

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

05 July 2016

Dear Secretary of State,

As you are aware, between 17 June 2016 and 1 July 2016 the BMA has, in accordance with the Acas agreement between Department of Health, NHS Employers and the BMA, run a referendum of the BMA membership on the most recent junior doctors' terms and conditions of service. We are now announcing the results of that referendum.

42% of participants voted 'Yes' to accept the contract but a majority, 58%, voted 'No' to reject the contract. The referendum achieved a turnout of 68%.

The result is clear and I hope that you will respect the decision which junior doctors have made. There should be no transition to a new contract until further talks have taken place to address the issues which remain and begin to rebuild the trust which has been so spectacularly lost between government and junior doctors. Junior doctors clearly still have major reservations that the contract will adversely affect their working lives, their patients and future delivery of care in the NHS. Against this backdrop it would be wrong for the government to press ahead with imposition and I hope that you will now engage with further meaningful talks.

In light of this result, I believe that a new chair will be better placed to lead on this work, so I will be announcing my resignation to the junior doctors committee today. The government must now do the right thing, accept the outcome of this vote and work constructively with the BMA to address junior doctors' concerns.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Johann Malawana
Chair, BMA junior doctors committee

Chief executive: Keith Ward

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