



**WESSEX
REGIONAL
HEALTH
AUTHORITY**

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AAW/PS

8th October, 1980.

Dear Mr. Shaw, *19/10*

Supply of Plasma to the Blood Products Laboratory

I refer to your letter of 22nd September to the Regional Administrator about the above asking for R.H.A.s to comment on the use of B.P.L. services.

We are very much in favour of any proposal to increase the capacity of B.P.L. up to national self-sufficiency. I would point out, however, that our previous experiences with B.P.L. have not been all that satisfactory. Our plans for the current year included a significant increase in plasma collection. These plans were based on information supplied to us by the Director of Blood Products Laboratory, Elstree, and, at considerable cost, had to be abandoned when we were informed that B.P.L. were unable to meet their part of the arrangement. We are therefore reluctant to start planning again until we have definitive assurances from B.P.L. that they can accept our plasma and protein fraction. Our own Blood Transfusion Centre has for a number of years included in the long-term planning a move to self-sufficiency which has always been limited by the capacity at B.P.L.

We fully support the proposal to supply products pro rata to plasma volume and quality, provided that the special position of Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton, which provides a national service to patients with haemophilia, is recognised and additional Factor VIII a.h.f. is allocated to this Region. We are largely equipped (vehicles, general equipment) to increase our collection level fairly quickly and have made some moves towards the necessary increase in staff. The Region would need, nevertheless, to make additional revenue for staff and operating costs available and I would therefore welcome as much advance notice as possible of the actually agreed start date of the B.P.L. services so that we may budget accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

GRO-C

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