



HSR (73) C 40

SCOTTISH HOME AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT

HEALTH SERVICE REORGANISATION SCOTLAND.....

ST ANDREW'S HOUSE, EDINBURGH EH1 3DE

TELEPHONE: 031-556 8501 Ext. [REDACTED]

Reference HOS/26/1/19Date 26 October 1973

Sir

(73/1)

COMMON SERVICES AGENCY - THE BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

INTRODUCTION

1. Circular HSR(72)C2 on the organisation of the Common Services Agency indicated in paragraph 17 that the future of the Blood Transfusion Service would be discussed with the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Association with a view to transferring its functions to the CSA. This circular confirms that responsibility for the Service will transfer to the Agency and outlines the proposed arrangements which have been agreed by the Association. The Services will continue to depend on voluntary donors and their key importance will be fully recognised in its administration by the CSA.

PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS

2. The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Association - a voluntary body - in agreement with the Secretary of State provides blood and blood products to the health service and employs all staff who work in the Blood Transfusion Service. The Association has a part-time secretary and a part-time treasurer and is financed almost entirely from government funds.

3. The Service is at present organised nationally with a centre in each of the five Regional Hospital Board areas. To meet the increasing demands for blood products a new Protein Fractionation Centre is being built at Liberton, Edinburgh and it is expected that it will be in production in 1974.

4. The Association intends to appoint a National Medical Director of the Blood Transfusion Service and a full-time administrative officer with supporting staff. The Director will co-ordinate and oversee the activities of the five regional centres and the Protein Fractionation Centre, and the administrative officer will assume among other duties, virtually all responsibilities of the part-time secretary.

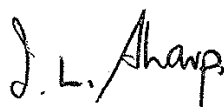
REORGANISATION

5. On the appointed day, the Blood Transfusion Service will become a division of the CSA; its operational arrangements, based on the five centres and the Protein Fractionation Centre will not be affected. Staff employed by the Association will transfer to the employment of the CSA, although this will not affect the work or organisation of the centres.

RE 25731 TBL

6. The National Medical Director with the administrative officer and supporting staff will form the headquarters unit with the Director as chief officer, responsible to the Management Committee of the CSA. Financial supporting services will be provided by the CSA Treasurer's Division.
7. The Director and the Management Committee will obtain advice on the administration of the service from a panel appointed by the Management Committee which will include both persons with specialised interests in blood transfusion and those with wider experience in the health service. Advice on major policy matters will be obtained through a committee of the Planning Council, on the lines of the Central Consultative Committee which at present advises the Secretary of State on blood transfusion policy.
8. The existing agreement between the Secretary of State and the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Association under which the Service is provided will formally cease on 31 March 1974. Over the years the Association has provided an invaluable service and with the transfer of its responsibilities to the CSA it will be for it to consider what role it can continue to play in furtherance of blood transfusion. In the meantime the Secretary of State wishes to place on record again his gratitude and that of the Health Service as a whole to the Association for all it has achieved over the years in developing the Blood Transfusion Service to its present high level of efficiency.
9. All queries regarding this circular should be directed to Mr R N Roberts (031-556 8501 Ext [REDACTED]) or Mr J O'Neill (Ext [REDACTED]).

I am, Sir
Your obedient Servant



I L Sharp