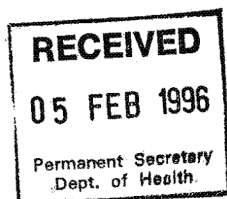


Perm Sec - any comments on this draft?

RESTRICTED - POLICY

Mr Dyson PS/PermSec

From: Mr Guinness CA OPU1-2
Date: 5 February 1996
Copies: Dr Metters DCMO
Mr Brownlee F1
Mr Dobson FPA FPS
Dr Harding EOR3
Dr Nicholas HP3B
Dr Rejman CA OPU2
Mr Sharpe HP4
Mr Waterhouse HCD SCS(A)
Mrs James SOLB4
Mr Pudlo CA OPU2
Mr Young HCD SCSB1
Mr Snedden SO
Mr Williams WO
Mr Baker DHSS NI



COMPENSATION FOR HAEMOPHILIACS WITH HEPATITIS C (HCV)

1. As you know, 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 Permanent Secretary asked to see the submission before it went up to PS(H) and I attach a draft. It is due on Friday.

- ① Not clearly discretionary scheme (paras 16-18) could be operated with or only as a supplement to a lump sum scheme. A scheme costing only £12m a year (which is what para 40, 2nd list appears to offer) looks very good.
- ②

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