



Subject Prescription Committee Reading Fee for Board Members
Purpose For Decision
From Brian James, Director of Registration

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1. Summary

This paper sets out the proposed continuation of additional reading fees for non-Board members of the Prescription Committee. It is a continuation of an existing Board decision from April 2021.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Board:

- Agrees the continued payment of reading time for non-Board members in 2022, and until new arrangements for the prescription decision-making process are in place

3. Open/Confidential Session

Open

4. Contribution to the Board's Purpose and Objectives

In delivering the Act, ARB's objectives are:

5. Key Points

- 5.1 In April 2021, the Board agreed to pay an additional half day attendance fee to all members of the Prescription Committee. This increase recognised the volume and complexity of the paperwork, which was a direct consequence of the current Board procedures, and was due for review in December 2021. The original decision was set with a review date of December 2021.
- 5.2 The modernisation work relating to Initial Education and Training has started, but we will not be in a position to make changes to current procedures until that work advances significantly. Therefore, the current approach to paper production will continue, with the need for additional reading time.
- 5.3 We propose to continue the current arrangements for non-Board members of the Committee in the meantime. Board member remuneration has been addressed elsewhere, so this recommendation applies only to non-Board members.
- 5.4 There are four non-Board members of the committee. The current arrangement, which we propose to continue, is that they claim a full day attendance, and an additional half day for the reading. This paper's recommendation relates only to the half day reading fee; the attendance day is already established within the budget and has not changed.

- 5.5 There are eight scheduled committee meetings in 2022, so the associated costs for this is 4 members x 0.5 days x £300 day rate x 8 committees = £4,800
- 5.6 This sum is within the budget assumptions for the year, and is offset by the savings made in travel, accommodation and subsistence as meetings are taking place via zoom.
- 5.7 This arrangement will continue until the Initial Education and Training work has concluded.

6. Resource Implications

The resource impact is set out in the body of the paper and is within ARB budget.

7. Risk Implications

No specific risks are associated with this continuation of expenses.

8. Communication

There are no external communication messages, aside from confirming with those affected committee members.

9. Equality and Diversity Implications

None identified.

10. Further Actions

Payments will continue to be made, and budgeting for future committee activity will include this. The current arrangement will continue until the Initial Education and Training development work is concluded.