

OPEN LETTER TO TIM BOURNE. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE BMA. 19.06.14. (2).

Dear Mr. Bourne,

I have yet to receive a reply or acknowledgement to the last letter sent, but in view of your spokeswoman's recent responses to Tim Pauling of the Press & Journal Newspaper in which it was stated that 'the BMA Scotland had no connection with what was published in the BMJ' and that 'we don't have a policy because it has not been brought up by our members,' I should be grateful if you would consider the following.

Attached is the BMA commendation of the WHO publication on Noise issues.

In view of the above, please can you explain why the BMA are not adopting a "precautionary approach" to this issue, particularly given the importance of the issue of environmental noise generally given by the WHO? E.g. the 2011 Environmental noise, burden of disease publication and the WHO Night noise Guidelines for Europe which emphasise the serious harm to health from chronic sleep disturbance. Also, if I may draw attention to your **MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.**

1. The name of the Association is the "British Medical Association".
2. The registered office of the Association is to be in England.
3. The objects for which the Association is established are:
 - (1) To promote the medical and allied sciences, to maintain the honour and interests of the medical profession and to promote the achievement of high quality health care.
 - (2) To hold or arrange for the holding of periodical meetings of the members of the Association and of the medical profession generally.
 - (3) To circulate such information as may be thought desirable by means of a periodical journal, which shall be the journal of the Association, and by the occasional publication of transactions or other papers.

Point 3 is particularly applicable. I must again reiterate that as the BMJ have given the issue some prominence by publishing an editorial by two eminent UK medical practitioners in the form of Dr Christopher Hanning and Professor Alun Evans two years ago, perhaps it is not only appropriate but entirely valid that the BMA assists its members in starting to 'do their homework on this issue,' and consider the ethical issues being raised by this industry and the serious reports of harm to health. It is again revisiting questions already received, especially in respect of monitoring communities. Those questions are again attached. Three **UK** ENT physicians have also written a review in the Journal of Laryngology & Otology, 1 of 5. ©JLO (1984) Limited, 2013 (doi:10.1017/S0022215112002964) also attached, about wind turbine noise and its health effects.

Finally, the three further items attached prove the need beyond doubt. Note. F.Cappuccio, one author of the European Heart Journal report, was in the UK at Warwick University at the time of writing.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. V.C.K. Metcalfe.