

To Stormont Social Development Committee

Response to Welfare reform Act to whom it may concern.

Please bring this to the attention of the Ministerial team drafting legislation.

5 October 2012

From J.Graham
BT9 6UA

Illegality of measures.

The Welfare Reform Act has at its core an unlawful element.

It is without legality in respect of the following :

The Human Rights Act Article 8. Right to privacy.

In seeking from anyone requiring poor relief the Government are wishing to make legal the need and requirement for an individual to disclose their medical condition as determined by the Medical Practitioner responsible for their treatment.

It is an A priori fact that the information between any Doctor and the Patient shall remain Confidential.

It is a fundamental practice in operation since the Hippocratic Oath was developed and under which **ALL** medical practice is administered.

The General Medical Council rules of Medical Confidentiality are the Laws under which the practice of Medicine and treatment is practiced in these islands and beyond.

It would not be possible for a system to work without this basis of privacy being in place for everyone.

It cannot be set aside for pecuniary reasons.

I believe this to be a fundamental requirement essential in the proper delivery of treatment and anything not related or causal in treatment to be in breach of Human Rights.

There will be a point when this reality is properly asserted and to undermine treatment is itself of great harm until a fair system is in place.

Yours faithfully

J. Graham