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HP 119/11/1 Pt 5

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Mr. Jones

*I would hope that we might have gone
now for W.O. Can you provide a copy please*

Dear Paul

GRO-C 13/1

You replied on 20 November 1985 to John Davies' letter dated 23 October which recorded the considerable concern here at the time it was taking to issue guidance to surgeons, anaesthetists and dentists on the treatment of actual or potential AIDS sufferers.

Recent enquiries suggest that there is still no immediate prospect of that guidance issuing because it has become entangled with difficulties which are being experienced in agreeing guidelines to be issued by the ACDP.

I appreciate the problems which exist in that direction, but I have to record our view that still further delay in issuing the SAD guidance would be unacceptable. There is concern at the most senior levels in the Welsh Office that Ministers are being exposed to criticism for failing to provide Government guidance on a matter of real significance for public health.

Consequently, I must ask for an urgent indication of what is to be done to uncouple the issue of the SAD guidance from the deliberations of ACDP, which I understand will not even meet again until 6 February.

Is there something I am missing in all this: and if so is it something to which our Ministers could refer if questioned publicly? If not, what are they to say?

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

P R GREGORY