



Department
of Health

21 FEB 2014

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Roger Evans
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19 February 2014

Dear Roger

Re: Business case for increased funding from 2014/15 onwards

Thank you for submitting a business case to the Department for increased funding for the Macfarlane Trust in 2014/15.

Ministers have decided that this is not the right time for an uplift in allocation, whilst they continue to consider how best to address a range of issues about the system of support available for those affected by contaminated blood, many of which were highlighted during the Westminster Hall debate on the topic on 29 October 2013.

I am also sorry that I am not yet able to confirm the Macfarlane Trust allocation for 2014/15 as ministers are still considering the overall apportionment of spend across the whole of the health system. I will let you know as soon as I can, once those decisions have been made.

I recognise that the decision not to increase funding will be disappointing news for the Trust, and that your Board will have to make some difficult decisions on how best to support its beneficiaries in the next financial year. However, I hope that it does not come as a surprise to you, given our discussion on a number of occasions of the continuing downward pressure on Government spending, and the need to carefully manage your beneficiaries' expectations. I would be happy to meet with you, if you would find it helpful to discuss your plans for 14/15.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

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