FINANCE AND CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE
HUMAN TISSUE (AUTHORISATION) (SCOTLAND) BILL FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM
SUBMISSION FROM : SCOTTISH NATIONAL BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

Consultation

1. Did you take part in any consultation exercise preceding the Bill and, if so, did you comment on the financial assumptions made?

   Yes, SNBTS was invited to comment on the likely financial impact of the Bill.

2. If applicable, do you believe your comments on the financial assumptions have been accurately reflected in the FM?

   Yes

3. Did you have sufficient time to contribute to the consultation exercise?

   Yes, although this was at a time of intense activity for our service.

Costs

4. If the Bill has any financial implications for your organisation, do you believe that they have been accurately reflected in the FM? If not, please provide details.

   Yes, assuming the cost estimates are funded, then this would cover SNBTS's expected increased workload from a staffing point of view. However, no consideration has been given to the cost of increased processing (non pay costs) as a result of a bigger number of successful tissue donations. Furthermore, the staffing cost will increase as a consequence of the recently advised Agenda for Change pay award the detail of which was not known at the time the costs were compiled.

5. Do you consider that the estimated costs and savings set out in the FM are reasonable and accurate?

   Yes.

6. If applicable, are you content that your organisation can meet any financial costs that it might incur as a result of the Bill? If not, how do you think these costs should be met?

   The Bill is likely to lead to an increase in the number of potential donors referred for potential donation and to an increase in the number of donors who successfully donate tissue. At the present time it is difficult to be sure of the
impact the Bill will have on donor numbers and therefore the increase in tissue retrieval and processing that will be required. The figures present in the FM are a best estimate at the present time.

7. Does the FM accurately reflect the margins of uncertainty associated with the Bill’s estimated costs and with the timescales over which they would be expected to arise?

Probably, although it is difficult to be sure of that at the present point in time. The FM allows for review of the impact of the Bill on actual activity at points in time.

Wider Issues

8. Do you believe that the FM reasonably captures any costs associated with the Bill? If not, which other costs might be incurred and by whom?

As previously stated, at the present time it is difficult to be certain of the impact the Bill will have on donor numbers. However the anticipated increase in tissue donations will give rise to additional retrieval and processing costs.

9. Do you believe that there may be future costs associated with the Bill, for example through subordinate legislation? If so, is it possible to quantify these costs?

Future costs are possible although it is difficult to identify or quantify such costs at present.