

The Scottish Government

Directorate for Health Workforce Pay, Practice and Information
Governance Division



Dear Colleague

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DISTINCTION AWARDS AND
DISCRETIONARY POINTS SCHEMES FOR CONSULTANTS**

Summary

1. This letter confirms the arrangements for the distinction awards and discretionary points schemes during 2023-24.

Arrangements for 2023-24

Payment of Discretionary Points

2. The current arrangements for discretionary points will continue and these should be paid in 2023-24 for work done during 2022-23

3. Boards are asked to arrange for the necessary processes to be put in place to enable discretionary points to be paid to eligible consultants for work done in 2022-23.

4. Boards should note that arrangements for the payment of discretionary points should continue to be put in place annually until advised otherwise.

Distinction Awards

5. The current arrangements for distinction awards will remain in place. Distinction awards will therefore continue to be frozen with no increase in the value of awards, no new awards and no progression through the award scheme during 2023-24.

Five-yearly review of Distinction Awards

6. The Scottish Advisory Committee on Distinction Awards (SACDA) has completed the five-yearly review of awards as normal and the Twenty-third SACDA Annual Report has been published, and can be seen [HERE](#)

Full guidance on the scheme, together with the deadline for the submission of the review CV forms, is available on the SACDA website.

**DL (2023) 21
5 September 2023**

Addressees

For action

Chief Executives, NHS
Boards and Special Health
Boards and NHS National
Services Scotland (Common
Services Agency)
Directors of Human
Resources, NHS Boards and
Special Health Boards and
NHS National Services
Scotland (Common Services
Agency)

For information

Members, Management
Steering Group
Members, British Medical
Association, Scotland
Members, British Dental
Association, Scotland

Enquiries to:

Health Workforce,
Leadership and Service
Reform Directorate
Health Workforce
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Engagement Division
St Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

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am@gov.scot

Action

7. Boards are asked to arrange for the necessary processes to be put in place to enable discretionary points to be paid to eligible consultants for work done in 2022-23.

8. NHS Boards, Special Health Boards and NHS National Services Scotland (Common Services Agency) are asked to ensure that this letter is drawn to the attention of all interested parties.

9. Employers are asked to make their own arrangements for obtaining additional copies of this Director's Letters (DL) which can be viewed at www.sehd.scot.nhs.uk.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Jane Hamilton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jane" and last name "Hamilton" clearly distinguishable.

Jane Hamilton

Interim Deputy Director

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Scottish Government
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