



WMAS Newsletter

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SG/CM

A Must Read

The Joint Trade Unions have been informed that as from Monday 2 December 2013 WMAS are unilaterally varying the meal break policy. EOC will now INSTRUCT you where to take your meal break, as they see fit, irrespective of your personal circumstances or if you have your meal with you. We have tried to reach an agreement, including a trial in Birmingham and The Black Country which would have provided an opportunity for staff to have a meal provided, but the Executive Directors have rejected this.

This marks a radical departure from the way industrial relations have been conducted within WMAS. We have never seen this 'style' of management within the ambulance service before. This is why the service has developed to such a high standard over the years. You have all risen to the challenges faced by increasing demand, additional clinical skills and cut backs elsewhere in the NHS. Is it too much to ask for a little respect back from WMAS?

The overall responsibility for managing resources rest with the Executive Directors and senior managers of the Trust. They have failed to deal with meal breaks and now seem unable to agree a way forward in the same way we have always done so. They see intent in having their way irrespective of how it affects you.

The joint trade unions are considering our options and will feed back to you soon. In the meantime please feed back to us your views on this latest posture from the EMB.

Any thoughts please email the address above