

Mr Sands PS(PS(H))

From : J Canavan EHF1A

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cc : Dr Rejman MedISP
Mr Dobson EHF1

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APPOINTMENTS OF TRUSTEES FOR THE MACFARLANE TRUST

This submission seeks MS(H)'s approval to appoint two new trustees to The Macfarlane Trust. The new appointments are needed to fill vacancies which will arise when two current appointments expire on 9 March 1991.

Background

1. The Macfarlane Trust was set up in 1988 to distribute the Government's £10 million ex-gratia payment to haemophiliacs with HIV infection.
2. The Trust deed provides that four of the trustees are to be appointed by the Secretary of State, one of whom would be a Haemophilia Centre Director, and one a Social Worker. Six trustees are appointed by the Haemophilia Society. The trustees are appointed for a period of two years but are eligible for re-appointment.

Nominations for Appointment

3. Normally, the Trust would prefer the the posts to which a Haemophilia Centre Director or a Social Worker are appointed to rotate in order to give other Haemophilia centres the opportunity to be represented. Last year these appointments were extended by one year to enable the Trust to maintain stability in view of a number of developments and several issues under consideration at the time. The Trust have indicated that these posts should now rotate. The trustees whose appointments expire on 9 March are:

Dr Peter Jones

Director of the Haemophilia Reference Centre in Newcastle

Ms Christina Leitch

Social Worker to the Haemophilia Centre in Glasgow

The nominations to fill the resulting vacancies are:

Dr Elizabeth Mayne

Director of the Haemophilia Centre at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast. Dr Mayne is highly thought of and can be expected to make a useful contribution to the work of the Trust. She has also recently become Chairman of the Haemophilia Reference Centre Directors Organisation.

Ms Christine Harrington

Social worker at St Thomas's Hospital Haemophilia Centre, London. Although Ms Harrington is not a qualified social worker, she is in effect carrying out the social work role as a nurse/counsellor for HIV haemophiliacs at St Thomas's. She is regarded as a good choice. (Our Solicitors have advised that the lack of formal social work qualifications does not debar her from that appointment.)

Recommendation

We recommend the appointment of Dr Elizabeth Mayne and Ms Christine Harrington, both of whom have the support of the Haemophilia Society, to replace Dr Peter Jones and Mrs Christina Leitch. The term of appointment in each case would be for two years.

Letters of Appointment

4. We know from informal approaches that both candidates are willing to serve as trustees, if asked. Draft letters of appointment are attached, together with draft valedictory letters for the two outgoing trustees.

GRO-C

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