



UNISON HEALTHCARE - BRANCH UPDATE

From: Christina McAnea, UNISON National Secretary - Health

BRIEFING HC-043-11

26 April 2011

Clarification of leave accrual during sickness absence

Who needs to know?

- Health branches

Summary:

A new question and answer document on accrual of annual leave whilst on sick leave has been agreed by the joint secretaries to the NHS Staff Council Executive, following the Stringer legal judgement on the subject. Please see below for further details.

In full:

Please find attached a set of Questions and Answers relating to the Stringer Judgement and access to annual leave for employees on sick leave. The Q&As have been jointly agreed by the secretaries to the NHS Staff Council Executive and published in response to a series of questions raised by the Northern Ireland Joint Negotiating Forum.

You may find the Q&As useful as a supplement to the UNISON briefing on this issue sent to branches in 2010. In particular, branches who are supporting members returning from long term sick leave may find it useful to refer to the response to Question 8, which confirms our position that accrued annual leave should not be used as part of phased return to work.

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