

On my return from Pakistan on 16th August I found that David Hamilton had spoken to Sir Keith Ross who had been a fellow Member of the Working Party. Together they decided to reverse the decision I had agreed on 23rd and 24th July with David Hamilton, namely the recommendation to de-designate Bristol. Keith Ross rang Norman Halliday and informed him of the reversal of the opinion of the Working Party. I produce David Hamilton's letter of 3rd August advising me of these events.

In any event at the Supra Regional Services Advisory Group meeting on 29th July the group decided to de-designate the whole service.

I consequently wrote to Sir Michael Carlisle, Chairman of the Supra Regional Services Advisory Group expressing my concerns at the de-designation on 17th September 1992. I produce a copy of this letter. I also wrote to Steve Owen the Secretary of the Supra Regional Services Advisory Group asking for an extract from the Minutes of the Meeting on 29th July which related to this subject.

I produce a copy of that letter dated 3rd September and Steve Owen's reply of 8th September together with the extract from the Minutes which notes at 4.1.2 that "Dr Halliday reported that since receiving the Royal College of Surgeons' report, he had been approached by Sir Terence English who had indicated that since submitting the report he now had reservations about the continued designation of the Bristol unit".

I had written to Professor Norman Browse on 27th July 1992 keeping him updated with the situation. I produce a copy of that letter. I considered that there was nothing further that the Royal College of Surgeons should do as the Department of Health had been made aware of our concerns about the problems in Bristol.

Finally, I believe that a surgeon has a responsibility to analyse his results on a regular basis so that when asked by a patient about the risks of mortality and morbidity he can provide this information on the basis of his own experience.

Signed: .....

Dated. ....