"Re: PQ09390 - Starred PQ Lord Jenkin of Roding"

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Jacky Buchan

18/04/2006 13:09

To: William Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB(GRO-C

cc: John Chan/PR-OFF/DOH/GB(GRO-C), Hugh Nicholas/PH6/DOH/GB(GRO-C), Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB(GRO-C),

Zubeda Seedat/PH6/DOH/GB(GRO-C), Rebecca

Spavin/ICB/DOH/GB(GRO-c)

Subject: Re: PQ09390 - Starred PQ Lord Jenkin of Roding

William,

Further to Lord Warner's questions, PS(PH) has asked:

Why didn't we check what papers the Devolved Administrations held when we found out we had destroyed some files?

Also, we state BPL did not take plasma sourced from US prisoner donations but that clinicians could purchase imported products and some Directors would request details of the source. Why didn't BPL take plasma sources from US prisoners were there concerns? If so, why wasn't guidance issued to Directors about the purchase of imported products.

Finally, PS(PH) is not convinced by the argument about destruction of documents from Lord Owen's private office. She said there surely must have been guidance from Cabinet Office - isn't there guidance now?

Jacky Buchan Assistant Private Secretary to Caroline Flint MP Public Health Minister

GRO-C Tel:

---- Forwarded by Jacky Buchan/PR-OFF/DOH/GB on 18/04/2006 13:01 -----

Rebecca Spavin

To: William Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB GRO-C

18/04/2006 10:40

cc: John Chan/PR-OFF/DOH/GB, Hugh Nicholas/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C], Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB@GRO-C], Zubeda Seedat/PH6/DOH/GB, Jacky Buchan/PR-OFF/DOH/GB

bcc:

Subject: Re: PQ09390 - Starred PQ Lord Jenkin of Roding

William,

We spoke. please could you bring along a copy of the Self Sufficiency report for MS(R) this morning.

I would be grateful if you could be aware of the following questions MS(R) for our meeting later this morning and for the briefing to be revised accordingly by no later than 5pm this evening - I realise that you may not be able to find answers to all these queries

general queries:

Why has the self sufficiency report no foreword from Caroline Flint/A N Other minister?

Did Caroline Flint or another minister clear this report?

Why has the review into self sufficiency taken so long?

Who are the authors of this report and what was if any there links to previous policy? Where are we up to on the FOI request regarding self sufficiency and why should we not follow the example of the Scottish executive and publish all documents?

Specific briefing questions:

Page 5: 1st bullet on 'Policy on Self Sufficiency', when was the money annoucened by Lord Owen?

Page 6: What is cyroprecipate?

Page 11: Does the advice on this page say that no prisoner doners are used in Uk products but that if a clinician chooses to use other products it is possible?

Page 12: When in the mid 1980s was technology for eliminating Hep c developed, if the virus was not identified until 1989?

Page 13: When was it shown that Hep C is a causative agent?

Page 14: Is human plasma from paid US donors used now?

page 16: When was it introduced that general clinical practice to warn patients?

Page 17: When in the 1980s was heat treatment developed and when and how quickly was heat treatment introduced into our products?

Page 18: What are the precise figures on those infected and are these numbers in the public arena? And what is the precise figure for the number dead? and in what period?

Page 19: Who established that papers had been destroyed?

Page 20: When were Lord Owen private office papers destroyed?

Page 21: Has policy on self suff changed and if so when? What is our current policy?

Page 22: When was the £1.3m funding for BPL assigned?

Page 24: Why can we not yet make an announcement on recombinant funding/treatment?

For information please find MS(R) amendments to the proposed answer;



PQ09390 Lord Jenkin Starred Self Suff MS(R) amendments 180406 stirke out.doc

Many Thanks

Becca Spavin APS/MS(R) GRO-C

John Chan

John Chan

To: Rebecca Spavin/ICB/DOH/GB@GRO-C

12/04/2006 17:47

bcc:

Subject: PQ09390 - Starred PQ Lord Jenkin of Roding

Becca

As promised.

John

---- Forwarded by John Chan/PR-OFF/DOH/GB on 12/04/2006 17:46 ----

Zubeda Seedat

12/04/2006 17:29

To: John Chan/PR-OFF/DOH/GB[GRO-C]
cc: William Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB[GRO-C], Hugh
Nicholas/PH6/DOH/GB[GRO-C], Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB[GRO-C]
Subject: PQ09390 - Starred PQ Lord Jenkin of Roding

John,

Enclosed is the reply and briefing for the above PQ.

Zubeda

Zubeda Seedat General Health Protection GRO-C

<< Attachment Removed: PQ09390 Lord Jenkin Starred Self Sufficiency.doc >><< Attachment Removed : Annex A.tif >>

need a meeting to discuss the whole issue fully and decide on the way forward. I will speak to PS(PH) about this and let you know.

Jacky Buchan
Assistant Private Secretary
to Caroline Flint MP
Public Health Minister

Tel: GRO-C William Connon

William Connon

18/04/2006 14:50

To: Jacky Buchan/PR-OFF/DOH/GB(GRO-C)
cc: Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB(GRO-C), Hugh
Nicholas/PH6/DOH/GB(GRO-C), John
Chan/PR-OFF/DOH/GB(GRO-C), Rebecca

Spavin/ICB/DOH/GB(GRO-C), Zubeda Seedat/PH6/DOH/GB(GRO-C)

bcc:

Subject: Re: PQ09390 - Starred PQ Lord Jenkins of Roding

Jacky,

The answers to your question are as follows:

Q: Why didn't we check what papers the Devolved Administrations held when we found out we had destroyed some files?

A: I don't know and there is no way of establishing the facts now. It appears that no-one did think to check with DA's which I agree was remiss.

Q: Also, we state BPL did not take plasma sourced from US prisoner donations but that clinicians could purchase imported products and some Directors would request details of the source. Why didn't BPL take plasma sources from US prisoners - were there concerns? If so, why wasn't guidance issued to Directors about the purchase of imported products.

A: BPL did not take plasma from prisoners simply because it didn't have to and felt it was better to avoid doing so for obvious reasons. I do not know why guidance was not issued to Directors and can only assume it was not felt to be necessary.

Q:Finally, PS(PH) is not convinced by the argument about destruction of documents from Lord Owen's private office. She said there surely must have been guidance from Cabinet Office - isn't there guidance now?

A: Private offices are not required to hold papers. All papers should be routinely either returned to officials in the department or destroyed. Cabinet Office have never issued guidance for that reason.

Rebecca Spavin 18/04/2006 13:58 To: William Connon/PD-PMD/DOH/GB(GRO.C), Jacky Buchan/PR-OFF/DOH/GB

cc: Hugh Nicholas/PH6/DOH/GB[GRO-C], Ailsa Wight/PH6/DOH/GB[GRO-C], Zubeda Seedat/PH6/DOH/GB[GRO-C]

bcc:

Subject: For action - by 5pm today - following briefing meeting Re: PQ09390 - Starred PQ Lord Jenkin of Roding

William,

Many thanks for attending this meeting.

Firstly can i just assume I will see officials in the Lords corridor for the question tomorrow?

MS(R) has asked for the following amendments to be made to the briefing pack - I would be grateful for these by 5pm this evening - although it is possible to receive this pack in the morning if necessary;

- Please could a half page Clinical chronology (i.e. 1974 a virus, not Hep A or B, is discovered - 1986 - successful treatment - 1989 identified Hep C etc etc...)
- A form of words that sets out that it is regrettable the report was not published sooner.
- Please update the lines on Page 12: When in the mid 1980s was technology for eliminating Hep c developed, if the virus was not identified until 1989?
- Please update the lines on Page 13: When was it shown that Hep C is a causative agent?
- Please update the lines on Page 14: Is human plasma from paid US donors used now?
- Please could either precise or around figures be used on Page 18: What are the precise figures on those infected and are these numbers in the public arena? And what is the precise figure for the number dead? and in what period?
- Please revise the wording on Page 20: When were Lord Owen private office papers destroyed?
- Please clarify the policy on Page 21: Has policy on self suff changed and if so when? What is our current policy?
- Please clarify Page 22: When was the £1.3m funding for BPL assigned?
- If anything changes overnight on this please can an updated note be put in tomorrow on Page 24: Why can we not yet make an announcement on recombinant funding/treatment?

If appropriate please also update MS(R) revised answer

Jacky,

MS(R) has asked for the following from PS(PH) - I would be grateful if you could get this agreement overnight - apologies for the short notice;

 MS(R) would like to announce in the house tomorrow that in principle we are not against the release/realising of documents used in the Self Suff review, but that first off they need to be annonymised to protect individuals. MS(R) would like for