

Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP

Secretary of State for Health
Department of Health
Richmond House
79 Whitehall
SW1A 2NS

19 April 2016

Dear Secretary of State,

With a week to go to the start of the first full walkout of doctors in this country, I am writing to make a clear offer in a bid to avert industrial action. Simply put, if the Government will lift the imposition, junior doctors will call off next week's strike action on 26th and 27th April.

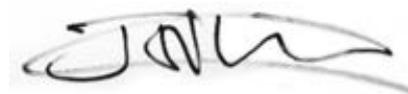
The imposition of this contract is tremendously damaging to the morale of junior doctors and medical students and has resulted in a complete breakdown of trust between doctors and the Government. It is this decision which has led to the current, lamentable situation, the resolution to which is now squarely in your hands.

As you know, no junior doctor wants to have to take industrial action, but they have been left without further recourse. Junior doctors who I meet up and down the country are saying that they will not accept a contract being forced on them, a contract which the Government's own equality impact assessment acknowledges to be discriminatory to women.

I believe that your decision in February to give up on negotiations and impose a contract, reiterated in the House of Commons yesterday, marks a watershed in relations with the profession, but am happy to meet or discuss this offer with you at any time between now and the start of next week's industrial action.

I hope you will give this offer serious consideration and make the right decision for patients, doctors and the long-term future of the NHS.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Johann Malawana
Chair, BMA junior doctors' committee

Chief executive: Keith Ward

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