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IMPLEMENTATION OF BLOOMFIELD AND SSI REPORTS

MEETING 28 JULY 1999 WITH SECRETARY OF MEMORIAL FUND

Present - L Frew, S Popplestone and B O'Mahony, Northern Ireland Memorial Fund.

ISSUES

Some points and issues made and discussed including the following:

Leaflet

A leaflet on the Fund was tabled and is attached.

Information on Finance

The likely lifespan of the Fund is 5 years and over that period it hopes to raise by donation £2.5m to add to £1m already provided (from PM's £5m) and to obtain from Government a further £4m. Aim for total expenditure is £7.5m. A Report/Business Plan is being finalised for submission to Mr Ingram and will be copied to Mr Frew. It will not be published.

{NB After meeting it was agreed that when Report is received an approach should be made to other senior officers about their need to be involved in Bloomfield/SSI issues.}

Use of Fund for HPSS Matters

DHSS will be approached for views/advice on use of the fund for:

'the Provision of Pain Relief and Respite Care'. Broadly, the proposal is that for victims who are properly assessed a small grant will be paid to people to -a) go for private consultation/treatment for pain relief, b) upgrade quality of wheelchairs provided by HPSS, and c) upgrade quality of prostheses provided by HPSS. It is also proposed to provide funding for a research project. [NB Musgrave Park Hospital indicated that there are 117 'civil disturbance amputees' on their books.]

'the provision of Trauma and Counselling Services'. The Fund may be able to meet the cost of the research element of the Counselling Review and reach decision reasonably quickly. [S Popplestone to forward 'proposal'.] The Fund is also considering - a) funding a post graduate qualification in the area of trauma, and b) providing finance for training suitable voluntary helpers to become qualified counsellors.

S Popplestone 28 July 1999 He Alan belien Etters

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