

## Circular



Circular number:	<b>W-FRSC(2023)12</b>	Date issued:	29 September 2023
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Status:	For Action
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Title:	Firefighters' Pensions: Board of Medical Referees – Confirmation of new contract
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Issued by:	Cerys Myers Fire Services Branch
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Addressed to:	Please forward to:
Chief Fire Officers	Treasurers Pensions Officers Scheme Administrators

<b>Summary</b>
This circular provides confirmation to Fire and Rescue Authorities of the contract arrangements for Medical Appeal Boards, with effect from 1 October 2023. <b>It requires immediate action.</b>

<b>For further information contact:</b>	
Fire Services Branch Welsh Government Rhydycar Merthyr Tydfil CF48 1UZ	Direct Line: 0300 062 8679 Fax: 0300 0258869 E-mail: <a href="mailto:fire@gov.wales">fire@gov.wales</a> Website: <a href="https://www.fireandrescue.wales">Fire and rescue</a>

## **Introduction**

1. This circular is to formally inform scheme managers and administrators of the contract arrangements for Medical Appeal Boards.
2. The Home Office is responsible for the procurement of a provider to manage boards of medical referees to conduct medical appeals under the Firefighters' Pension Schemes in England, Scotland and Wales.

## **Board of Medical Referees (BMR) Contract**

3. The BMR contract held by Duradiamond Health Limited was due to expire on 30 September 2023. Following the completion of a formal tendering process, the Home Office has confirmed that it has appointed Duradiamond Health Ltd, trading as Health Partners Group, to provide the BMR from 1 October 2023 onwards. The duration of the framework will be for an initial period of three years (up to 30th September 2026), with an option to extend for an additional 12 months.
4. As Duradiamond Health Ltd has provided the BMR since 1 October 2019, the new contract will not impact any medical appeal cases previously referred.
5. The contact details for Health Partners Group are as follows:

**Postal Address:** Health Partners Group; Duradiamond Healthcare Ltd; The Roller Mill, Mill Lane, Uckfield, East Sussex. TN22 5AA

**E-mail:** [pfmab@duradiamondhealth.com](mailto:pfmab@duradiamondhealth.com)

**Phone:** 01273 963729

**Cerys Myers  
Fire Services Branch**