

- ii) Establish a Working Group with the specific terms of reference being that of reviewing the existing designated centres, as well as Oxford and Leicester, with a view to reducing the total number designated English centres to a maximum of seven. The membership of such a Working Party would include representatives from the Royal Colleges of Surgeons and Physicians, the Society of Cardiothoracic Surgeons, and the British Cardiac Society.

All the centres mentioned above should be informed of this review and asked to submit activity and mortality data for the last three calendar years, ending December 31st 1991, on closed and open operations for neonatal and infant cardiac surgery. This information should be requested by April 1st, and the units should be informed at the time when the request is made that failure to submit the information required would be likely to jeopardise their status as an SRS designated unit.

I would be grateful if you would circulate this response alongside your discussion document so that it is available to members of the Group and can be discussed at our next meeting.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely