24 April 2013

Dear Duncan

The Government has made its decision on the award of an uplift to GP pay for 2013/14, and I have written today to the Chair of the Scottish General Practitioners’ Committee of the BMA today to confirm the terms.

The Government will be applying a **1.25% uplift** to the value of the GMS contract in Scotland for 2013/14. This recognises the valuable work which GPs do to improve health of patients and also recognises the agreement we have reached with SGPC to reduce the workload associated with bureaucracy in our contract discussions. In coming to this decision, we have considered the Doctor and Dentist Review Body (DDRB) recommendations in the context of Scottish Governments pay policy.

I can also confirm, following discussion with SGPC, we have agreed to apply this uplift in full to the Global Sum, and not recycle any funding back through the correction factor as previously intimated. We have agreed however to work with SGPC on ways to reduce the variability of funding associated with the correction factor.

We believe this uplift, together the all the elements of the GMS Contract Agreement in Scotland for 2013/14 agreed in December last year, does represent a fair deal for GPs in Scotland, taking account of workload and seeking to reduce the bureaucracy associated with the contract, whilst at the same time securing important benefits for patients in Scotland.

ALEX NEIL