

Mr Davies

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attached is a contribution
to Mr Macpherson's submission.
I have been unable to find
out what is happening in
Northern Ireland.

GRO-C

26/8.

Mr Macpherson

AIDS

I attach a short contribution for my interest to the PS minute on this subject that you are preparing. I assume that, taking account of Dr Covell's reservations, it will be desirable to arrange co-ordinated publicity in due course.

GRO-C

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BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

Mr John Patten announced last week that the screening test for blood donations will be introduced ~~on 14 October~~ *by mid-October. The actual date will be 14 October.* This will be the common commencement date for the introduction of the test throughout Great Britain. The 1985/86 revenue allocation for the SNBTS has been increased by £322,000 to provide for the purchase of screening test kits. As even the best tests can produce a number of false positives, confirmatory testing will be required on all those which the screening test shows as positive. Confirmatory testing in Scotland will be carried out at the Virology Reference Laboratory, Ruchill Hospital, Glasgow and the Clinical Virology Laboratory, Edinburgh University. Decisions on publicity have yet to be taken, but it is expected that publicity on the introduction of the blood screening test will be issued at the same time as that for the diversionary test.