

1. Mr Pudlo CA OPU2
(agreed in draft)
2. Ms Weatherseed, PS/PS(H)

From : Ann Towner CA OPU2
Date : 20 December 1995
Copy : Mr Holden, PS/SoS
Mr Guinness CA OPU2
Dr Rejman CA OPU2
Mrs Vaughan, Corres
Mr Levy CA OPU2

CORRESPONDENCE ON COMPENSATION FOR HAEMOPHILIACS INFECTED WITH
HEPATITIS C

1. You rang to advise that PS(H) would like the words "at present" inserted in the statement that "we have no plans to make special payments" in our replies to correspondence on compensation for haemophiliacs infected with hepatitis C. (Case POH(3)4579/230 appears to be the case you had in mind where PS(H) had himself already made such an amendment.)
2. In answering recent parliamentary questions and in adjournment debates PS(H) has said that he wishes to study the Haemophilia Society's interim report of its impact study carefully before coming to any conclusions about its implications. He has also indicated a willingness to study any new proposals (eg for schemes limited to those who develop chronic illness). However we fear that if we were to qualify the existing line in correspondence as suggested, it would be taken as indicating a weakening of the Government's position, and imply that compensation is being considered and further continued pressure would lead to concessions.
3. In view of the above, PS(H) may wish to discuss the proposed additional wording with SoS.

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