

"Re: Litigation files found in Wel 517"

Document Type: Formal

File Title: GHP - Blood Policy - Haemophilia - Independent Public Enquiry into the supply

of contaminated NHS Blood & Blood products - Archer

File Reference: GHP/005/006/030 Vol 11

Protective Marking: No Marking

Filed by: William Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB on 23/09/2008 at 07:30

Created by: Patrick Hennessy on 18/07/2008 at 13:58

Named Security Prior To Moving To Archive:

Who can edit?	Nobody
Who has edited?	William Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB
Who can read?	All readers of the document database

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Modified Date and Time	Details
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18/08/2009 14:57	Modified registered file
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08/02/2012 15:48	Refiled from GHP/005/006/030 Vol 3 to GHP/005/006/030 Vol 11

Patrick Hennessy/POLICY/DOH/GB

18/07/2008 14:03

ToWilliam Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB@ GRO-C ccAilsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB@ GRO-C Laura Kennedy/OIS/DOH@ GRO-C Zubeda Seedat/PH6/DOH/GB@ GRO-C

SubjectRe: Litigation files found in Wel 51711367B2E5DE310C380257488002BF0DF

History: This message has been forwarded.

William

This refers to the hanging file system at the entrance of bay 517. It contains 41 folders of documents apparently compiled at the time of HIV litigation (1989-90). Some of it is out of scope of our review and disclosure of documents (i.e., it is later than mid 1986). However, there are papers from 1970-86. Both Linda and I took a look and concluded that these appeared to be copies or top copies of documents that were contained in the 'Wellington' and 'Solicitors' file series, and that had therefore been redacted and released under FOI. Some of the earlier papers appear to be unreleased, but until they are inventoried and cross-checked it is hard to say how many, and whether they add anything to what is known. Neither Linda nor myself nor Laura has found anything in these folders from 1970-86 that adds anything new. However, now that there is to be a public inquiry I think we have to be absolutely certain.

Quite apart from the FOI aspect, the folders contain many top copies of, e.g., correspondence with Ministers and advice from DH solicitors, so this material really should be inventoried and put in new registered files. Laura estimates that she could inventory this material by the end of August, and with her experience of these papers will be able to make a reasonable stab at identifying the more significant documents from the 1970-86 period. At that stage it could be considered whether any of it should be issued for the sake of completeness.

There may be a question as to whether we should tell Lord Archer now that we are going through some old unfiled papers from the litigation period, and that, if we find anything new and very relevant to his inquiry, we will let him know. However, this could simply get his team excited for nothing, as there is so far little sign that we will find many, if any, papers that add to what he already knows. I would be inclined to review the situation when these papers are inventoried.

Patrick

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William Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB

William Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB

16/07/2008 09:01

To Laura Kennedy/OIS/DOH@GRO-C cc Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C Patrick Hennessy/POLICY/DOH/GB@GRO-C Zubeda Seedat/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C

Subject Re: Litigation files found in Wel 517

Laura - thanks

Patrick - will you expand of the background to this please? Don't understand how come we have just found these files and what the significance is. Sorry I am very hectic right now and have not had time to assimilate all this properly.

William G Connon Head of Blood Policy Department of Health 530 Wellington House Waterloo Road London SE1 8EG

GRO-C