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Chief Scientist/Head of Profession/Branch Head Documents - Unformatted Document

**"Re: info for john reid"**

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| File Reference: | WRK/002  |
| File Title:     | Working Files - Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) |
| Filed by:       | Carole Dobson/PH5/DOH/GB on 26/10/2004 at 15:36        |
| Created by:     | Richard Gutowski/PH6/DOH/GB on 29/09/2004 at 10:44     |

Carole Dobson/HPIHSD/DOH/GB, <- By default all readers can see document.

**Document Security:**

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**Modification History:**

15/02/2005 16:49 (Andrew Nicholas) - Updated prefix description

Ailsa

Thanks for passing this on. Carol Grayson is well known to us as an independent campaigner against the Hep C payment scheme and the need for an independent enquiry on self sufficiency in blood claiming that the Department knowingly allowed contaminated blood to be used in the 1970's/1980's. All the accusations in her E mails and the letter to her Consultant she refers to are not new and have been answered in PQ's, statements in the House by PS(PH) and PS(L), PO cases, TO cases, in numerous telephone conversation and more recently in a long detailed letter from me about two months ago.

Minister,s have repeatedly refused to meet with Carol Grayson and other members of her group following an aggressive confrontation she had with the then PS(PH) Ivette Cooper and a meeting with officials after which she insisted that they present Lord Hunt with bags of contaminated blood that they had brought with them In my most recent letter I stated that I saw no need for a meeting as all her points had already been addressed by the Department and that I felt a meeting would serve no useful purpose. I intend to respond to her recent note on the lines that we have nothing to add to my letter and that a meeting with SofS is not needed.

You will note her veiled threat to dress up as catwoman and scale Big Ben. Such threats are not be taken lightly. Two of her fellow campaigners in Scotland recently threw cans of red paint at the walls of the new Scottish Parliament building on the day it opened as part of their push for a public enquiry.

On the question of an enquiry our line is that we have no evidence to show that there was any wrong doing at the time and that an enquiry was not justified. We recently commissioned further

work , folowing agreement by Melanie Johnson, into the allegations being made. That report, which is currently being peer reviwed, has concluded that the government at the time acted reasonably. We will therefore be putting a submission to Ministers in the near future on how the conclusions of the review can be made public.

You will also wish to be aware that the whole question was debated at this years Lib Dem Party Conference when a motion was passed supporting the call for a public enquiry. I would be grateful for advice from Private Office as to whether we have to respond to that motion in any way.

Richard

Ailsa Wight

**Ailsa Wight**

27/09/2004 11:37

To:  
Gutowski/PH6/DOH/GB@[GRO-C]  
cc:  
bcc:  
Subject:

Richard

info for john reid

Dr Ailsa Wight  
Head of Programme, General Health Protection,  
Standards and Quality Group  
640 Skipton House  
[GRO-C]

----- Forwarded by Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB on 27/09/2004 11:37 -----

**Michael Clarke**

24/09/2004 17:41

To:  
Feinstein  
cc:  
Rowena Jecock, Ed Davis  
Subject:

Helena

Ailsa Wight,

info for john reid

Michael Clarke  
Chief Press Officer - Public Health and Social Care  
Department of Health  
Tel. [GRO-C]  
Mob. [GRO-C]

----- Forwarded by Michael Clarke/COMMS/DOH/GB on 24/09/2004 17:41 -----

**"Carol Grayson"**

[GRO-C]

24/09/2004 17:14  
Please respond to  
"Carol Grayson"

To:  
Clarke/COMMS/DOH/GB@[GRO-C]  
cc:  
Subject:

Michael

info for john reid

Dear Mr Clarke,

Could you please ensure that Mr Reid, receives a copy of our letter to my husband's consultant and takes

note of our concerns. I repeat my request for a meeting with John Reid to discuss the mass contamination of haemophiliacs with blood borne viruses. The Skipton payments are a pittance and an insult, especially the exclusion of widows. It has cost us a total of £20, 000 to campaign out of our own pockets over a period of 10 years, so we have not gained anything, but money was never our main objective in campaigning anyway. We have always campaigned peacefully within the law. Do I have to scale Big Ben wearing a catsuit to get Mr Reid's attention! We intend to continue campaigning for the truth even if it takes the £20,000 from the Skipton Fund to achieve this. If this govt was really open it would hold a public inquiry into the contaminated blood scandal. Mr Reid after your recent announcement on vCJD, why don't you stand up now and repeat the govt line that it is not in the interest of the public to hold an inquiry into blood safety, and see what response you get!

Carol Grayson (Haemophilia Action UK)

Peter Longstaff (Haemophiliac, HIV, Hepatitis B and C) and exposed to vCJD on 12 occasions  
haemophiliac died of AIDS in 1986.)

**GRO-A**

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