

*From the Rt Hon Andrew Lansley CBE MP  
Secretary of State for Health*



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Ron Amy OBE  
Chair, Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration  
6 Floor, Victoria House  
Southampton Row  
London  
WC1B 4AD

*Richmond House  
79 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2NS*

*Tel: 020 7210 3000  
Mb-sofs@dh.gsi.gov.uk*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Denis Rona'.

- 3 JUL 2012

**REVIEW BODY ON DOCTORS' & DENTISTS'  
REMUNERATION (DDRB)**

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, George Osborne, wrote to you on 7 December, setting out the general context for the 2013-14 pay round, and indicated that I would write to you subsequently in line with normal process.

As the Chancellor indicated, the Government continues to be grateful for the expert and independent work that DDRB undertakes, a view that is shared by both employers and staff side representatives.

As always, while DDRB's remit covers the whole of the United Kingdom, it is for each of the UK administrations to make its own decisions on its approach to this year's pay review round and to communicate this to you.

We continue to keep in close touch with our counterparts in the other countries and my officials will do all they can to support you in handling any consequences that may arise as a result of different approaches taken by each country.

For England, we will send you as much information as possible by the end of October, in time for your planned first DDRB meeting in November, and my officials will work with your secretariat to finalise the details.

On the question of independent primary care contractors (General Medical Practitioners and General Dental Practitioners) in England, the

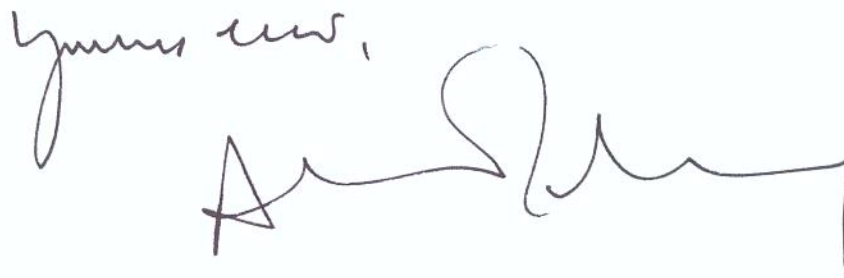
Government has decided that there is no need for the Review Body to make recommendations on uplift for 2013/14. The Government has already decided that public sector pay increases will be capped at an average 1% increase for 2013-14 – and the DDRB's formulae for these two groups provide a well-established basis for calculating the gross uplift needed to deliver a 1% increase in net income after allowing for expenses.

There are other issues that the Government will need to resolve for GPs and dentists, namely the quality and efficiency gains that should be expected and any decisions about apportionment of uplift, but these are matters for the contract discussions with the BMA General Practitioners Committee and BDA General Dental Practice Committee.

Following discussion with the GPC and GDPC, therefore, the Government will make final decisions on the overall gross uplifts to apply to contract prices in England. This mirrors the approach taken in the last two years, when pay was frozen but decisions were needed in relation to expenses uplift.

We will naturally provide evidence as usual, for information, on the position on earnings and expenses and recruitment and retention for GPs and dentists.

I am copying this letter to Danny Alexander (Chief Secretary at the Treasury), Nicola Sturgeon (Scottish Government), Lesley Griffiths (Welsh Assembly), Edwin Poots (NI Assembly), Dr Laurence Buckman (Chair of BMA General Practitioners Committee) and John Milne (Chair of BDA General Dental Practitioners Committee).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Lansley', written in a cursive style.

**ANDREW LANSLEY CBE**