

16th February 2009

**To: Chief Executives
Health Boards in Wales**

Dear Sirs

Re: FHSAA – Transfer of administration and change of address.

On 1st April 2009 the administration of the Family Health Services Appeal Authority (FHSAA) for England and Wales will transfer to the Tribunals Service, an executive agency of the Ministry of Justice. This will replace the current arrangements with the NHS Litigation Authority however, for the avoidance of doubt this change does not affect 'fitness to practice' notifications to the Secretary of State under the jurisdiction of the NHSLA, which remain with its FHS Appeal Unit in Harrogate.

The transfer is part of the Government's ongoing programme of tribunal reform, which began in April 2006 with the launch of the Tribunals Service. The Tribunals Service was established to provide a common administration of tribunal jurisdictions within the Ministry of Justice.

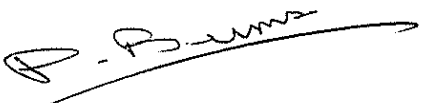
The Tribunals Service worked with the FHSAA the Department of Health and Welsh Assembly officials to agree the transfer and are now working to ensure the transfer runs smoothly maintaining the continuation of the high level of service FHSAA customers currently enjoy. The transfer of the administration will not change in any way the independent status of the judicial office holders who consider the cases that come before the FHSAA. The jurisdiction will also transfer initially with its existing rules and procedures.

As part of the transfer the FHSAA will move from the current Harrogate offices to be administered within the Tribunal Service. You are requested to ensure that all correspondence to be received by the FHSAA on or after 1st April 2009 and any decision that conveys a right of appeal to the FHSAA uses the new address, which is:

**Tribunals Service
Family Health Services Appeal Authority
York House
31-36 York Place
LEEDS
LS1 2ED**

Other contact details, as shown at the foot of this letter, will also change and will be available after 1st April 2009.

Yours faithfully


**Paul Kelly
President**