

**STATEMENT BY THE STAFF COUNCIL STAFF SIDE ON NHS
REDUNDANCY AND REDUNDANCY RETIREMENT
ARRANGEMENTS.**

Members may have seen the statement issued by the NHS Employers <http://www.nhsemployers.org/pay-conditions/pay-conditions-504.cfm> indicating that the Department of Health has not ratified the agreement made between the NHS Trade Unions and the NHS Employers at the Staff Council Executive on the 15th September 2006. We understand that this has come about because of late lobbying by a small number of NHS employing organisations that have live redundancy programmes and who are concerned about the cost of the new arrangements. The outcome of the consultation on these new arrangements showed widespread support for them. Most importantly they remove age discrimination from the NHS redundancy and redundancy retirement arrangements – a requirement that became law on the 1st October 2006. It is unacceptable to the Trade Unions that this agreement, reached in partnership, should be ‘blocked’

The Trade Unions are arranging a meeting with the Department of Health for this week to seek an ‘unblocking’ of these new arrangements and a further statement will be issued following that meeting.

Staff Council Staff Side

3rd October 2006