

BRISTOL AND WESTON HEALTH AUTHORITYDate 11th January 1988

From

Dr. I. A. Baker
 Assistant General Manager (Planning)
 District Medical Officer

To

Mr. J. Watson
 Unit General Manager (Central)
 B.E.H.

Our Ref. IAB/JMH

Your Ref.

CARDIOLOGY AND CARDIAC SURGICAL REFERRALS FROM WALES

I attach herewith a copy of a letter from P. R. Gregory of the NHS Directorate of the Welsh Office and a copy of a letter from the Chief Medical Officer of Wales, Dr. Crompton, which was in turn copied to me by Dr. Freeman. Our conclusion might be that the Welsh like writing letters and find it difficult to make decisions.

With regard to the supra-regional service for neonates and infants the letter from Mr. Gregory seems to be pushing the responsibility for funds entirely on the DHSS and we might consider tackling this in a direct manner.

There seems to be some confusion about their future plans in so far as they talk of a new paediatric cardiac unit to be built in Cardiff with work expected to begin in 1988 whilst Dr. Crompton's letter indicates that there is still some uncertainty as to the nature of this unit and where it will be located.

In regard to services to children over the age of one year then with remarkable audacity they seem to be suggesting that these have been funded historically by the DHSS and that the Welsh fraction of service usage has not necessarily exceeded the English fraction!

In spite of the Welsh efforts to reassure us I am sure that you will feel that we are still dealing with under-funded over referrals of Welsh cases to BCH/BRI and I would have thought there were grounds for proceeding with the letter we composed for John Roylance.

c.c. Dr. J. Roylance
 Mr. G. R. Nix

13 JAN 1988

S. Boardman for IAB

ENC: