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FCIA-FLIP2
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Item posted: Thu 9 Feb 95 11:10
Message ID: PC1008-950209111048-243D
In reply to: PC1014-950208174211-0826

To: Mr R M T Scofield
CA-OPU
DHMTA014
Department of Health

Subject: Re: HEPATITIS C - PAYMENTS SCHEME - CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Roger,

The logic behind the ping-pong match over to whom you and John Shaw should report about litigation matters was that compensation for non-negligent harm belongs naturally, as a political issue, with the Department rather than the NHS, and hence financially in the present Vote 3. The Perm Sec and Mr Heppell have both lately signed up to that status quo. On a quick read through, the same arguments would appear to hold for this proposal. This means you will need to engage Mike Brownlee in your discussions and any planning.

This isn't side-stepping on our part; there is a fundamental distinction to be drawn here for us finance types, even if it might not seem like it from a distance.

Mr R M T Scofield
CA-OPU
DHMTA014
Department of Health

Item posted: Wed 8 Feb 95 17:42
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To: Dr A Rejman
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Mr Keith Paley
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Mr T Kelly
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Subject: HEPATITIS C - PAYMENTS SCHEME - CONTINGENCY PLANNING

I attach a DRAFT paper which I would like to circulate for the weekend box. It has a first cock-shy at a payments scheme for HCV.

There are a lot of holes and the focal point of it - the discretionary grant making trust is the least well developed. But having said that it represents a considerable investment of work to get it even this far and improvement are more likely to come from debate than from me endlessly playing with it.

Moreover Ministers have clearly got the wind up and don't feel that we have a good defence.

Perm Sec has taken a personal interest in all this and I shall henceforth report to him via John Shaw. The sooner I get something up the line the better.

Any initial comments or corrections etc would be appreciated. Detailed comments can be taken as part of the follow up.

Much obliged

Roger

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