



The Eileen Trust

Alliance House

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Alliance House
12 Caxton Street
London
SW1H 0QS

Ms Maria Miller MP
Minister for the Disabled
Department of Work & Pensions
Caxton House
Tothill Street
London
SW1H 9DA

28th October 2011

Dear Minister

The Welfare Reform Bill – Benefits Disregard

We write as the Chairmen of the five organisations that are resourced and serviced from Alliance House, all wholly funded by the Department of Health. They are:

The Caxton Foundation - Skipton Fund Ltd - The Eileen Trust
Chairman – Peter Stevens

The Macfarlane Trust - MFET Ltd
Chairman – Christopher FitzGerald

You will be aware of their remits which are to provide support, including by the payment of discretionary and non-discretionary disbursements to persons who were infected with the HIV and Hepatitis C viruses through contaminated blood products supplied by the National Health Service.

We are given to understand that there is no reference to any of the above organisations, in the main body of the Welfare Reform Bill, as to the continuation of the benefits disregard applicable to disbursements made by them. The purpose of this letter is simply to seek your assurance that provision in respect of the benefits disregard will be made either by amendment to the main Bill or by Regulation after the Royal Assent.

You will see enclosed a copy of the current benefits disregard for the Macfarlane Trust, Eileen Trust, MFET Ltd and the Skipton Fund Ltd and a copy of the recently published Explanatory Memorandum of the S.I. in respect of the benefits disregard for the Caxton Foundation; the following references to earlier S.Is. may be helpful:

SI/1990/127 – Macfarlane Trust. Income Support & Housing Benefit Regulations
SI/1991/1175 – Macfarlane Trust. Income Support & HB recoupment regulations.
SI/2004/1141- Skipton Fund & Macfarlane Trust – Income & Capital Disregard.
SI/2010/641` - MFET Limited & Macfarlane Trust Regulations 2010
SI/2011/1157 – Skipton Fund.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

PETER STEVENS

CHRISTOPHER FITZGERALD