

*Your reference**Our reference*

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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TO:

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FROM:

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DATE:

3/12/92

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## HIV AND AIDS : WORLD AIDS DAY 1992

## BRIEFING FOR PRIME MINISTER

## MAIN POINTS TO MAKE

1. Theme of World AIDS Day this year - A Community Commitment" reflects the responsibilities of all sections of society to limit the impact of the epidemic.
2. HIV and AIDS present perhaps the greatest new public health challenge this century - that is why HIV, AIDS and Sexual Health has been included as a key area in the Health of the Nation White Paper.
3. UK has a comprehensive strategy founded on:
  - Prevention, public education and public health measures - to limit the spread of HIV infection.
  - Appropriate treatment care and support for those infected or with AIDS.
  - Measures to monitor and survey the progress of the epidemic.
  - Research into vaccines, treatments and social, economic and epidemiological issues.
  - International cooperation. WHO, EC and bilaterally with specific countries.
4. This strategy is widely acclaimed here and abroad
  - National Audit Office and Public Accounts Committee (Oct.91) concluded - "health departments and NHS have responded well to emerging demands and uncertainties of HIV".
5. Strategy, flexible - Major European Symposium 16 December to consider how changing knowledge is influencing policy.
6. Concerted action across Government and across the public and voluntary sectors have resulted in UK being in a happier position than many other countries - in Europe and beyond. But no room for complacency.

## KEY FACTS

7. Statistics to end September 1992.  
Cumulative reports:  
6555 AIDS cases of whom 4061 have died.  
18526 cases of HIV infection - true number will be higher (perhaps 30,000).

8. Expenditure 1985/86 to 1992/93

Over £73m to National Public Education Campaign.

Nearly £700m earmarked to health and local authorities (including £54m for local prevention work).

Over £8m to voluntary sector (who have who have often led the way in service development with Government help).

£105m on research.

£26.5m to support WHO Global Programme.

£6.55m to help programmes in 15 countries in Africa and Caribbean.

£76m to HIV infected haemophiliacs and for people infected through blood or tissue transfer within the NHS. *additional money*

ELEPHANT TRAPS

1. AIDS Support Grant to local authorities reduced from £15.3m 1991/92 to £12.4m 1993/94.
  - £15.3m in 1992/93 represented massive 50% increase on 1991/92 figures.
  - Difficult public expenditure round - competing demands on health and social care resources.
  - Government remains committed to the HIV/AIDS strategy.
  - Increasing knowledge of pattern of epidemic means we can target resources more effectively.

2. National Study of Sexual Lifestyles and Behaviour.

(TV and Radio's coverage this week)

Previous administration concluded no public money should be committed to it.

Pleased that the Wellcome Trust have funded the study - interested to see results which may help in targeting prevention work.

3. High Purity Factor VIII

*Mr. Stiles suggests may be*

- Beneficial for haemophiliacs with HIV *but very more expensive.*
- Some clinicians have asked for extra funds or financing through earmarked HIV/AIDS allocation.

- Line to take

~~Presenting the evidence~~

New data which have just been published in the

x USA further support earlier claims that it is preferable to use High Purity Factor VIII for people with haemophilia and HIV infection.

The Department of Health is considering these new data and the Secretary of State will issue a statement shortly.

as it appears is presented

from various studies /  
Accumulating data tends

may well be

continues to consider