

Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP
Secretary of State for Health
Department of Health
Richmond House
79 Whitehall
SW1A 2NS

10 February 2016

Dear Secretary of State,

Like you, we deeply regret the continuing dispute between junior doctors and the Government and are keen to bring it to a conclusion.

Today, during the second day of industrial action arising from this dispute, you stated that the BMA has never made any offer to help to resolve the dispute. We are clear that we have done so and, for the avoidance of any doubt and in the hope of reaching a resolution, I am now writing to repeat that offer.

While we recognise the movement that your negotiators have made towards our positions on safe working limits and the latest offer made via Sir David Dalton's letter late yesterday, we would ask that you, equally, recognise the significant concessions that the BMA has made throughout negotiations.

The pay model that we offered to your negotiators in late December redistributes a small fraction that NHS Employers allocated to basic pay in the "firm offer" of November of last year, to unsocial hours payments, thereby reducing basic pay.

This would give you the cost neutrality you seek and junior doctors the appropriate recognition for evenings, nights and weekends. If you are able to accept this model and withdraw the threat of imposition, we believe that our dispute with the Government would be concluded, leading the way to detailed discussion about implementation.

Please could you let me know whether this is acceptable? Given what is riding on this, I would be grateful for your early response.

Yours sincerely



Dr Johann Malawana
Chair, BMA junior doctors committee

Chief executive: Keith Ward

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