

12 November 2004

**NHS EMPLOYERS WELCOMES AMICUS AGENDA FOR CHANGE
BALLOT RESULT**

NHS Employers, the new employers' organisation for the NHS in England, has welcomed the announcement today of the "yes" vote in the Amicus ballot on Agenda for Change.

Alastair Henderson, Deputy Director of NHS Employers, said this represented a sign of staff support for the agreement and was good news for the NHS as an employer:

'Implementation of Agenda for Change for more than one million staff across the NHS will benefit NHS employees, will support recruitment and retention and the development of new roles and opportunities and will help contribute to improvements in patient care,' he said.

Alastair added: 'The Shadow Executive has now concluded its work on the detailed terms and conditions to support the Agenda for Change proposals. It has taken a long time to produce a document of more than 150 pages and members of the NHS Council need to have sufficient time to consider it. The Shadow Executive has therefore agreed to reschedule the NHS Staff Council meeting (due to take place on November 16) to November 23.'

NHS Employers will be working closely with NHS organisations and staff from the Modernisation Agency - some of whom will transfer to NHS Employers - to support implementation. It will also take forward negotiations on the unsocial hours element of Agenda for Change.