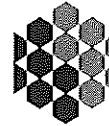


FROM THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH,
SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

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Our Ref: COR/63/2016

Date: 3 February 2016

Dear

Thank you for your letter of 15 January. The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS) greatly values the contribution of the NHS Pay Review Body in delivering robust, evidence based pay outcomes for public sector workers.

I write to confirm the approach of my Department in respect of the Pay Review Body's remit for 2016-17.

I would ask that you consider the case for targeting to support recruitment and retention and to make recommendations for staff employed under Agenda for Change. Any recommendation should take account of the need for continued public sector pay restraint and the specific financial context of Northern Ireland which will be set out in the written evidence.

To this end, please note that my Department will be aiming to submit written evidence by 5 February. My officials will be happy to work with your secretariat to ensure that you have all relevant supporting information to inform your review.

Yours sincerely

SIMON HAMILTON MLA