

## Macfarlane Trust

As reported last year, in March 2017 the Minister announced that the NHS Business Services Authority (BSA) would take on the role of the new scheme administrator in England during 2017/18, along with similar organisations in the Devolved Administrations. At the time of writing last year's report, it was expected that the transfer would take place on 1 November 2017; the transfer went ahead as anticipated on this date, and the majority of staff transferred to BSA under TUPE.

This meant that from 1 November 2017, the Department of Health (DH) ceased to fund the Macfarlane Trust to provide support to those with haemophilia who were infected with HIV as a result of contaminated blood products, and their families. However, as MFT has held reserves, the board decided to run two one-off grants programmes: one to provide grants for specialist equipment, and health-and mobility-related repairs and improvements to property, the other with the Honeycombe Memorial Fund to provide grants to bereaved partners and spouses to help them regain economic independence. Beneficiaries were invited to apply for grants in January 2018, with a closing date of 26 February 2018. The board then met at the end of March 2018 and agreed to award grants totalling approximately £450,000.

Once all of the grants have been paid to beneficiaries, and with no further funding being received for charitable activities, the board will need to consider a number of legacy issues, including when to wind up. This is likely to be by February 2018.

Jan Barlow,  
Chief Executive, The Macfarlane Trust  
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