

PRIME MINISTER

IMPLEMENTATION OF NHS WHITE PAPER IN SCOTLAND

You asked in June for a progress report in three months' time on the management arrangements for the NHS in Scotland. Malcolm Rifkind's minute at Flag A responds to that remit, and also provides a more general progress report (mirroring that you have already had from Mr Clarke) on the progress of implementation of the NHS Review in Scotland.

On the progress of the general review, he points to some reasonable steps forward, although there is little hard evidence of interest in developing self-governing hospitals. On the detailed management arrangements, you had asked to see the proposed membership of the new Management Executive Group. This is not included in the material, apparently because the new Chief Executive has only just been appointed and other appointments have been deferred until he took up the reins.

Ian Whitehead has provided a short commentary on the paper in his minute at Flag B. He recommends:

- In view of the danger of the Scottish Office trying to dominate a new Management Executive Group, you should reiterate the request to see the proposed membership when available.
- You should also ask for an updated report on progress in identifying specific candidates for self-governing hospital status.

1. Content to comment in the terms Ian recommends?
2. Any other comments on the Scottish Office report?

Paul G.

PAUL GRAY

5 October 1989

*Generally unhelpful -
Also not*

C:\WPDOCS\NHS.DAS