



## 2021 LHN CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

### MEMBER UPDATE No.20 [24 January 2022] – final edition

## AGREEMENT SIGNED – DISPUTE AT AN END

Today (24 January 2022), a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by the Presidents of RDASA, AMA(SA), and all LHNs. [Read the MoU attached to this email.](#)

Since *Update 19* (4 January 2022, that reported *in principle agreement* reached) we have been negotiating with RSS to codify the details into an agreed MoU. That task is completed. The MoU is now signed. Our, well over, nine month dispute is now at an end.

The MoU represents RSS' sixth formal position, along with further modifications achieved to Members' benefit right up to the point of signature. We have maximised the outcome for Members.

The power and influence of RDASA and AMA(SA) has been on show. Not only through being able to resource and coordinate this sustained campaign and industrial negotiation but also through the two Associations' access to the SA Minister for Health.

In the end, we forced the SA Cabinet to step in (December 2021) to authorise new funding. This enabled us to get very near what we originally demanded (via our *March 2021 Reform Offer* (the RDASA & AMA(SA) original claim).

Members have been very much a part of achieving this great MoU outcome. Members' were heavily consulted to design our original claim, then Members' mandated our position when things 'got tough' by attending the largest ever meeting of rural SA GPs (21 July 2021). Throughout, Members have been engaged and given us feedback to ensure we remained unwavering and on the 'right track'.

### MoU KEY FEATURES (Agreement short summary)

The [MoU is attached to this email](#) for Members' information. Its content dictates what, at least, will be contained in your new LHN / GP locally agreed contract. Key features of the MoU follow (not an exhaustive list):

- MoU global increase is valued at in excess of 20 percent per annum, over two years (on top of the 2017 SARFMA);
- we are 'back at the table' negotiating within 18 months for further improvements;
- on site sessional (\$220 per hour) rates are now available (see MoU clause 3);
- any GP not happy with what they are offered by an LHN can dispute their offer and seek modification through a formal process (see MoU Part E);
- process to deliver Adelaide CPI indexation, replacing MBS indexation if greater, by December 2022 and process to deliver GP Registrar supports (see MoU Part G);



- \$12,000 sign on payment (in lieu of no new contact since November 2021);
- Wi-Fi introduced into LHNs and there are a suite of LHN IT and workplace supports guaranteed (full list at MoU clause 5.1);
- \$50,000 (up to & if eligible) payment for working in MMM 6-7 (see MoU clause 2.3);
- \$1,500 for Sunrise Training, \$660 payment for six mandatory training modules, with other training and LHN meetings paid at \$220 per hour.

## NEXT STEP

You will receive an LHN contract offer that reflects the MoU content. This offer is based on the template contract we worked with RSS to design over two full days of face to face technical and collaborative effort (20 – 21 January 2022).

## UPDATE 20 – THE FINAL EDITION

Congratulations to Members for supporting this well over nine (9) month hard bargaining process. We hope these *Updates* have been valuable to keep you informed. We believe these *Updates* have helped maintain our momentum and have helped maintained our collective mandate.

It is Members that have resourced this extensive campaign and its outcomes. We do encourage you to explain to your non-member colleagues the value of joining their professional Associations.

---

**Please feel free to distribute this *Member Update and MoU*.**

If you are not a member, please consider joining, by visiting the [RDASA](#) and [AMA \(SA\)](#) websites.

To provide comment or feedback, or for more information, please contact:

- RDASA: President: Dr Peter Rischbieth ([Peter.Rischbieth@bridgeclinic.com.au](mailto:Peter.Rischbieth@bridgeclinic.com.au)) or Treasurer: Dr Scott Lewis ([drscott@internode.on.net](mailto:drscott@internode.on.net)).
- AMA(SA): Vice President: Dr John Williams ([jcwilliams1967@mac.com](mailto:jcwilliams1967@mac.com) or [president@amasa.org.au](mailto:president@amasa.org.au)) or Chief Executive Officer: Dr Samantha Mead ([CEO@amasa.org.au](mailto:CEO@amasa.org.au)).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J Williams', written over a dotted line.

**Dr John Williams**  
Vice President AMA(SA)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P Rischbieth', written over a dotted line.

**Dr Peter Rischbieth**  
President RDASA