HSE HR Circular 005/2011

19th August, 2011.

To: Regional Director of Operations, HSE Dublin / Mid-Leinster;
Assistant National Director of Human Resources, HSE Dublin / Mid-Leinster;
Assistant National Director of Finance, HSE Dublin / Mid-Leinster.

Re: Forensic Psychiatry – Out of Hours Service.

I refer to the agreement concluded between the Department of Health and Children, Department of Justice and An Garda Síochána which recommended that the HSE put in place an out of hours service to be provided by Consultant Forensic Psychiatrists from the Central Mental Hospital to assist the Gardaí in their management of critical incidents. This agreement arose from the recommendations contained in the Barr Report following the Abbeylara Siege.

Following agreement in discussions between the HSE, Department of Health and Children, Department of Finance and the Irish Hospital Consultants Association, the following arrangements are to be implemented, effective 1st January 2011. Funding for this development has been included in the HSE Service Plan for 2011.

These arrangements are being implemented on the basis of a one in four liability for participating consultants.

1. **On-call allowance**: Participating consultants will be paid the equivalent of one session per annum. This payment encompasses any telephone advice which the consultant may provide.

2. **Call-out allowance**: In the event of a call-out being required the following payments shall apply:
   a) up to 4.5 hours – 1.75 sessions*;
   b) more than 4.5 hours and up to 12 hours – 2.25 sessions;
   c) in excess of 12 hours, but not more than 24 hours – 2.75 sessions;
   d) in the event of a call-out lasting into a second or third 24 hour period, the above rates shall apply per 24 hour period.

*session pertains to per week.
3. The on-call allowance will be paid monthly in arrears.

4. The time referred to in the call-out arrangements will be calculated from the time the consultant leaves his / her base (hospital or home, dependent on circumstances and time of call) to the time of his / her return to that base.

5. Travel and subsistence will be paid at the appropriate rates.

Any enquiries with regard to the provisions of this Circular should be referred to Mr. John Delamere, Senior Employee Relations Executive, HSE Corporate Employee Relations Services, 63-64 Adelaide Road, Dublin 2. Telephone: (01) 6626966; email: john.delamere@hse.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Sean McGrath,
National Director of Human Resources.