



With Compliments

Greg: I tried to Table a Question
but was told that Alf Morris had
beaten me to it. I attach a copy
of his reply.

David.

FROM: DAVID ALTON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON, SW1A 0AA

HOUSE OF COMMONS



071-219 3305

*With the Compliments of
The Table Office*

transitional grant allocation for 1994-95; and if she will make a statement;

(5) what representations she has received regarding the implications of charging for services arising as a result of the special transitional grant being exhausted in a number of local authorities;

(6) what advice she has given to those authorities who have already spent their 1994-95 special transitional grant allocation with regard to (a) meeting community care needs using other resources and (b) prioritising their responses to community care referrals.

Mr. Bowis: In addition to resources available to them through the personal social services standard spending assessment, local authorities have been given £1.27 billion to meet their additional responsibilities under the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990 in 1995-96 including a special transitional grant of some £736 million. We are aware of a few authorities which have expressed concern about the level of their resources for community care. It is for them to decide, from their total available resources, including special transitional grant, what proportion they wish to devote to community care taking account of local circumstances and priorities. It is also for them to manage those resources effectively throughout the year.

Organ Donor Register

Mr. Rooker: To ask the Secretary of State for Health if she will make a statement on the public response to the NHS organ donor register.

Mr. Sackville: Since 6 October, when the national health service organ donor register was launched, about 1.5 million leaflets with registration forms have been sent to post offices, general practitioner surgeries and other public places, and in response to the telephone freeline number 0800 777 555. We are very encouraged by the volume of applications already received including people registering through the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency and will continue to give full publicity to the register.

Water Fluoridation

Mr. Rooker: To ask the Secretary of State for Health what representations she has received from health authorities regarding the level of co-operation by water companies towards the fluoridation of water supplied in line with the levels suggested in her Department's oral health strategy for England.

Mr. Malone: A number of health authorities have, from time to time, made such representations.

Ministerial Travel

Mrs. Roche: To ask the Secretary of State for Health during how many of the overseas visits made by Ministers in her Department between 1 January and 30 June 1994 those Ministers participated in fund-raising activities for the Conservative party; and if she will list the Ministers and the countries in which those activities took place.

Mr. Sackville: None.

Hepatitis C

Mr. Alfred Morris: To ask the Secretary of State for Health how many people with haemophilia have

contracted hepatitis C in consequence of being given contaminated blood supplied under the NHS; how many have since died of the condition; what action she is taking in regard to compensation; and if she will make a statement.

Mr. Sackville: These figures are not collected centrally. There are methods of transmission of hepatitis C other than the use of blood and blood products. I understand from the United Kingdom haemophilia centre directors that, of 126 haemophilia patients known to have died in 1993, 12 showed the cause of death as liver disease of which hepatitis C may have been the cause.

We have no plans to make payments to haemophilia patients who may have been infected with hepatitis C.

Elderly Patients

Mr. Hanson: To ask the Secretary of State for Health what is the current number of National Health Service beds available for nursing elderly people.

Mr. Bowis: There is no designation of national health service beds, whether in hospitals or in nursing homes, intended specifically for the nursing of elderly people.

Secure Accommodation

Mr. McNamara: To ask the Secretary of State for Health what discussion her Department has had with Humberside county council about the provision of secure accommodation for young people on remand.

Mr. Bowis: I refer the hon. Member to the reply I gave my hon. Friend the Member for Wyre Forest (Mr. Coombs) on 22 April at columns 696-97 for details of the local authority capital programme, funded by the Government, to build an additional 170 secure places nationally for criminal justice purposes. The programme was drawn up in consultation with regional groups of authorities. No further secure provision is currently planned in Humberside, but a total of 17 additional places are to be provided by Sheffield and Leeds, to which all authorities in the Yorkshire and Humberside region will have access.

Mr. McNamara: To ask the Secretary of State for Health what additional resources she will give for Humberside county council to meet its responsibilities to provide secure accommodation for young people on remand.

Mr. Bowis: The Government are committed to paying a fair price through fees to local authorities where they are required to arrange secure accommodation for children and young people on remand.

Young People (Residential Care)

Mr. McNamara: To ask the Secretary of State for Health how many young people are in residential care in Humberside for whom there is no proper accommodation available; how many are forced to sleep on camp beds; and if she will make a statement.

Mr. Bowis: The arrangements made for the accommodation of children looked after by Humberside are the responsibility of Humberside county council.