

**Tomecki Natalie LEGAL GROUP DWP-DH LITIGATION**

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**From:** Jecock Rowena DOH GSI  
**Sent:** 17 March 2010 08:46  
**To:** Kent Graham LEGAL GROUP DH LEGAL SERVICES  
**Cc:** Wight Ailsa DOH GSI; Cole Ben DOH GSI; Webb Debby DOH GSI; Tomecki Natalie LEGAL GROUP DWP-DH LITIGATION  
**Subject:** RE: DH website update on Contaminated Blood PMB/Irish position - commissioned via meeting note of MS(PH) meeting with Eddie O'Hara MP and Sylvia Heal MP

Thanks for rapid response, Graham.

I thought you might advise against this ahead of the JR hearing, so please be prepared to advise on wording thereafter.

"Kent Graham  
LEGAL GROUP DH  
LEGAL SERVICES"  
<GRAHAM.KENT@GRO-C>  
GRO-C

To  
Rowena Jecock/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C, Ben  
Cole/HP-SL/DOH/GB@GRO-C

CC  
17/03/2010 08:37 Debby Webb/HP-SL/DOH/GB@GRO-C, Ailsa  
Wight/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C, "Tomecki  
Natalie LEGAL GROUP DWP-DH  
LITIGATION"  
<NATALIE.TOMECKI@GRO-C>

Subject  
RE: DH website update on  
Contaminated Blood PMB/Irish  
position - commissioned via  
meeting note of MS(PH) meeting with  
Eddie O'Hara MP and Sylvia Heal MP

Rowena,

I would strongly recommend NOT doing this until the case is decided.

We are already having difficulty holding everything together and we do not need another front

- it would look very bad to do this just before the hearing/decision,

Graham

Graham Kent  
Public Health and Medical Ethics  
DH Legal Services (part of legal Group)

GRO-C

graham.kent@GRO-C

-----Original Message-----

From: Jecock Rowena DOH GSI

Sent: 17 March 2010 08:33

To: Cole Ben DOH GSI

Cc: Webb Debby DOH GSI; Wight Ailsa DOH GSI; Kent Graham LEGAL GROUP DH LEGAL SERVICES

Subject: DH website update on Contaminated Blood PMB/Irish position - commissioned via meeting note of MS(PH) meeting with Eddie O'Hara MP and Sylvia Heal MP

Ben,

Could you start preparing some material to update the DH website in line with MS(PH)'s request below.

She would like us to include an explanation of why we consider the legislative route not to be appropriate for the PMB, and is particularly keen to see a definitive explanation of the Irish position.

Given that we have a JR hearing coming up on the Irish point, we must make sure that SOL sees our proposed wording for the website, and is content with what we plan to say. Am cc'ing to Graham to let him know that we shall be seeking his advice within the next few days.

MS(PH) would like this done quite quickly - and unless there are very good reasons to delay - eg because of the JR hearing on 25/26 March - I think we should try to get material to the web team by the beginning of next week.

Although not mentioned in Yemi's note, MS(PH) was also considering the idea of sending a short briefing note to MPs - especially those who have signed the EDM supporting Lord Morris' PMB - to explain the Govt position. Please keep that in mind as you prepare the website update, as we can probably use much of the same material for the briefing note. My guess is that she will want to go ahead with that.

Thanks - both Debby and I happy to discuss, and to look at material when prepared. Ro

----- Forwarded by Rowena Jecock/PH6/DOH/GB on 17/03/2010 08:16 -----

Yemi



Fagun/PH1/DOH/G

B

To

Rowena Jecock/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C

12/03/2010

cc

15:55

Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C, Debby

Webb/HP-SL/DOH/GB@GRO-C

Subject

Contaminated Blood PMB - MS(PH)

meeting with Eddie O'Hara MP and

Sylvia Heal MP - summary

Hello Rowena

Thanks for coming over to brief and support MS(PH) before and during her meeting with Eddie O'Hara MP and Sylvia Heal MP. I know she found your support invaluable. Here is a summary of the main points raised at the meeting.

MS(PH) stressed that she and Sofs understood the sentiments of the Bill and believed that it was an important instrument in raising issues. Nevertheless, she didn't think that the legislative route was necessary because most of the clauses were already being implemented in some shape or form. MS(PH) also raised the issue of personal health budgets and how they could help this group of patients. She requested that the MPs find out if affected haemophiliacs would find this helpful.



Eddie O'Hara MP emphasised the importance of monetary payments and pointed out that in their view the Irish model was the starting point - especially as the number of affected haemophiliacs was easy to determine. He also mentioned his constituent, Mrs GRO-A who doesn't get any money whatsoever because her husband died before the cut off date.

Sylvia Heal MP wanted to know why Hep C patients only got two payments when HIV patients got annual payments.

Rowena Jecock explained the different ex-gratia payment schemes that had been set up and confirmed that the Skipton Fund did not make retrospective payments. She also pointed that although the number of affected haemophiliacs was easy to determine, it would be difficult to identify and quantify the number of non-haemophiliacs who were affected. Rowena also provided an update on work in this area eg the Haemophilia Alliance and the work to actively seek out and identify Hep C patients who are unaware that they had been infected.

The MPs asked why the Government did not think that the Irish situation was comparable to the UK. Rowena explained that that the Department had taken pains to check the accuracy of their understanding of the sequence of events in Ireland. In Ireland an expert group had found fault with the Irish Blood service before the judicial inquiry. As a result of the expert group's findings, the Irish Government set up a compensation/payment scheme on a non-statutory basis. This scheme was put on a statutory footing once the judicial inquiry was completed. This was not the understanding of the MPs.

MS(PH) requested that they be updated to include the information about Ireland. She gave the MPs a paper which outlined DH's position on each of the Bill's clauses and asked that the DH website be updated with this information.

Eddie O'Hara confirmed that they would be going back to discuss the issues presented by MS(PH) with Lord Morris.

Yemi

Yemi Fagun

Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister of State for Public Health GTN GRO-C

MS(PH)'s box times are 2pm on Monday-Wednesday and noon on Thursday.  
MS(PH) does not take a box on Fridays.

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