



Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation

Working Together



LD/MR

18 November 2014

Mr Paul Gallagher
President
Nursing and Midwifery of Ireland
18/20 Carysfort Avenue
Blackrock
Co Dublin

FOR THE ATTENTION OF ALL BOARD MEMBERS

Dear President and Members of the Board

The INMO, SIPTU and PNA, on behalf of all of the nurses and midwives we represent, are totally opposed to the 50% increase in retention fee, proposed by you and your Board, with effect from 1st January 2015.

Any attempt to increase a fee, by 50% (almost 80% over two years), is completely inexplicable, and unacceptable, when one notes that all nurses and midwives have taken a minimum of a 14% cut in pay, in recent years, and inflation is running at less than 1%.

We must also reaffirm, at this time, the very negative perception that the vast majority of nurses and midwives have towards NMBI. The reality is, and you and your Board members must accept this, that most nurses and midwives feel they pay €100 to fund the Board pursue them in the event of a difficulty in the clinical area. This is why the professions, at this time, have no confidence in the Board. Furthermore you must accept this is the reason why there has been such a negative reaction to this attempt, by the Board, to increase your fees, by a further 50%, without justification, explanation or even consultation with the professions.

We wish to reaffirm our collective support for a strong regulatory body which protects the public interest by ensuring that nurses and midwives work in a positive clinical environment which encourages safe practice. That is why we have called upon our members, in response to recent renewal notices, to pay the existing fee, of €100, when we advise them to do so in the coming weeks.

Against this background we are now calling upon the Board to immediately reverse its flawed decision, to increase this fee, and to confirm a registration fee, for 2015, of

€100. This is the fee that will apply to all other health professionals, working in this country, and it is only fair, and reasonable, the same fee should apply to nurses and midwives.

In the context of this €100 fee, being restored, our three unions commit to engaging with the NMBI, the Department of Health, and all other stakeholders, to discuss and agree a funding structure which ensures a positive, dynamic and proactive Board in the coming years.

However the first step, in this process, must be the reversal of the flawed decision to increase this fee and confirmation that a €100 registration fee will apply for 2015.

We look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Yours sincerely



LIAM DORAN
General Secretary
INMO



KEVIN FIGGIS
National Nursing Officer
SIPTU



DES KAVANAGH
General Secretary
PNA