should be addressed to Post Primary Administration 3, Athlone (Tel: 09064 83768, Fax: 09064 84058).

Conor McCourt
Post Primary
March 2008

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