

Final Version



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CONFIDENTIAL

Dr Roylance
 Chief Executive
 Trust Headquarters
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3rd February 1995

Dear Dr Roylance

Thank you for your letter of 26 January in reply to mine of 25 January.

I am sure that the Trust has always been concerned to act in the best interests of its patients. It is therefore a matter of considerable regret that any concerns about the paediatric cardiac service should have arisen in the first place. As you point out this appears to be a difference in professional opinion and so I was grateful for your confirmation that the Trust is taking action to resolve the problem as rapidly as possible.

I would also like to take this opportunity to confirm that I and my colleagues are content for the Trust to act in the way agreed during our recent telephone conversation based on the advice offered by the President of the British Cardiac Society. It was agreed that at least two, and preferably three, outside advisors should be invited to look into the situation and offer advice. I was pleased to hear the Marc de Laval has already agreed to help. It was also agreed that, until the results of the enquiry were available, the Trust would suspend all complex paediatric open heart surgery. This is a slightly different definition from that contained in our previous correspondence but is, we agreed, the right one under the circumstances.