

Our ref : MJBE/cs

03 March 2009

The Scrutiny Panel
Morier House
Halkett Place
St Helier
JE1 1DD

RECEIVED

18 MAR 2009

STATES GREFFE

Dear Sirs,

Re : HMA Accounts

You have asked for comments on the HMA fees. It has come to our notice that two potential areas of problem have become apparent. Firstly, some patients are being given their HMA budget to be used as a general income and it is not being used for medical services. This may mean that they do not seek medical services when it is required because they have used the money for other activities.

Secondly, those patients who have spent more than their medical budget are being asked to contribute from their other income towards medical expenses. This again means that patients who require medical attention may not come forward for this, as they know that it will reduce their already small level of income for other purposes.

Both these issues were discussed when Health and Social Services representatives attended our surgery prior to the institution of the HMA account. We were assured by your representatives that these problems would never become issues and it is disappointing to see that this has happened.

Yours faithfully,



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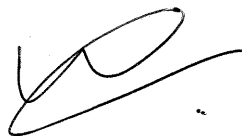
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