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Sent via email:

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10th November 2025

Re. DDRB 25/26 - payment timescales

Dear Leanne

We refer to last week's announcement by the Health Minister to proceed to payment of DDRB 25/26 pay uplifts and backpay in full, which he anticipates will be received in February pay packets. The Minister also committed that future pay awards will be prioritised at the start of the financial year, ensuring late payment of pay awards will never happen again.

In seeking clarity on how this uplift will translate to GDS, we refer again to Expenses data which we shared with DoH previously in our correspondence of 24th June in calculating the 25/26 uplift:

	Weighting	Index	Weighted value
Dentists' pay	0.47	4.00%	1.86%
Staff costs	0.22	24.58%	5.41%
Laboratory costs	0.06	16.46%	0.99%
Materials costs	0.07	4.70%	0.31%
Other costs	0.19	2.70%	0.51%
Overall			9.08%

Formula for overall contract uplift. Sources: Estimated average practice operating cost increases derived from BDA Practice Owners Survey 2024, along with data from the ONS.

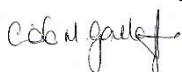
In addition to confirmation of the net percentage uplift which will be applied to the SDR, we also write to seek assurances that all payments owing to GDPs will similarly be expedited according to equivalent timescales as for salaried colleagues.

Full clarity around anticipated timescales for application of DDRB uplift by practitioners, and quantum of uplift factoring in Expenses/operating costs would be gratefully received at this time. And, as per previous requests to DoH and BSO, early and clear communications throughout regarding all aspects of uplift payments would be appreciated.

Furthermore, we note the Minister's offer for an 'advance' uplift payment for 26/27 in April 26 pay ahead of pay review body recommendations being known. We would welcome an opportunity to engage with DoH on the preferred approach for General Practice.

We look forward to an early response on the issues raised in this correspondence.

Yours sincerely



Ciara Gallagher