

PRIME MINISTER

MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR NHS IN SCOTLAND

During the Spring you sorted out with Ken Clarke the management arrangements for the NHS in England. Malcolm Rifkind has now sent you a minute (Flag A) setting out his proposals for Scotland.

I understand that no other Departments wish to offer comments on his proposals. But both the Cabinet Office (Flag B) and Policy Unit (Flag C) have provided briefing. The message from both of them is similar - that the Rifkind proposals do not go as far in the direction you wanted as the arrangements now agreed for England.

Paragraph 11 of the Cabinet Office note and page 3 of the Policy Unit note set out a number of queries and comments that might be put to the Scottish Office. There is some degree of overlap between the two lists, but you will want to go through them both.

1. Content for me to minute out expressing your concern that the Rifkind proposals do not go far enough to ensure effective management of the NHS in Scotland? *Yes not*

2. If so:

(a) do you want to raise all the points in the Cabinet Office and Policy Unit lists?

or

(b) are there any you prefer to omit?

*As indicated
on Cabinet Paper*

PLCG.
PG

9 June, 1989.