

## THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

# National Health Service in Scotland Management Executive

St. Andrew's House Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Dear Colleague

### CORPORATE PLAN FOR CHIEF SCIENTIST OFFICE

#### Summary

1. This circular draws the attention of Health Boards to The Corporate Plan for the Chief Scientist Office.

#### Action

2. Health Board managers are asked to draw The Corporate Plan to the attention of all those responsible for and involved in health research.

#### Background

- 3. The aim of CSO is to identify, encourage, promote and support good quality research in order to improve the health and provide better health care for the people of Scotland.
- 4. Research and development is not an end in itself. It is about practical day to day problems and has an integral part to play in improving the health and quality of life of the Scottish people. Research can help individuals live longer and be healthier by reinforcing their own efforts to adopt healthier lifestyles. Research also has a vital role to play in the monitoring and evaluation of the NHS changes to ensure that stated objectives and targets are being met, and that policy is up to date and appropriate. It can also help the NHS, if everyone in the organisation takes an active part in defining a research programme for which they have a shared responsibility.

#### Corporate Plan

5. The Corporate Plan is an overview of the approach to health research in Scotland. It envisages strengthening of the infrastructure and skills for research in Scotland and improving the climate necessary to support the identification and implementation of research. The Corporate Plan is a forerunner to a comprehensive strategy document

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Addressees

MORON
Forwaction:
General Managers,
Health Boards

For information: General Manager, Common Services Agency

General Manager, State Hospital

General Manager, Health Education Board for Scotland

Chief Executives NHS Trusts

To be copied to Unit General Managers for information

Enquiries to:

Mrs A J M McMahon Chief Scientist Office Room 216 St Andrew's House EDINBURGH EH1 3DE Tel: 031-244 2249 Fax: 031-244 2683

Further copies from:

Miss J Smith Room 207 St Andrew's House EDINBURGH EH1 3DE Tel: 031-244 2244 Fax: 031-244 2683



on research and development in the NHS which will be published later this year.

Yours sincerely

G A ANDERSON

Director of Strategic Management