

6 SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT - INTERIM PAYMENTS ARRANGEMENTS (AN235-2005)

Reference is made to Article I of the minute of meeting of this Committee of 8th December 2003 whereby the Committee approved a scheme of interim payments to ensure sufficient staff could be retained to fulfil key duties and responsibilities. One component of the scheme involved a payment of the equivalent of two increments to staff actively working on child protection cases and fulfilling certain other criteria.

Since December 2003 there have been a number of developments in child protection services and processes. There has also been extensive work done within the Social Work Department to look at social worker roles and responsibilities. Until this work has been concluded and conclusions reached about the appropriate future remuneration of staff involved in child protection work it is proposed that interim payments are made only to the eight staff who are currently receiving them for as long as those staff continue to meet the criteria. No new payments would be made.

It is recommended that the Committee agrees to the continuation of interim payments for child protection work on the above basis.

The costs of this is estimated to be £14,500 per annum, inclusive of employer's costs. This will be met from the Social Work Department Revenue Budget.