

UBHT
TEACHING CARE

Our ref: RMMcK/SJB

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FNE

3 March 1995

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Ms Rennie Fritchie
Chair
South Western Regional Health Authority
King Square House
26/27 King Square
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Dear Rennie

PAEDIATRIC SURGERY AT UBHT

INTERIM REPORT

We are still considering some of the details of the advice received from the outside experts on the above service. The following is our current position:-

- * To protect Mr Wisheart I have requested him not to deal with the media queries and to leave the internal action in the hands of Gabriel Laszlo, the Chairman of the Hospital Medical Committee. This does not mean that the Trust agrees with the statements made in the report concerning Mr Wisheart.
- * We believe that if media queries build up we should react by issuing a Press Statement limited initially to the questioner(s). Should there be a need for interviews with the media I will take the lead. I attach a draft copy of the proposed Press Statement.
- * In the meantime the Trust is continuing with its policy of not performing complex operations on infants. The Trust has not done any neo-natal arterial switch operations since October 1993 and complex operations on neo-nates and infants have been avoided since January 1995 pending the external advice.
- * While disagreeing with several of the comments made in the report we accept the recommendations. They endorse the policy the Trust has been following.

