

MAH.80

12/93

1. Mr Cashman  
2. Mr Heppell  
3. Mr Hart

GRO-C

From: Mr M Harris HSI

Date: 15 December 1987

Copy: Dr Harris  
Dr Smithies  
Dr Moore

BTS

The letter of 4 December from the Inter-Regional Secretariat refers.

2. A discussion in January of just one option would be inappropriate. The report makes out a powerful case for some change. My personal view is that a SHA run service is unlikely to be the right approach. However Ministers ought to have the opportunity of considering this option amongst others in the context of the report as a whole.

3. The suggested way forward is that after taking advice from the Advisory Committee on the NBTS we will prepare a paper presenting the report and options for change to the HPSS PC (February), NHSMB, and then Ministers. A discussion paper on the suggested way forward together with a copy of the report would then be widely circulated for discussion.

4. This seems preferable to sending out the report itself for consultation and then having to do the same again in respect of the preferred option. A consensus is unlikely to form round the options in the report.

5. I attach a draft reply.

GRO-C

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