

NETRHA

↓ SE file

JDC/EP/FMM

28th August 1986

Dr E J Parker Williams
Department of Haematology
St George's Hospital Medical School
Cranmer Terrace
LONDON
SW17 0RE

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of the 19th August. It was good to hear from you again.

I find myself in a difficult position with regard to responding appropriately to your request for assistance for reasons which I'm sure you will understand. As a consequence I would, at this stage make the following points which are not confidential and are an extract from the conclusions section of my report for NETRHA. They are:-

1. "The supply and demand position of blood/blood products in the London (Home Counties) area, serviced by the Thames Regional Health Authorities, is seriously defective and it is anticipated that without radical change this position will become a matter of public concern within three years."
2. "The London Transfusion Services are not in a position to contribute effectively, and there is little prospect of them ever doing so, to the full realisation of the massive central government investment currently being made at BPL (Elstree)."
3. "The present position has arisen as a result of a long period of neglect with regard to management primarily at RHA but also at RTC levels."
4. "The changes proposed are largely cosmetic and designed to meet a specific crisis. However this needs to be followed by radical changes, based upon a plan to reorganise the London Transfusion Services as a whole so that they are co-ordinated into an operationally cohesive consortium."

Perhaps I should add that in the main body of my Report is contained the following statement, "It is the opinion of the author that the recent decision to appoint a General Manager to the Tooting Centre is a grave error of judgment."

2.

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It is my opinion that the most urgent need relates to improving and maintaining the quality of patient care in the London/Home Counties area with respect to access to blood/blood products and that this would be best served by examining ways of reorganising the London Transfusion Services into a co-ordinated consortium. If this proposal was given high priority then the local difficulties of Tooting would be more readily resolved. However, if this proposal is not pursued and the status quo is perpetuated then the most constructive suggestion I can make is for the medical profession in the region to persuade the RHA to commence an enquiry into the existing management arrangements at the Tooting Centre which should be conducted by individuals outside the region.

Kindest regards

Yours sincerely

John D Cash