



PRESS STATEMENT

11 February 2016

NHS Providers responds to the junior doctors contract

Chris Hopson, chief executive of NHS Providers, said:

“It is regrettable that we find ourselves in this situation. The ideal conclusion would have been for employers and the BMA to have agreed on the compromise package developed by Sir David Dalton and his team – we felt this was a final, fair and reasonable offer. We regret that this hasn’t been possible. However, many of our members have been saying that, to run their trusts effectively, they couldn’t carry on with this uncertainty. This has lasted four years and the recent strikes have resulted in disruption to patients with thousands of cancelled operations. It was critical that this reached a conclusion. We now hope that relations can be restored following what has been a very difficult period for junior doctors and employers.

“Junior doctors are a vital part of the NHS workforce. They have raised a number of legitimate and deeply held concerns during these negotiations. It is therefore important that the wider non-pay concerns that junior doctors have about, for example, their training and overall morale are addressed – we welcome the review that Dame Sue Bailey will lead into measures outside the contract that can help to improve these. It is essential that employers, NHS leaders and the medical profession work together to restore morale among junior doctors and re-engage them at what is a time of critical challenge for the NHS.”

-Ends-

Notes to editors

About NHS Providers

- NHS Providers is the membership organisation for NHS acute hospitals, community, mental health and ambulance services
- NHS Providers acts as the public voice for those NHS trusts, helping to deliver high quality care by promoting shared learning, providing support and development and shaping the strategic system in which our members operate
- NHS Providers has more than 90% of all NHS foundation trusts and aspirant trusts in membership
- Follow NHS Providers on twitter @NHSPROVIDERS and Chris Hopson, chief executive, @ChrisCEOHopson
- A full list of NHS Providers’ press releases and statements can be viewed in the news section of our homepage www.nhsproviders.org
- Contact Caroline Bernard, head of communications, 07938 524 366