

Ms Lynne McLean
14 Rodrigo Rd., Lyall Bay, Wellington.

873.801.

15 November, 1982.

The Director,
Dept. of Trade & Industries,
Wellington.

Dear Sir,

I wish to apply for an exemption from the wage and price freeze regarding payments made to domiciliary midwives.

Correspondence regarding an increase in fees began again on 11 October 1981, with a letter to Dr J Phillips, Director, Division of Clinical Services, Dept. of Health, requesting him to initiate a review and subsequent increase of fees paid to domiciliary midwives. This brought a negative result and correspondence with the Minister of Health, Mr A Malcolm then ensued on 3 March 1982 and 17 May 1982 requesting an increase in fees and a meeting to discuss the matter. For various reasons put forward by the Minister, a meeting did not take place until the 16 July 1982, at which time the Minister informed me that domiciliary midwives had been granted a 17% increase with effect from 1 October, 1982. By this time, the wage and price freeze was already in force.

Domiciliary midwives are self employed but paid a maternity benefit by the Health Dept. (similar to that paid to medical practitioners for maternity work). No private fee is permitted to be charged.

Details of payments are as follows:-

Ante natal visit	\$ 4.25
Day or days of labour	36.00
Post natal visits (14)	7.25 per day.
<u>Total</u>	\$141.75 per case x 6 cases per month x 11 months = \$9355.50 p.a., before taxation.

Fees paid to domiciliary midwives have not been increased since 1 October 1980 despite efforts by midwives. There is no provision for C.O.L. adjustments etc. and it is felt that in view of our efforts and low income that application for this exemption is justified.

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I would be happy to supply copies of these letters, or any other information you may require.

Yours sincerely,

Lynne McLean,
Secretary,
Domestic Midwives Society of N.Z. (Inc.),
Wellington.