

INLAND WATERWAYS SECTOR

WATERWAYS IRELAND PAY AWARDS FOR STAFF BASED IN NORTHERN IRELAND

RECORD OF DECISION IP/WI 15

Pursuant to the Agreement between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland establishing a North/South Ministerial Council done at Dublin on 8 March 1999, the Agreement between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland establishing Implementation Bodies done at Dublin on 8 March 1999 and to the supplementary Agreement between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland constituted by the exchange of letters dated 18 June 1999, as amended by the supplementary Agreement between the Government of Ireland and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland constituted by the exchange of notes dated 19 November 2002, The Rt. Hon. Lord Rooker, Minister of State and Mr. Éamon Ó Cuív, T.D., Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs have given consent to the decision sought in **Paper IP/WI 15** set out below. The effective date of this decision is 9 August 2005.

Decision Sought in Paper IP/WI 15

Subject to the approval of Finance Ministers, Ministers are invited to approve the determination made by Waterways Ireland.

BACKGROUND

1. At the first Inland Waterways Sectoral meeting on 21 June 2000, the North South Ministerial Council (NSMC) agreed the organisational structure, staffing levels and pay and grading structure for Waterways Ireland. The Council also agreed that pay increases would be in line with ROI Public Sector pay increases for a period of 2 years from 21 June 2000. That agreement expired in June 2002.
2. Ministers approved the Waterways Ireland Pay Awards for 2002/2003 by Interim Procedure on 13 December 2002 and noted that a new arrangement would be put in place linking pay awards for Waterways Ireland employees based in Northern Ireland to pay awards applying to Northern Ireland Civil Service employees.
3. Consultations on the preferred option to put a new arrangement in place have been complex and protracted. However, at a meeting on 30 November 2004 facilitated by the NSMC Joint Secretariat, the arrangement set out in the determination in paragraph 4 below was agreed by Waterways Ireland, Department of Culture Arts and Leisure, Department of Community Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and the two Finance Departments.
4. Waterways Ireland have now determined that the new arrangement to be put in place linking pay awards for Waterways Ireland employees based in Northern Ireland to pay awards applying to Northern Ireland Civil Service employees is to:

retain existing pay scales for existing employees, linking increases in these scales to increases in Northern Ireland Civil Service scales and placing all new employees on analogous Northern Ireland Civil Service pay scales, linking

increases in these scales to increases in Northern Ireland
Civil Service scales.