



SCOTTISH HOME AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT

St Andrew's House Edinburgh EH1 3DE

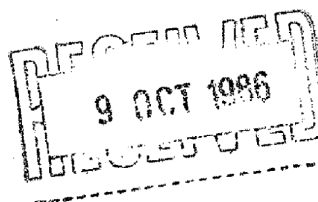
Telephone 031-556 8501 ext

GRO-C

8 October 1986

IN CONFIDENCE

Dr J D Cash
National Medical Director
Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service
Headquarters Unit
Ellen's Glen Road
Edinburgh
EH17 7QT



Dear Dr Cash

As I am sure you will understand Mr Morison has discussed with me your letter of 21 August regarding the replacement of Dr Forrester for his duties relating to the Blood Transfusion Service. The allocation of doctors' duties in the Department is my responsibility and that is the reason for my replying to you.

I have considered your request carefully and I have consulted colleagues but I have come to the conclusion that I should not arrange to replace Dr Forrester at this stage. I do not think that there is sufficient reason for such a change.

Dr Forrester was not involved in any way in the policy considerations which led to the delay in the AIDS validation studies. These matters were decided at DCMO, CMO and ultimately Ministerial level. Dr Forrester is a knowledgeable and experienced doctor who applies himself with great diligence to his duties and this is the first complaint about him that has come to my notice.

Unfortunately because of the highly unfavourable conditions of service in the Medical Civil Service we have lost some very experienced colleagues including Dr Bell and at present we are operating four Senior Medical Officers under strength. Nevertheless, Dr McIntyre, although under extreme pressure at the moment will monitor the position on BTS liaison and you should speak to him in the first instance if major or even minor difficulties arise. As you recognise the BTS has never been the simplest organisation to deal with - for many, many years - and several of us have the scars to prove it.

Yours sincerely

GRO-C

(I S MACDONALD)