

hep C file. L1V3

**RESTRICTED - POLICY**

**Dr Metters DCMO**  
**Mr Blake SOLB**  
**Mr Brownlee F1**  
**Mr Dobson FPA FPS**  
**Ms Fletcher-Cooke HCD SCS(B)**  
**Dr Nicholas HP3B**  
**Dr Rejman CA OPU2**  
**Mr Sharpe HP4**  
**Mr Waterhouse HCD SCS(A)**  
**Mr Snedden SO**  
**Mr Williams WO**  
**Mr Baker DHSS NI**

**From: Mr Guinness CA OPU1-2**  
**Date: 31 January 1996**  
**Copy: Mr Pudlo CA OPU2**

**COMPENSATION FOR HAEMOPHILIACS WITH HEPATITIS C (HCV)**

1. PS(H) has been giving further thought to the issue of awarding compensation to haemophiliacs who contracted hepatitis C before routine screening of blood products was introduced. He is well aware of our current position on this issue and the reasons for this. However, against a background of mounting political pressure, he would like to explore the options for offering compensation, if only to assure himself that we have done all that is feasible.
2. I have therefore been asked to prepare a submission:-
  - setting out costed options for compensation (which could vary, for example, according to factors such as age, the existence of dependents, hardship factors, limited to those who have actually developed HepC).
  - assessing how far any of these options are likely to be acceptable to the Haemophilia Society
  - providing advice on the likely availability of funds and the implications any change in policy might have in terms of triggering off demands from other areas.
3. The submission is due with PS(H) on Friday 9 February. The Permanent Secretary has asked to see it a reasonable time before it goes up.
4. I attach a draft, and would be grateful to receive any comments by close on Friday 2 February.

**K J GUINNESS**  
**EH 303**

**GRO-C**