

hep201

Dr Metters

From Roger Scofield

Date 1 May 1995

copies  
Dr Harvey PS/CMO  
Dr Rejman  
Dr Nicholas  
Mr Waterhouse  
Mr Kelly  
Mr Pudlo  
Ms Philips

**BRITISH LIVER TRUST**

Alison Rogers, Director of the British Liver Trust, wrote to CMO, 20th April concerning the Hepatitis C Look back exercise.

Whilst making no overt criticism of the exercise her letter suggested that there were a number of issues arising which need to be resolved and suggested a meeting.

The letter followed an article in the Independent 18 April in which Ms Rogers was reported as being highly critical of the way the exercise had been conducted. We do not know the background to this.

The BLT's interests are of course much wider than this one exercise and they may be using this to get into more general discussion with the Department. They are, or could be, a useful ally in the care of those affected by liver disorder. In the context of the look back we have publicly committed ourselves to supporting good value for money initiatives by self help groups. However the BLT have yet to prove themselves and find their place.

I understand that CMO is not keen to meet them himself. I suggest that you chair a meeting with support from those directly involved with the look back work and supplement this team if necessary when you have seen exactly what they want to talk about.

I attach a draft response.

R M T Scofield  
CA OPU  
EH303 Ext **GRO-C**

Ms Alison Rogers  
Director  
The British Liver Trust  
Central House, Central Avenue,  
Ransomes Europark,  
Ipswich IP3 9QG

[Date]

Dear Ms Rogers,

Thank you for your letter of 20th April. The Chief Medical Officer has asked me to reply.

I would be happy to meet with you and colleagues from the British Liver Trust to discuss the Hepatitis C Look back exercise and matters arising there from. If you would kindly let me have a list of the specific points you wish to address and the names of those who will accompany you, my secretary will seek to set up a meeting at Richmond House to include other Departmental officials involved.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Dr Jeremy Metters  
Deputy Chief Medical Officer