

Chairs, NHS Boards and Special Health Boards and
NHS National Services Scotland
(Common Services Agency)

9 February 2011

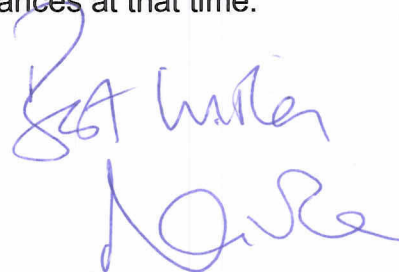
Dear Colleague

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HOLIDAY – ROYAL WEDDING 2011

As you will be aware, the First Minister announced on 23 November 2010 that Scotland should have a Public Holiday to celebrate the Royal Wedding on Friday 29 April 2011. Following full and careful consideration, I have decided to grant the additional Public Holiday to NHSScotland staff. Individual arrangements will apply for each Primary Care contractor group in accordance with normal arrangements for, or entitlement to, Public Holidays.

Formal circulars and directions confirming the arrangements will be issued where necessary in due course, but, in the meantime, please use this letter to plan service provision and communicate the decision to staff. You will also wish to be aware the Public Holiday will be applied in line with current terms and conditions arrangements for existing Public Holidays with enhanced payment rates applying as appropriate where staff are required to work during the Public Holiday. NHS Boards will be expected to meet any additional costs involved from existing baseline funding.

The decision to grant the Public Holiday has not been taken lightly and should not be seen as creating any precedent. Any future additional Public Holidays which may arise will be considered separately, taking account of the circumstances at that time.



NICOLA STURGEON