



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY

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R Wilson Esq  
Cabinet Office

Dear Richard

A relatively minor point, but one on which we don't want to trip up later. I have discussed this with David Clark, who suggests that you should consider this.

The No 10 letter following the 17 October meeting referred to the appointment of directors of self governing hospitals. It explicitly said that only non-executive directors should have a say in appointing executive directors. I am sure we should not place a Chief Executive in the position of having no say in the appointment of his key staff. I doubt if the meeting intended this.

Can we interpret this as meaning that the non-executives appoint the Chief Executive - in practice this means the Chairman will have the major say? And non-executives plus the Chief Executive appoint the other executives - in practice this means the Chairman and Chief Executive have the major say?

Yours sincerely

J C STOPES-ROE