

NOTE OF A MEETING HELD ON 7 OCTOBER 1982 TO DISCUSS THE REDEVELOPMENT OF  
THE BLOOD PRODUCTS LABORATORY, ELSTREE

PRESENT: Mr Finsberg  
Mr Cashman  
Mr Godfrey  
Mr Angilley  
Mr Harris

1. The meeting discussed Mr Godfrey's submission and investment appraisal dated 22 September.

Submission to Treasury

2. Mr Finsberg agreed that the investment appraisal should go forward to the Treasury seeking approval to redevelop BPL at a size (a) capable of making England and Wales self-sufficient in blood products, and (b) capable of extracting all therapeutic materials from the plasma it would receive, and selling surplus materials to industry, subject to the following points:-
  1. the cost limit should be set at £21.1m ie there should be no contingency allowance; and
  2. the investment appraisal should be amended to reflect a lower expected production level in the Laboratory's first year of operation, given the complexity of commissioning a plant of this size.

Funding

3. Mr Finsberg agreed a further pre-emption of health authorities' capital in 1985-86. He stressed to officials the need to record formally in appropriate minutes health authorities' support for this project.

Project Steering Committee

4. Mr Godfrey explained that the Central Blood Laboratories Authority was likely to ask for DHSS to be represented on its project steering committee. Mr Finsberg felt that the project should be left entirely to the Authority (on which DHSS would be represented through Dr Harris, DCMO), but he wished to seek Sir Kenneth Stowe's view on the need for such representation to protect the Accounting Officer's responsibilities, given the size of the project.

Ministerial Action

5. Mr Finsberg asked for a copy of the revised investment appraisal to put to MS(H) for information.

*ms cyfayn*

*Please copy to*

*Mr Noddar  
Dr Harris  
Mr Bench  
Dr Walford  
Mr Thomas (w.o)  
Mr Wastle (SHHO)*