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The Educational
Institute of Scotland

Mr Bill Barron
Police Team, Police Division 1
Justice Department, Police and Community Safety Group
St Andrew's House
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH3 6BH

Ref: ERC/Con/BBV
04 April 2005
Email: lwilson@eis.org.uk

Dear Mr Barron

I refer to your letter of 28 February 2005 and attach the EIS response to the above. If you require any further information relating to this response please contact me.

Yours sincerely



Louise Wilson
National Officer

THE EIS RESPONSE TO BLOOD TESTING FOLLOWING CRIMINAL INCIDENTS WHERE THERE IS A RISK OF INFECTION: PROPOSALS FOR LEGISLATION

The EIS supports in broad terms the introduction of legislation which would enable teachers who are subjected to acts of violence to be provided with information if they are at risk from exposure to blood borne viruses. This is considered particularly important where the risk is from HIV as post exposure prophylaxis treatment requires early application.

Whilst the EIS supports the proposals being applied in general terms to all age groups it believes that procedures should be developed specifically for underage suspects. Such procedures should seek to minimise the potential for distress to the child/young person.

The EIS hopes that the legislation would require the employer to pay the costs of application and of the testing process. In addition it is essential that employers provide appropriate support and advice as required by their duty of care to employees.

4 April 2005