



Serving those who serve the public

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General Secretary: Seamus Cody

25 September 2014

Ms Kathleen Lynch

Minister of State, Department of Health and Department of Justice, Equality & Defence with
responsibility for Disability, Older People, Equality & Mental Health
Hawkins House
Hawkins Street
Dublin 2

Dear Minister

I am writing to you on behalf of IMPACT members working in residential settings in primary care and social care. The residential services have for too long been the Cinderella of the health services. As you will be aware the Labour Court has recently ruled in our favour in relation to ensuring that the employers in these areas comply with the Organisation of Working Time Act and increase the rate of pay for sleepovers.

We are also aware that a number of employers, particularly in the disability sector, have not implemented Circular 28/2004 which gives sanction for payment of time and a 1/2 for hours referred to as Twilight.

We are calling on you in the forthcoming budgetary discussions to ensure that the services are adequately funded as it is no longer acceptable that the services are being run on the goodwill of the staff and at the expense of their legal entitlements.

The staff in these areas are falling foul of disputes between service providers and service funders and are being denied payments and work rosters that they are legally entitled to. We would welcome your support in ensuring that the necessary funding is available to ensure compliance in this area.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louise O'Donnell".

Louise O'Donnell
National Secretary
Health & Welfare Division
IMPACT

c.c. John Delamere
HWDEC
Health Officials
Health Branch Secretaries
Social Care Vocational Group