

be paid or distributed to, or amongst, persons over the age of 16 claiming as personal representatives, legatees, next of kin or creditors of the deceased. It is possible for a proprietor of a residential care home to claim as a creditor where there were unmet accommodation charges at the time of death.

Cancer Treatment

Mr. Meacher asked the Secretary of State for Social Services if he will list all the cancer units for treatment of (i) in-patients and (ii) out-patients that have closed since 1979, giving the number of beds involved in each case and the date of closure; and if he will list those cancer units whose closure is now being sought or has been approved but not yet implemented.

Mrs. Currie: I shall let the hon. Member have a reply as soon as possible.

Hospitals (Cross Infection Rate)

Mr. Meacher asked the Secretary of State for Social Services if he will list all information available to him about the cross-infection rate in hospitals over the last seven years.

Mrs. Currie: Estimates of cross infection rates in hospitals as requested are not available.

NHS (Property Sales)

Mr. Meacher asked the Secretary of State for Social Services if he will list all surplus National Health Service property sold since 1979 in excess of £50,000, the price obtained and the date of sale.

Mrs. Currie: I shall let the hon. Member have a reply as soon as possible.

Retirement Pensions

Mr. Meacher asked the Secretary of State for Social Services if he will indicate the average additional component payable each year since 1978 on top of the basic retirement pension for persons who retired each year since then on average earnings; and what he estimates the additional component will be each year from now until 1998 if prices rise 3 per cent. per year and average earnings rise 5 per cent. per year.

Mr. Major: The information requested is shown in the table. The amounts apply to a person in full-time employment who has consistently earned at the level of average male earnings since 1978, who is not contracted out of the state earnings-related pension scheme, and who retires on 6 April in each year. The amounts are weekly and rounded to the nearest 5p.

Year	Amount of additional component £
1978	nil
1979	0.95
1980	2.20
1981	3.95
1982	6.20
1983	8.45
1984	10.80

Year	Amount of additional component £
1985	13.55
1986	16.25
1987	20.05
1988	23.85
1989	27.50
1990	31.40
1991	35.75
1992	40.50
1993	45.45
1994	51.05
1995	56.90
1996	63.50
1997	70.35
1998	78.05

AIDS

Mr. Dobson asked the Secretary of State for Social Services whether he will review the disposal of National Health Service property in the light of future needs resulting from the likely spread of AIDS.

Mrs. Currie: Health authorities are responsible for keeping their estates under regular review and disposing of any properties for which there is no future requirement. In discharging this responsibility, we expect authorities to take into account any plans for the development of services for those suffering from AIDS.

Mr. Dobson asked the Secretary of State for Social Services if he will take steps to compensate those haemophiliacs who have been infected with AIDS by Factor VIII brought from the United States of America.

Mr. Newton: I shall let the hon. Member have a reply as soon as possible.

Mr. Stuart Holland asked the Secretary of State for Social Services (1) whether anti-viral lubricant agents will be made freely available for use in conjunction with condoms as an added measure to prevent the spread of the AIDS virus;

(2) whether in the Government's advertising campaign to promote safer sex and the prevention of the spread of AIDS virus he will be advising people to use the anti-viral lubricant agents in conjunction with condoms.

Mr. Newton [pursuant to his reply, 12 December 1986, c 294]: Current advice is that if a lubricant is used with a condom it is important that it should not weaken the condom material, as can happen with some oil-based gels. It is theoretically possible that anti-viral agents added to lubricants might provide additional protection against HIV (the AIDS virus). Products promoted as anti-viral lubricants require licences under the Medicines Act 1968 and have to be assessed for quality, safety and efficacy: this assessment would also involve consideration of interaction with barrier contraceptives. At present, there are no product licences in force for any anti-viral lubricant for use in conjunction with condoms as a prophylactic against HIV infection.

Social Workers (Deaths)

Mr. Dobson asked the Secretary of State for Social Services how many social workers were killed on duty in 1978 and in each year since.