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SOUTH WESTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

27, Tyndalls Park Road, Bristol, BS8 1PJ Telephone: Bristol (0272) 738471

RMN/JSM/VB

J.S. McClelland

My Ref.

Your Ref.

If you telephone please ask for

Date:

17 March 1983

To : District Administrators

Dear

Mr Haras

21 MAR 1983

PROPOSED INCREASE IN OPEN CARDIAC SURGERY AT BRISTOL

ROYAL INFIRMARY

Arising from a growing concern over waiting times for open cardiac surgery for residents of the South Western Region and the ability of the existing Unit at Bristol to cope with present and future demands, a special Working Party under the Chairmanship of Dr. Gordon Mather was established in February 1981 to review and report, through the Regional Medical Committee, to the Regional Health Authority.

Following consideration of this report, the RHA accepted in March 1982 that there was a need to expand the Cardiac Surgery Service, and agreed to set up a Project Team with the following brief:

To examine a range of investment by which the service could be developed, including the possibility of better utilisation of present facilities and to this end establish the capital, staffing and equipment consequences of expanding the open cardiac surgery service in the South Western Region from 250 to 600 cases per year.

The Project Team's interim report has indicated that a number of patients treated in the existing accommodation could be increased by 100 from 275 to 375 per annum by the investment of modest additional capital, but with revenue implications of £359,000 per annum to:

- (i) carry out certain alteration works to the existing accommodation.
- (ii) purchase additional major equipment, etc.
- (iii) fund the appointment of additional medical, nursing staff, etc.

A copy of the paper to the Strategic Planning Working Party is attached for your information.