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Subject: MANOR HOUSE GROUP - MARCH ON WHITEHALL, WEDNESDAY 14 MAY

Rachel

We have just discovered from the Haemophilia Soc website that the Manor House Group - made up of haemophiliacs with hepatitis C - are organising a march to Richmond House, No 10 (where they will deliver a letter) and the House of Commons on 14 May, meeting at 12 noon at Trafalgar Square. See the attached web link:

<http://www.haemophilia.org.uk/home.html>

The same group, along with the Newcastle-based Haemophilia Action UK (Carol Grayson), organised a similar march in April last year. They asked then for Lord Hunt to meet the marchers but he was not free to do so. I therefore met them at Richmond House along with a press officer. This year there has been no official communication from them about the march, although they have presumably made arrangements with No 10 for handing over their letter.

The Manor House Group had arranged to meet PS(PH) on 7 May. PS(PH) can no longer make the meeting which will either now be postponed or arranged with another Minister. Carol Grayson (also due to appear on the You and Yours programme) has invited herself to this meeting and will no doubt also be a leader of the march.

We need to discuss handling.

Charles