



Department  
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Philippa Hird  
Chair, NHS Pay Review Body  
Office of Manpower Economics  
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Dear Philippa,

I am writing to thank you for the NHS Pay Review Body's invaluable work on the report and observations for the 2019-20 pay round and to formally commence the 2020-21 pay round.

As you know, over the period of the multi-year pay deal (2018-19 to 2020-21) we will not be asking the NHSPRB to make any pay recommendations. We will however, as agreed, ask your members to monitor the implementation of the deal. We will also ensure that your members continue to receive data on the state of recruitment, retention and motivation as part of the public sector annual pay rounds.

This year, the NHSPRB is invited to make observations on evidence you receive from the NHS Staff Council, NHS England and Improvement and other parties on implementing the Agenda for Change pay agreement.

I am also asking the NHSPRB to consider the role of Recruitment and Retention Premia (RRPs) and how they might help support the recruitment and retention of staff. I would be grateful for your observations on the potential for the greater use of RRPs on, but not limited to, the recruitment and retention of IT staff.

As always, whilst your remit covers the whole of the UK, it is for each administration to make its own decisions on its approach to this year's pay round and to communicate this to you directly.

**EDWARD ARGAR MP**