



SCOTTISH HOME AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT

St. Andrew's House, EDINBURGH, EH1 3DE

Telephone: 031-556 8501, ext. GRO-C

J Harley Esq
Department of Health and Social Security
Hannibal House
Elephant and Castle
London
SE1 6TE

15 March 1982

Dear John

PFC, LIBERTON

We were most disappointed by the report in your letter of 4 March that the Policy Steering Group which is planning the new Blood Products Laboratory at Elstree has decided to recommend to the Joint Management Committee that it should proceed on the assumption that the BPL will process all plasma for England and Wales, although we have now demonstrated that half of your requirements could be supplied by the Protein Fractionation Centre at Liberton if it were to be run on the basis of shift working. I expect you will be advising your Ministers in due course of the public expenditure implications of this decision, and I have no doubt that our Minister for Health will wish to be assured at that point that full account has been taken of the potential capacity at the PFC, Liberton in the joint investment appraisal you and I have already agreed must be made.

X We have reason to believe from informal soundings that shift working arrangements are capable of being negotiated, and it seems altogether undesirable to assume that difficulties over this will prevent the PFC from playing a part in the processing of English plasma.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

A M MACPHERSON

X See note of S. Godfrey's visit to PFC 18.3.82.

20