

APPOINTMENTS IN CONFIDENCE

Ms Smith PS\PS(H)

From: J Canavan  
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Date: 11 March 1993

cc: Mr Heppell HSSG  
Mr Scofield CA OPU  
Mr Powell SOLB3  
Dr Rejman HC(M)2  
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File - ACQ 16

HIV INFECTED BLOOD AND TISSUE RECIPIENTS - SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST

Introduction

1. This submission seeks PS(H)'s agreement to appointment of trustees for the new trust for HIV infected blood and tissue recipients.

Trustees

2. PS(H) will recall from my submission of 16 February that we need to set up a new trust to administer the special needs fund for the HIV infected blood transfusion recipients. Minister agreed in principle that 3 of the 5 trustees of the new trust should be drawn from the Macfarlane Trust to give the new trust the benefits of their experience and to ensure that similar provision would be made for beneficiaries of the two trusts.

3. The Macfarlane Trust have provided the following names of their trustees who would be willing to serve on the new trust:-

Reverend Prebendary Alan Tanner

Chairman of the Haemophilia Society and Chairman of the Macfarlane Trust since it was set up in March 1988. Under his chairmanship the Macfarlane Trust has dealt effectively with the needs of the HIV infected haemophiliacs and it has won the confidence of the infected group.

Submission of 11/3/93

Alan Palmer CBE

Serves on the Macfarlane Trust as one of the Secretary of State's 4 appointees. Retired in 1985 as Assistant Secretary in DSS. Mr Palmer's detailed knowledge of the Social Security system has been a valuable asset to the Macfarlane Trust in helping to formulate its policies for allocating funds.

Dr Elizabeth Mayne

She has already served as a Secretary of State's appointee on the Macfarlane Trust and has been invited to serve a second term since she has made a good contribution to the Trust. We believe that she would make a valuable contribution to the new Trust. Dr Mayne is a Consultant Haematologist, Director of the Haemophilia Centre at the Royal Victoria Hospital Belfast and Chairman of the UK Regional Haemophilia Centre Directors Organisation.

4. Since the last submission we have approached the first choice candidates proposed for the remaining two posts, one candidate has indicated that she is willing to serve:-

Miss Patricia Winterton who recently retired as Assistant Secretary in DH. She had been responsible for the policy branch which covered the acute hospital services. Miss Winterton will be available to serve from 16 May 1993.

5. We are awaiting a response from the alternative candidate mentioned in the previous submission.

6. Officials recommend the appointment of the 4 candidates at paragraphs 3 and 4 above. Letters are at Flag A which Minister may care to send to these candidates inviting them to serve.

Name of the Trust

7. We should now apply to the Charity Commissioners for registration of the new trust and should decide the name for it. In naming the Trust we need to take into account that beneficiaries will not want their HIV status to become widely known through dealings with banks, DSS local offices etc. We are therefore proposing to call it the Eileen Trust (which is the name of the DH building at this address) which has no obvious connection with the infected group. There is no representative body for the group that we could ask to name the Trust. If PS(H) is content we shall register it as the Eileen Trust.

Conclusion

8. PS(H) is asked if he agrees to invite the 4 candidates at paragraphs 3 and 4 to serve on the proposed "Eileen Trust" (draft letters of invitation are at flag A).

GRO-C: D E Burrage

J CANAVAN