

20001-412-012

Trott Grovehills

& ASSOCIATES
INDUSTRIAL LAW
& ORGANISATION

SUITE 105/106,
1ST FLOOR, NAGEL HOUSE,
KITCHENER STREET,
AUCKLAND 1,
P.O. BOX 4470,
PHONE: 31-994

Pr. No: 768181

Dear Bronwen,

Could you please look at enclosed
and let me have your
comments in letter or by phone
before 12 March. when Joan,

Alison & myself will be meeting
with Jennie Nicol.

Thanks very much

Regards

Kathy

27 February 1987

Ms Kelly Grovehills
Trott, Grovehills and Associates
PO Box 4470
AUCKLAND

Dear Ms Grovehills

Further to our telephone conversation yesterday I enclose a copy of the revised contract for domiciliary midwives prepared by the departments legal division. As I said yesterday this is a draft for discussion rather than a final edition.

My brief from the department is to explore the range of options open to the department with respect to the domiciliary midwifery service, in order to make the continuing availability of domiciliary midwives, and that home birth, a viable alternative for women.

The questions I am attempting to answer, after consultation with those concerned include -

- (1) Is a contract necessary?
- (2) If so, with whom?

possible options (a) the department
(b) ~~Area Health Boards~~
(c) ~~Hospital Boards~~

Not necessarily sympathetic

- (3) If a contract is not the most effective way to provide the service then what other alternatives are there?

Possible options (a) independent
(b) employment by GP's or practices
(c) ~~employment by Area Health Boards~~
(d) A grant to the ~~Home Birth Society~~ who then administer it *How calculate..*

???

At our meeting I would like to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the above options and any other options that you consider worth exploring.

I appreciate the opportunity to discuss both the draft contract and the above options with you and representatives of the Home Birth Association and the Auckland Domiciliary midwives.

Yours sincerely

Jennie Nicol

Jennie Nicol
Senior Policy Officer
Women, Children and Family Health

TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND FEES FOR
MIDWIVES AND REGISTERED NURSES PROVIDING
DOMICILIARY MATERNITY SERVICES

PURSUANT to section 110 of the Social Security Act 1964,
I, MICHAEL EDWARD RAINTON BASSETT, Minister of Health (including
any person who may from time to time hold that office or
undertake the duties of that office), hereby fix the terms and
conditions applicable to, and fix the fees payable to approved
registered midwives, and approved registered nurses in domiciliary
practice concerning obstetric nursing.

TERMS, CONDITIONS, FEES

1 The Department of Health shall pay the fees that may from
time to time be fixed by the Minister of Health, after consultation
with the Domiciliary Midwives Society (Inc), to approved
registered midwives, and approved registered nurses carrying
out obstetric nursing by providing maternity services in a
domiciliary situation.

2 No registered midwife and no registered nurse providing
maternity services in a domiciliary situation shall be entitled
to receive any fees from the Department of Health for providing
those services without being approved by the Minister of Health.

3 Registered midwives, and registered nurses seeking to provide
maternity services in a domiciliary situation in return for fees
from the Department of Health, may apply for approval on a form
to be provided by that department.

4 Following approval a registered midwife, or a registered
nurse providing maternity services in a domiciliary situation,
shall receive fees from the Department of Health for providing
the following maternity services -

- (a) Antenatal consultations (up to a maximum of 3);
- (b) Attendance of a woman in child birth;
- (c) Remaining with the woman during and for a reasonable time
after child birth;
- (d) Postnatal visits (up to a maximum of 14);

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- (e) Travelling related to the provision of maternity services;
- (f) Providing any other service related to obstetric nursing which is considered by the registered midwife, or registered nurse to be in the best interests of the woman, or the baby, or both.

5 For the purpose of enabling the registered midwife, and the registered nurse to provide maternity services in a domiciliary situation and to enable such midwives and such nurses to provide adequate services, the Department of Health shall reimburse such midwives and such nurses for any pharmaceutical requirement that may reasonably be used in the interests of the woman, or baby, or both.

6 The Department of Health shall compile a list of registered midwives, and registered nurses providing maternity services in a domiciliary situation and who are approved by the Minister for this purpose.

7 Registered midwives and registered nurses who are receiving fees from the Department of Health for providing maternity services in a domiciliary situation, shall comply in all respects with regulations 8, 9, and 10 of the Obstetric Regulations 1986.

8 Registered midwives and registered nurses who have been approved by the Minister of Health and who are receiving fees for providing maternity services in a domiciliary situation shall (unless unable to do so) provide those services personally and not through the use, employment, or engagement of any other person. Where a registered midwife or registered nurse is unable to personally provide maternity services in any particular case, that midwife or registered nurse shall arrange for those services to be provided by another registered midwife or registered nurse who has been approved by the Minister of Health.

9 A registered midwife or registered nurse providing maternity services in a domiciliary situation, shall only provide those services in the health district or area health board district indicated in their application for approval by the Minister of Health.

* 10 The Minister of Health may, from time to time, after consultation with the Domiciliary Midwives Society (Inc), alter

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the terms, conditions, or fees applicable to approved registered midwives and registered nurses providing maternity services in a domiciliary situation.

Annual review.

11 Without limiting section 122 of the Social Security Act 1964, the Minister of Health may by notice in writing to that effect, withdraw the approval of any registered midwife or registered nurse providing maternity services in a domiciliary situation. An approved registered midwife or registered nurse providing maternity services in a domiciliary situation may, by notice in writing to that effect, withdraw her offer to provide such services. The period of notice in this condition shall be agreed between the registered midwife or registered nurse and the Department of Health.

Registered nurses

*Redress if approval
withdrawn by Minister.*

APPLICATION BY REGISTERED MIDWIFE OR REGISTERED NURSE
FOR APPROVAL TO PROVIDE MATERNITY SERVICES
IN A DOMICILIARY SITUATION

TO: THE MINISTER OF HEALTH

I, _____,

of _____,

a * _____

- *(a) Registered midwife⁽¹⁾; or
- *(b) Registered comprehensive nurse and registered midwife; or
- *(c) Registered general and obstetric nurse and registered midwife -

HEREBY SIGNIFY that I am prepared to provide maternity services in the _____

(Name of health district or area health district)

Health District⁽²⁾⁽³⁾ upon the terms, conditions, and for the fees for the time being fixed by the Minister of Health.

(Signature)

(Date)

Notes:

- (1) Practising midwifery immediately before 1 April 1984.
- (2) Specified in the Health Districts Order 1987, or the several Area Health Districts Orders.
- (3) If the maternity services are to be provided in only part of the district, please specify those areas.