

# NZ Industrial Relations Consultancy

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Dr Michael Bassett  
Minister of Health  
Parliament Buildings  
Private Bag  
WELLINGTON

Dear Dr Bassett

## DOMICILIARY MIDWIVES

As you are aware the above group of health professionals have for some time been seeking to revise the terms of the contract under which they are remunerated by the Health Department.

Encouraged by the commitment you indicated earlier this year to the establishment of a negotiating mechanism for them; and aware of the commitment of the Labour Party to the domiciliary midwifery service, they have asked us to approach you on their behalf to seek clarification on how best to set this mechanism in place.

They are increasingly concerned that their present level of income cannot sustain the domiciliary midwifery professionals currently working throughout New Zealand, thus severely jeopardising the option of safe home birth and its recognised benefits for New Zealand women.

Could you please indicate to us the name of the appropriate officer in the Health Department to whom we should communicate.

Thank you in anticipation for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

K Grovehills  
Advocate